

DEBATE CONTINUES

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and some in favor. After months of debate, letters to the editor and several meetings, the council voted at its April 8 meeting to end the debate and remove the pedestals. The council action did not deter DeMayo, however, who came back with the ballot request.

"This is a citizen's initiative," DeMayo told the Gazette Tuesday. "My intent is this is going to be a citizen's decision, let the citizens decide." He said he needed 92 signatures to put the measure on the November ballot.

DeMayo said he has been receiving enthusiastic support for his efforts around the community and he has "more or less been guaranteed" to get the necessary 92 signatures to get the proposal on the ballot.

City Manager Kim Cutsforth said Tuesday, however, that the initiative does not meet the requirements for a ballot initiative and she was denying DeMayo's request.

"It does not meet the requirements," Cutsforth told the Gazette. The council had discussed the ballot measure Monday night and also held an executive session over it; however, the council took no official action.

At the meeting, and later, Cutsforth said the initiative would have cost the city at least \$3,000 plus attorney's fees. However, that was not the reason for denial.

"It just does not meet the standards," she said.

When told of the denial, DeMayo was upset and said, "I challenge that

opinion, and I am willing to get my own lawyer if necessary (to fight the decision)." Earlier DeMayo said he was willing to put up \$5,000 toward having an Indian statue placed in the park.

Cutsforth said a letter would most likely go out Tuesday to DeMayo laying out the denial.

In other business, the council:

-Approved a request by the city public works crew to begin working four 10-hour days instead of five eight-hour. Public Works Director Chad Doherty said he wanted to start this right away and run until daylight savings went off. Doherty said the shift in hours would mesh better with the construction crews in town working on the streets, which work four-tens, with whom the city crew works closely.

The city council agreed to give it a try and to make sure it did not result in more overtime hours. A man would still be available on Fridays to work a half day for water turn-offs and on.

"The city pays the same amount and is getting the same work done, just easier on the crew," Mayor Joe Perry said.

-Agreed to a \$20,000 line of credit with the Bank of Eastern Oregon to pay for repairs and maintenance of the city's street sweeper.

"We currently have a loan through US Bank for the sweeper, and this loan can only be paid semi-annual," Cutsforth told the council. "The city intends to pay this note off in October with proceeds from

a loan from the Bank of Eastern Oregon. At that time we will also pay the credit line in full. This will allow us to extend the life of our sweeper by six to 10 years, improve its operation and keep our current terms for payment the same," she said. She told the council the program is beneficial and will not affect the city budget.

-Heard from the city manager, in other public works expenditures, that public works has found a mower to replace the old city lawn mower. The cost will be \$13,500 and city can pay for on a zero interest payment policy. She said the new mower will actually save the city money, as it is not planning on hiring summer help, in part because of the increased efficiency of the new mower.

-Approved a new contract with the Morrow County Sheriff's Department for police services. The contract will cost the city \$165,654, an increase of \$7,071 over last year. The increase was mainly over salary increases.

-Voted for another three-year agreement with the city's auditor, Barnett & Moro.

-Heard a report on the St. Patrick's Day Senior Apartments. Judy Buschke said there were two vacancies.

-Heard from Mayor Perry that he has been warning people about doing J turns in town and that they are illegal. Perry said he has approached drivers and so far they have been very nice about it, acknowledging they did not know it was an illegal turn in town.

SCHOOL TRANSFER CONCERNS

-Continued from PAGE ONE
questions and comments during the meeting, as per board meeting regulations, but invited the parents to speak to board members and Superintendent Dirk Dirksen about their concerns following the meeting. Dirksen had been a teacher and principal at RHS for many years prior to being named MCSD superintendent.

Killingbeck is a former principal at Windy River Elementary, Boardman, and assistant principal at Sam Boardman Elementary and A.C. Houghton Elementary, Irrigon.

Dirksen, administrators and board members concurred that the transfer situation has changed greatly since the formation of charter schools, which allows students to attend any high school they wish. Students now have the ability to attend schools outside their districts.

Following the meeting, board member Berto Hernandez, Boardman, spoke with the parents in attendance who were represented by Lomas. He told the Gazette that he explained to the families that the district's main emphasis is academics. He also said that he believed that the majority of students transferring out were not generally from Hispanic families. He said further he did not believe there were any safety or security concerns.

Dirksen said that he plans to meet with the parents individually to discuss their concerns in the near future.

Data on the number of students who have transferred out and reasons for the transfers was unavailable.

During the meeting, Windy River Elementary English Language Learner teacher Theresa Proctor-Reece presented a program on the successful English as a Second Language/ELL program at WRE.

