

# DIRKSEN

K-six-171; Irrigon Elementary, 4-6-185; Windy River Elementary, Boardman, 4-6-250; Heppner Jr./Sr. High School, 7-12-140; Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School, 7-12-368; Riverside Jr./Sr. High School, Boardman, 7-12-454; Morrow Education Center, Irrigon, K-12-122; Total-2,212.

The enrollment by community for 2019 and 2020 is as follows: Heppner lost six students, from 317 in 2019 to 311 in 2020; Boardman lost 62 students, from 1087 in 2019 to 1025 in 2020; Irrigon lost 64 students, from 818 in 2019 to 754 in 2020; Morrow Education Center gained 62 students from 60 in 2019 to 122 in 2020; the district lost 70 students, from 2,282 in 2019 to 2,212 in 2020.

-received the following general fund report as of Oct. 31: \$29,519,214 in revenues, less 2021 estimated expenditures of \$29,146,769 for \$372,446 in revenues over expenditures with a \$3,367,853 beginning fund balance for a projected ending fund balance of \$3,740,299.

-approved a first reading of "All Students Belong," that "All students are entitled to a high quality educational experience, free from discrimination or harassment based on perceived race, color, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability or national origin" and employees and visitors are entitled to an environment

"free from discrimination or harassment."

-revised/readopted "Public Conduct on District Property."

-rescinded policy on "Retirement of Staff."

-approved a resolution accepting and appropriating unanticipated revenues in the amount of \$3,000 from the Robert Kilkenny Family Foundation for Heppner Elementary School.

-adopted a resolution concerning Oregon Legislative priorities and principles.

-received the following employment action for November: retirements-Kathy Cutsforth, Heppner Elementary assistant custodian, 12-31-2020, Valerie Hopkins, Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School department secretary, 12-31-20, working the remainder of the school year, Cynthia Kuchenbecker, Riverside Jr./Sr. technology/business teacher, 12-31-2020, Rebecca Renfro, RJSHS science teacher, 12-31-2020; employment/promotions/transfer-Linda Pedro, IJSHS, transfer to ed assistant.

-learned there will be no school on Wednesday, November 11 for the Veteran's Day holiday; the Oregon School Board Association virtual annual convention will be held Saturday, November 14; there will be no school November 25-27 for Thanksgiving break; the next meeting will be Monday, December 14 at RJSHS.

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# Ione Booster Club invites all supporters to 6 p.m. Nov. 18 meeting at Legion Hall



Students gather a trailer full of cans in support of booster club activities.

The Ione Booster Club is asking all those who want to show their support for students and their school to attend a meeting Wednesday, Nov. 18 at 6 p.m. at the Ione Legion Hall.

"The Cardinal Booster Club supports our K-12 students throughout the year. Some examples include speakers, team camps, college scholarships, meals for traveling teams, tournament fees, field trips, back to school potluck, Santa treats,

graduation refreshments, the fitness facility project and more. Your support helps us achieve this," the group said in a news release.

Membership dues along with the annual basketball tournament and ongoing bottle drive financially funds many of the group's projects. This year, due to Covid-19 guidelines, the club will not hold the annual basketball tournament so community mem-



Students Mason Orem, Marty Medina, and Carter Eynetich gather and bag cans during fund raising drive.

ber's support in the form of membership dues is greatly needed, they added.

The Ione Cardinal Booster Club is composed of school staff, parents, community members and businesses dedicated to supporting the athletic and academic needs of students at Ione Community School. "Please consider giving your time to attend meetings and become involved with supporting our kids. The Ione Cardinal Booster Club needs you. We would really love to see you there," a club spokesperson said.

