

# Harris family hosts five generations

Five Harris generations were in attendance on Labor Day weekend at the home of Creth Harris. Brad Harris, Nampa, ID, and his family visited for the weekend to introduce the newest member of the family to her great-great-grandmother, Creth, and her great-grandfather, Bob Harris. Pictured top (L-R): Brad Harris, son of Bob Harris, pictured next to Brad. Second row (L-R): Creth Harris, Bob's mother and Brooke Harris, Brad's daughter and mother of three-week old Bayley Maie, in her lap. Bottom row (L-R): Anthony Perez, husband to Brooke and father to Bayley, along with Anthony's son, Nathan and



daughter, Anastasya, both half-siblings to Bayley. The five generations are Creth Harris (age 101), Bob Harris, Brad Harris, Brooke Harris and baby Bayley. The picture was taken on Creth's front porch at her home on Upper Rea Creek Rd. -Contributed photo.

# High speed crash damages home



The vehicle pictured above hit the house at excessive speed, causing damage to rooms on both the lower and the upper floors. -Contributed photos.



A vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed crashed into the home at Cutsforth Corner on Highway 207 and Marquardt Rd. near Lexington in the early morning hours of September 7, causing severe damage to the home.

According to the report from the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, a call was

received at approximately 2:30 a.m. reporting the crash. Upon arrival at the scene, MCSO reported that the driver of the vehicle involved, Jesus Garcia, 23, of Echo, OR was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Apparently, the suspect had previously crashed

through the gates and hit a parked car at Morrow County Grain Growers in Lexington, leaving the plate from his vehicle. The plate matched the vehicle of the one involved in the accident on Marquardt Rd.

It was also reported that just prior to 2:30 a.m., a vehicle had driven up and

through a residence on Clay Street in Lexington and then left headed towards Hermiston on Highway 207.

Although the investigation is continuing, the sheriff's office has determined that all of the incidents involved the same vehicle and driver.

# City may provide space for alternative school

Former Public Works office considered for classroom

**By David Sykes**

The city of Heppner is considering making the former public works office on Gale Street available for use as an alternative school. The school could see around a half dozen students go to classes there instead of with the regular student body at the high school. These students have been identified as having issues with learning and disrupting other students. The Morrow County School District has been working with Community Counseling Solutions on alternative schools in other communities and currently has one in Irrigon.

Leasing the public works office to the school district was discussed at the monthly city council meeting Monday night. The council seemed receptive to the idea, but said there needed to be some work done on the office before it could be ready for use. It was said that the school would last about six hours

per day. "This is a school for kids who don't fit in at regular school," Heppner Mayor Cody High said. "Irrigon is the nearest alternative school, but we need to help the kids around here," he said in urging the city's participation. "If we can come to an agreement with the school district and they want it, does the council want to talk to them?" he asked the council. The council agreed to proceed.

The community is becoming more concerned about bad behavior, drug use and vandalism in Heppner, and recently held a meeting attended by 200 people to find solutions to the problems. A Neighborhood Watch workshop is scheduled for Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. at city hall for a presentation and question and answer session with sheriff deputies. The public is invited to attend and become more active in facing the problems.

At an August police commission meeting, Un-

dersheriff John Bowles provided a report that totaled all of the criminal mischief and juvenile calls for each year 2015 through 2018. It shows that there has been an increase of people reporting issues to the police. It was pointed out that a couple of families moved into town that have teenage boys that seem to be the cause of most of the juvenile issues in town. The parents have been cited for failure to supervise and the juveniles were temporarily lodged at Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility, which has a juvenile facility in The Dalles.

At the police commission meeting, it was pointed out that of the problem is typically with juvenile issues and they are cited and released. Law enforcement is working on making parents more accountable. It was also mentioned that the Resource Officer (a Morrow County deputy stationed at the schools) has been very helpful for

issuing truancy citations. Following is the statistics Bowles provided to the commission.

	2015	2016	2017	Jan-Aug2018
Criminal Mischief	19	4	15	15
Juvenile	17	16	46	29
SRO	0	2	6	27
Total Yearly Incidents	2,003	2,169	2,423	1,986

In 2005 the City of Heppner went from 480 patrol hours to 320 hours per month to save on costs. The city contracts with the

# Neighborhood Watch meeting planned

Public invited to attend



The City of Heppner, in partnership with the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, is holding a Neighborhood Watch workshop Wednesday, Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. at Heppner City Hall. The public is invited to attend.

The workshop is the result of a community meeting held last month to address vandalism, drug use and other problems within the community.

There will be a power point presentation about Neighborhood Watch, how it works and how to form one, led by Undersheriff John Bowles. There will be an opportunity for questions and discussion.

City officials urged interested citizens to attend. "This will take someone on each block to get it organized," Heppner Mayor Cody High said at the council meeting Monday night.

Morrow County Sheriff's Department to provide police protection. The city went from three deputies to two assigned to Heppner. The department says it routinely provides more than the contracted hours to the city.

In other business at the meeting Monday, the council denied a request from Tareena Healy to allow her renter Jered Wicklund to keep two cows on the property on Water Street within the city limits. Wicklund said he had one Jersey steer and one Holstein milk cow on the property, however the council cited noise and other issues for not allowing the cows. A goat already on the property and previously permitted will be allowed to remain.

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