

School district promotes, hires new administrators

Morrow County School District has promoted a high school principal, and hired an elementary principal and two high school assistant principals for the 2013-14 school year.

Following the resignation of Robert Elizondo, principal of Riverside High School in Boardman, the district has promoted Marie Shimer to fill the vacant position. Shimer has been the assistant principal for the past two years at RHS; prior to that, she taught social studies at Ontario High School for nine years.

"I enjoy the challenges of education, working with teachers, parents and students, and the opportunities to make education happen for each student," says

Shimer. To replace Shimer, the district has hired Brandon Hammond from Sherman Elementary School in Grass Valley, OR. Hammond served as a principal there for one year, served on the Achievement Compact Advisory Committee, and was the district ELL Coordinator. Hammond is anxious to move his family to the Boardman community in the near future, and says, "I have a strong commitment to maintaining personal integrity, high ethical standards, and a conviction for the wellbeing of each child."

In Irrigon, the district promoted Irrigon Elementary School Principal Matt Matz to Sam Boardman

Elementary in Boardman, replacing retiring Jacque Johnson. With that move, Erin Stocker, long-time elementary teacher, will fill the position as principal. Stocker taught for 12 years at AC Houghton before moving to Irrigon Elementary School last fall to become the head teacher responsible for literacy coaching.

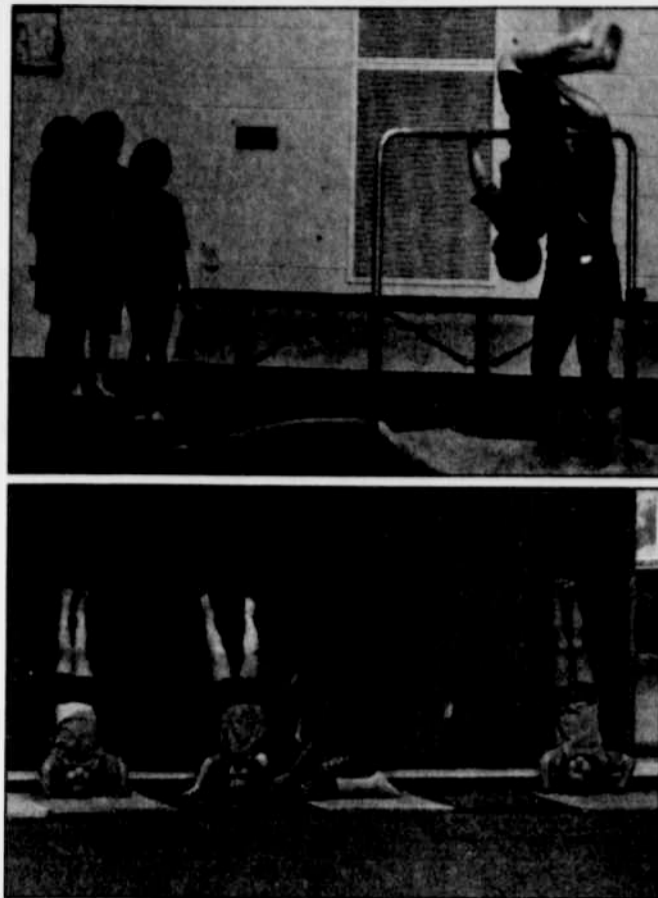
With all of her career having been in Irrigon, Stocker says she would not consider ever leaving the community. The graduating class of 2013 was the first class that Stocker taught when she came to Morrow County. She says she is excited to be a part of the administrative team, as well as staying connected

with the teaching responsibilities.

Also with Matz moving to Boardman, the assistant principal position was opened at Irrigon Jr/Sr High School. From a large pool of candidates, Tina Joyce was selected to serve as assistant principal at Irrigon High School. Joyce is not a stranger to Morrow County, having been raised in Lexington and graduated from Heppner High School.

"My vision of a school leader is to advocate and sustain a school culture and instructional program that is conducive to learning and growth for all students. My commitment to education reaches beyond the classroom and into the community," says Joyce.

