

# Boardman to get \$1.5 million incubator

*-Continued from PAGE ONE*  
Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) bill and Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) bill. The bills passed out of committee Friday with bipartisan support.

Federal funding in the bills include a total of \$15,510,000 for 14 community-initiated projects throughout the state, as well as key investments to support programs and projects that boost job creation and innovation—particularly in rural, coastal, and underserved communities—and public safety system upgrades that will better protect Oregon communities from wildfire threats and other disasters.

“As I hold a town hall for each of Oregon’s 36 counties every year, I hear from folks about what matters most to them, including robustly supporting Oregon’s economic development and ensuring our communities are prepared should disasters strike,” Merkley said. “The community-initiated projects funded in these bills will boost rural and coastal infrastructure and salmon recovery efforts and help upgrade public safety and

emergency alert systems to keep Oregonians safe during disasters.”

Other big news in Boardman includes the appointment of new city manager Brandon Hammond. Stokoe informed the council at its July 11 meeting that both Hammond and the city had agreed on a contract. The council approved the final contract with Hammond and appointed him the new city manager.

Boardman Mayor Paul Keefer extended his congratulations at the meeting.

“Welcome back to Boardman,” he told Hammond, who was present via Zoom.

Hammond said he will be meeting with the city employees and then hopes to meet with the council members. He said has already talked with the Hermiston city manager and they plan to start a regional quarterly city manager meeting.

He also said that, being new to the position, he hoped to do some training.

“Maybe we could all do that together to do a refresher of everyone’s roles, responsibilities,” he said.

Hammond’s start date will be Aug. 1.

# Boardman man drowns in the Columbia River

The Boardman community is in mourning after a 35-year-old Boardman man apparently drowned in the Columbia River on Sunday.

Two cousins were enjoying their Sunday, fishing from the bank of the Columbia River, when tragedy struck. Irwin Parcero Perez, 35, of Boardman, was fishing with his cousin when he walked a little farther into the river and suddenly slipped completely into the water. Despite his cousin’s attempts to help, Perez was not located.

About 5:45 p.m. on Sunday July 16, Morrow County Sheriff’s Office Communications Center received a 911 call reporting that Perez was swept away into the Columbia River.

MCSO and several other agencies all responded to the scene to help locate the fisherman. In total, there were seven boats, two drones, two dive rescue teams and one private plane searching for Perez. Despite all the equipment and searchers, they were unable to locate the fisherman and the search was suspended due to darkness.

As of Monday morning, due to high winds on the river, they were unable to launch boats. The search will continue as soon as the weather allows.

“The Morrow County Sheriff’s Office wishes to express our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Parcero Perez,” the sheriff’s office said in a press release. “Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this difficult time.”

MCSO also says this is another sad reminder that the Columbia River is extremely powerful and dangerous. The sheriff’s department recommends wearing a life vest when going in the Columbia River, even for wading, due to unexpected drop-offs and very strong currents.

Also participating in the recovery efforts were Columbia Basin Dive Rescue, Benton County Sheriff’s Office, Umatilla County Sheriff’s Office, Boardman Police Department and a Boardman Fire drone operator, as well as a private pilot from Washington.

# One Trick Pony at Boardman marina Monday



Michael Trew

One Trick Pony will be at the Boardman Marina Park on July 24 for Music in the Parks.

One Trick Pony is a tribute to the music of singer-songwriter Paul Simon. Covering songs from the

‘60s Simon & Garfunkel days, ‘70s hits and beyond, musician Michael Trew draws the audiences into spirited sing-alongs. Trew has been touring the U.S. regularly since 2008.

The concerts are free to the public and begin at 7 p.m. on Monday nights. Visitors are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets. The series is funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District and Portland General Electric and sponsored by the North Morrow Community Foundation.

In the event of inclement weather, Boardman performances will be held at the SAGE Center.