Also at the meeting, the board voted to increase the district's lunch prices by 10 cents for 2013-14, as mandated by the federal government. Elementary school lunches will increase from \$2.15 to \$2.25; junior/senior lunch prices will increase from \$2.40 to \$2.50; and milk prices will go up 15 cents from 25 cents to 40 cents.

There will be no change in his church. His many awards include Academic Achievement Letter, Honor Roll, President's Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement, and Heppner High School Student of the month.

Garrett Robinson of Heppner is the son of Darcy and Kyle Robinson. He has attended Heppner High School. Garrett is considering Oregon State University. He plans on earning his Bachelor of Agriculture Sciences Degree at Oregon State University to further his career in agriculture and broaden his knowledge of the industry, and educate others and advocate for the importance of agriculture in our world. Garrett is active in his community, volunteering for FFA community service, Tupper camp counselor, Tri-County 4-H camp counselor, 4-H ambassador, Morrow County Fair Livestock Sale runner, and is active in his church. He is a member of Outdoor Club, American Quarter Horse Association, Oregon High School Rodeo, In-

termountain High School Rodeo Club, Knowledge Master, FFA, HHS ASB officer, Class Officer, member of the band and pep band, Heppner High School Honor Roll, Academic Letter for four years, and Silver Presidential award, to name a few.

The Board of Directors of the Scholarship Trust includes Bill Rietmann, president; Ginger Bowman, vice-president; Del LaRue, treasurer; Sharon Harrison, secretary; Missy Cutsforth, Martha Munkers and Carri Grieb. The South Morrow County Scholarship Trust was established several years ago with the mission to grow funds to provide scholarships to graduating seniors from Heppner and Ione high schools and to eventually take the place of the Troedson Scholarship fund, which will be discontinued in the year 2023.

es in reduced price lunches at 40 cents, adult lunch prices at \$3 and breakfast prices, which are \$1 for elementary students, \$1.25 for junior/senior high school students, and reduced price breakfasts at 30 cents.

District business manager Andy Fletcher stressed that the federal "Healthy Hunger-Free Food Act requires the district to increase elementary and junior/senior high school lunch prices to meet federal equity pricing requirements" to "offset the continuing increases in the cost of food." The state is currently paying the reduced breakfast cost, according to the district.

Additionally, the board discussed the growing number of classes that the district offers at the three MCSD high schools that allow students to receive high school credits while simultaneously earning college credits at Blue Mountain Community College, Eastern Oregon University and Treasure Valley Community College through the Eastern Promise plan. Eastern Promise is the brainchild of InterMountain ESD superintendent Mark Mulvihill.

In other business, the board:

-approved rehiring the following classified/confidential personnel for 2013-14 (South Morrow County listed only): Heppner Elementary School-Lorna Botefuhr, Rita Britt and Janet Wilson, special ed assistants, Deb Campbell, library tech/food service clerical, Kathy Cutsforth, assistant custodian, Becky Evans and Robin Jones, ed assistants, Jessica Lehman, special ed assistant/assistant custodian, Patty Rill, head cook, Kim Carlson, assistant cook, Brandy Sweeney, secretary; Heppner High School-Ginger Bowman, library tech, Tracie Bunch, department secretary, Kathi Dickenson, Jessica Lentz, special ed assistants, Mike Doherty, head custodian, Kelly Fox, lead maintenance-south, Lori McCabe, FS assistant/assistant cook, Joan McDaniel, retiring head cook, Teresa Parret, assistant custodian, Darcy Robinson, secretary; Confidential Personnel-Autumn Morgan, fiscal services specialist/accounts payable, Rose Dirksen, student services technician,

-held an executive session concerning personnel.

-heard the following announcements: Last senior day-Thursday, May 23; Memorial Day holiday-Monday, May 27; Irrigon High School graduation-Friday, May 31, 7 p.m.; Riverside High School graduation-Saturday, June 1, 10 a.m.; Heppner High School graduation-Saturday, June 1, 2 p.m.; last student day-Friday, June 7; last teacher days-Monday and Tuesday, June 10 and 11; next board meeting-Monday, June 10, district office, 7 p.m.

Linda Kenny, fiscal services specialist/payroll, Jan Huddleston, maintenance coordinator/administrative assistant.

-accepted a \$100 donation from Ken Matlack to be used for Irrigon High School girls' softball.

-adopted a revision to policy-qualities and duties of the superintendent.

-adopted a revision to policy for a "Mother Friendly Workplace."

-designated board member representation at graduations as follows: Heppner High School-Bill Kuhn; Riverside High School-Thad Killingbeck; Irrigon High School-Barney Lindsay. Morrow Education Center graduates will return to their communities to walk in graduation ceremonies.

