

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 the first count, the defendant had his driver's license suspended for six months and was sentenced to 18 months supervised probation, to include mental health and

substance abuse evaluations and five sanction units to be used for 80 hours of community service. On the second count, Hall's driver's license was suspended for one year; sentence of 180 days jail time was suspended and the defendant sentenced to two years bench probation, to include 80 hours of community service, substance abuse evaluation and attendance at a Victim Impact Panel. Total fines,

fees and assessments were \$1,350.

-Lloyd Alan Terpening, 52, was convicted of Assault IV, a Class A misdemeanor; sentence of 180 days jail time was suspended and the defendant sentenced to 24 months bench probation, to include 40 hours of community service, a written apology to the victim and enrollment in an anger management class. Fines, fees, assessments and restitution totaled \$1,424.

Public meeting planned for potential Boardman Urban renewal area

A potential new urban renewal area in the vicinity of Hillview Estates Subdivision and vacant properties in Boardman will be discussed at Boardman City Hall, Nov. 5, at 6:30 p.m. For additional information, contact Barry Beyeler, Community Development Director, City of Boardman at 541-481-9252 or bbeyeler@cityofboardman.com.

As currently envisioned, the urban renewal area boundary encompasses approximately 170 acres in the area to the south of

I-84 in the Hillview Estates Subdivision. The meeting will focus on the process of forming an urban renewal area and potential urban renewal projects in the area.

Urban renewal consultant Brendan Buckley along with Boardman City Manager Karen Pettigrew and Community Development Director Barry Beyeler will provide information.

Urban renewal allows for the use of tax increment financing to pay for urban renewal projects. Tax increment revenues—the

amount of property taxes generated by the increase in total assessed values in the urban renewal area from the time it is first established—are used to fund investments in the urban renewal area. Urban renewal investments can include construction or improvement of streets, utilities, parks and other public facilities.

The main objective of the Boardman urban renewal area would be to provide infrastructure improvements to facilitate development in the area.

BALLOT DROP LOCATIONS

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Heppner: Courthouse parking lot (24 hours) or the Morrow County Clerk's Office, Room 102 inside the courthouse. Open 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m., M-F and Election Day (Nov. 5) from

7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Lexington: 365 West Hwy 74 (Public Works Parking lot). Turn off Hwy. 74 onto Tom Street and left into the public works parking lot. Open 24 hours.
Ione: Spring St. (in

front of the turn to 3rd Street). Open 24 hours.

Boardman: NW Boardman Ave. (24 hours).

Irrigon: 205 NE 3rd St. (Irrigon Annex). Open 24 hours.

Health advisory issued for Willow Creek Reservoir

High toxin levels found at Morrow County reservoir

The Oregon Health Authority issued a health advisory last Friday due to high levels of blue-green algae in Willow Creek Reservoir. Residents and visitors should avoid contact with water from the reservoir, including swallowing or inhaling water droplets, as well as skin contact with water. Drinking water directly is especially dangerous.

The advisory was issued after water monitoring confirmed the presence of blue-green algae that can produce toxins. These algae levels are likely to be associated with dangerous cyanotoxin concentrations in the water that can be harmful to humans and animals.

According to the Statesman Journal out of Polk County, advisories have been annual events at Willow Creek since 2006, including two separate warnings issued this year and during 2011, 2008 and 2007. An earlier advisory issued June 18 lasted 56 days, until being lifted on Aug. 13.

The 2008 advisories lasted the longest, a total of 153 days, 49 of those when an advisory was in effect from July 2 through Aug. 20 and 104 days from Sept. 10 to Dec. 23.

Oregon Public Health officials advise campers and other recreational visitors that toxins cannot be removed by boiling, filtering or treating the water with camping-style filters.

People who draw in-home water directly from Willow Creek Reservoir are advised to use an alternative water source because private treatment systems are not proven effective at removing algae toxins. However, public drinking water systems can reduce algae toxins through proper filtration and disinfection. If people on public water systems have questions about treatment and testing, they should contact their water supplier.

Oregon health officials recommend that people who choose to eat fish from waters where algae blooms are present remove all fat, skin and organs before cooking, because toxins are more likely to collect in these tissues.

Crayfish muscle can be eaten, but internal organs and liquid fat should be discarded.

Exposure to toxins can produce symptoms of numbness, tingling and dizziness that can lead to difficulty breathing or heart problems, and require immediate medical attention. Symptoms of skin irritation, weakness, diarrhea, nausea, cramps and fainting should also receive medical attention if they persist or worsen. Children and pets are at increased risk for exposure because of their size and level of activity.

The public will be advised when the concern no longer exists.

With proper precautions to avoid water contact, people are encouraged to visit

Willow Creek Reservoir and enjoy activities such as

camping, hiking, biking, picnicking, fishing and bird watching.

Boating is safe as long as speeds do not create excessive water spray, which could lead to inhalation risk.

For local information about water quality or blue-green algae sampling, contact the

Corps of Engineers at 541-676-9009.

For health information, to report human or pet illnesses due to blooms, or to ask questions, contact the Oregon Public Health toll-free information line at 1-877-290-

6767 or visit the Harmful Algae Bloom program's website at www.healthoregon.org/hab

and select "Algae Bloom Advisories," for information regarding advisories issued or lifted for the season.

Students say yes to 'Just say no'



Lily Reid, Hailey Heideman, Favi Juarez, Raquel Villegas and Alevis Ramirez celebrate Red Ribbon Week by making bags for the Ione Market to remind everyone to say no to drugs. -Contributed photo

AARP driver's safety class planned

A session of AARP's Driver Safety Program has been scheduled for Nov. 15 from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Ione.

Pre-registration is required, as a minimum number of students must be enrolled to warrant holding the class.

Preregister by calling Anne Morter at 541-422-7040 by Nov. 10. Cost is \$14 for non-members of AARP and \$12 for members, payable at the class.

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation's first and largest course for drivers age 50 and older.

The goal of the course is to teach people valuable defensive driving skills and give them a refresher course on the rules of the road.

Once the course is completed, participants may be eligible for a discount on their car insurance.

Contact Anne Morter at 422-7040 for more information.

Heppner students visit local wood processing facilities



Students from the Heppner High School Woods Manufacturing class visited the Collins Pacific Albus plants near Boardman recently. Students explored the tree plantation and logging operations, toured their state-of-the-art sawmill located out in the tree farm, and toured the kiln and planning facility at the Port of Morrow. From the poplar trees (Pacific Albus in this case), the Collins Companies produces wood ranging from custom molding and cabinetry to pallet and crate boards. They sort boards into more than 12 different grades and many sizes to maximize the yield of wood from each tree. Dave Fowler's Woods Manufacturing students are planning to utilize this material. They are taking a "value added" approach by producing a product with locally-produced materials. Ideas range from wooden bowls to outdoor furniture. Stay tuned to find out what they produce. Pictured are: John Edmundson, Tate Gentry, Jaden Orr, Ethan Ashbeck, Keenan Helfrecht, Jacob Moses, Lane Pilant, Skyler Hawks and Dave Fowler. -Contributed photo



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Fun Fact: Back in the 1800's, deer were so common and hunting such a part of life, that deer skins or whole deer were used as money. A deer was worth a dollar, and hence, the dollar bill became known for what it was worth - "a buck".



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