

SUMMER SCHOOL

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ject areas—and compared student performance to those strands to determine who might benefit from the extra summer class time. Weak learning strands were reinforced to prepare the students for both state testing and more difficult classroom work in the next grade.

"Our hope is that it will jump-start them, fill in some of those gaps," Combe said. "If we can fill some of those gaps, we will better prepare them to move to the next grade level."

The elementary school had around 30 children in grades kindergarten through six attend summer school, while around 10 attended the junior high class. Not quite as many attend at the high-school level; HHS library technician and summer school teacher Ginger Bowman said it is often difficult for high-school students to work summer school into their schedules with summer jobs. She added, however, that she felt shorter hours contributed to more turnout.

"I think students are more likely to show up for

three hours than if they had to stay for a whole day," said Bowman.

Students in Bowman's high-school class used an online learning system called Acellus, in which students watched lectures, much like a traditional classroom, and then answered questions and were eventually tested on the subjects. With the Acellus system, several students could sit at library computers and watch classes on completely different subjects, as well as completing individual coursework online. The only downside, said Bowman, was that the video lectures weren't very interactive.

"You can't stop, can't ask questions," she said.

Joselyn Piper, special education and reading intervention teacher, was in charge of the junior-high group, with Tracie Bunch, department secretary and former special ed assistant, helping. Unlike the high-school students, Piper's group didn't work online but had more traditional classroom tutoring in needed areas. Piper said they spent one-and-a-half



A high school student watches a video class through the summer school's online Acellus program. —Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

of the three hours a day on reading intervention and the rest of the time on math support. The class also had special visiting teachers; high-school math teacher Troy Morgan spent time helping with math, and junior high social studies/language arts teacher Andrea Nelson conducted a two-day writing workshop for the students.

Combe said the elementary-school level was more grade-specific, but functioned much like the junior-high group, with teachers working with students in areas that students needed extra support or intervention as they moved from one grade to another. Six teachers and three as-

stants conducted the HES summer school, though summer schedules meant only four teachers and two assistants were usually at the school at any given time. Melissa Coiner was a key coordinator for the summer school program. Other teachers were Molly Rill, Sybil Stewart, Karen Smith-Griffith, Madison Rosenbalm and Stacey Wainwright, with assistants Deb Campbell, Jessica Lehman and Lorna Botefuhr.

Morrow County School District Superintendent Dirk Dirksen said that, while the pre- and post-summer school test scores hadn't been tabulated yet, he felt the program was very important to kids all over the county. Dirksen said he knew from his own time as a principal how important a little extra time and effort could be to students' success.

"District-wide, one of the most effective ways to give kids extra support is more time and instruction," said Dirksen. "It's one of the keys, I believe, in all of the schools in Morrow County doing so very well."

Mustang players make state teams

Three Mustang softball team members have been honored at the state level. For 1A/2A state softball, Bailly Bennett was named first team pitcher, Micha Hintz was named second team infielder and Makenzie Correa was named honorable mention infielder.

A few Irrigon Knights softball players were also recognized at the state level: First team outfielders Sandra Vera and Kelly McLaughlin, and honorable mentions Brittnay Zuercher and Karmen Garrett.

Calling the HHS class of '73

Anyone interested in helping to organize a Heppner High School class of '73 reunion is invited to meet Friday night, July 12, at 6 p.m. at the Heppner Elks Club.

Morrow County Fairgrounds reopen

In late May, a utility emergency forced the Morrow County Fairgrounds to be closed down in order to make repairs to the water system.

Repairs and necessary upgrades have been completed and the fairgrounds are now reopened. Anyone wishing to rent any of the facilities may contact the fair office at 541-676-9474.

Many recent events planned for the fairgrounds had to be moved or changed due to the closure, and county representatives say they appreciate the cooperation of everyone involved.

The Morrow County

Fair and Rodeo will be celebrating their 100th anniversary this year with the theme "Harvesting 100 Years of Memories at the Morrow County Fair."

Morrow County appreciates the quick response of the contractor, Jack Robinson and Sons, and their dedication to getting this facility back in operation and ready for the fair.

Premium books are available online as well as in print.

Planners say there are lots of Open Class categories and that "...it would be great to have entries from as many people as possible for this historic celebration."

High school students at home on the range

Lexington student one of 19 high schoolers to attend 2013

High Desert Youth Range Camp

High school students from Oregon and Idaho, including one from Morrow County, ninth-grader Kaelyn Lindsay of Lexington, attended the third annual High Desert Youth Range Camp (HDYRC) June 19-22 at the Northern Great Basin Experimental Range (NGBER) 40 miles west of Burns, OR.

The camp focuses on natural resources and rangelands through hands-on learning activities and has become an annual event offered to high-school age students from across the West.

Campers traveled from Payette, ID, and Crook,

Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Polk and Union counties in Oregon.

During the four-day camp, students learned about sagebrush habitat, soils, plant identification, juniper, wildlife, rangeland monitoring and invasive species, and worked in groups to put together their own management plans for various areas at NGBER.