# Big new solar farm planned for county North of Lexington, south of the bombing range

By David Sykes

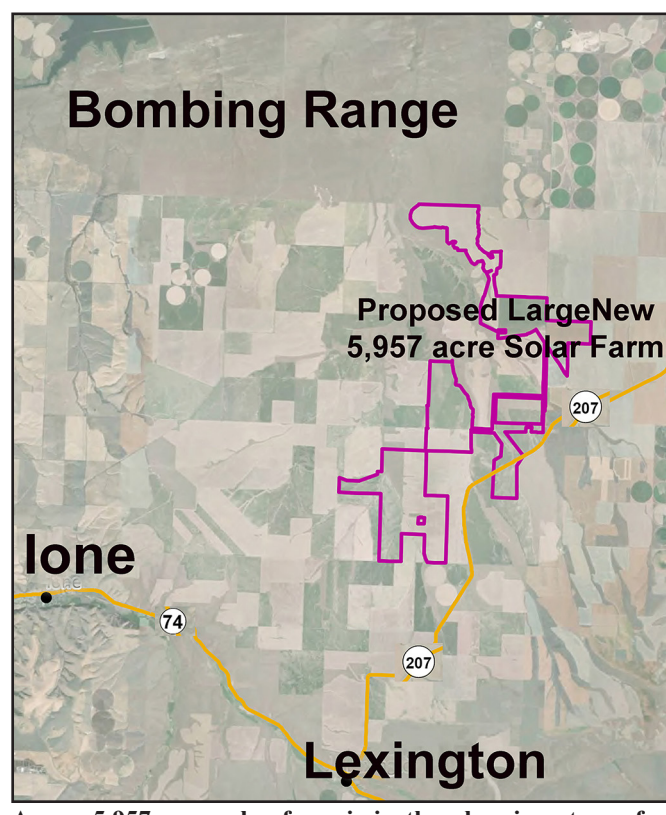
A large new 500-megawatt solar farm planned on 5,957 acres located north of Lexington up to the southern edge of the Bombing Range is now in the planning stages. Notice has been given to the state energy department by Nextera Energy and Wheat-

ridge East Wind to build the new facility. Nextera and Wheatridge are the same company currently wrapping up construction and installation of the large new wind generating facility in the county.

The facility will generate power by converting sunlight with poly-crystalline cells into direct current electricity. Each module will be six feet long by three feet wide. Total number of modules needed to generate 500 mw was not specified in the notice, but it did say the final number of modules needed will vary depending on the technology, spacing, mounting equipment, and other design criteria, which are subject to change during final design.

The solar modules are mounted on tracker systems that move to optimize electricity production by rotating to follow the path of the sun throughout the day. According to the application notice as the solar modules tilt throughout the day, the height of their top edges will shift accordingly, possibly up to 16 feet high. The tracker system posts they are mounted on will be specifically designed to withstand wind, snow, and seismic loads anticipated at the site. The posts carrying the modules can be buried anywhere from between five and 20 feet below ground and protrude five feet above the surface. In some soil conditions concrete will be required for each post.

Once generated the power will be sent to inverters which convert the power from 400-watt DC to 1,500-volt alternating current, AC, before connecting to the substations.



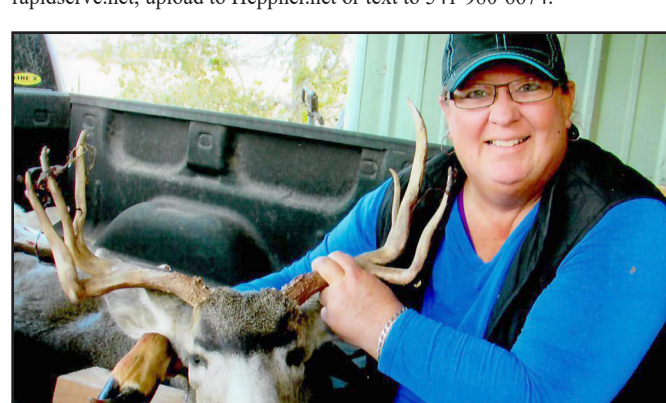
A new 5,957-acre solar farm is in the planning stages for Morrow County

The alternating current from the inverters will be routed to transformers that will increase the output voltage from the inverter (480 volts) to the desired substation feed voltage 34.5 kV. The facility will have up to eight miles of 230-kv overhead transmission lines 60 to 150 high.