# Senior meal celebrates grand opening



Volunteers serve seniors and other visitors at the grand opening of the South Morrow County Seniors Matter lunches last Tuesday in Heppner. Organizers say volunteers are always needed for the senior meal. -Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti



A large gathering celebrated the inaugural South Morrow County Seniors Matter lunch in Heppner last week. Lunches will be served at St. Patrick’s Senior Center every Tuesday at 11:30. -Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti



Locals celebrated the inaugural South Morrow County Seniors Matter lunch in Heppner last week. -Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti



Pioneer Memorial Home Health and Hospice Chaplain Jerry Konklin speaks to a full house at the first in-person senior meal Heppner has seen since before COVID. -Photo by Tylynn Cimmiyotti

# Seniors Matter Weekly Meal

South Morrow County Seniors matter will be serving tacos on a plate and a dessert on Tuesday, July 25. On Aug. 1, the meal will be a chicken bake with roll, wild rice and broccoli, and a dessert.

Meals are served at 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday at St. Patrick’s Senior Center in Heppner. Seniors 60 and above may donate what

they can toward the cost of the meal. Those 60 and younger are asked for a suggested donation of \$5.

No to-go plates or delivery are offered at this time, but diners may bring empty containers for a portion to take home.

Anyone interested in volunteering may contact Jerry or Jackie.

# First of ‘Movies in the Parking Lot’ this Saturday

Heppner’s first evening in the Movies in the Parking Lot summer series will take place this Saturday, July 22, at the Hopeful Saints parking lot on the corner of Gale and Church streets in Heppner.

The movie will start at 8:30 as weather permits. Call Cody High at 541-256-0847 for up-to-date details.

This is a free community event thanks to funding from Morrow County Unified Recreation District.

# Sheriff’s Report

**December 20, 2022—**  
An officer with Albany PD advised MCSO that a male from Albany had a felony warrant out of California. The male resided in Albany but was in Irrigon for work. The officer advised he spoke with the subject and the subject stated he would turn himself in either in Boardman or Irrigon. He wanted local agencies aware in case he showed up at either location.

-Kaelynn Hollingworth was lodged at Umatilla County Jail and a detention warrant served on her, with no bail for parole violation.

-A farm in Irrigon advised they had camera footage and a picture of a license plate for trespassers and requested contact.

-A male in Irrigon advised that he just moved into a residence and as they were cleaning stuff out, they located a box that appears to have drug paraphernalia in it. He requested contact.

-A person in Irrigon advised someone was pounding on the neighbor’s door and tried to jump in the window to break in. The caller believed the individuals inside didn’t want them there.

-A female in Irrigon advised that her husband took off on foot from the Irrigon Shell Station. She did not know which direction he went. He was making suicidal statements and took off on foot saying he was going to kill himself. He was just released from Good Shepherd Hospital around 11 a.m. that morning.

**December 21, 2022—**  
A caller in the Irrigon area advised of a dark colored Chevy pickup speeding toward Irrigon. The subject was banging on the door causing a disturbance. Morrow County Sheriff’s Office responded.

-MCSO responded to a verbal disturbance at Green Acres in Irrigon. It was determined to be only verbal, nothing physical.

-A caller at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner reported that the hospital was receiving odd calls at night in which someone was saying things that did not make sense. It was unknown who was making the calls because the number was restricted. The caller didn’t want anything done, just wanted it logged in case something did happen.

-A caller at Irrigon Mini Mart advised there was a female yellow lab with a pink collar roaming around the Irrigon Shell. The caller thought it had been out all night and was unsure who it belonged to.

-A caller in Irrigon advised they had lost their mini Aussie by the RV park.

-A caller in Irrigon advised they were missing a female yellow lab mix, unknown if she was wearing a collar, answering to the name Cabela. The caller advised it was okay to give their information out if someone found her.

-A caller at Columbia Basin Electric advised their phone lines were cut and they were currently working on them. She advised they would call back if and when they have their phones restored.

-Dispatch received an open line 911 call from the Boardman area. There were no emergent sounds, but they could hear machinery and a male talking, possible pocket dial. A communications deputy attempted a call back and a male answered but then hung up when asked if there was an emergency. Another call back was attempted but

there was no answer.

-A caller with Oregon Adjusters advised that they repossessed a vehicle in Heppner and that the registered owner was not aware.

