

BEO reports second quarter earnings

Bank of Eastern Oregon, a subsidiary of BEO Bancorp, announced second quarter 2012 consolidated net income of \$552,000, or \$0.55 per share, compared to \$325,000 or \$0.35 per share for second quarter 2011. Year-to-date earnings were \$1,227,000, up 48.4 percent year-over-year. Total assets were \$268.9 million, up 6.9 percent year-over-year. Net loans of \$215.1 million were up 7.8 percent from the same period in 2011, while deposits were at \$238.3 million, up 7.1 percent year-over-year.

"We are pleased with the second quarter as well as the year-to-date results. Our profitability metrics have shown a steady improvement over the past few years and we continue to see good opportunities for growth," said President and CEO Jeff Bailey.

Chief Financial Officer Mark Lemmon said, "Return on Average Assets is 0.82 percent and Return on Average Equity is 11.73 percent, compared to 0.52

percent and 7.94 percent, respectively, year-over-year.

"With continued strong core earnings and increased loan demand, the bank is positioned well looking to the last half of 2012. It is important to note that shareholders' equity has increased 15.1 percent year-over-year. We remain the best capitalized bank in eastern Oregon."

Chief Operations Officer Gary Propheet said, "The low interest rate environment continues to drag on, and all indications are that it will continue for quite a while, but even with continued low rates, deposits continue to strengthen. We are pleased with the continued growth across our branch network and welcome our new customers to the bank. We appreciate our customers' confidence in Bank of Eastern Oregon's safety and

soundness and appreciation for our great products and friendly service."

"The growth in both loans and deposits is good to see. While our local agricultural-based economies are doing relatively well, the typical unrest associated with an election year is compounded by the painfully slow national economy as well as the unrest in the European Union. We continue to take steps to clean up our balance sheet and make prudent additions to our loan loss reserve," added Bailey.

"During the second quarter, we opened new loan production offices in Pendleton and Island City. We are pleased with the reception we have received in those areas and look forward to welcoming even more customers as we strive to meet the growing Ag demand in our markets," concluded Bailey.



CEO Jeff Bailey

Boardman hosts rabies clinic

Offers low-cost vaccinations and free dog licensing

The city of Boardman is reminding pet owners of the need to keep their dogs and cats current on their rabies vaccinations.

This year, the city will host a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic given by Dr. Burgess of Country Animal Hospital.

"Rabies is a fatal disease of the brain and spinal cord, caused by a virus carried by mammals. Vaccinating dogs and cats against rabies is essential in protecting loved ones

and halting the spread of the disease," states a city release.

This low-cost rabies vaccination event kicks off on Saturday, Aug. 25, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Boardman City Park. The cost of the rabies vaccination is \$19.25 per pet. Along with the vaccinations, the city will offer free dog licensing. All dog owners who reside in the city limits of Boardman are required to have their dog

licensed for identification purposes.

In addition, Country Animal Hospital and the American Cancer Society have teamed up to offer a Doggie Wash and barbecue, with donations to benefit the American Cancer Society.

Pre-registration is encouraged to participate in the vaccinations and free dog licensing by calling Boardman City Hall at 541-481-9252.

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Justin Nelson has released the following report:

-Luis Antonio Chavez Bramasco, 31, was convicted of one count of burglary in the first degree, a Class A felony, and sentenced to three years supervised probation, to include substance abuse and mental health evaluations, a written apology to the victim, and no direct or indirect contact with any of the victims. The defendant was further convicted of one count of assault in the fourth degree, a Class A misdemeanor. Jail time of 180 days was suspended and the defendant sentenced

to three years bench probation, to include 60 hours of community service and no direct or indirect contact with any of the victims. The defendant was further convicted of one count of theft in the third degree, a Class C misdemeanor, with sentence discharged. Total fines, fees, assessments were \$1,660.

-Juan Carlos Villegas Perez, 32, was convicted of one count of harassment, a Class B misdemeanor, and sentenced to 90 days custody with the local supervisory authority. Execution of 60 days incarceration was suspended and the defendant sentenced to 24 months bench probation.

Fines, fees and assessments totaled \$440.

-Alan Earl Stone, 51, was charged with rape in the first degree and found guilty except for insanity. The defendant was placed under the jurisdiction of the Psychiatric Security Review Board for care, custody and treatment for a maximum period of time not to exceed 300 months and was committed to the custody of the state mental hospital designated by the Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services of the State of Oregon, with the Morrow County Sheriff to transport the defendant to said hospital forthwith.

Take a walk

A simple walk may offer more health benefits than you know



The following article was submitted by the Morrow County Health District.

Exercise does help. In a decades-long study of Harvard graduates, it has been shown that people who exercise regularly have less obesity, osteoporosis and hypertension, and a longer life expectancy.

It does not necessarily help to become obsessed with a certain activity, such as running, for a few months or years and then quit, or go skiing a couple times each winter. To be most useful, exercise does not have to

be extremely vigorous, but it does have to be done on a regular basis. Walking is one of the best exercises for this.

Walking has many advantages. It does not require any special equipment other than good shoes, and it does not require any special buildings or fields. It can be done anywhere and can be incorporated into a person's daily activities of getting the mail or going to work. Virtually anyone can do it.

