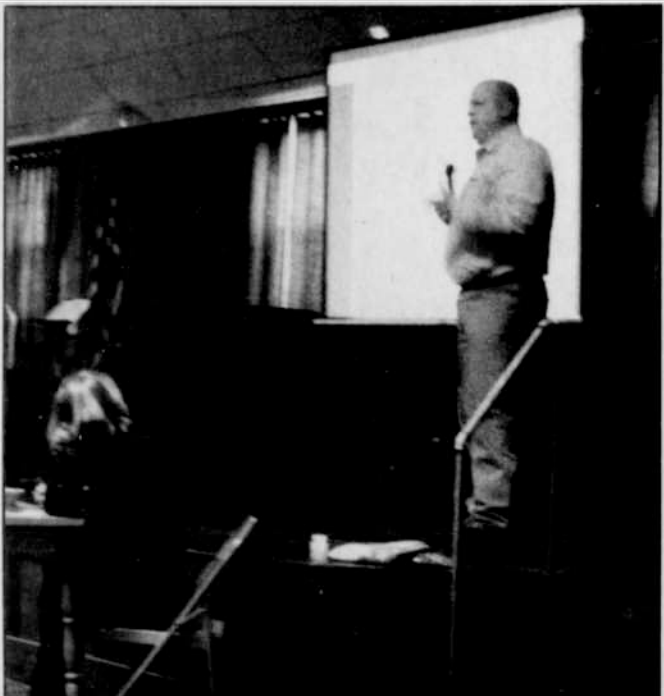


TEA PARTY MEETING

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 vigilante, just be our eyes and ears," he reiterated.
 On the concealed carry permit, Matlack said if a gun is laying on the seat of a car it is not concealed, if it is under your jacket it is and a person would need a concealed carry permit or be in violation of the law. He said people have the right to carry a concealed gun without a permit if they are going or coming from a hunting or fishing trip or from a licensed gun range.

Matlack also said there is a growing number of medical marijuana growers in the county, who are legally allowed to grow the drug. "They (licensed growers) are allowed to have six mature plants not more than three feet high," he said. "I am opposed to it (the medical marijuana law), Matlack said. "It is not regulated properly. I want to know who in the county is growing it, where it is being grown and I want to inspect it," he said.

Grain Growers meeting held



The Morrow County Growers recently held a meeting in Ione at the Legion Hall. Attendees heard from Craig Reeder (top photo), OWGL President on the topic of a possible new executive position that would jointly oversee the operation of the Oregon Wheat Growers League and the Oregon Wheat Commission. He also gave a pulse of the industry overview across the state. Larry Lutcher, Morrow County's OSU extension agent updated the audience on the wheat samples he received back from Purdue University. He had pictures of affected fields in the county and advice on what to look for when crops start growing again. Don Wysocki, plant scientist at Pendleton's CBARC shared what was going on with wheat in Umatilla County. It doesn't appear to be related to what is going on in Morrow County. Kyle Carnine, Morrow County FSA director shared more on SURE and the group discussed on whether a disaster determination should be pursued because of the current bug infestations in the county. Kacey Lathrop, NRCS specialist, gave an update on CRP and what Morrow County can expect in the next couple of years regarding acres coming out of the program. Lastly, Steve Petrie, CBARC superintendent gave an update on the looming budget crisis with OSU's College of Ag and how local AG research centers are to come up with 25 percent of their funding locally. *-Contributed Photos*

Creative Care Preschool to hold enchilada feed

Creative Care Preschool in Ione will hold an enchilada feed on Tuesday, February 1, at 5 p.m. in the Ione School cafeteria. All proceeds will go to fund the Creative Care Preschool for three and four year olds.

Phone Discounts Available to CenturyLink customers

The Oregon Public Utility Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier or ETC within its service area for universal service purposes. The goal of universal service is to provide all Oregon citizens access to essential telecommunications services.

CenturyLink provides single party residential and business services for rates from \$12.48 to \$16.55 per month for residential customers and \$20.31 to \$27.25 per month for business customers. This includes access to long distance carriers, Emergency Services, Operator Services, Directory Assistance and Toll Blocking. Use of these services may result in added charges. Specific rates for your areas will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink offers qualified customers Lifeline and Link-Up Service if they meet certain low-income eligibility requirements. Lifeline Service includes a monthly discount up to \$8.25 for basic phone charges, as well as toll blocking at no charge and a waiver of the deposit if toll blocking is selected by qualifying customers. Link-Up Service provides a discount on installation charges and charges to move service.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call CenturyLink at 1-800-201-4099 or visit www.centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline/Link-Up programs.



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GREG SMITH

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 \$60,000 to provide a 60-hour per month service.
 -PARK Resources of Bend offered to provide consulting services for \$99 per hour for a total of about \$51,000 per year, Warner said.

Warner said that Smith will have other staff members working in the Baker City office, but the contract requires Smith to be the first point of contact for all economic development leads and services.

There was some concern about Smith's obligation in the state Legislature, which will be in session for about four months beginning February 1.

"He'll be back and forth," Warner said. "He convinced the EDC that the Legislature is a part-time job and he'll take care of his clients."

The county has about \$140,000 that can be used for economic development, Warner said. That includes the county's share of Transient Lodging Tax funds (25 percent of the total \$400,000 to \$450,000 collected annually) and \$40,000 in Oregon Lottery money from the county's general fund.

