

## HEPPNER PRINCIPAL

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this happens, we could do that. We ran scenarios for if and when people retired, so we didn't have to riff (reduction in force) anyone," Dirksen says. "We've been in this scenario all year, looking at ways to move people around to cover, so we're making the best financial decision for district, so people who are staying, we don't have to riff."

Dirksen also says the reduction plan goes into next year, as well.

Combe says that, while the move to head both schools will be challenging, he's confident it will work.

"I think it will be a challenge but I think we have the right people in the right places in Heppner schools," Combe says. "I'm confident in both of the staffs' ability at Heppner High School and Heppner Elementary School, that we can make it work."

Stone says Combe has his complete support as his replacement at the high school level.

"I will be working this spring on transition with Mr. Combe and setting next year up for success," Stone says in his email. "As with any transition, there

will be change and I appreciate [the community's] willingness to be patient."

Combe adds that he is grateful for the support and vote of confidence from the community at large.

"For my family, we feel like the community has been very supportive, and that's important to us," says Combe. "The kids have already voted that I stay in Heppner and take this K-12 position; we feel this is the right fit for us. We're grateful for the vote of confidence by the community and Dirksen, to be given this opportunity."

## COUNTY SURVEYOR

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filing in the county, including surveys, partition plats, subdivision plats, and property line adjustments. The county surveyor also works closely with the county planning department, assessors department, and county commissioners in setting standards for land divisions and subdivision ordinances in the county, and is a part of subdivision review committees as needed for larger land developments.

The county surveyor is also responsible to ensure that all of these processes are consistent with both the county ordinances and state statutes, primarily ORS Chapter 92.

According to former county surveyor and

current Port of Morrow engineer, Ron McKinnis, average Morrow County citizens rarely have contact with the county surveyor, but their lives will be affected by the office if they own real property in the county, try to purchase or sell real property in the county, or have any other business that deals with real property in the county.

"As you can see, that does affect a majority of county residents," McKinnis adds.

Finally, McKinnis says, having the right person in the position makes a lot of difference to those who do have to deal with the office frequently.

"It makes a difference if they are competent and reasonable and,

behind the scenes, it does affect your average resident whether they know it or not," says McKinnis.

For those who would like more information on the duties of the county surveyor, Chapter 209 of the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) outlines those duties. ORS 209 is available online at <http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/209.html>.

The current Morrow County Surveyor is Judson L. Coppock, who is serving his second term in the position. He is running for a third term against opponent Stephen K. Hadcock. Ballots will be mailed April 27 and will be due back to the Morrow County Clerk by 8 p.m., May 15.

## BALLOT MEASURES

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rate to fund technology and other operational improvements at the Ione Public Library as well as ongoing library expenses (i.e.-staff, books, supplies.) In the first year of imposition, the proposed rate will raise approximately \$30,450.

Vote yes or no.  
**Town of Lexington, 25-60 Amendment to Town Charter of Lexington, Oregon**

**Question:** Shall Lexington Amend its current charter?

**Summary:** Lexington Town Council is proposing to amend the current Town Charter. These amendments will add a new section for elections, better defines the role of Town Recorder, changes to qualifications to serve on council, changes to qualifications for appointees to Mayor or

Council, adds a section on proceedings being open to the public, and a section on Bids for public contracts.

Vote yes or no.  
**Town of Lexington, 25-61 Five Year Local Option Tax for Street Operations**

**Question:** Shall Lexington impose a \$ .62 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years for Street Operations beginning in 2012-2013? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent.

**Summary:** The tax revenue from this measure would allow Lexington to continue to do street maintenance and repair. If this measure does not pass we will need to reduce our maintenance person's work hours by 25%. The requested rate will cost a homeowner whose home has an assessed value of \$100,000 \$62.00 per year. The requested tax will raise approximately \$3,000 per year or approximately \$15,000 over the course of the five years.

Vote yes or no.  
According to Morrow County Clerk Bobbi Childers, ballots will be in most mailboxes on April 27. Ballots are due back by Tuesday, May 15 at 8 p.m.

## Irrigon celebrates Arbor Day

This Friday, April 20, Irrigon will celebrate Irrigon's Arbor Day. This year the Irrigon Urban Forestry Commission will be partnering with the Irrigon Park and Recreation District to plant trees at the Marina Park ball fields.

The Urban Forestry Commission will be giving away one free bur oak seedling to the first 100 families. Any remaining trees after each family has their first tree may be given

away to anyone who has room to plant them. These are trees that will grow large and strong, so takers are reminded to give them plenty of space to grow.

The ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. at the gazebo snack shack by the Little League fields. The concession stand will be open with refreshments for purchase. The trees will be given away at the conclusion of the formal ceremony.

Also, everyone is invited to take part in the tree planting that will take place along Tenth Street at the entrance to the parking lot. Anyone who wants to help plant is asked to bring a shovel, gloves and sturdy shoes. Jason Whitbeck, Irrigon's certified arborist, will demonstrate the proper way to plant a tree. He will also be available to answer questions about trees and their care.

