

HEPPNER

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Those dam goats came back!



The US Army Corps of engineers recently brought back a herd of goats to clean off the vegetation on the face of the Willow Creek Dam in Heppner. The Goats were here for the first time several years ago and at that time the Corps said they would evaluate the job and see if the animals would be brought back. Apparently the goats do a good job as they were here for several days last week. The Corps says the animals are better since they don't have to use chemicals and hire people to rappel down the face of the dam to eradicate weeds and grass that grow on the structure. -Contributed photo

Enterprise Zone taps Sweek new manager

By David Sykes

The Columbia River Enterprise Zone, CREZ, has named former county assessor Greg Sweek as its new manager. Sweek will be responsible for the day to day operations of the CREZ and is a paid employee reporting to the board of directors.

Sweek has long-time knowledge in the workings of the zone both as a board member representing Morrow County and as assessor in creating the zone. He also



Greg Sweek

has experience creating a previous enterprise zone, which has since expired, located at the former Kinzua

Mill site in Heppner.

Sweek will replace Morrow County planner Carla McLane, who has served as manager since the zone's inception. McLane, who served without additional pay as CREZ manager, resigned because of time constraints and will continue on as county planner.

Sweek will receive compensation of \$100 per week and be available on-call as needed by CREZ. He will also receive \$40

Sheriff Matlack to assist with immigration issues

Morrow County Sheriff Kenneth W Matlack will be in Washington DC on Wednesday, Sept. 5, to meet with White House officials on illegal immigration matters and to urge Congress to act on pending legislation to increase border security.

Sheriff Matlack joins approximately 50 other sheriffs from across the country as a united group of elected law enforcement officers at a media event on Capitol Hill Wednesday morning. Joined by some members of Congress, this group of sheriffs will share their experiences and public safety challenges associated with illegal aliens, and call on Congress to act on pending legislation to increase border security and reform the immigration system.

The sheriffs will then participate in a roundtable discussion at the White House with administration officials and policymakers. Hosted by the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, the round table will focus on immigration, border security and efforts by some elected officials to prevent the critical collaboration of local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies. These partnerships maximize law enforcement's potential to identify criminals in communities and remove them from neighborhoods.

"The purpose of this visit is to express the urgency of Congress passing legislation immediately on the security aspects of immigration reform," Sheriff Matlack said. "It is our intention to tell Congress that their failure to deal with this issue for 20 years has made our communities less safe and has undermined our promise to the people who elected us to keep them



Sheriff Matlack travels to Washington DC to assist other sheriffs with immigration issues.

safe."

"During our visit to the White House, we will discuss the challenges we face as a result of the ongoing Congressional stalemate, strategies to more easily identify criminal illegal aliens and explore ways to expand and protect our valuable and critically important relationships with our local, state and federal law enforcement partners," Sheriff Matlack continued. "We will also take the opportunity to express and thank President Trump and his administration for re-establishing law enforce-

ment's footing to enforce our laws."

"America's sheriffs are elected by the people in their communities to keep them safe and the continued inaction of Congress has put a major roadblock in law enforcement's path to protecting our citizens and legal residents. It is our sworn duty to protect our citizens, and we, as sheriffs, view this opportunity to push for meaningful immigration reform as a way to uphold our promise, our commitment, to the people who elected us to protect them."

Ione Library receives grant



Stacks of new books were purchased with the funds from a grant received by the Ione Library.

The Ione Public Library was the recent recipient of a \$3000 grant to purchase books for young adults and children. The funding for the grant was provided through the 2017 Library and Technology Service Act Program in Oregon and was made available to the 115 libraries in Oregon whose service population is less than 50,000. With a population of 989, Ione is among the 20 smallest libraries in the state.

The Ione library will be adding 248 new, high quality books to their circulating collections for juvenile readers, young readers and young adult readers with

the grant funds.

The task of dealing with the new books will include weeding the books currently available for circulation. Books in poor condition or that have not been checked out for a number of years will be removed from the stacks and incorporated into the 2019 summer reading program as prizes and incentives. The new books will be introduced to the stacks gradually over a matter of months.

The Oregon State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services were responsible for facilitating the grant.

Local rodeo cowboys and cowgirls take home the prizes



Jett Stewart (right) took first place in the Morrow County Rodeo amateur calf roping, taking home the 2018 championship saddle donated by Morrow County Grain Growers. Also pictured, Terri Gentry. -Photo by Juli McDonald



The Ranch Bronc Riding winner, Wes Aragon (right), received the saddle sponsored by Bank of Eastern Oregon. Also pictured, Miles Binger. -Photo by Juli McDonald

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