

# Gordon sworn in as new Lexington town council member

By Bobbi Gordon

New Lexington town council member Bobbi Gordon took her oath of office at the Lexington town council meeting Aug. 8. Other council members present were Bill Beard and Sheila Miller, with Miller assuming the role of acting mayor at the meeting.

The council discussed the park beautification project and obtaining the dirt needed for the FEMA Park. Town Recorder, Janette Eldridge and Ed Dickenson planted flowers and the sprinklers are now working in Friendship Park. "It is looking pretty good," Dickenson reported.

A special presentation was made by the OSU Extension service. They are approaching each town in Morrow County asking them to participate in the formation of the Morrow County Extension

Service District. This would allow the extension service to levy \$.33/\$1,000 assessed value to support the Extension Service. As this would impact the Lexington town budget, the council decided to discuss it further and ask for more information later.

A discussion regarding participating in a waste water option to serve Heppner, Lexington and Ione was next on the agenda. Eldridge advised that Lexington would be the lead agency for the project and it could cost the town upwards to \$150,000 for a feasibility study. The council all agreed that it would be impossible for the town to find that amount in the existing budget, so declined to be involved.

An announcement was made stating that the reservoir would be chlorinated on Aug. 10 and all residents were being notified.

# Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office has released the following report of marriage licenses:

**Aug. 8, 2017:** -Robyn Lynn Stratton, 36, of Boardman and Dan Dale

Barclay, 85, of Boardman. **Aug. 10, 2017:** -Mons Franklin Benson, 46, of Irrigon and Heidi Laray Rippee, 40, of Irrigon.

# Chamber Chatter

Wednesday, Aug. 16 - Sunday, Aug. 20 - Morrow County Fair and Rodeo - Morrow County Fairgrounds - "Our Roots Run Deep in Morrow County": There will be live entertainment and catered dinners on Wednesday and Thursday during the fair and entertainment following the rodeo on Friday and Saturday nights. Entertainment on Wednesday night, starting at 7 p.m. is the Cory Peterson Band. Paradise Rose will be catering a meal for \$15/plate for adults to children 13 years of age and older; \$7.50/plate for children 12 and under. The meal will consist of tri-tip or chicken; Dutch oven potatoes, baked beans, green salad and dessert. There will be beer available for purchase.

Thursday, Aug. 17 - 6-10 p.m. - Murray's Annual Beer and Wine Tasting - Morrow County Fairgrounds: The theme, for this year is Pre-Eclipse Party. There will be some partying in the dark. The Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be serving up a lasagna dinner consisting of meat lasagna, green salad, roll, dessert and water from 6-8 p.m. The meal cost is \$10 for adults to children 12 years of age; \$5 for children 11 years of age or younger. This meal is being prepared by Alvin Liu and is a Chamber fundraiser, so plan on eating and staying for the evening. Entertainment

will be Joe Lindsay and chairs and enjoy some great Friends and Nate Botsford. Saturday, Aug. 19 - 10 the Morrow County Unified a.m. - Morrow County Fair Recreation District and facilities and Rodeo Parade: Entry tated by the Shared Ministry of forms are available on the Hope Lutheran and All Saints chamber website heppner- Episcopal Churches. Food chamber.com; contact the will be available for purchase chamber at 541-676-5536 or to raise money for the Shared heppnerchamber@centurytel. Ministry's continuing efforts net; so plan on coming out to provide clean water to and participating or being a needy communities around spectator at this year's parade. the world. This event will be

Monday, Aug. 21 - solar moved to the All Saints Par-eclipse: Check out the Hep-ish Hall if it should rain. So pner Chamber website for come on out and enjoy a con-information. Shuttle bus is cert by Eric Jepsen and John available to view solar eclipse, Wambeke.

Sunday, Aug. 27 - Ione's 5667 to reserve space; park Music in the Park - Ione City and ride from Morrow County Park at 6 p.m.: The entertain-Fairgrounds; bring a camp ment will be Joe Lindsay and folding chair, snacks and water Corey Cooley and families. with you; donations accepted. Concessions will be available

Stay in Heppner and through Tacos Hometown, watch the eclipse at the Wil-starting at 5 p.m. Pre-order by low Creek Dam: You can park texting 541-561-7397.

Sunday, Sept. 22 Ione's Hager Street to catch a local Music in the Park - 6 p.m. shuttle from 8 - 8:45 a.m. and - Ione City Park: The enter-return shuttle will drop you tainment will be Countryfied. back off after the event is over. Concessions will be available Bring a chair, snacks and water through Tacos Hometown, and sit in designated areas as starting at 5 p.m. Preorder by directed by the Corps of En-texting 541-561-7397.

Thursday, Oct. 26 - 13<sup>th</sup> around the community homes annual soup bowl supper and (don't block any driveways). silent auction sponsored by Free solar eclipse glasses for Domestic Violence Services, the first 250 people. No alco- Inc.: This event will be held hol or smoking allowed. at Sisters Café - 308 N. Main

Sunday, Sept. 10 - 5-7 p.m. - Music in the Heppner 276-3322 or visit our website City Park: Bring your lawn to register.

