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This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Published February 19, 2020 Affidavit

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Street games to be included in St. Pat's celebration

A few street relay games are being scheduled for Saturday, March 14 during the 38th Wee Bit O' Ireland Celebration. The Bed Relay Race, the O'Planky Team Relay Race and the Welly Toss will be held prior to the Great Green Parade and there will be no charge to compete in any of the races.

The Bed Relay Race will start immediately after the Leprechaun Run and participants are asked to be ready between Heppner Market Fresh and the senior center by 11:15 a.m. Teams will consist of four participants, three pushing and one riding. Beds will be furnished and the race will be timed, with the

race starting and ending at the Shamrock. Teams are encouraged to dress up and costumes will be judged and awarded first and second prizes.

The O'Planky Race will begin immediately following the bed race, at approximately 11:30 a.m. The competition will go the opposite direction of the bed races, starting at the Shamrock, racing to the driveway of Heppner Market Fresh and returning to the Shamrock. Teams consist of four participants and all team members must return to the finish line.

The Welly Toss will be held on Willow Street between Murray's and the Artisan Village starting at

10 a.m. There are competition levels for all ages. Team competition will be held from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Children and individual competition will be from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to the top two teams, two highest finishers in the individual men and women's category and children will receive a gold coin for participating.

Entries for the Bed Relay Race and the O'Planky Race must be received by March 8. Forms may be picked up at the Chamber or City offices. For questions, contact the Chamber at 541-676-5536 or heppnerchamber@centurytel.net.



Winners of the final round were second-place Reese Houck (left) and the champion Tripp Stewart.

Students were asked a variety of questions about world and local geography. There were seven rounds of questions that narrowed down the competitors to a small group for the final round. Eventually the top two students left were fifth graders, Tripp Stewart and Reese Houck. Tripp Stewart was crowned the champion in a very close competition.

Judges for the contest were Mrs. Smith-Griffith and Mrs. Clough, with Mr. Waite as the moderator.

Students compete in Geography Bee



Pictured back row (L-R): Rylee Palmer, Journey Cavan-Harris, Gus Cayce, Keaton Coiner, Lane Critchlow and Natalie Piper. Front row (L-R): Naomi Prophet, Tripp Stewart, Maya Payne, Brody McDaniel, Reese Houck and Claire Lindsay. Not pictured: Lita Nelson and Joe McMasters.

Heppner Elementary School students competed in the school Geography Bee on Friday, January 24. Fourth-, fifth- and sixth-

grade students were given a qualifying test and the top 16 students were invited to participate in a competition in front of the school.

Lent begins next Wednesday

Next Wednesday, February 26, begins the season of Lent, a period of 40 days when many Christians prepare for Easter by practicing the disciplines of prayer, fasting, repentance and acts of love. The first day of Lent is known as Ash Wednesday, when the ancient sign of ashes is traced on the forehead in the shape of a cross with the

words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Members of the community who are unable to attend a worship service on Ash Wednesday are invited to look for the "Ashes to Go" sign on Main Street between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to receive this reminder of mortality. In

addition, a Lutheran-Episcopal service with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion will be held at Hopeful Saints Ministry (corner of Church and Gale) on February 26 at 6 p.m. All are welcome.

More information is available by calling the church office at 541-676-9970.

BEO Bank reports increases

BEO Bancorp (OTCBB:BEBO) and its subsidiary, Bank of Eastern Oregon, announced consolidated year end 2019 earnings of \$4,278,000 an increase of 8.2 percent when compared to \$3,949,000 in 2018. Average earnings per share were up 8.7 percent at \$3.62. Total assets were up 18.8 percent from \$414.4 million to \$492 million. Net loans were up 32.2 percent at \$429 million, while deposits increased 19.7 percent year over year to \$441 million.

"2019 was a year of expansion for our bank. During the year we acquired or opened six branches (Colfax, Dayton, LaCrosse, and Pomeroy, WA; along with Hermiston and La Grande, OR), bringing our total number of branches to 20. We also

expanded our lending teams in SE Washington and NE Oregon. These initiatives helped fuel the growth that we experienced year over year. Deposits grew by \$72 million and loans increased by \$104 million. It is important to note that this is not aggressive growth into new lines of business. It is new relationships from within our existing footprint; leaning heavily towards agricultural credits," said President and CEO, Jeff Bailey.

According to Chief Financial Officer, Mark Lemmon, "2019 Return on Average Assets is 0.94 percent compared to 0.95 percent in 2018. Return on Average Equity is at 11.84 percent compared to 11.91 percent in 2018. Our book value per share is up 13.7 percent at

\$32.09 compared to \$29.21 one year ago. Shareholder equity is also up 9 percent year over year."

Chief Operations Officer, Gary Prophet said, "We have welcomed new people to our banking team and these team members have done a tremendous job of bringing over new business relationships to our bank. During 2019 we completed ATM upgrades and numerous other technology advancements to make sure we meet the needs of our customers."

"2019 was a solid year for Bank of Eastern Oregon. In 2020 we are celebrating our 75th anniversary and we see the steps taken in 2019 as a continuation of what has made our bank successful since 1945," concluded Bailey.

Ione construction class demos house



Ione students and instructors demo a building for a property owner in Heppner.

The Ione Community Charter School's construction class went to Heppner Monday, February 10 to learn demolition and reclamation skills with an old, two room home on North Gale St.

Two crews, led by their teacher Steve Schaber and agriculture teacher Martin Vito, spent the day learning how to deconstruct the building so the lumber

could be reused to rebuild new structures on the property.

The students were able to take a couple of "treasures" with them, including a cabinet and a wall section, that they hope to use to make new items. The structure was owned by Scott and JoAnna Lamb. JoAnna is an educational assistant at the Ione school.

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