

Ione FFA chapter excels at state FFA convention



The Ione FFA Chapter members at the state convention in Redmond last month. -Contributed photo

Two members of the Ione FFA Chapter earned their State FFA degrees at the state convention held over spring break in Redmond. This is the highest award members can receive in the state organization, and Morgan Orem and Ivy Sandford from Ione FFA have worked hard for this highest honor.

The state degree re-

ipients earn a charm that can be worn on the official jacket or on a gold chain.

In addition to the chapter's first state degree recipients, the following students were awarded recognition for their hard work: first place Ag Essay- Sonia Medina; third place Ag Essay- Jake Heideman; fourth place Ag Essay- Eva Martin; first place Metal Manu-

facturing - Tyson Epperson; first place Agriscience Project Winner, Plant Systems - Danny Doherty and Dan Kelly; seventh place Farm Business Management Team - Cord Flynn, Danny Doherty and Goncalo Silva; and sixth place Ag Marketing Team - Katelyn Bass, Morgan Orem and Sonia Medina.

Calling Morrow County cultural, arts, historic, literary organizations

The Morrow County Cultural Coalition, funded by Oregon's Cultural Trust Foundation, is now accepting proposals for the 2018 grant period.

Categories for qualifying groups or projects are: literary, historical preservation, visual and performing arts, or humanities and cultural organizations. Last year, grants were awarded to Heppner Art and Culture Club art show, Lexington Grange preservation electrical work, Heppner High School drama club, Morrow County Historical Society Chronicles, Oregon Trail Library District ukulele workshops and Riverside High School art department

to facilitate workshops by portrait artist Myron Sahlberg. Grants in the past have included quilting and art groups, historical library books, art displays, cultural entertainment structures and kid's activities for parks.

The coalition invites interested parties to submit completed Funding Proposal Request Forms to the Morrow County Cultural Coalition by Aug. 1, 2017.

Complete guidelines and grant applications for 2018 can be obtained by contacting Susan Russell at 541-481-4277 or smsel@hotmail.com. Proposals must meet criteria noted on the application and include

a timeline with project to be completed no later than October 15, 2018.

Funding for the Morrow County Cultural Coalition originates from contributions and donations to the Oregon Cultural Trust Foundation. To learn more about supporting culture in Oregon through the trust visit www.culturaltrust.org.

Ideas and suggestions for cultural activities in Oregon from concerts and theater to workshops and museums can be found at www.oregonculturefieldguide.org. Help bring ideas and programs to Morrow County. Grants can be awarded up to 50 percent of total project cost.

FBLA members make good showing at state competition



Heppner FBLA members made a good showing at the state conference in Portland last weekend. -Contributed photo

Submitted by Claire Grieb, FBLA Publicity Director

This past weekend, the Heppner High School FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) chapter attended the Oregon State Business Conference at the Doubletree in Portland. Twenty-one students were accompanied by FBLA advisor Jeannie Collins and chaperones Ken Grieb and Jeremy Rosenbalm to compete in their state competitions.

Awards for individual tests were given out on Friday night. Heppner win-

ners were: For Help Desk, Bryan Fowler, seventh place, and Taylor Hamby, fifth place. For Hospitality Management, Emily Cecil, ninth place. For Management Decision Making, Claire Grieb, eighth place, and Jaiden Mahoney, fifth place. For Sports Management, Gibson McCurry, eighth place. For Ag Business, Kolby Currin, fourth place, and Logan Grieb, eighth place.

Those who placed in Saturday's group competitions were: For Help Desk, Taylor Hamby, third place. For Hospitality Manage-

ment, Emily Cecil, Riane Dompier and Madison Combe, second place. For Sports Management, Keegan Gibbs, Kellen Grant and Cami VanArsdale, first place; Cason Mitchell, Hunter Nichols and Gibson McCurry, ninth place; and Jacee Currin and Morgan Correa, 10th place.

All teams that placed fourth or higher qualify to compete at the national convention this summer in Anaheim, CA, June 28 through July 2. Students have a week to decide if they want to compete at nationals.