As a "one-stop" for economic development, Smith said in his proposal that he would provide these services:

- Web site design and maintenance
- Support services for existing businesses
- Prospective company recruitment
- Commercial loan

WALDEN

-Continued from Page ONE
 employees. "I have four companies and I can't find engineers," Ziari said.

Others wanted to know if it would be possible to use public rights of way such as those used by Oregon Department of Transportation to put in cable and expand broadband internet in rural areas.

An overall sentiment of the meeting however, was not so much what government could do to help the telecommunications industry, but how to get it out of the way so the

packaging
 -Consultation of business plan development
 -Government contract procurement
 -Federal and state regulatory assistance

Smith also plans to move management of the Northeast Oregon Economic Development Department Revolving Loan Fund and the Intermediary Relending program and loan processing services to Baker County.

And he said he plans to help Eastern Oregon University and the Blue Mountain Community College Small Business Development Center coordinate their services to help entrepreneurs.

Smith will work with the Organization for Economic Initiatives to provide government contracting technical assistance services and he will provide Business and Industry Loan Guarantee packaging services to Baker County lenders, according to his proposal.

Smith said packaging fees typically run from \$3,000 to \$10,000 per loan. That money would be returned to Baker County, Warner said.

Smith graduated from Eastern Oregon University in La Grande with a bachelor's degree in liberal studies and a master's degree in business administration. He was named EOU's 2001 distinguished alumnus of Eastern Oregon University and has served on the University's Alumni Board of Directors.

businesses could build up their industry. "Maybe the government could just remove obstacles and let the market do its job," one CEO in attendance said. Others said the government should not be in the business of "picking winners and losers. Innovation is slowed down when the government gets involved," he said.

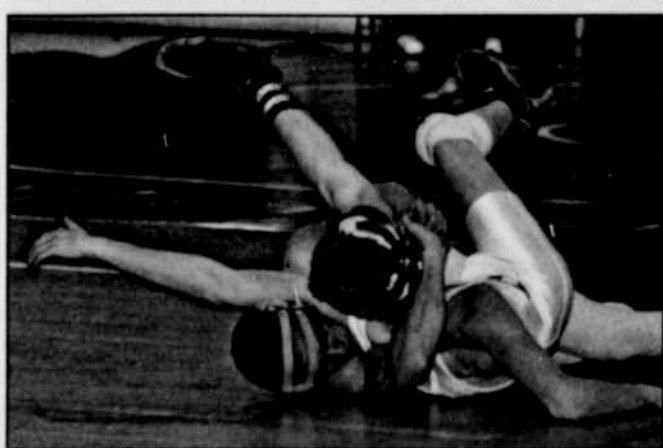
Others in attendance said, although their companies are small, their goal was to push more broadband deeper into rural areas and provide better services to their customers.

Ione students preparing for science fair



Students in Erin Heideman's science classes work on their own science experiments and research projects. Pictured are 6th graders Dan Doherty and Henry Padberg checking out the potential electrical charge of potatoes. The 6-10 grade science classes at Ione Schools will be hosting a science fair on March 10, 2011 in the elementary gym to show off their projects and work that will coincide with the elementary carnival. *-Contributed Photo*

BEO Invitational wrestling tournament to be held this weekend



Jarred Miller cradles an opponent during a recent wrestling match. The BEO Invitational will be held this weekend in Heppner. See Page ONE for more details. *-Photo by Jeremy Lanthorn*

Title & ELL Family Night held



Claudia Guerra makes bunuelos, a dessert from Mexico. The crowd listens to Alvin Liu as he displays how to make sweet won ton. *-Contributed Photos*

Alvin Liu, Tom McElligott and Claudia Guerra demonstrated how to make some international desserts to a nice crowd on Sunday, January 23. The activity was sponsored by Title Teacher Mary Haguwood and ELL (English Language Learner) Teacher Mary Ann Elgueza-bal. Each teacher talked about their job at school and how important reading is to students and how the Title programs are funded.

Leading off the program was Alvin Liu, revealing not only some of his cooking secrets, but also some fun life experiences. Next, Claudia Guerra presented the process of making bunuelos. Finally, Tom McElligott explained to the crowd how to make baklava. He stated, "Most people think it is very complicated, but if I can make it, so can you!" After the demonstration, the group was treated to a "dessert feast" of baklava made by Dean Antonucci; bunuelos made by Dora Collins and sweet won ton made by Alvin Liu and his assistant.

Ione School hosts Red Cross blood drive



High School students, Collette Cason and Evan Rietmann man the registration table at the Red Cross Blood Drive at Ione High School on Monday. Student body officers hosted the event. *-Contributed Photo*

Morrow SWCD board meeting to be held

A Morrow SWCD Board meeting will be held Tuesday, February 1, at 6 p.m. at the Ag Service Center in Heppner. Agenda items include: January 2011 Reg/Ann meeting minutes, treasurer's report, ODEQ LUB well testing update, written staff report, Grant update, Partnership reports.

Meetings of the Morrow SWCD are open to the public. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to Janet Greenup, 541-676-5452, extension 109.

Service club sign gets face lift



Robert Whalen (left) and Dan Doyle (right) with the City of Heppner recently put up service club sign near Pettyjohn's. The sign was refurbished as a community service project through the Justice of the Peace, John Edmundson, along with someone fulfilling a community service sentence, worked on the project. Mike Hahn painted the sign. The City of Heppner paid for the materials. *-Photo by April Sykes*