

Ione school awards perfect attendance



Ione Community School awarded the following students for perfect attendance in the month of November: Makiyah Christian, Liam Heideman, Ariona Looney, Martin Medina, Madison Orem, Jerson Peralta, Corey Rice, Dylan Christian, Kelly Doherty, Karensa Jones, Cameron Proudfoot, Ethan Ramos-Lopez, Luis Ramos-Lopez, Lewkus Burrigh, Sunem Calvillo, Carson Eynetich, Fernando Ramirez, Calvin Rietmann, Bryce Rollins, Charles Smith, Daralynn Teeman, Morgan Alldritt, Blake Carter, Emily Ehrmantraut, Faviola Juarez Alvarez, Grace Ogden, Colt Parker, Taylor Rollins, Tom Rudolf, Julianna Teeman, Katelyn Thompson, Gary Walls, Tiffany Hollis, Eva Martin, Jessica Medina, Jordan Rollis, Wyatt Aleksa, Madison Alldritt, Megan Doherty, Elaina Ehrmantraut, Shaun Epperson, Jake Heideman, Mackenzie Heideman, Annabelle McDaniel, Matt Orem, Emma Rietmann, Jillian Rudolf, Gracie Crum, Lexie Garrett, Aaron Smythe, Susanna Teeman. —Contributed photo

County Court news

The Morrow County Court met in Heppner on Dec. 5 with Judge Tallman and Commissioners Grieb and Rea in attendance.

The City and Citizen Comment period for Heppner was opened with no one in attendance.

The court reviewed and approved the minutes for Nov. 21 and 28, 2012.

The court reviewed and approved the Payroll Payables and the Account Payables in the net total amount of \$115,703.54. The court reviewed the cash balance activity for the week of Dec. 3, 2012 through Dec. 7, 2012 with a cash balance of \$5,034,994.44. They also reviewed the projected balance for the week of Dec. 10, 2012 through Dec. 14, 2012, showing a projected balance of \$5,148,994.44.

Commission on Children and Families (CCF): Kim Carnine, CCF Director, recapped proposed actions by the Oregon Legislature, stating that the original plans were to abolish the CCF Program effective June 30, 2012; that plan has been revised and the program extended to June 30, 2013. Then the governor's office changed the ending date for CCF to January 2014. Carnine had made plans to relocate to the Eugene area, but does not want to leave the county without representation for this additional time period. The commissioners agreed it was in the best interest of the county for Carnine to remain in the director's position for the duration of the program. An employment contract describing Carnine's duties and responsibilities will be

provided at a future meeting for signatures.

Road Dept.: The court reviewed a memo from Bob Nairns, Assistance Director, including a "Project List" (22 projects listed) that was shared with the Road Committee in June of 2012. The memo stated that projects will be prioritized as time, budget, manpower, weather and other factors allow. The court reviewed and approved an Interagency Agreement between Morrow County School District #1 and Morrow County Road Dept. for a proposed project to drain high groundwater away from the Irrigon High School for a maximum payment of \$90,000 to be effective through June 30, 2013.

Contracts: The court reviewed and signed the Twelfth Amendment to Agreement #135573 with the Oregon Health Authority for the financing of Public Health Services for an additional amount of \$1,142 for the Immunization ACA Adult Grant, bringing that total grant award for ACA to \$23,259. The current total award amount as of this Amendment is \$426,947.

The court conducted the following business: Reviewed and authorized tax refunds to the following: Eric and Renate Meakins in the amount of \$512.68 due to a computer conversion error; John Bozarth in the amount of \$1,270.88 due to an overpayment by Mid-Columbia Title and Corelogic for Banner Bank. The court reviewed and signed 14 letters to the Dept. of

Energy identifying Carla McLane, Planning Director, as the point of contact for the Energy Facility Siting Council's Special Advisory Groups for energy projects in Morrow County. Following are the projects: Heppner Wind Facility, 2Morrow Energy, Carty Generating Station, Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line, Shepherds Flat I, II and III, Saddle Butte Wind Park, Rock Creek Wind Facility, Montague Wind Power Facility, Baseline Wind Energy Facility, Cascade Crossing Transmission Line, Perennial Wind Chaser, Coyote Springs Amendment #10, Boardman Coal Plant Amendment #9 and Wheatridge Wind Energy. The court reviewed and signed the cover letter for the comments for the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed activities at Naval Weapons System Training Facility Boardman (NWSTFB) Navy Bombing Range. The court reviewed the "Inclement Weather" Policy for the county. The court reviewed and signed a Memorandum of Agreement between the county and the Morrow County Sheriff's Association and Teamsters Local Union No. 223 regarding the paid meal period while on duty.

