

## HES announces Colt Character winners



Heppner Elementary School Colt Character recipients recently were awarded certificates for being selected as the March character winners. The trait was Telling Yourself and Others the Truth, and students needed to show positive action in truth, integrity, trust and forgiveness. Bottom L-R: Kadie Henrichs, Makiyah Christian, Zachary Brown, Journey Cavan, Kayden Piper, Zariah Martin, Logan Turner, Samantha DuBry, Emily Negrete and KC Anderson. Top L-R: Miracle Holsinger, Tucker Kauffman, Perrin Furrer, Johnny Resch, Hayley Akers, Irelynn Kollman and Kyler Wilson. Not pictured: Roen Waite. -Contributed photo

## County wolf depredation committee to meet April 19

Workshop on non-lethal predation management planned at BMCC May 13

The Morrow County Wolf Depredation Compensation Committee will meet April 19 at 7 p.m. at the Bartholomew Building, 110 North Court St., Heppner. The committee members are Chair Dean Robinson, Cam Sweeney, John Gould, Bob Mahoney, Al Scott, Paul Hisler and Commissioner Leann Rea. These are public meetings, and committee members say input would be welcome.

According to a statement by Commissioner Rea, the county was recently awarded \$3,000 to assist livestock producers with wolf deterrent measures, so the committee says there are a lot of decisions that need to be made.

Many livestock producers have, or soon will be, moving their animals onto summer pastures, and there have been more wolf sightings in the area. Committee members say this makes it a good time to remind people what to do if there is a suspected livestock loss by a wolf or wolves.

If a dead animal is found and there is cause to suspect a wolf or wolves, please:

1. Do not let dogs get to the site.
2. Treat the area as a

potential crime scene; disturb the scene as little as possible. If it is going to be some time before officers can arrive, attempt to cover the animal with a tarp or other similar item. Again, keep the foot traffic around the site to a minimum.

3. Contact Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife as soon as possible: Steve Cherry, office 541-676-5230, cell 541-969-2072.

4. Contact USDA Wildlife Services: Chris Lulay, cell 541-509-9235.

5. Contact Morrow County Sheriff Office at 541-676-5317 or 9-1-1.

Livestock owners are also asked to remember that, for any possibility of receiving compensation for an animal loss, ODFW must confirm that the loss was in fact the result of a wolf.

In addition to the local meeting, a workshop on integrating non-lethal predation management tools and methods with a focus on wolf predation management will be held at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton on May 13.

This workshop is being coordinated by USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services and the Oregon State University Extension Service. Registration is limited to the first 100 individuals

who pre-register for the workshop, so interested persons should register by calling the Oregon State University Extension Service in Pendleton at 541-278-5403. Workshop registration begins at 8 a.m., with opening remarks to start at 8:30 a.m. The workshop will go until 5 p.m. with a break for lunch. A registration fee of \$10 will be taken at the door, and will include a box lunch. Cash or check will be accepted.

Presenters will include Dr. Julie Young and Dr. Stephanie Shwiff of the USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services/ National Wildlife Research Center (NWRC); John Steuber, State Director for the USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services program in Montana; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Wolf Biologist John Stephenson; ODFW Wolf Biologist Russ Morgan; ODA Grants Program Administrator Jason Barber; Defenders Of Wildlife Oregon Representative Quinn Read; and county wolf committee representatives from Umatilla and Wallowa counties.

Information to be provided during the workshop will include the science behind non-lethal methods and the practical applications of various non-lethal methods integrated into wolf predation management strategies to protect livestock; an overview of the ongoing Wildlife Ser-

## School board hears about after-school programs

By April Sykes

Heppner Elementary students of teacher Melissa Coiner made a presentation on the Battle of the Books after-school program at the April 11 Morrow County School Board meeting at HES Monday night. Superintendent Dirk Dirksen noted the popularity of the district's after-school programs. He said the mindset concerning the programs has changed and the activities have turned into fun learning experiences.

Also at the meeting Dirksen informed the board that as a consequence of a DEQ examination of the age and explosive nature of chemicals in local high school labs, the Oregon State Police went into Heppner High School on a Friday when students are not in attendance and "safely disposed of materials."

In other business, the board:

-heard from Dirksen that the "No Child Left Behind" act has been replaced by the "Every Student Succeeds" act, which is supposed to give states more flexibility in educational programs and hopefully will result in more local control.

-heard from Dirksen concerning the district's wrap-around services, which he hopes will meet students and families' needs and ultimately result in increased attendance.

-learned from Dirksen that a presentation by Umatilla-Morrow Head Start will be held in May concerning programs for four-year-olds, now that full-day kindergarten is in place.

-learned about district policies and procedures concerning evacuation drills, shelter-in-place drills and "hold in place" drills.

Dirksen told the board that a "lock down" situation would be for a situation within a school, while a "lock out" would be a situation outside the school with different policies in effect for different situations.

-adopted math textbooks Engage NY for kindergarten through grade five, Oregon Focus for grades six through eight and algebra I, algebra II and geometry for high school students.

