

AMAZON TAXES

-Continued from PAGE ONE included knowing how much Amazon would pay in taxes.

Grella also gave kudos to Boardman as a good place for Amazon to continue building.

"This is one of the best places to expand. You have sustainability with renewable and cheap power," he told the commission. He was referring to the availability of the hydroelectric energy from the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) Columbia River dams. Amazon buys their electricity from Umatilla Electric, which in turns buys through the BPA grid. He also said the business climate in Morrow County was favorable with the availability of good workers and good cooperation with government. "We see a very bright future in this area."

Efforts to educate the

local workforce for the jobs at the Amazon server farms also was addressed.

"We have a shortage of engineers and we need to put dollars and effort behind this," Grella said.

Blue Mountain Community College recently opened a work force training center at the Port of Morrow, and is also offering classes for potential data engineers. He said Amazon wants to help with this training where it can either in curriculum, professors or internships. He said he believed there were already three local interns that had gone to work at Amazon.

Commissioner Don Russell said he knew some local people working at Amazon and he thinks the company will find a good work force and work ethic here.

"We want home-grown," Grella said. "We

have no desire to staff this all with people from Seattle."

He said with each new building they put up, it means 125 to 150 full-time jobs for one year and then about 100 jobs after that. He said between the employees and the vendors they use for operations, they now have more than 1,200 people connected with the Boardman operations.

In deciding which tax plan to use, Grella said he would not play the two entities off against each other and planned on being "completely transparent" with the process. He said they are currently filling out the paperwork for both a CREZ and SIP agreement and could go either way.

"We don't want to negotiate two separate agreements (between the county and CREZ) and then take the best one. But if you put us in a position to choose, we will choose," he added.

Russell asked the commission to consider putting Port of Morrow General Manager Gary Neal on the county SIP negotiating team, since he has extensive experience negotiating CREZ agreements and other contracts while at the Port. The commission agreed and later voted to appoint Neal, commission chair Melissa Lindsay and county administrator Jerry Sorte to a negotiating team to work with Amazon on a potential SIP agreement.

Sheriff's Report

March 2: -RP in Irrigon reported to Morrow County Sheriff's office a lost mutt, dog named "Trigger," and can't find him—golden color, long hair, white spot on forehead, white toes, white underbelly.

-MCSO was advised that one of the employees at the Irrigon Shell did three Western

Union transactions for two different people; they came from the same person and they turned out to be fraudulent. Total amount was \$1,525.03. Western Union told RP to call police to report this.

-MCSO advised an office was out delivering a code letter for the city in Heppner.

-RP in Lexington advised a subject was working on two of the RP's cars and they had not heard anything from him in two months. Previous subject had given RP many stories. RP stated that he gave the subject over \$7000 in cash. RP was

calling from Arizona and wanted to find out if the vehicles were still at the location and what MCSO

Good times at the Cardinal Diner



Ione music teacher Bryan Bates and the Ione choir wowed audiences with a music dinner theater this past week. Peggy Doherty, Yvonne Morter, Lisa Rietmann, Erin Heideman and Lea Mathieu also stepped up to put the "dinner" in dinner theater. -Contributed photo

Ione library plans summer reading program kick-off event

The Ione Public Library will kick off its summer reading program Tuesday, June 6, with a free presentation of "The Ribbles Build a Residence," presented by the Traveling Lantern Theatre Company. This free performance will take place

at 4 p.m. at the Ione Community School cafeteria and is suitable for all ages.

Registration for the Ione summer reading program will follow the presentation. This year's summer reading program theme is Build a Better World

and will include weekly events and special guest presentations throughout the summer.

For more information, contact the Ione Public Library at 541-561-9828 or <http://www.ionepubliclibrary.com/>.

Families reminded of need for adolescent check-ups

For students ages 11-21, Morrow County and Ione school districts encourage families to schedule an adolescent well care (AWC) exam appointment this summer. Exams can be scheduled beginning June 1 and throughout the summer months, and help students be prepared for the upcoming school year and fall sport season. For student athletes, the exam includes

the OSAA evaluation for sport/activity participation.

Morrow County Health District and Columbia River Community Health Services will be providing exams by appointment only. If the patient has insurance, the insurance will be billed for the AWC exam, and the balance, if any, will not be charged to the patient. There will be no out-of-

pocket cost for an AWC exam.

To schedule an AWC exam locally, contact Pioneer Memorial Clinic, 541-676-5504, or Ione Community Clinic, 541-422-7128. Patients in North Morrow can contact Columbia River Community Health Services, Boardman, 541-481-7212, or Irrigon Medical Clinic, 541-922-5880.

Local students to graduate from OSU

CORVALLIS, OR—Several local students will graduate during Oregon State University's 148th commencement on Saturday, June 17, at Reser Stadium on the Corvallis campus, the university announced.

Graduates from Heppner are Maggie K. Collins, Bachelor of Science, Cum Laude, agricultural sciences; Bryan P. Holland, Bachelor of Science, fisheries and wildlife sciences; Justin J. Pranger, Bachelor of Science, rangeland sciences; and Garrett K. Robinson, Bachelor of Science,

agricultural sciences.

Graduates from Ione are Emily A. Rea, Bachelor of Science, crop and soil science, and Evan J. Rietmann, Bachelor of Science, agricultural sciences.

From Lexington is graduate Kyle C. Harrison, Bachelor of Science, agricultural sciences.

