

Freshman conferences help students navigate high school



L-R: Parent Lianne Currin, Heppner High School language arts teacher Jeannie Collins, HHS Ag teacher Beth Dickenson, parent Steve Currin and student Kolby Currin go over details of high school requirements at a recent freshman conference. —Photo by April Sykes

By April Sykes

A new program at Heppner High School, shepherded by HHS Head Teacher Greg Grant, should make navigating the high school years a little less challenging for HHS freshmen and their parents.

Every HHS freshman and his or her parents met with teachers after school on Oct. 17 to review course offerings, scheduling, new graduation requirements, the more rigorous honors program requirements, the new Common Core standards, dual credit opportunities—which means that students can earn dual college credits while still in high school through the Eastern Promise program—and to begin to map out the student's path for high school and beyond.

The session included information on post-high school opportunities for the students and parents,

not only for students on the path to college, but also for students interested in trade and vocational school options or the military.

Heppner High School Principal Matt Combe credits Grant, in his capacity as head teacher, for being the driving force in implementing and facilitating the program.

"He (Grant) has done a really fantastic job in stepping in to provide students an opportunity to assess where they are and where they need to be," said Combe.

Combe said that Grant not only helped plan the program but has "essentially become the guidance counselor" at the school.

Combe added that if teachers had to step in as counselors and advisors, the school would not be able to provide as many class offerings as they do.

Many of those advising and counseling opportunities were lost when the counselor positions were cut by the district because of budgetary constraints.

"I thought it went really well," said Combe of the counseling session. "It provided an opportunity for communication. Whenever you get the student, the parents, and the school together, the communication is so much better."

Combe added that parent feedback had been very positive.

Freshman parent Lianne Currin (pictured above) says that the session was extremely helpful.

"It was a really good experience," she said. "As a first-time high school parent, I was very grateful for the opportunity. It was a great idea."

Topic Club packs in education for preschoolers

The Ione Topic Club used proceeds from a Northwest Farm Credit Rural Community Services grant to assemble 20 reading backpacks for the preschoolers at Creative Care Preschool recently.

Each backpack contains several story books along with a craft, color book and a basics skills activity pack.

The preschoolers will check out a brightly colored backpack to take home and enjoy with their family, and

hopefully continue to learn numbers, letters and colors in the process.

When a child returns a backpack, the Topic Club members will replenish the consumable supplies and ready it for the next child.



Topic Club President Susan Crum with members Virginia Martinez, Becky Doherty and Kristy Crowell. Not pictured: Jeanette Logan and Anne Morter. —Contributed photo

BEO Bancorp reports third quarter earnings

BEO Bancorp and its subsidiary, Bank of Eastern Oregon, announced a third quarter 2013 consolidated net income of \$851,000, or \$0.78 per share, compared to \$778,000, or \$0.80 per share for third quarter 2012. Year-to-date earnings were \$1,986,000, down 0.9 percent year-over-year. Total assets were \$295 million, up 9.7 percent year-over-year. Net loans of \$242.6 million were up 12.8 percent from the same period in 2012, while deposits were at \$261.4 million, up 9.7 percent year-over-year.

"We are very pleased with the third-quarter earnings. It is one of the best quarters from a net income perspective that Bank of Eastern Oregon has ever had. Year-to-date numbers are in line with last year and core profitability remains strong. During the quarter we saw our typical bump in seasonal borrowing, which added

to total interest income and helped utilize excess liquidity," said President and CEO Jeff Bailey. "Harvest results in most of our trade area were disappointing when compared to the last few years, but we don't expect problems in the loan portfolio based upon a less-than-average harvest."

Chief Financial Officer Mark Lemmon said, "Return on Average Assets for the quarter was 1.17 percent and Return on Average Equity is 15.18 percent, compared to 1.14 percent and 16.01 percent, respectively, year-over-year."

Lemmon went on to say, "We continue to be impressed with year-over-year growth in loans. Another positive trend is shareholders' equity, which has increased by 19.4 percent year-over-year. We remain the highest

capitalized bank in eastern Oregon."

