

HEPPNER 50¢

Gazette Times

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Allen retires after 25 years

By Andrea Di Salvo

Heppner says goodbye to long-time elementary school teacher Jannie Allen this week.

Allen, 61, has taught fifth- and sixth-graders at Heppner Elementary School for 25 years. She spent her last day with her last class last Friday; her final day with the school was Monday, June 10.

Born and raised in nearby Fossil, OR, Allen graduated from Wheeler High School in 1970. She then attended Oregon College of Education, now Western Oregon University, in Monmouth, OR, graduating in 1974. She married her husband, Dick, in 1972. He taught in Salem while she finished college, after which the couple returned to Fossil to live and teach. Allen taught fourth grade in Fossil for the next four



Heppner Elementary School fifth- and sixth-grade teacher Jannie Allen sits at her desk in the midst of 25 years worth of memories. Her last official day with the school district was June 10. —Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

Allen says she took a hiatus from teaching in 1978, staying home with children Stephen and Elizabeth and subbing from time to time. In 1979, the family moved to Spray, OR. They stayed there until 1985, when they moved to Ione. "We've always said

we've lived in one metropolitan area after another... Fossil, Spray and Ione," quips Allen.

Allen subbed in the Heppner and Ione areas until 1988, when she received a call that changed the course of her next 25 years. —See ALLEN RETIRES/PAGE SEVEN

Celebrate Heppner event schedule

June 14, 2013

8:30-11 am... Youth Track Activities – Heppner High track; sponsored by Heppner Daycare and Preschool. The cost will be \$5 for ages Preschool through high school. Sign-ups at 8:30 a.m. with the event from 9-11 a.m.

8:30am-5:30pm... Sweet Productions Strawberry Shortcake free with purchase of meal; \$1.00 without meal

9am – close... Merchant Sidewalk Sale – make sure to check inside for special sales

All Day... Free Cup of "Hometown" Coffee - Heppner Family Foods

9am – close... Community "Flea" Market and Craft Fair on Main Street (see list below)

9am-3pm... Shaved Ice – Murray Drug's

10am-4pm... BEO Mortgage Division Open House – check out newly-remodeled offices, have some refreshments and enter to win a gift certificate!

10:30 am... "Dig Into Reading" summer reading program at Heppner Library

11am-3pm... Mini Carnival for kids and a prize wheel for adults – Community Bank

11:30am-1:30pm... Community BBQ sponsored by Bank of Eastern Oregon - Ameri-Title parking lot

1:00-5:00 pm... Morrow County Heritage and Agricultural Museums open

1:30 pm... Children's Games at the City Park: Tricycle race, 3-5 years old; Water Balloon Toss, 6-10 & 11-18 years old; Egg Toss: 6-10 & 11-18 years old

2:30 pm... Small dog races at City Park

6:00 pm... "Memories of the Flood," performed by the "Dinner-at-the-Cemetery Players," will be held at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery starting with dinner at 6 p.m.

Cost for the play, including dinner catered by Alvin Liu, is \$25. Tickets available at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Chamber Office, Community Bank and Murray's Drug. Seating is limited.

Vendors: Community Flea Market/Craft Fair/Fundraisers:

Heppner FFA: Bake Sale Fundraiser for Relay for Life – in front of Bank of Eastern Oregon

Carol Klein/Rhondi: Rings and Things (Jewelry)/Tie die shirts, bandanas – in front of Heritage Land Co.

Pauletta Graham: Puzzles, DVDs, Glassware, Odds and Ends – in front of GD's

Dennis Wall: Jewelry and Pens – in front of John's Place

Lisa Daniels: Homemade Outdoor Lights – in front of Bucknum's

Bonnie Gates: Jewelry – inside St. Patrick's Senior Center – Willow Street side

Richard Paris: Sticks and Stones – in front of Lott's

U.S. Cellular/Molly Turrell: Phone Supplies/ phone questions and answers – in front of Post Office

Lisa Patton: Misc. items: Cosmetic Jewellery (necklace/earring sets); purses, picture frames, wallets, children's clothing and much, much more – in front of Advantage Dental offices

Nova Simpson: PartyLite – in front of Senior Center

Wheatland Insurance: Fundraiser for Relay for Life: Win an opportunity for an Italian dinner for eight by Carri and Missy at the Snider home on Rhea Creek, with the Wheatland staff serving. Tickets are \$5 each. The winner will be announced at a later date. This fundraiser is sponsored by Wheatland Insurance Offices in Heppner and Ione. Tickets will be sold in front of Wheatland Insurance.