-received the following May enrollment report: A.C. Houghton Elementary-270; Sam Boardman Elementary-340; Heppner Elementary-180; Irrigon Elementary-201; Windy River Elementary-200; Heppner Junior/Senior High-171; Irrigon Junior/Senior High-357; Riverside High-383; MCSD other-45; total-2147.

-accepted the following employment action: resignations/retirements-Bonnie Moore, retiring from SBE assistant cook position, Joan McDaniel, retiring from HHS head cook position, Jacque Johnson, retiring from SBE principal position, Nancie Mathews, resigning from HHS assistant volleyball and head track coach position; employment/promotions-Nichole Goforth, IJH ed assistant, replacing Javier Garcia; extra duty contracts-Angie Tipton, IJH assistant track coach, Dave Boor, RHS 2013-14 head football coach.

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The Ione Library District will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, May 21, at 3:30 p.m. at the Ione Public Library, 385 W 2nd Street in Ione. The public is welcome to attend.

South Morrow scholarship trust announces recipients

The South Morrow County Scholarship Trust is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2013 scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. They are Julianne Carlson, Maggie Collins, Bryce Fowler, Kyle Harrison, Austin Gutierrez and Garrett Robinson. The six students were selected out of 13 applicants on the basis of academic achievement, chosen field of study, financial need, school participation, degree of effort the student has made in seeking sources for college, and personal characteristics for success and school citizenship.

Julianne Carlson is the daughter of Sarah and Clinton Carlson of Ione. She is considering attending The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising and University of the Arts London: London College of Fashion. Julianne has completed summer courses at Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, WA, taking oil painting and fashion design. She is active in 4-H, competing for clothing construction at the Oregon State Fair and National Make it With Wool, and winning championship placement at these. She is on the honor roll, a Big Sky Scholar Athlete, and a member of the National Honor Society, serving as treasurer for the last three years. Her activities include Speech and Debate, National Forensic League, Varsity Tennis, International Club, and she served as a class officer for four years. Julianne has participated in many community activities.

Maggie Collins of Heppner is the daughter of Jean and Tim Collins. She is

considering University of Idaho, Oregon State University and Pacific University, among others, to receive a bachelor's degree in biology and then apply to a veterinarian school. She is currently in a work study program with local veterinarian Dr. Temple. Maggie has prepared herself for this goal by taking all upper division science, math and college preparatory classes that Heppner High School offers. Maggie is a member of FFA, FBLA, National Honor Society, Pep Band, Varsity volleyball, Varsity basketball and Varsity softball. She won the sportsmanship award this year and is senior class president. Maggie was the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Queen in 2012. She is active in community events, working on Mustang Mop-up, Senior Citizen Bingo, as a DARE volunteer, youth Relay for Life, and Town and Country Music Entertainer for two years. She is a Blue Mt. Fiddlers member and is active in 4-H.

Bryce Fowler, the son of Kay and Dave Fowler, attends Heppner High School. He plans on attending Pacific University or University of Oregon. Bryce plans on focusing on mathematics. He has worked outside of class with a former mathematics professor. He has earned college credits in algebra and trigonometry. He is a member of the National Honor Society, 4-H, Technology Student Association,

tion, FBLA, FFA, Outdoor Club, Band and Pep Band, Ford Institute Leadership Training and has earned varsity letters in basketball, football track and field. Bryce has won many awards, including Gold Presidential Award, All-State honorable mention offensive lineman, Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership, Mathematics Student of the Year and Biology Student of the Year.

Kyle Harrison, the son of Kirsten and Travis Harrison of Lexington, attends Heppner High School. He has been accepted into Oregon State University. He intends to attain a degree in kinesiology. He will concentrate on exercise science and obtain a minor in health studies. He has prepared for this by taking advanced placement and college courses. Kyle is active in FFA, serving as Heppner FFA Chapter Vice President, Reporter, and Secretary and has attended the FFA Leadership retreat for three years. He is a member of National Honor Society, serving as Historian. Kyle has varsity letters in golf and basketball, and served as team captain for both golf and basketball. He has served on the Associated Student Body Government and is a volunteer with local youth basketball programs. Kyle is an active volunteer in his community, working on Mustang Mop-up, participating and organizing a Red Cross Blood Drive, and active in his church. He is a recipient of the Character Trait Student of the Month, Academic Letter, Honor Roll, and President's Award for Educational Achievement, Lead America Na-



Maggie Collins



Julianne Carlson



Kyle Harrison



Bryce Fowler



Austin Gutierrez



Garrett Robinson