-A caller in Irrigon requested a ride to Irrigon Shell to retrieve her car. She was currently walking on Depot. An MCSO deputy responded and gave her a courtesy ride.

-A deputy was flagged down by a female who stated that her husband left on foot stating he was going to kill himself. She advised he was recently on psych hold. MCSO and Boardman PD responded and Community Counseling Solutions was advised.

-MCSO received a driving complaint regarding a small red car speeding down Utah toward Tenth at approximately 40 mph. MCSO advised they were in the area at the time of the complaint and it was unfounded.

-MCSO responded to a commercial burglar alarm at Irrigon Medical Clinic. The building was secured and no one was inside.

-A deputy advised that the train on the railroad tracks at Paterson Ferry Rd. hadn’t moved in a while. Union Pacific Railroad was advised.

-A caller in Irrigon advised that there was a sound of loud bass in the area. MCSO responded and advised the individual to turn his music down.

**December 22, 2022—**  
Morrow County Sheriff’s Office, Boardman Ambulance and Boardman Fire responded to a call regarding a 50-year-old male in Boardman who had fallen and was bleeding from the head. The male was declared deceased.

-Boardman Ambulance responded to Murray’s Drug in Boardman for a pregnant female in extreme pain. The patient was transported to Good Shepherd hospital.

-A female in Boardman advised that a neighbor over on McGraw Lane had a daog that had been barking all night. MCSO responded but was unable to locate a barking dog.

-A caller at the Shell Station in Irrigon advised of a multicolored Toyota parked in the handicapped spot and leaking fluids, possibly gas. The caller told the people in the car, but they didn’t seem to care. MCSO responded but was unable to locate the vehicle.

-A caller advised MCSO of a dark-colored pickup parked on Blackhorse Canyon Rd. The caller requested a deputy check on them because there was no reason to stop there unless the pickup was disabled.

-A female in Boardman advised that her neighbor’s dog keeps barking day and night, and she would like a deputy to talk to them and have them tend to their dog. The caller didn’t know the address but stated it would be the first house on McGraw Lane, with all the goats. MCSO responded and gave the dog owner a verbal warning for maintaining a dog as a public nuisance.

-Veterans Affairs requested a welfare check on a male in Heppner. They also asked MCSO to advise him that the VA would like to get him assistance. MCSO made contact. The male was okay and was provided the information.

-MCSO dispatch received an open-line 911 call. Nothing was heard and there was no answer on call back. MCSO made contact

*-Continued to PAGE TEN*

**LeafFilter**  
GUTTER PROTECTION

**CLOG-FREE GUTTERS FOREVER**

EXCLUSIVE LIMITED TIME OFFER!

**15% OFF** YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE  
**+ 10% OFF** SENIORS & MILITARY!  
**+ 0% APR** FOR 24 MONTHS\*\*

CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE  
**1-855-536-8838**

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-8pm EST

\*\*Mello Fargo Home Projects credit card is issued by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., an Equal Housing Lender. Special terms for 24 mo. apply to qualifying purchases of \$1,000 or more with approved credit. Minimum monthly payments will not pay off balance before end of promotional period. APR for new purchases is 26.99% effective - 01/01/2023 - subject to change. Call 1-800-431-5921 for complete details. The leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16 month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2019 and recognized LeafFilter as the "#1 rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America." For those who qualify, One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. Offer valid at time of estimate only. See Representative for full warranty details. Manufactured in Plainville, Michigan and processed at LMT/Mercer Group in Ohio. All #3036620032, CA #1035795, CT #NIC 064905, FL #C0505678, IA #IC127330, ID #ICE-51624, LA #505644, MA #176447, MD #MHIC148329, MI # 2102212986, #26200022, #262000403, #2106212946, MN #R731894, MT #261192, ND #7324, NE #50145-22, NJ #13VH09923900, NM #480692, NV #D080690, NY #10119114, NY 52229, OR #212824, PA #PA069383, RI #GC-41354, TN #7054, UT #10783658-5561, WA #2705168445, WA #LEAFVNW822JC, WV #WV056912.