Ione holds commencement



Above: The Ione Class of 2013 waits through the final minutes of commencement ceremony held June 7, 2013 at the Ione Community School. Sixteen seniors graduated with this year's class.

Right: One of the three Ione 2013 valedictorians, Julianne Carlson, processes to the front with classmate Stewart Syverson. Valedictory addresses were given by Carlson, Evan Rietmann and Stacey Halvorsen. —Photos by David Sykes



Enterprise zone receives first major payment

Amazon pays \$300,000 fees in lieu of property taxes

By David Sykes

The Columbia River Enterprise Zone (CREZ) has received its first major business payment of \$300,000 from one of the businesses locating in the zone, it was announced at its June 3 meeting.

Amazon.com, a large online retailer building a data center at the Port of Morrow, sent in the payment check at the end of May.

Under negotiated agreements between the CREZ and new businesses locating at the Port, fees are paid instead of property taxes. CREZ will distribute the funds to special taxing districts, such as rural fire, to compensate them for the effects of having new businesses and increased population using their services. So far the CREZ has long-term funding coming in over the next 15 years in excess of \$21 million, and board members have said

this could be just the beginning of many such deals.

No decisions have yet been made how the Amazon payment will be spent.

As part of these agreements, businesses also may choose to donate money to charitable organizations in Morrow County in order to become more involved with the local community. Under these agreements those payments, or "buy backs" can be deducted from their negotiated fees owed to CREZ.

Last month it was decided by the CREZ board that new businesses locating in the Zone would be provided with a list of charitable organizations to which they could donate money and earn credit on fees paid to the Zone.

At its May 22 meeting, the CREZ board of directors discussed ways to get more local organizations involved in receiving those donations, and help new

businesses make choices on where to give their money.

As part of the effort, CREZ agreed to reach out and develop a list of county-wide charitable organizations that would be suggested to new businesses locating here as possible contribution recipients. At that meeting the board stipulated that the list can include most nonprofits recognized by the IRS, but will not include those involved in political activities.

At its June 3 meeting, the board discussed expanding the list to also include groups that are not registered nonprofits, such as Little League and other small community groups. Members of the CREZ board said they wanted the list of charitable groups to include as many as possible in Morrow County and that the list could be added to at a later date. They stipulated

—See AMAZON SIGNS WITH CREZ/PAGE SIX

County school board sees personnel changes; adopts over \$30 million budget

By April Sykes

Two newly-elected board members were introduced at the Morrow County School Board meeting Monday night at the district office in Lexington.

Rhonda Hamby, 49, and Mark Pratt, 38, both of Boardman, will join the board at the first meeting of the new school year in August.

Hamby is employed at Community Counseling Solutions in Heppner. Pratt is a Morrow County Sheriff's Deputy. Hamby received 772 votes in the May election and Pratt, 786.

Board Chair Thad Killingbeck, Irrigon, was re-elected to Position 2,

with 813 votes and board member Barney Lindsay, Lexington, was re-elected to Position 6, with 839 votes.

The meeting was the last one for board member Berto Hernandez, Boardman, Position 7, who did not run for

re-election. Board member Tony Navarro, Boardman, Position 4, had earlier resigned.

Remaining board members are Brian Kollman, Heppner, Position 1; Bill Kuhn, Heppner, Position 3; and Becky Kindler, Heppner, Position 5.

More changes are in store for the district with the

resignations of Sam Boardman Elementary Principal Jacque Johnson and Riverside High School Principal Robert Elizondo. Johnson is taking a position as principal at Farmin Stidwell Elementary School at Sandpoint, ID, her home town.

Elizondo has taken a position as principal at a Walla Walla middle school.

Matthew Matz, Irrigon Elementary School principal, will transfer to Sam Boardman Elementary, where he will take over as principal following Johnson's resignation.

Selection committees are being formed to choose —See MCSAD ADOPTS BUDGET/PAGE FIVE



Rhonda Hamby



Mark Pratt

FATHER'S DAY SPECIALS
WRANGLER JEANS ON SALE
13MWZ ORIGINAL
COWBOY CUT \$21.95
ALL OTHER WRANGLER MEN'S WEAR 15% OFF
BACK TO REGULAR STORE HOURS
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-5:30PM
SATURDAY 8:00AM-12 NOON
Morrow County Grain Growers Green Feed & Seed
242 W. Linden Way, Heppner • 676-9422 • 989-8221 (MCGG main office)