Even in the winter it can be a good exercise. When it is too cold or icy outside, a person can walk in shopping malls, up and down stairways or do volunteer work in hospitals, nursing homes, or in community

projects. Walking can also be a good starter program for more vigorous sports such as running, swimming or tennis. Also, walking should be continued even after taking up more vigorous sports.

Injuries are uncommon with walking, and the exercise keeps the bones strong by helping prevent the loss of calcium associated with aging.

Walking does not burn quite as many calories per mile as running, but it is still an excellent way to help reduce your weight. The weight-loss and cardiac benefits can be further increased by vigorous arm-swinging or carrying small hand weights.

FSA announces CRP continuous sign-up

Producers can sign up for Highly Erodible Land initiative until September

Kyle Carmine, Executive Director for the Morrow County USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), has announced that continuous sign-up for the Highly Erodible Land (HEL) Initiative under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) started on July 23. Oregon received a total allocation of 1,800 acres to enroll in the HEL CRP program. Offers will be accepted until either the state acreage allocation limit is reached or Sept. 30, 2012 whichever occurs first.

"CRP is a voluntary program that has protected

environmentally sensitive land for more than 25 years," said Carmine. "This initiative will accept offers with an erosion rate of at least 20 tons per acre per year for new cropland or CRP acres that expire on Sept. 30, 2012; however, existing grass stands that are not considered expiring CRP will not be considered eligible."

Producers can stop by the Morrow County FSA office to determine if their land qualifies for HEL Initiative and to receive additional location-specific details.

New land contracts approved during this continuous sign-up initiative will become effective the first day of the month following the month of approval and are valid for 10 years.

CRP contracts set to expire on Sept. 30, 2012 may be offered for consideration; approved contracts will become effective Oct. 1 and are also valid for 10 years.

For more information, please contact the Morrow County FSA Office at 541-676-9011 or visit <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/crp>.

"Spice Spice Baby"

By Tom Meier

Aside from the rather cheesy Vanilla Ice reference in the title, there is little about Spice/K2—or any other number of street names this substance goes by—that allows for much levity at all. Spice, also known K2, Red X Dawn, Blaze, Gold, Mr. Smiley (the list really does go on and on), as near as we can tell was first introduced in the early 2000s in Europe. Marketed first as a type of incense or perhaps even a smoking herb, Spice was largely thought to be comprised of all legal compounds and was readily available at head shops, tattoo parlors, and even gas stations and food marts.

Spice has now become more synonymous with synthetic marijuana as it mimics the apparent effects of THC found in marijuana. Tests in 2008 revealed that the synthetic cannabinoids found in most of the Spice products being sold "legally at the time" acted very similarly to the cannabinoids found in cannabis (THC). The similarities however, tend to stop there. Spice is a man-made synthetic. The compounds can be manipulated and varied. There is nothing "natural" about Spice/K2.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimate that one in nine high school seniors have tried the Spice drug. Calls to poison centers nationwide rose from around 3,000 in 2010 to 7,000 in 2011. Man-made chemical compounds often have different effects on different people and users. All drugs can have this to a varying degree, but the Spice manufacturers actually try to alter the compounds in efforts to stay ahead of drug testing ability, etc.... The horror stories that are emerging



The synthetic drug, Spice—one of many names the drug is known by—was recently made illegal in the state of Oregon.

about this substance are frightening, at best.

Research is starting to paint a very bleak and frightening picture of the connection between both short and long term psychosis as a result of using Spice. Studies suggest that acute spice intoxication can be associated with acute psychosis that may even be prolonged. In addition, researchers believe the compound may also be associated with heart attacks and other cardio-vascular issues.

Oregon has just recently made the substance(s) illegal. As of now, nearly 40 states have or are doing the same. The federal government has also taken

strides to ban many of the cannabinoids found in these products.

Spice is a dangerous, now illegal substance. It can create long-term physical and psychological harm to those who use it. It is not simply "fake marijuana."

The Morrow County Juvenile Department now has the ability to test for some of the most popular compounds found within most of the spice sold today. If you are in need of further information or have additional questions, feel free to contact the Juvenile Department either on-line, via telephone or drop into the main office in Heppner or the satellite office in Boardman.

Honor military personnel at fair

This year, to go with the theme, the fair is honoring active military personnel.

The Morrow County Fair would like residents to submit 8x10 photos of active military personnel to display during fair, along with the person's name and some information about them, if possible. An address for people to write to them is also encouraged. Anyone with a picture to display is asked to drop it by the Fair Office by Aug. 6. Anyone who has a photo but can't provide it by that date may contact Ren'ee Yocom at mcfair@co.morrow.or.us or 541-676-9474 to make arrangements.

If military personnel show up in uniform during the fair, they will receive free fair passes.

Morrow County Health District
Will sponsor Free Sports Physicals at

Pioneer Memorial Clinic

For all Morrow County School
District Students

Girls - Tuesday, August 17th
Boys - Wednesday, August 18th

From 1:30 to 5 p.m.

Pioneer Memorial Clinic is located at
130 Thompson Ave., Heppner, OR 541-676-5504

Have a news story or photo for the Gazette?
email to editor@rapidsolve.net