Tickets available for Harlem Ambassadors

Tickets for the upcoming Harlem Ambassadors and Heppner Blues basketball game are now available at "ticket sponsor" business locations, including Bank of Eastern Oregon (Heppner and Ione locations); Morrow County Grain Growers (Heppner, Lexington and Ione); and Murray's Drug.

The event will take

place Thursday, April 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Heppner High School gymnasium. Families are invited to pick up free tickets and plan on attending. Merchandise will be offered for sale, as well as raffle tickets for a chance

to win a Harlem Ambassadors basketball, with the winner drawn during the evening. An autograph session will be held right after the game for those who want their merchandise autographed.

Grant applications due to WCVEDG this week

Applications for the Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group (WCVEDG) Community and Public Enhancement

grant are due by this Friday, April 14. Any group applying for funding needs to email, fax or have a

postmark on the envelope by Friday, April 14, to be eligible for the grant. Find the most recent grant re-

quest form on the Heppner Chamber of Commerce website in the Economic Development tab.

FREE Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event!



Join us on **April 22** at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center to drop off your household hazardous waste, and we will dispose of it in a manner that is friendly to the environment! This special event is brought to you by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Douglas County.

WHEN:

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 22

WHERE:

Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center
1705 E Airport Rd, Hermiston, OR 97838

QUESTIONS:

To learn more about this event, contact Jamie Jones at 541-298-7255 ext. 225 or jones.jamie@deq.state.or.us.

IMPORTANT:

- Keep products in original containers if possible
 - Do not mix any products
- Keep waste away from passengers while transporting

SPONSORS:

This event is sponsored by Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, City of Hermiston, Umatilla County, Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center and Sanitary Disposal.

EXAMPLES OF WHAT TO BRING



Pesticides and Poisons
Thermometers*
Thermostats
Mercury and Mercury-containing Items
Fluorescent Lights/Ballasts
Polishes
Household Cleaners
Pool Chemicals
Rust Remover
Solvents
Degreasers
Motor Oil
Antifreeze
Engine and Brake Cleaner
Transmission and Brake Fluid
Paint and Paint Thinners
Automotive/Marine Paint
Wood Preservatives
Kerosene/Gas
Aerosols
Batteries
Arts and Craft Supplies
Adhesives
Photographic Chemicals
Televisions
Monitors
Computer, Laptops and Tablets
Printers
Keyboards and Mice

EXAMPLES OF WHAT NOT TO BRING



Radioactive Waste
Ammunition
Explosives

*Free medical digital thermometers available in exchange for medical mercury thermometers!

CITY COUNCIL

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fixed so the city would not have to foot the bill. The court was paid for and built by the late Bob Kilkenny to give younger kids a place to play basketball on lower rims.

In other business the council approved the contract for police service with the sheriff department. There would be no changes from last year.

The council also approved an animal permit for three baby chicks (no roosters) to Andrea Collins



Both basketball rims have been broken by vandals at Hager Park. -Photo by David Sykes

of 270 E May St.

MCEWEN SENTENCED

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McEwen."

Justice Hampton indeed opted for probation—three years of supervised probation for the false claim counts and two years of supervised probation for the theft I counts. Jail time was also given as a condition of probation, with a total of 150 days' jail time with credit for time already served, and the threat of a full jail sentence if McEwen violates probation. However, Nelson told the Gazette there was some question as to whether the jail would even accept McEwen into custody based on his medi-

cal issues.

Finally, McEwen faces \$132,017.70 in restitution to the Oregon Dept. of Human Services, along with co-defendants Justin Hoeft (\$13,343.12), Dan Looslie (\$110,195.83) and Lynne Uitto (\$8,478.75).

Uitto, who was sentenced in 2015 after pleading guilty to one count of Making a False Claim for Health Care Payment in a plea bargain, has already served her 10-day jail sentence and is currently on probation. According to court records, Hoeft and Looslie are still awaiting sentencing.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.