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.

Ione students awarded for cooperation



Ione Community School spent the month of November working on cooperation in kindergarten through sixth grade. Awards for outstanding cooperation were rewarded to the following students: Ariona Looney, kindergarten; Kelly Doherty, first grade; Daralynn Teeman, second grade; Julie Teeman, third grade; Jordan Rollis-fourth grade; Wyatt Aleksa, fifth grade; and Renee Peterson, sixth grade. —Contributed photo

Ione 4-H club receives awards



Ione Community 4-H livestock members met for a quick organizational meeting on Sunday, Nov. 18, before the 4-H Achievement Awards Dinner. Pictured are (back L-R): Austin Morter, Jenna Taylor, Morgan Orem, Austin Carter, JD Aleska, Tyler Carter and (front L-R) MaLinda Morter, Jake Heideman, Matt Orem, Paul Taylor, Wyatt Aleska and Aaron Smythe. Several members received achievement awards for their lamb, swine and rabbit projects. For a community service project, the club volunteered to clean up after the dinner. —Contributed photo

COUNCIL MEMBERS

—Continued from PAGE ONE
city council were putting in a new water system and moving city hall from its previous office on Willow St. to the current location on Main St.

"I've done it for 10 years and I've decided to let someone else do it," she says on her retirement from council. "I've enjoyed it but there's a lot involved and there are big projects coming up."

"Eventually, we've got to do something about the sewer system."
Cody High, 27, moved to Heppner from southern Oregon in 2003 when his father transferred to the ranger district in town. His

mother still lives here, as well as his girlfriend Nichole and her daughter.

High is a graduate from Heppner High School; his term on the city council was his first government experience.

High said one of his greatest challenges as a city council member was realizing he couldn't make everyone happy; his best experience was being told by fellow community members that they were glad he was serving on the council.

His advice to incoming councilors?

"Use common sense and don't be afraid to question why something needs

done."

Keith Lewis, 80, has lived in Heppner since he retired from the Oregon State Police in 1983. His wife, Sharon, was raised here. The couple has grown children and grandchildren. He has been on the Heppner City Council five years, since 2007.

Lewis said the post was more involved than he expected but that he enjoyed it because he got to work with a lot of good people.

"I've just had enough," he said. "It's been good, but there are a lot of younger people who are willing to serve and I think that's good."

Military program offers assistance to service members

A military agency dedicated to helping service members is now offering its services in Eastern Oregon.

The Joint Transition Assistance Program (JTAP)

says in its mission that it "...empowers returning Service Members, Veterans, and Commands with tools for reintegration back into their communities, careers, education, health care and

families. We will achieve this with innovative outreach through partnerships in Oregon, and other areas as needed."

Part of JTAP is the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP), which is a Department of Defense effort to support National Guard and Reserve members and their families with information on benefits and referrals before, after and during deployment.

YRRP offers 30-, 60- and 90-day events to provide service members and their families with help on topics ranging from healthcare to employment, military benefits and mental health.

Area JTAP representative Stephen Jensen says he currently has resources to help vets with rent, boxes of food, resumes and much more.

For more information, contact Jensen at 541-215-9101 or stephen.rex.jensen@us.army.mil.

Community lunch menu

Elohim Covenant Church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, Dec. 19, at St. Patrick's Senior Center.

The meal will include turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, cranberry sauce, hot rolls and lemon meringue pie. Milk is served at each meal.

Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, help is available and that help is FREE of charge.

If YOU have a family member who suffers from gambling addiction, YOU can also receive FREE treatment even if the gambler is not receiving treatment.

If you are a resident of Morrow County and you wish to take advantage of the services above or desire more information, Please call any of the following numbers to set up a LOCAL appointment or just to talk:

Bobby Harris @ 541-676-9925 or 541-256-0175

Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) @ 541-676-9161

OR 1-877-695-4648 (1-888-MYLIMIT)

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