-approved the following employment action: resignations/non-renewals-Larry Anderson, Sam Boardman Elementary assistant custodian, Cheryl Costello, Riverside Junior/Senior High School assistant cheerleading coach, Jon Dompier, Heppner Junior/Senior High School assistant girls' basketball coach, Richole Osborn, A.C. Houghton Elementary/Irrigon Elementary physical education until the end of the 2015-16 year, Matt Summers-Johnson, RJSJS; retirements-Virgil Hausinger, Irrigon Junior/Senior High School assistant custodian/PERS retiree July 1, 2016; employments/promotions/transfers-Rhonnda Fox-Brennan, RJSJS science teacher 2016-17, Pat King, RJSJS special education teacher 2016-17, Gina Patterson, RJSJS education assistant, Theresa Proctor-Reece, district ELD instructional coach 2016-17, Mike Royer, IJSJS counselor 2016-17, Gann Thomas, RJSJS language arts teacher 2016-17; extra duty contracts-Justin Lay, IJSJS junior high assistant track coach 2015-16, Rebecca Renfro, RJSJS junior high head track coach 2015-16, Benjamin Tucker, RJSJS head football coach 2016-17.

-received the following enrollment report: A.C. Houghton Elementary, Irrigon-271, Sam Boardman Elementary-333, Heppner Elementary-179, Irrigon Elementary-189, Windy River Elementary, Boardman-218, Heppner Junior/Senior High School-160, Irrigon Junior/Senior High School-372, Riverside Junior/Senior High School, Boardman-401, Morrow Education Center, Irrigon-49, total-2,172.

-heard the following announcements: teacher appreciation week, May 2-6, budget committee meeting, May 10, Heppner Elementary School; Oregon School Board Association summer board conference, Bend, July 15-17; board work session/dinner/tour, RJSJS, May 9; next board meeting, RJSJS, May 9.

-approved the first reading of rescinded, new or revised policies on criminal records checks, fingerprinting and an assessment program.

-adopted rescinded, new or revised policies on board member ethics and conflicts of interest, board member ethics and nepotism, staff ethics, compulsory attendance, use of school facilities application, public complaints.

-adopted new, revised or rescinded administrative rules on public complaint procedures.

-adopted a resolution accepting and appropriating unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$1,000 from Wildhorse for the Heppner Elementary School Chess Mates club for costs associated with the state Chess for Success Tournament.

-adopted a resolution for a surplus vehicle sale.

-ratified contracts language and salaries. Salaries reflect an increase of four percent.

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vices/NWRC's research on the efficacy of large breed guard dogs and their effectiveness in protecting livestock from bears and wolves; discussions on the economics of predation and predation management; collaborative efforts to manage predation involving predator advocates, agencies and producers; the role of the non-lethal component of managing wolf damage in the implementation of the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan administered by ODFW; and the role that ODA and county wolf committees have

in dispersing funding from the Oregon Legislature for assisting producers with the cost of proactive non-lethal methods and compensation

for livestock damage attributed to wolves.

The presentations will be followed by a panel Q&A session.

## Chamber plans candidates' forum

The next lunch meeting of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will take place on Thursday, April 21, from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Heppner City Hall conference room. The meeting will be a candidates' forum for the contested county commissioner positions on the May primary ballot.

Attendees will be given an opportunity to write questions during the luncheon, or can email them to the chamber in advance at heppnerchamber@centurytel.net.

Bill Kuhn will present the questions to each of the candidates with a time allotment for each question.

Attendees are asked to note that lunch will be served at 11:45 in order to begin the forum around noon.

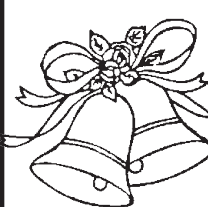
Cost of lunch is \$10; Murray's will cater. Chamber lunch attendees are asked to RSVP at 541-676-5536 no later than the Tuesday before to guarantee enough lunch and seating.

### Wedding Tables

Derek Gunderson &  
Meghan McCabe  
May 21, 2016



Emma Osmin &  
Jordan Wright  
May 7, 2016



Rick Worden &  
Kelsie Fox  
May 28, 2016



Lane Bailey &  
Jessica Hughes  
June 25, 2016



### Bridal Gift Registry

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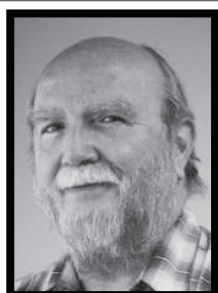
**VOTE**

**GREG SWECK**

**MORROW COUNTY JUDGE**

**VOTE FOR EXPERIENCE AND ABILITY**

- Over 30 Years Experience and Knowledge of Morrow County Responsibilities and Duties
- Skills and Background Necessary to Help Make the Transition from a County Court to a County Commission Successful
- Create More Transparency About County Policy Decisions and Actions
- Manage Morrow County Resources to Provide for Necessary Future Service Requirements



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