

## County Court news

The Morrow County Court met in Heppner on Nov. 28 with Judge Tallman and Commissioners Grieb and Rea in attendance.

The City and Citizen Comment period for Ione/Lexington was opened with no one in attendance.

The court reviewed and approved the Account Payables in the net total amount of \$44,084. The court reviewed the cash balance activity for the week of Nov. 26, 2012 through Nov. 30, 2012. The report projects the cash balance will be \$4,951,270.88.

**Planning Dept. Update:** Planning Director Carla McLane provided two Plats for the court's review and approval, explaining that, while the county is accepting property for public roads, it does not mean that the county will be responsible for the construction or maintenance on these roads. The court reviewed and signed the following Plats: Partition Plat LP-N-404 accepting Public Road Dedications from the City of Boardman and Partition Plat LP-N-427 from Skoubo in the area of Wilson

Lane and Downey Road. McLane informed the court that Don Chance has been chosen as the project manager for the Local Reuse Authority (LRA) and that Stormy Botefuhr has been named as the Administrative Assistant. Botefuhr had been previously employed at the Army Depot. McLane stated that the LRA would like to have representatives appointed from the various entities involved in the close-out process. The court appointed Tallman and McLane as the county's representatives. McLane informed the court about possible legislation that is being proposed regarding the installation of transmission lines by Independently Owned Power Suppliers. The court asked McLane to keep them updated on any actions regarding this matter. McLane reported that she had attended the Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group (WCVEDG) meeting earlier in the day. McLane and Sheryll Bates will continue working together to assure the county is ready for the

influx of workers as the wind projects and Port of Morrow projects moves forward.

The court conducted the following business: Reviewed and authorized refunds to the following: Damon and Carrie Brosnan, \$1,805.63 due to overpayment by Amerititle and Corelogic for Midland Mortgage; David McCurry, \$824.32 due to overpayment; Joe and Donna Rietmann, \$540.22 due to overpayment; William Brannon, \$817.09 due to overpayment and Pacific Ethanol Columbia, L.L.C., \$1,002.21 due to a change in valuation by the Oregon Tax Court. The court reviewed and signed an order for a change in rates by Sanitary Disposal.

Various correspondence and upcoming meeting notices were reviewed and discussed.

This information is provided by Commissioner Leann Rea. Anyone who would like to receive county court minutes, contact Karen Wolff at 541-676-5620.

## Morrow County seeks planning commissioners

Morrow County is looking for volunteers to represent Irrigon or the northeastern portion of the county on the Morrow County Planning Commission. Planning commissioners serve four-year terms, with this position beginning on January 1, 2013 and running until December 31, 2016.

The planning commis-

sion generally meets once a month, alternating meeting locations between Heppner and Boardman. Duties of the planning commission include approving land-use actions, maintaining the county's subdivision and zoning ordinance, and working with the county court to manage the county's land-use comprehensive plan.

Planning Director Carla McLane invites Morrow County residents who are interested in taking a more active part in land-use planning in the county to send a letter of interest to the Morrow County Court at P.O. Box 788, Heppner, OR 97836, by Dec. 17. Anyone with questions about the positions can reach her at 541-922-4624.

## Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling the following business:

**July 10:** Morrow County Sheriff's Office deputy cited Jeremy Michael Brelan 21, for Failure to Use Seatbelt. He also received a warning to change his license from Idaho to Oregon.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner woman that someone had used her debit card number.

-MCSO received report of a lot of gravel all over the road on Highway 207 in the Buttercreek-Lexington area that could be a real hazard to a motorcycle.

-MCSO, Boardman Police Department, Irrigon Fire Department, Irrigon Ambulance received report of a single vehicle accident on Hwy. 730-Irrigon with one occupant, a 16-year-old male shook up, but walking around. The car was in the ditch.

-MCSO received report of a female learning to drive

who mixed up the pedals and drove through a yard in Boardman. She was cited for Careless Driving.

-MCSO received report that Oregon State Police arrested Benito M. Ramirez, 30, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Driving While Suspended and Failure to Obey a Traffic Control Device. He was cited and released with \$598 bail in full.

-MCSO received report of a subject driving a Chevy Cavalier very fast in the park in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of a two-vehicle, non-injury crash in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon subject that a car hit her neighbor's dog and took off. The reporter said that they have the dog at their home. MCSO cited Chantel Robinson, 26, for Maintaining a Dog as a Public Nuisance.

-Boardman Police Department received report of fraud/forgery at the Boardman Market.

-Boardman Ambulance received report of a male with several abdominal pain.

-Heppner Ambulance received report that a male, who had a hip replacement surgery two weeks previous, fell from a standing position.

-Heppner Ambulance received report that a 70-year-old female needing assistance was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

**July 11:** Morrow County Sheriff's Office received a request for a cat trap from an Irrigon resident. A deputy responded and left a trap at the location.

-MCSO received report of a small dog, very skinny, that needed to be taken to Pet Rescue in Irrigon.

## POLAND TRIP

*-Continued from PAGE ONE*  
nursing homes, rescue shelters, potlucks and picnics. She says she discovered a vibrant community of faith and hope as Poland "... emerges from the suppression of its communistic past and embraces its capitalist present."

"The Polish people are warm and friendly, and they love Americans. Considering what is usually broadcast on American news, I was pleasantly surprised to discover this," she says. "They shared with pride so much about their culture and history. It seemed important to them that I, as an American, have some understanding of what they've been through."

She said one of the differences between our two countries is the number of church denominations.

"To them, it's all either Catholic or Lutheran. They couldn't believe that Heppner has so many churches and that we do things together," says DeMayo. "You have a shared ministry with the Episcopalians?" they would ask. "How can that be?"