Graduates from Boardman include Emily A. Doherty, Bachelor of Science, digital communication arts; Matthew B. Hyder, Master of Science, mechanical engineering; Christina T. Quintero, Bachelor of Science, soci-

ology; and Mayra L. Sanchez-Barrera, Bachelor of Science, biohealth sciences.

From Irrigon are graduates Sean G. Barron, Bachelor of Science, management, and Adriana Sanchez, Bachelor of Science, Magna Cum Laude, finance, and Bachelor of Science, Magna Cum Laude, accountancy.

The commencement speaker is Hüsnü M. Özyeğin, who headed to Oregon State University in 1963 with only \$100 in his pocket and graduated to become a business leader and philanthropist in Turkey and throughout Europe.

Commencement is free and open to the public; no tickets are necessary. More information about OSU's graduation is available online at: <http://commencement.oregonstate.edu/>.

can do about this.

-MCSO reported officer initiated activity at Irrigon High School for a fight at this location.

- James David Town, 25, was arrested by MCSO

on a Parole and Probation detainer.

-MCSO reported serving a restraining order at Columbia River Ranch.

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NOTICE

Highview Cemetery in Ione is having irrigation water issues. We are currently working to get a new system in place. Until then our ability to water may be severely limited. Please bear with us as we work thru our water issues. We will have Highview Cemetery green again as soon as possible.

If you have questions or comments, you can contact us via email at ionellexcemdlist@gmail.com or call and leave a message on 541-379-0608

Thank you!

The Ione Lexington Cemetery Maintenance Board

ROAD WORK AHEAD

Morrow County Road Dept. would like to remind all motorists that with any road maintenance project to be aware of the workers, they are very important to us.

Watch for signs, flags and work-zone employees and equipment. Morrow County's goal is to provide a safe roadway. However, it is always up to the motorist to drive according to conditions. Be patient and plan ahead. Leave early if you know you will be driving through work zones. Please use extreme caution and common sense. They will do their best and would appreciate your patience

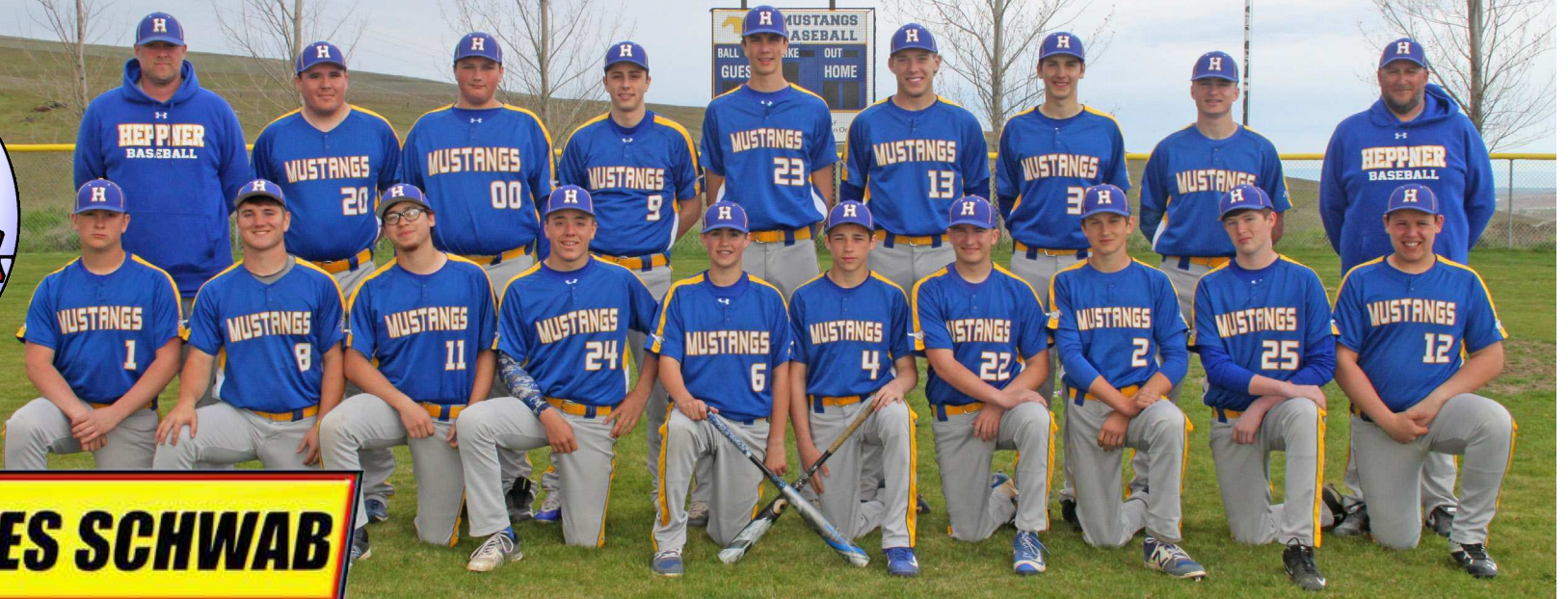


Temporary closers with grinding and reclamation will be taking place with in the next few weeks. Some areas to be aware of with some delays and partial closers are...
Laurel/Wilson Intersection in Boardman.
Ione/Boardman Rd. (Juniper to Ella)
Blackhorse east of Piper Canyon.

Again be prepared and be safe. Questions or concerns may be addressed to 541-989-9500 Morrow County Road Department.



HEPPNER LES SCHWAB WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE MUSTANG BASEBALL ON A GREAT SEASON



124 N. MAIN STREET HEPPNER OR 541-676-9481