Tumbling students show off talent



Students of local tumbling instructor Cynthia Sumner recently held a tumbling demonstration at Heppner Elementary School. The Lexington resident has been teaching tumbling classes to area youth for 32 years and has had classes in Heppner, Lexington, Ione and Condon. Top: Sumner assists Calvin Rietmann in an exercise while Zabrina Masterson, Megan Doherty and Tiffany Hollis await their turns. Bottom: Pheggle Padberg, Keltie Rietmann and Moira Di Salvo demonstrate headstands with help from Sumner. -Photos by Andrea Di Salvo

Hughes shows award-winning steers



Makenzi Hughes of Heppner recently raked in the awards at area livestock shows. Top: Makenzi Hughes with her champion steer at the Northwest Farm Supply Jackpot Steer Show in Hermiston, OR. Inset: Hughes displays her trophy from the Hermiston show. Bottom: Hughes at the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show in Union, OR, where she won Champion Market Steer and the Champion Home Grown Award. Hughes is the daughter of Kevin and Angie Hughes of Heppner. Both steers were bred and raised by the Hughes family. -Contributed photos

DA's Report

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

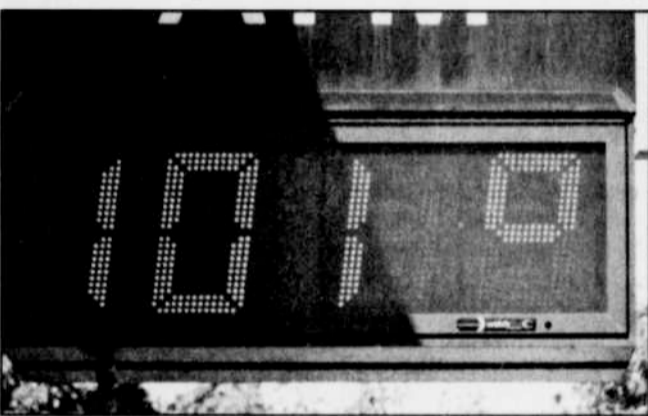
-Juan Rodriguez, Jr., 18, was convicted of Robbery II, a Class B Felony, and was sentenced to 60 months in custody of Oregon Youth Authority, three years' post-prison supervision, and is subject to numerous conditions, including having no direct or indirect contact with the victim and no affiliation with gangs or known gang members, wearing of gang colors, use of gang symbols

or other gang-associated activity, and ordered to pay \$1,100 in fines, fees and assessments and pay \$100 in restitution.

He was also convicted of Robbery I, a Class A Felony, and was sentenced to 60 months in custody of Oregon Youth Authority, three years' post prison supervision, with numerous conditions and ordered to pay \$200 in fines, fees and assessments. Two counts of Robbery I-firearm, Assault IV, Theft II and Strangulation were dismissed.

Rainfall still low despite June showers

High temps and low moisture predicted for July



Heppner and surrounding areas got a taste of the predicted July heat earlier this week as displayed by this Bank of Eastern Oregon readout in Heppner on Monday. -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

According to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton, temperatures at Heppner aver-

aged near normal during the month of June.

The average temperature was 62.8 degrees, which was 0.1 degrees

above normal. High temperatures averaged 75.5 degrees, which was 1.1 degrees below normal.

The highest was 90 degrees on the 29th. Low temperatures averaged 50.2 degrees, which was 1.3 degrees above normal. The lowest was 42 degrees on June 20.

Precipitation totaled 1.79 inches during June, which was 0.41 inches above normal. Measurable precipitation of at least .01 inch was received on seven days with the heaviest, 0.50 inches reported on the 26th.

Precipitation this year has reached 5.54 inches,

which is 3.12 inches below normal.

Since October, the water-year precipitation at Heppner has been 9.61 inches, which is 3.11 inches below normal.

The highest wind gust was 33 mph, which occurred on June 7.

The outlook for July from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation.

Normal highs for Heppner during July are 85.7 degrees and normal lows are 53.9 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 0.33 inches.

98% Angels honor vets at Music in the Parks

July 8 at 7 p.m. at the Irrigon Marina Park is "Honor the Veterans Night." Performing that night are 98% Angels.