## Chamber Chatter

**Boardman**

Morrow County Community Health Improvement Partnership will be sponsoring "Wellness in Morrow County - Public Meeting." This meeting will give the local businesses an opportunity to learn more about health insurance costs and employee wellness opportunities, with lunch to be provided. Planned topics include simple steps businesses can take to encourage better employee health, a presentation on factors influencing your health insurance costs, presentation of local success stories and countywide efforts to improve health. Meetings will take place in Heppner on Tuesday, April 24 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church and in Boardman on Wednesday, April 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Port of Morrow.

**Boardman Business Fitness Challenge, April 1 - June 30:** Four-person teams/ \$40. Goal: To encourage individuals to begin or continue an exercise program with the support of their company team members. Call Boardman Foods for more information at 541-481-3000.

The Boardman Chamber of Commerce will host a Candidates Forum at the Port of Morrow on Thursday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m. Candidates for the Morrow County Commission, County Surveyor and State Senate District 29 will be at the forum. This is your opportunity to learn more about the candidates prior to the election in May. Call the chamber if you have any questions.

The Parent Teacher Organization of Sam Boardman Elementary School will be holding its annual Spring Carnival on May 3, from 6 - 8 p.m. Please join them for this family, fun-filled event. This carnival is the highlight of events for the school and also the biggest fundraiser of the PTO. The funds generated go directly back to the children. They are requesting help in sponsoring a booth or contributing an item for our raffle. For more information call 541-481-7383.

It's time again for Chick-fil-A Leadercast, Saturday, April 21: Heppner is getting ready for the Eastern Oregon MS Walk and we need you.

May 4 from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Chick-fil-A Leadercast is a one-day leader development event broadcast live from Atlanta, GA to hundreds of sites throughout the nation, including the Hermiston Conference Center. Brought to you by the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce, Chick-fil-A Leadercast is one of the most influential, live web events in the world. "It is one of the single most consolidated sources of leadership that I know of, but it goes beyond that. I think this conference, although very focused on leadership, transcends the topic and really shows you how to lead in life." -Paul Urbanowki, senior manager at AT&T.

For more information, email [info@hermistonchamber.com](mailto:info@hermistonchamber.com). Ticket Prices: Hermiston chamber members, \$45 each; non-members, \$55 each; groups of 10 or more, \$40 each.

**Refresh Leadership Live 2012** is coming on Wednesday, May 16. Reserve your seat today for this exciting opportunity from Express Employment Professionals.

Join business leaders from throughout our community for a special event featuring speakers who have built distinguished careers based on the principles of great leadership. The Five Temptations of a Leader, presented by Patrick Lencioni, leadership consultant, speaker, and New York Times bestselling author; Hall of Fame Leadership, presented by Troy Aikman and Emmitt Smith, legendary former professional football players and Pro Football Hall of Fame members; Finding Your Purpose, presented by Dr. Bertice Berry, sociologist, author, lecturer, and educator. With special guest emcee, Andy Buckley, who is known for his role as David Wallace on the hit television show, The Office.

For more information contact Kristin Connell at 541-567-1123 or email her at [kristin.connell@expresspros.com](mailto:kristin.connell@expresspros.com).

**Heppner**  
Saturday, April 21: Heppner is getting ready for the Eastern Oregon MS Walk and we need you.

## HOUSEKEEPER WANTED

Seeking a motivated individual to complete housekeeping and outdoor yardwork for 3 hours daily, 3 days per week. Must be able to lift 50 lbs, work outdoors, complete specific projects and run errands. Compensation is 12.00-15.00 per hour, DOE. Must be able to pass criminal background check and have valid driver's license. Please send a letter of interest with your contact information to: Boxholder, P.O. Box 219, Heppner, Oregon 97836.

## Mother's Day Baskets Now available!

Come see our great display of gift baskets!

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Brenda Gleason

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Wedding: June 16, 2012

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## HAVE A PLAN FOR THE CANS.



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Here's how the program works: Part of the purchase price of all new paint sales is being used to cover recycling and disposal costs for leftover, unwanted paint. So, if you have any paint you want to recycle, simply drop it off at any collection site for no additional charge (sorry, we cannot accept empty containers or aerosol cans). You're done. We'll take it from there.

To learn more, visit us at [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org)



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57185 HWY 74  
LEXINGTON, OR

Sat-Sun 9-4  
Phone (541) 989-9500

Saturday, May 5:  
7<sup>th</sup> annual Youth Fishing Derby for the youth in Morrow County will be held at Cutsforth Park from 8:30-11 a.m. The event is free for children 14 years old and younger. Prizes and lunch will conclude this fun experience for our youth. This event is sponsored by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Morrow County Parks.

Saturday May 12:  
Ninth Annual Poker Run in the Blues, sponsored by the Reload Ridge Riders. Held at Morrow County OHV Park; signup starts at 9 a.m., cost is \$15 each or \$50 for family. For further information, contact John Wight at 541-676-5152 or Tim Wright at 541-490-6681.