The campers even used Global Positioning Systems (GPS) to locate items they needed for s'mores.

At the conclusion of the HDYRC, multiple campers received awards based on their knowledge, leadership, participation, presen-



Campers and counselors from Oregon and Idaho at the top of Squaw Butte near Riley, Oregon during the High Desert Youth Range Camp June 19-22, 2013. —Contributed photo

tation skills and attitude during camp.

In addition, 26 experts from around Oregon volunteered their time coordinating the camp from initial

planning and organizing to attending, supervising, counseling, cooking and instructing during the five days.

Boardman to offer gap lending for new housing

Program funded through enterprise zone

BOARDMAN, OR—The City of Boardman has started a new program to provide funding for gap lending in an effort to build more residential units within the city. The Boardman Housing Development Fund (BHDF), funded through enterprise zone negotiations, was initiated as a response to an identified need based on work performed through the Oregon Community

Solutions-Boardman Workforce Housing finance committee.

Initial funding will be \$100,000, administered through the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation (GEODC). The purpose of the fund is to provide funding for gap lending to aid in building single family residences, duplex, triplex and fourplex units in Boardman to sell or add to the rental

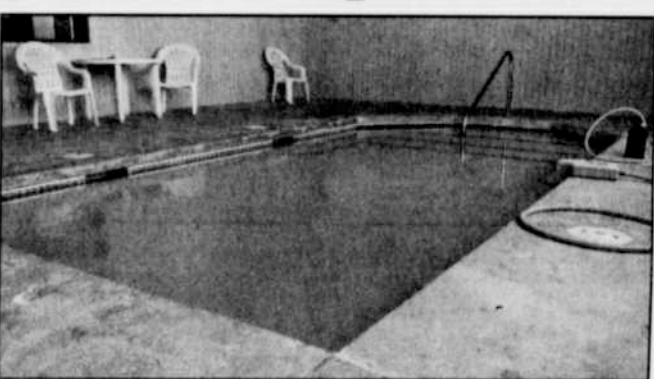
pool for market-rate rental housing.

Gap lending provides financing for the construction gap between the lender's construction loan and the total cost of the project. Maximum loan amounts will not exceed 40 percent of the project's total cost, including all fees. Banner Bank and the Bank of Eastern Oregon—both of which have branches in Boardman—have signed on as

lenders for the BHDF. Applicants for the BHDF must pre-qualify with a lender to finance a construction loan to build on property in Boardman. Borrowers will be given an incentive for projects completed within 90 days of the construction loan closing; those projects completed within 90 days will have 100 percent interest forgiveness on their BHDF loan.

More details on the program can be found at www.cityofboardman.com or by contacting city manager Karen Pettigrew at 541-481-9252 or pettigrewk@cityofboardman.com.

Water park therapy pool now open



The therapy pool at Willow Creek Water Park is now open.

The therapy pool at the Willow Creek Water Park in Heppner is up and running. The pool is available Monday through Friday from noon until 7 p.m. all summer.

Summer prices are \$4 per adult per hour for up to six people with a one hour minimum, with lower rates for children and seniors, or with a pass. Cost is \$25 for six people or more or a private party.

Call 541-676-5752 to reserve use of the pool.

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk has issued the following marriage licenses:

June 20: -David Corona, 49, of Umatilla and Margarita Carrera Hernandez, 56, of Umatilla.

-Steven Carl Warnock, 37, Lexington and Jody Ruth Gumb, 39, Lexington.

June 24: -Dionicio Hernandez, 21, Hermiston and Rosario Zavala, 20, Boardman.

June 26: -Ceylon Doyle Grittman, 80, of Boardman and Jadine Khan Hand, 72, of Red Bluff, CA.

June 27: -John Eleuterio Chairez, 29, of Irrigon and Rebecca Louise Van Fossen, 22, of Irrigon.

Correction

In last week's story, "RJs opens under new ownership," the Gazette neglected to mention that the restaurant is now called The Barn. The Gazette-Times apologizes for the omission.

AMAZING MUSIC LINE UP!!!

Performing live at the lone Amphitheater

Thursday, July 4, 2013

Blues Music Starts at 3:00 pm

HI FI MOJO 3:00-4:15

BILLY D AND THE HOODOOS 4:45-6:00

TOMMY TUTONE 6:30-8:00

THE SONNY HESS & VICKI STEVENS BAND 8:30-10:00

lone's 4th of July celebration is sponsored in part by Morrow County Unified Recreation District



Calling all Equestrian Trail Riders!

3 days of trail competition for the Silver Buckle Series

Grab your horse, your children and friends and come to

Whispering Pines Benefit for Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch



Friday - Sunday July 5th -7th

3 miles north of the OHV Park Hwy 207 Deadman Hill Loop Road out of Heppner OR. Free camping to all contestants, free entertainment nightly, potluck hamburger barbecue Saturday, free sit-down breakfast for those who attend Sunday morning worship service with Dr. Dick Temple. For more information check out Whispering Pines Ranch, Heppner, OR on facebook

