

HEPPNER

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County school district to receive \$500k in SIP funds

By April Sykes

The Riverside Pirate Cheerleaders, winners of the state cheerleading title, were in attendance at the Morrow County School Board meeting Monday night at RHS in Boardman. Morrow County Commissioner Ken Grieb congratulated the girls on their win on behalf of the Morrow County Court. Their coaches, Lisa Pratt and Cheryl Costello, introduced the girls and made a PowerPoint presentation about the team. The school board also congratulated the team.



Left to right: Lisa Pratt, Morrow County Commissioner Ken Grieb and Cheryl Costello; Grieb was on hand at the recent school district meeting to extend congratulations to the Riverside cheerleading coaches on the girls' state title. -Photo by April Sykes

Also at the meeting presented a program on Eastern Promise K-12 director Kris Mulvihill -See SCHOOL DISTRICT/ PAGE SEVEN

Getting to know your candidates

Ken Grieb
Candidate for County Commissioner (Incumbent)

Age? 53

Place of birth? Condon, OR

Where have you lived? As a child I lived in Condon, Stanfield and Walla Walla. We moved to Lexington when I was eight years old. I also lived in Boardman for several years during the 1980s.

Educational background? I graduated from Heppner High School in 1978. I attended Linn Benton Community College for three years and studied Agri-Business.

Family? I was married to Carri in 1996. We have three children: Paige, 16; Logan, 15; and Claire, 13.

What, if any, prior government experience do you have? I have served seven years as Morrow County Commissioner; I was also Oregon Wheat Grower's League State President in 2003.

Why do you feel you are better qualified than your opponent to represent the people of Morrow County as commissioner? I have been involved in every community in the county in one way or another. I have built relationships in each community that give me an excellent opportunity to continue to help this county grow and prosper. Through my work as president of the Oregon Wheat Grower's League and as a county commissioner for the

-See COMMISSIONER-GRIEB/PAGE SEVEN

Heppner council votes moratorium on medical marijuana facilities

By David Sykes

The Heppner city council voted Monday to ban the establishment of medical marijuana facilities within the city limits for one year. The action came after a combined public hearing last week with the city councils of Lone and Lexington, and the Morrow County Court, to take public testimony and consider such action.

realizing there were flaws in the law, the legislature passed an addendum allowing communities and counties to place a

centered mainly on whether a community has the right to enact an outright ban medical marijuana facilities. The Association

"cities and counties have the right to regulate or ban marijuana dispensaries"; however, at the hearing others felt it could be costly to do so.

"O A C says cities and counties have an inherent right to ban them, but do you want to be the city or county to get sued over this?" Morrow County District Attorney Justin Nelson said.

There are some restrictions in the law passed by the legislature, including the fact that -See HEPPNER VOTES ON MARIJUANA/PAGE THREE

A combined meeting and public hearing of the Heppner, Lexington and Lone city councils, as well as the Morrow County Court, was held last week to discuss an option to ban medical marijuana facilities for one year in their respective jurisdictions. -Photo by David Sykes

Local Domestic Violence Services advocate receives state recognition

Mickie Ebert, advocate with Domestic Violence Services, was recognized on April 8 for outstanding contributions in her work with victims of crime.

The "Excellence in Victim Services Award" was given to Ebert in a ceremony in Portland by the Oregon Department of Justice Crime Victims' Services Division and Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum.

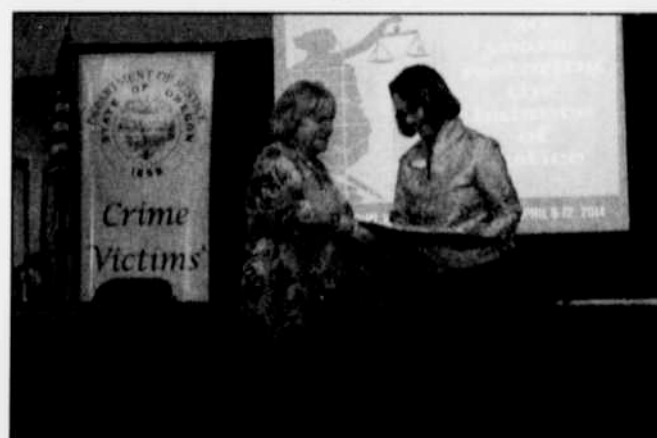
In her nomination letter, Deona Siex, Victims Assistance Director with the Morrow County District

Attorney's office, stated that Mickie goes above and beyond to help victims.

"She is a life saver," stated Siex.

Domestic Violence Services Director Kathryn Chaney said, "Domestic Violence Services provides 24-hour services for victims of domestic and sexual violence and stalking.

"We are proud of the excellent work Ms. Ebert provides as advocate with our agency. Mickie has served as advocate for Domestic Violence Services for nine years.



Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum (right) presenting Mickie Ebert with the "Excellence in Victim Services" award. -Contributed photo

"She is delightful, has a great sense of humor and is a dedicated and resourceful advocate for victims."

'Talking rocks' to tell Heppner's story



Joanne Bursleson and Lily Sandford stand near the boulder commemorating Henry Heppner. -Contributed photo

Heppner has an eventful history and the city's Beautification/Parks Commission is working on a way to tell it.

Joanne Bursleson, with the Heppner Garden Club, organized the placement of a large boulder on the corner of Main and Church streets with a plaque honoring the city's namesake, Henry Heppner.

Inspired by positive comments from locals and visitors about that, plans are made to place boulders in key locations around town with bronzed plaques attached with a brief inscription of a nearby historical event, place, person, group, etc. A list of the "Talking Rocks" will be available for a walking or driving tour.

"We look forward to a unique way to promote the historical town of Heppner," states Kay Proctor, commission member, "especially since the project will use private funds and have low to zero maintenance."

Al and Donna Osmin are generously donating

rock from their Osmin Ranch (est. 1881) quarry for this project. The unique blue basalt from their quarry was used for the construction of the Morrow County Courthouse in 1902/1903. In the 1930s, the Civilian Conservation Corps unit in Heppner harvested the rock for use in local projects. The Osmins have also offered to provide blue basalt, wherever needed, for use in the new county building project.

The Farm Foundation, -See TALKING ROCKS/ PAGE THREE

Ione, Heppner Easter egg hunts planned

Ione and Heppner are both continuing their traditions of annual Easter egg hunts for the children on Saturday, April 19.

Ione's annual Easter egg hunt will be held Saturday, April 19, at 10 a.m. in the Ione City Park. Children up to the fourth grade are invited.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the hunt may do so at Bank of Eastern Oregon in Ione. Heppner's hunt,

sponsored by the Heppner Elks, will also be April 19 at 10 a.m.

Updated information given to the Gazette-Times says that all three age groups will be at Heppner City Park this year.

The Easter Bunny will also be on hand for pictures.



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