



Ione, Heppner enrollment down slightly

Ione Community School numbers have dropped slightly school-wide for the second year in a row, with a total enrollment of 198 this year compared to 204 in 2015 and 213 in 2014.

The lower numbers are seen in the elementary and high school levels. Kindergarten through fifth grade has an enrollment of 72, down by only three students from last year's 75. High school has dropped slightly, as well, from 79 students in 2015 to 74 students enrolled this year. Meanwhile, mid-

dle school numbers, sixth through eighth grade, have gone up, from 48 students to 52.

Heppner school enrollment figures are holding steady in general this year. Heppner Elementary School has an enrollment of 170 for the 2016-17 school year, a decrease of only three students from last year. Meanwhile, Heppner Jr./Sr. High School has gained one student overall, with total enrollment of 162 over 161 last year. That brings the Heppner school total to 332—a difference

of two students compared to last year's 334.

In the rest of Morrow County, enrollment is up overall, with some schools seeing losses while others see significant growth. Total enrollment for Morrow County School District for this school year is 2,192, a gain of 31 students district-wide over the 2015-16 school year.

A.C. Houghton Elementary in Irrigon (kindergarten through third grade) has an enrollment of 272, up from 266 last year, while Irrigon Elementary (fourth through sixth grade) is up to 204 from last year's enrollment of 192. Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School, however, has dropped significantly, down to 365 from 387. Irrigon schools' total enrollment is 884.

In Boardman, enrollment at Sam Boardman Elementary (kindergarten through third grade) has dropped, down to 331 from 344, while Windy River Elementary (fourth through sixth grade) has gained 10 students with an enrollment of 224. Riverside Jr./Sr. High School has grown significantly, with 421 students compared to 395 last year. Boardman schools' total enrollment is 976.

The Morrow Education Center in Irrigon also has seen significant growth, with 43 students compared to last year's 29.

Race is on for Heppner council positions

Candidate filing has closed for Heppner's open mayor and city council positions, leaving two positions—including Heppner City Mayor—contested in the November election.

Current Heppner mayor or Ronald "Skip" Matthews is running for reelection. Running against him is Cody High. The mayoral position is a two-year term.

Teresa Bedortha is running for reelection for City Councilor Position One, a four-year term. Running against her is Thomas Gonty.

Running unopposed in the race are incumbents John Bowles, City Councilor Position 2, four-year term; Corey Sweeney, City Councilor Position 3, four-year term; and Dale Bates, City Councilor Position 4, two-year term.

The 2016 General Election will take place Nov. 8.

Ballot measure numbers assigned for 2016 General Election

SALEM—Secretary of State Jeanne P. Atkins announced recently that signature verification for the 2016 petition cycle has been completed and the following measure numbers have been assigned to the three legislative referrals from the 78th Legislative Assembly and those petitions qualified to the Nov. 8, 2016, General Election ballot. They are:

Measure 94 / Referral 401 (SJR 4) - Amends Constitution: Eliminates mandatory retirement age for state judges.

Measure 95 / Referral 403 (HJR 203) - Amends Constitution: Allows investments in equities by public universities to reduce financial risk and increase investments to benefit students.

Measure 96 / Referral 404 (HJR 202) - Amends Constitution: Dedicates 1.5 percent of state lottery net proceeds to funding support services for Oregon veterans.

Measure 97 / Initiative 28; determined to contain 95,272 valid signatures - In-
See *BALLOT MEASURES/PAGE ??*

CREZ to hold boundary expansion meeting

By David Sykes

The Columbia River Enterprise Zone Board of Directors will hold a public meeting Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 6 p.m. in the Riverfront Room at the Port of Morrow in Boardman to consider expansion of its current boundary borders.

The meeting will cover a proposed boundary expansion that would increase CREZ's size from the current 11 square miles to 15. The zone is located at the Port of Morrow industrial

land near Boardman, but recently received a request to accommodate a new hotel that plans to build in Boardman and wants to be included in the zone to take advantage of the property tax exemptions for businesses located in the CREZ.

Rjiv Malhan and Nakul Butta of RNB Hospitality from Richland said in an earlier letter to the CREZ board that they are planning on building a Choice Hotel (Comfort Inn & Suites)

on Front St. in Boardman. They are asking that the boundary of the Enterprise Zone be expanded to include the new hotel so they may take advantage of the three-year property tax exemption that would be offered inside the CREZ boundary.

"This facility will have approximately 66-72 rooms. This hotel will provide a much needed state of the art Lodging Facility for Boardman and its

surrounding area. We will be creating 20-25 new employment opportunities and a steady flow of customers for the existing restaurants in the area," their letter to the CREZ stated.