Chief Operations Officer Gary Prophet said, "The increase in loans matches up well with our continued robust growth in deposits. These dynamics are a tribute to our focus on excellent customer service."

"During fourth quarter we will open our new loan production office in Lakeview, OR. This strategic move is a logical progression relative to our Harney and Malheur County locations. We look forward to enhancing existing relationships in the area and introducing our brand of banking to new customers in Lake County," said Bailey.

For further information on the company or to access internet banking, please visit the website at <http://www.beobank.com>.



Jeff Bailey

Ione library celebrates 80 years



The Ione Public Library celebrated its 80th anniversary with an open house last Wednesday. A display of the history of the library throughout the 80 years was featured at the event. (L-R) Betty Rietmann, Susan Crum, and Kristy and Gene Crowell chat and partake of some of the refreshments served at the open house. —Photo by April Sykes

DA's Report

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

—Robert Scott Hall, 51, was convicted of one count each of Possession of Methamphetamine, a Class C felony, and DUII, a Class A misdemeanor. For count one, the defendant's driver's license was suspended for six months and he was sentenced to 18 months supervised probation, fees and assessments were

and 30 jail units, and to include substance abuse evaluation, mental health evaluation and five sanction units to be used for 80 hours of community service. For count two, sentence of 180 jail time was suspended and the defendant sentenced to two years bench probation, to include 80 hours community service and attendance at a victim's impact panel. Total fines, fees and assessments were

\$1,350.

—Jessica Dawn Samson, 33, was convicted of one count of Possession of Methamphetamine and sentenced to two years bench probation. Probation conditions included 80 hours of community service and substance abuse evaluation, with possible driver's license suspension in case of probation violation. Fines, fees and assessments totaled \$1,070.

Murray's Bistro

FALL MENU

Soups

Served with Breadsticks/Crackers

Monday - Chicken & Noodle Soup

Tuesday - Navy Bean Soup

Wednesday - Potato Soup

Thursday - Vegetable Beef Soup

Friday - Vicki's Choice

Kids Menu

PB & J or Grilled Cheese

Wraps

Served with gourmet pickle spear and kettle chips.

Southwest Fajita

Sauteed southwest veggies with tender chicken or beef strips served with fresh romaine lettuce and house dressing rolled in a warm jalapeno cheddar tortilla.

Murray's Veggie

Loads of veggies including sliced peppers, cucumbers, avocado, onion, alfalfa sprouts and spinach wrapped in a jalapeno cheddar tortilla.

Grilled Chicken & Bacon

Grilled Chicken and bacon with specialty cream spread on a jalapeno cheddar tortilla.

Sandwiches

Served with gourmet pickle spear and kettle chips.

The Mustang Hoagie

Build your own sandwich with your choice of turkey, ham, roast beef & served on a hoagie with tomato, lettuce, onions and pickles.

Philly Cheesesteak Sandwich

Tender beef quickly sauteed with red and green peppers and onion topped with swiss cheese, served in a tender warm hoagie.

Ham

Gourmet ham sandwich with specialty house spread on whole wheat or sourdough

Turkey Avocado Tomato

Murray's best turkey sandwich with avocado, tomato and specialty cream spread on whole wheat or sourdough.

Hot Meatball Sub

Try our big amazing meatballs served hot with marinara sauce and covered with melted provolone cheese on an asiago roll.

Make your own Murray's Panini

Choose your favorite meat and cheese served on hot grilled flatbread - Choices of ham, roast beef or turkey, pastrami, cheddar, provolone or swiss. Mayo, mustard & deli mustard available upon request

Recycle with PaintCare

Do you know what to do with leftover cans of paint? With PaintCare, recycling unwanted paint is simple and convenient. Just bring it to your local drop-off site and we'll take it from there.

Thanks to our local drop-off sites, it's easy to recycle our paint!

MORROW COUNTY SOUTH TRANSFER STATION

57185 Hwy 74

Lexington, OR 97839

Sat & Sun 9-4

(541) 989-9500



Leaking, unlabeled and empty containers are not accepted. Sites have limits; please call ahead to check hours and whether the site can accept your amount of paint. For other sites: www.paintcare.org or 855-724-6809.

www.paintcare.org