98% Angels, otherwise known as Marie Rose and Renate Meakins, first met and began singing together in 1998 in the Blue Jazz Choir Ensemble while attending Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton, OR.

Since then, the duo has performed in shows around the area such as the Irrigon Watermelon Festival, Music in the Parks, Umatilla Landing Days, Hermiston Variety Show and the Amboy Territorial Days.

The girls also volunteer their time singing in local assisted living homes.

The style of music they perform ranges from 1930s standards, Big Band swing music, hits of the 50s and 60s and popular contemporary and country tunes.



The duo of Marie Rose and Renate Meakins, also known as 98% Angels, will perform at Music in the Parks in Irrigon next Monday. -Contributed photo

Sheriff's Report

May 21: -MCSO received report of a teenage boy wearing black pants and shirt with a black ball cap with a red bill trying to get into an apartment through the window. The caller believed that only a single man lived in that apartment and did not believe the teenager lived there.

-MCSO, Heppner Fire Department received request to secure the landing zone near the hospital in Heppner.

-MCSO received report from a man on I-84, Boardman, that there were people in his trailer. He said he was not sure they got in there, but he could hear them talking and now his trailer was moving, driving down the interstate. Dispatch advised him to pull over and a deputy would respond. A deputy and Boardman Police Department officer responded, but no

people were in the trailer or cab. The caller pulled over to park and sleep for awhile. He said he possibly took too much sinus medication.

-MCSO arrested Raul Torres Chavez, 30, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Failure to Carry and Present and Criminal Possession of Forged Instrument. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail with \$870 bail. He was also cited for Driving While Suspended-violation, Violation of the Basic Rule, 70 mph in a 55 mph zone and No Insurance. He was also verbally warned for Failure to Carry Registration.

-MCSO received report of an audible alarm at an Irrigon residence. The owner was not home, but it was determined that his son was at home and the proper code was entered.

-MCSO received report of a water leak at a Heppner location. Public works was

advised.

-MCSO received report from a Heppner woman of a deer in her driveway that needed to be put down.

-MCSO cited Ross Thomas Nichols, 40, for No Operator's License, Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance and Failure to Use Seatbelt.

-MCSO received report of a male and a female riding on a silver four-wheeler on Utah Ave. in Irrigon. MCSO responded, warned three subjects for trespassing and advised them not to be riding the four-wheeler in the street at all.

-MCSO received report of a garage on fire in Irrigon, fully engulfed with vehicles inside, including a lawn mower and a motorcycle. Irrigon Fire Department, Irrigon ambulance, MCSO and Boardman Fire Department responded.

-MCSO received report from an Ione subject that he

had to lay off an employee two weeks ago and the ex-employee has been harassing him by phone since. The caller wanted deputy contact.

-MCSO received request for deputy contact from a Heppner man who wanted to know what steps he needed to take to get someone out of his residence.

-MCSO received report of a tree down by Bombing Range Rd. right by where the garbage is thrown. A deputy responded and was able to get it moved off the road. The road department was contacted and advised it would be cleaning it up the next day.

-MCSO arrested Michael Brian Oliver, 20, on a Umatilla County warrant for Failure to Appear/Unlawful Transport of Metal Property. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

Contact your local tea party and see if you can help avoid the path toward central government and your loss of freedom and individualization. Help us at **WILLOW CREEK TEA PARTY PATRIOTS**, to help everyone maintain our freedom..

Willow Creek Tea Party Patriots
Po Box 470
Heppner, OR 97836
541-676-5253

Thank you To all the people that came to Crysti Taylor's benefit auction and dinner, it touched our hearts
Thank you to the ones who volunteered their time for the auction and dinner. Jim Kindle- auctioneer, Missy Lindsay- cook, Ivy Zimmerman, Jessica Skillings, Becky Kindle, Mackenzie Correa, Cindy Johnson, Nicki Worden, Janell Vangutten...Wish Crysti & Brian could have been there.
And last, but not least, Joey Kindle & Nicki Skillings, you two worked so hard to help a friend. Thank you
The Taylor Family
Crysti, Brian Yates
Joe Taylor & Janet Taylor

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)