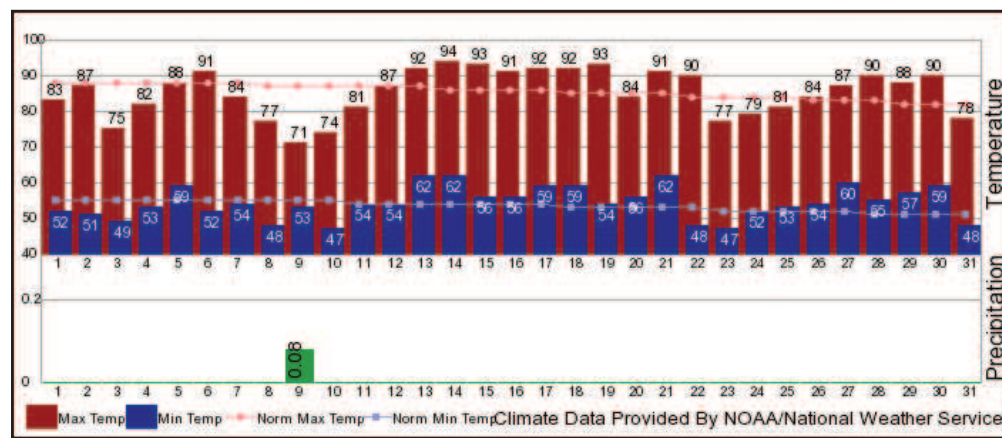
In order to expand the boundary, representatives from all three entities of the CREZ, Port of Morrow, Morrow County and City of Boardman, must approve the decision. The meeting next Wednesday is being held to make that decision.

Fall weather to even out after hot August

Despite temperatures that averaged slightly warmer than normal during August, the outlook for September calls for near-normal temperatures and precipitation, according to the National Weather Service in Pendleton.

Heppner's average temperature in August was 69.9 degrees, which was 0.4 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 85.4 degrees, which was 0.1 degrees below normal. The highest was 94 degrees on the 14. Low temperatures averaged 54.4 degrees, which was one degree above normal. The lowest was 47 degrees, on the 10th.

On nine days, the temperature exceeded 90 degrees.



Precipitation totaled 0.08 inches during August, which was 0.31 inches below normal. Measurable precipitation of at least .01 inch was received on one day.

Precipitation this year has reached 7.36 inches, which is 2.02 inches below normal. Since October, the

water-year precipitation at Heppner has been 11.2 inches, which is 2.24 inches below normal.

The highest wind gust was 35 mph, which occurred on the second.

Normal highs for Heppner fall from 82 degrees at the start of September to 71 degrees at the end of

September. Normal lows fall from 50 degrees to 43 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 0.56 inches.

The National Weather Service is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department.

Historical society plans day trip to The Dalles

The Morrow County Historical Society is planning an all-day trip to The Dalles, OR on Friday, Oct. 7. The trip will include the Fort Dalles military post, Anderson homestead and Old St. Peter's Landmark Catholic church.

Fourteen spaces are available. The bus will depart from the Heppner St. Patrick's Senior Center at 8 a.m. Oct. 7, and should arrive in The Dalles about 10 a.m.

The group will spend its first few hours at the Fort Dalles Museum and Anderson House. Admission is \$5.

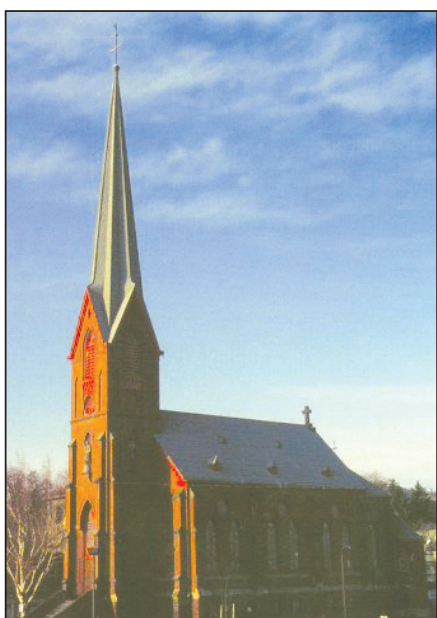
A lunch break will follow. The group is invited to pack a lunch or eat at one of the nearby fast food restaurants. Afterward the group will proceed by bus to a tour of Old St. Peter's Land-

mark. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

The bus will then depart for return to Heppner, arriving around 4 p.m.

Transportation is free; however, a suggested \$10 donation would be appreciated. A sign-up sheet will be available in the office at the Heppner St. Patrick's Senior Center.

Questions, call 541-676-8017.



Old St. Peter's Landmark.

Irrigon senior center changes address

The City of Irrigon last week announced that the address of the Stokes Landing Senior Center will change—but not the location.

According to a release from the city, the change is part of an ongoing state effort to clarify addresses for emergency responders.

"For the past two years the State of Oregon has been working to create a system wide E911 address database," stated the city. "This database will greatly assist emergency and first responders."

Occasionally, locations create conflicts for the new system; that was the case with Opal Place and Tum-

bleweed Blvd. in Irrigon.

"These two streets are in essence one in the same for traversing," stated the city's release. "Opal Place only consists of approximately 160 feet with one addressed structure while Tumbleweed Blvd. has multiple addressed structures."

So, for safety and consistency purposes, Opal Place will be removed from mapping and street naming systems. Effective Oct. 1, Opal Place will be renamed as Tumbleweed Blvd.

The address of 195 NW Opal Place (Stokes Landing) will change to 150 Columbia Lane.

Park district to meet

Willow Creek Park District will hold a regularly scheduled board meeting Sept. 13 at Heppner City Hall, 111 N. Main St., Heppner. The meeting will begin at 5:15 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

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