DeMayo said she had never realized how uniquely American is our spirit of working together to make things happen.

"I received an insightful comment from a social worker in the Czech Republic," she says. "After sharing with her about several things I have seen accomplished in my country because our communities rally to make it happen, she smiled, and said, 'That's Americans. I like it but it would never happen here.'"

The most difficult thing about her trip, she says, was the language barrier. Even that was rarely an issue, since most people spoke English. If they didn't, their children did; since the fall of communism in Poland, children begin learning English in the first grade. By the time they graduate, DeMayo says, they are required to know two languages aside from their native Polish, usually English and German.

There were times,

-MCSO received report of a Labrador in Irrigon turned over to a deputy at the Irrigon Justice Court. The dog was transported to Pet Rescue.

-MCSO received report of cattle out on Bell Canyon Loop/Blackhorse Canyon, Lexington. The owners were contacted and said they would take care of the cattle.

-MCSO received report that Umatilla Police Department arrested Eliodoro Salseda Castaneda, 20, on a Morrow County Justice Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Providing False Information to a Police Officer. He was lodged at the Umatilla County Jail with \$6,000 bail.

-MCSO received report of a suspicious person wearing a button-up shirt and a hat with a small plastic bag in Heppner. Subject was located.

-MCSO, Boardman Police Department received report of an alarm at Riverside High School

though, when language was an issue. She recalls a morning when she had to take a taxi to the train station by herself at 6 a.m.

"I said (to the driver), 'Do you speak English?'" The man simply smiled at her and shook her head. The train station itself was another challenge.

"I saw a train with the same word on it that was on my ticket and hopped on, hoping this was the right train."

DeMayo said the best part was learning about Poland and its people, how warm and friendly they are. There were moments, though, that she did find embarrassing.

"For instance, when they told me about the destruction of Warsaw at the end of World War II," she remembers. "The Allies, of which my country was one, chose not to lend support to Poland's resistance army to save the beloved and historic old town. Because of this, many Polish lives were lost, and the old town completely destroyed."

She added that the destruction of Warsaw also showed her the spirit of the Polish people...at great time and expense, they rebuilt the entire downtown to look exactly as it had before.

"That pride and spirit," says DeMayo, "That (attitude), 'We will not be devastated by war, by anything.' I thought that was impressive."

While DeMayo said she ran across no strange customs or foods to make her feel uncomfortable, she was puzzled by the Polish people's seeming obsession with cake.

"They always start with two servings and then will ask if you want more," she recalls. "Finally, I got bold enough to ask why they eat so much cake. That's when I received a brief lesson on what it's like to live under a communist government."

"Sugar was one of many commodities that no one could afford even when it was available in their stores. If you were not a member of the Communist Party, which left out church

members, you would not be given ration cards for luxury items when they came available. Polish Christians paid a high price for remaining faithful. Since their freedom from communism some 23 years ago, sugar is readily available and affordable. They refuse to deprive themselves of such a treat."

She said she spoke with one person who didn't taste her first Snickers until she was 18 years old; for another, the amazing discovery was the banana...both things most Americans take for granted.

"I really learned what it was like to live under communism and what it was like to experience freedom when you were not born into it," she says.

DeMayo also says they pay \$8 a gallon for gas, but no one complains because they are simply thankful to have cars and gas. They also use public transit, and walk.

"They walked everywhere," she says. "They'd say, 'It's not far.' And nine miles later..."

DeMayo says that, unlike some of their neighbors, the Poles were quick to catch on to capitalism and are moving full speed ahead. Because they did not sacrifice their zloty (Polish currency) for the Euro, they are not being pulled down by the financial problems of their neighbors. In fact, they have one of the strongest economies in Europe.

In the end, DeMayo says the experience is one she will treasure and never forget.

"It was good that it was forced on me, so to speak, because I never would have woken up and said, 'I'll just go experience Europe by myself.' It's what your heart wants but you would never have the guts to do."

Above all, she says, it was a learning experience...not just learning about Poland, but learning about herself.

"I learned some things about being an American. By experiencing their culture, I have come to discover my own."

bathroom drawer that had disappeared. She requested deputy contact.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon subject that there were people smoking marijuana between trailers at the Irrigon Mobile Court and one of them was pregnant.


-Boardman Police Department received report of a subject possibly having a seizure.

-BPD received report from a female subject that her daughter had been missing for two weeks.

-Boardman Ambulance received report from a female that she had fallen the day before and her back and hips were hurting.


-Boardman Ambulance received report of a subject with a possible seizure. The patient refused transport.

-Heppner Ambulance received report of an unconscious male. He was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.



### Bank of Eastern Oregon

*One of the real joys of the holiday season is the opportunity to say thank you for your business & to wish you the very best for the New Year.*




Heppner team members:  
**Arletta Arnsperger**, NMLS #508276  
 Mortgage Lending Manager  
**Teresa Bedortha & Anna Wedding**  
 Mortgage Loan Processors  
**Lacey Davison**  
 Receptionist  
 (not pictured)

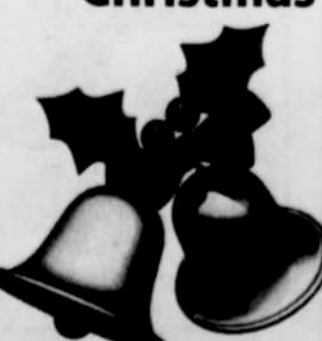
BEO Mortgage Division

1-877-472-6217

www.beobank.com



### The Gazette-Times will be publishing the Christmas Edition December 19th



Any business or individuals who would like their Christmas greeting included should contact Megan at 541-676-9228 or email [megan@rapidsolve.net](mailto:megan@rapidsolve.net) by Friday, December 14th, at 5 p.m.