# First mosquitoes with West Nile virus detected in Morrow County

West Nile virus, a mild flu-like disease spread by mosquitoes, has been reported to have been found in one testing site in Morrow County, according to Oregon Public Health officials. The mosquitoes were collected the week of Aug. 1 in Irrigon and tested at Oregon State University, Veterinary Diagnostic laboratory in Corvallis.

Health officials are advising people in Morrow County to take precautions against mosquitoes in order to avoid the risk of infection. People are advised to be especially careful to avoid getting mosquito bites. "The risk of contracting West Nile virus may be low, but we do encourage people to take appropriate precautions to protect themselves against mosquito bites," said Greg Barron, Manager of North Morrow Vector Control District. "We will continue to increase our mosquito control operations utilizing our Ultra

Low Volume (ULV) truck mounted sprayers and possibly some spraying by helicopter to reduce adult mosquito populations," Barron said.

Dr. Emilio DeBess, public health veterinarian, says simple precautions can prevent the spread of West Nile virus:

- Eliminate sources of standing water that are a breeding ground for mosquitoes, including watering troughs, bird baths, ornamental ponds, buckets, wading and swimming pools not in use and old tires.

- When engaged in outdoor activities at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active protect yourself by using mosquito repellants containing DEET, oil of lemon eucalyptus or Picardin and products containing IR3535.

- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants in mosquito-infested areas.

- Make sure screen doors and windows are in good re-

pair and fit tightly.

Because mosquito pools testing positive in any area could lead to infection, Morrow County Health Department Health Educator/Communicable Disease Coordinator Shelley Wight recommends people and animals be protected against mosquito bites.

Eighty percent of people infected with West Nile virus exhibit no symptoms. Of the remaining 20 percent, most have very mild symptoms, such as fever, headaches and nausea lasting from three to six days. In a few cases, more severe symptoms may occur including convulsions or disorientation. The central nervous system also may be affected, resulting in a headache associated with fever, aseptic meningitis or encephalitis. West Nile is spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. Most infected people will show little or no signs of disease. About

one in five infected people may show signs of West Nile fever. People at risk include those individuals over 50 years of age, people with immune compromising conditions or those people with diabetes and high blood pressure. Symptoms may include fever above 100°F and severe headache, stiff neck, mental confusion, muscle weakness, shaking, paralysis or rash. It is important that you contact your health care provider if you experience any of these symptoms. The fever syndrome may last from a few days to several weeks. The incubation period is usually two to 14 days.

Consult your health care provider if you have these symptoms. Health care providers may contact the Morrow County Health Department for information on West Nile virus testing services that the Oregon Public Health Lab offers.

# Rietmann elected to Ione School Board



Ione School District Superintendent Jon Peterson swears in Ed Rietmann, who was elected to the Ione School Board on May 16. Rietmann replaces long-time board member Bill Jepsen and will serve a four-year term, through June 20, 2021. Rietmann and his wife Becky live in Ione and have four children. -Contributed photo

## SOLAR ECLIPSE AT THE LANDING LODGE

Due to the overwhelming amount of people traveling into and through the area we will not be serving our weekly specials during the eclipse event. No Friday night Chicken Fried Steak, Saturday Prime Rib or Senior Sunday Special. We apologize for the inconvenience! We will return to business as usual on or around August 23rd! Please see our event week schedule below!

**Wed 8-16: 10am-5pm**  
**Thurs 8-17: 10AM-8PM**  
**Fri 8-19: 10AM-8PM**  
**Sat 8-19: 8am-8pm**  
**SUN 8-20: 8am-5pm**  
**Mon 8-21: 8am-5pm**  
**Tues 8-22: CLOSED**

**THE LANDING LODGE AT THE MORROW COUNTY OHV PARK**  
**10AM-8PM Wed. - Friday**  
**Saturday 8am-8pm, Sunday 8am - 5pm**  
**Monday 10am-5pm**  
**Closed Tuesday**  
**541-969-3822**

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# Community Bank Awards Over \$17,000 For Good Grades

The seventh year of Community Bank's Earn While You Learn Program has set an all-time high in cash awards paid to student-customers for their academic success. For the 2017 pay out period, 748 students in the Eastern Oregon and Southeast Washington area cashed in on their good grades. Community Bank's student customers earned a total of \$17,135.

Since the bank's program began in 2011 earnings have steadily increased. In the first year of the bank's Earn While You Learn Program just six years ago, 190 students were paid \$3,895. This year's payouts bring the program's grand total of academic award money to \$79,608.

The program is designed to encourage students in their

academic success by awarding Community Bank Youth Savings accounts customers for their good grades. During the months of June and July, all Community Bank branches accepted end-of-the-year report cards from students in grades first through 12<sup>th</sup>. For every top grade (indicated on the grading system used for each school) in a main school subject that appeared on the report card, Community Bank deposited \$1 into their Community Bank Youth Savings Account.

The Earn While You Learn Program is an annual reward of \$1 per top grade, up to \$50 annually per student, with payments given for the whole school year in June and July.