To store the power generated by the solar farm there will be battery storage throughout the solar fields, which will consist of lithium-ion batteries in storage containers. Each container will be placed on a foundation. Each container holds the batteries, a supervisory and power management system, and a fire prevention system. Lithium-ion battery systems are modular systems in which each module contains multiple smaller battery cells. The module containing the cells is relatively small, generally about the size of a desktop computer processor, and serves as leak-proof containment. Modules are placed in anchored racks within the concrete containers; typically, each rack houses battery modules along with a switchgear assembly. Cooling units will be placed either on top of the concrete containers or along the side.

## ~ G-T Trophy Corner ~

The Heppner Gazette Times would like to see pictures of your trophy animals from this hunting season. Please send a photo along with your name, age, town you live in, location of the hunt and a description of the animal to editor@rapidsolve.net, upload to Heppner.net or text to 541-980-6674.



Shari Ober, Lexington, shot this 3X4 buck in the Columbia Basin Unit.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

**SYKES REAL ESTATE**  
Owner/Broker David Sykes  
188 W. Willow  
P.O. Box 337  
Heppner, OR 97836  
david@sykesrealestate.net  
**541-980-6674**

**NEW LISTING!**  
**\$85,000**  
Three bedroom 1 bath 2 story home in the quiet town of Fossil, Oregon. Large fenced yard ready for kids or pets. Some appliances included. Looking to get away from the big city? Here is the place for you. Call for a showing.  
1175 WASHINGTON ST Fossil, OR

**\$70,000**  
Two bedroom one bath home on quiet street in Heppner. Lots of personal items that come with the house. Has 2 car garage, chicken coop and garden area. Priced reasonable and with some care, clean up and fix up will make a nice home for you, or as a rental investment property. Call me for an appointment to see.  
365 S Gilmore ST Heppner

**NEW LISTING!**  
**\$535,000**  
Large 2540 sq ft home 1 bedroom 2.25 bath on hill overlooking valley. 114.26 acres w/65 acres water rights from well for irrigated pasture. 46.26 acres of rangeland. Second homesite has well septic also. Large 900 sq ft attached garage. 600 sq ft stable with enclosed tack room, 2 pump houses. Garden space. Large patio & big trex decking around front. Willow Creek runs length of property. Lower level has lots of room and much potential for additional rooms.  
67208 HWY 74 Ione, OR

**NEED HOUSES FOR SALE!**  
I have buyers looking for homes in the Heppner, Lexington and Ione area. Now is the time to sell! Call, text or email me.

**PRICE REDUCED!**  
**\$149,500**  
There are two homes on this property. The bigger one is a 3 bedroom 1 bath 958 sq ft now renting for \$800 per month. Smaller home is a 1 bedroom 1 bath 576 sq ft renting for \$400 a month. There are water rights from the creek to water the yard and a shed in the back. Located on a dead end street. Call for an appointment and have a look.  
680 W SPERRY ST, HEPPNER

**\$139,500**  
Office building in great condition right on main street in Heppner. Located in the heart of the business district it's ready to move into. Includes front lobby, private office with window to the front. Former bank building with lots of storage. A small kitchenette/break room and a restroom. Alarm system installed. If you are looking for an office or even a small store space this will work for you. Call today for a showing.  
127 N Main St Heppner

**\$20,000**  
Oversized city lot on dead end street. Sewer, water, electric all available. Manufactured home ok. 100 X 132 square foot .3 acres. Located close to grade school. Not far from city park. Addition adjacent lot available for sale.  
610 Garrigues St Heppner

**\$15,000**  
Ready to build on lot on dead end street in Heppner. 12 acres. Nearby lot available and can be purchased together.  
350 Aiken St Heppner

The Heppner Gazette-Times wants to see pictures of your trophy animals from this hunting season. Stop by to have your picture taken, drop off photos, mail them to PO Box 337 in Heppner, email them to editor@rapidsolve.net or text cell phone photos to 541-980-6674.

DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5PM

Information deemed correct not guaranteed  
REALTOR MLS  
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