

The Official Newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper
U.S.P.S. 240-420

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Steven A. Powell, News & Sports Editor

Senator Packwood speaks on issues

The following is a summary of positions taken by Senator Bob Packwood on significant Oregon, national and international issues of recent weeks.

On the May 1980 Housing Start statistic. Packwood says, "I have had it with President Carter and his housing policies, and his economic policies. After four years of his housing policies and four years of his inflation, housing is at rock bottom and Oregon is desperate. In the absence of effective leadership from the White House, Congress has to take the lead and establish a rational housing program that will guarantee that everyone in this country who wants to buy a

home can afford to buy a home."

On social security. he says, "I don't care what the Treasury Secretary says or anyone else, we are not going to let the Social Security fund go bankrupt. That is why I have introduced a bill to permit the Social Security fund transfer surpluses from other funds to pay for retirement benefits, they have paid into the fund, they are entitled to them, and they're going to get them."

Speaking about long-term health care. Packwood said, "For years in this country, medicine and institutionalization have tilted towards hospitals and nursing homes. The time has come from a humane, family and cost

standpoint to see if we can tilt back toward homes, where it is possible. The Packwood-Bradley bill is meant to help people receive the right mix of social and medical services they need to remain in their own homes."

On the draft. he said, "Draft registration covers up a much more serious problem that faces our military. Instead of focusing on registration, we should find ways to keep our skilled technicians, electronic specialists, doctors and non-commissioned officers in the service. Men or women drafted involuntarily won't solve the problem, but fair pay and improved benefits will. The serviceman's status should be a proud career that meets the individual's and the nation's needs."

On Ramsey Clark's trip to

Teheran. Packwood commented, "Ramsey Clark's statement that the American attempt to rescue our hostages was a lawless act is outrageous. For us to take an act to get back American citizens that are being illegally held by Iran is not a lawless act, it is a courageous act. And when Ramsey Clark says otherwise, he brings dishonor on this entire country."

On voting against the Oil Import Fee. he said, "It is almost beyond comprehension that now, several months after Congress debated cost-effective alternative energy credits, President Carter has come back to the Congress to ask for approval for a gasoline tax that is significantly less cost effective and a method of oil substitution."

TILL SOMETHING HAD TO BUST

From the bowels of Mt. St. Helens,
A mountain we did trust,
Inflation just got out of hand
Till something had to bust.

Men think they are so wonderful,
So smart and so full of lust,
Mt. St. Helens shook her snowy top
And covered many with dust.

She belched clouds of smoke and ash;
Her anger was unfurled
To let us humans know the fact
Completely around the world.

It took 25 days for one dust cloud
To encompass our great earth.
It makes us stop and wonder—
So take it for what it's worth.

Bob Lowe

Sifting through the TIMES

1930

Fifty years ago nearly 400 persons attended the annual Field Day and visited farms in the county to learn about different crops and cultural practices.

At the Star Theatre in Heppner, 12 girls from Morrow County were competing for the right to represent the county in the Miss Oregon beauty pageant.

A preliminary report of the 15th U.S. census showed Morrow County with a population of 4,925. Ten years earlier the county population was 5,617. Heppner dropped 1,324 to 1,188; Lone dropped 439 to 282 and Lexington dropped from 264 to 180.

The new Heppner Library was growing as donations and memberships raised about \$200 to purchase books.

Heppner's Lions Club won a district-wide membership drive contest and so the club was awarded a free trip to Denver, Colo. for one of its delegates to attend the convention of the Lions International.

Three hundred water meters were purchased by the City of Heppner water department in order that users would pay for the actual amounts of water consumed rather than pay a flat rate each month.

1955

Twenty five years ago the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association requested that the state emergency board give emergency aid to farmers in the area that had been hit by the grasshopper infestation.

Joe H. Stewart of Coburg was named as the new county school superintendent.

A total of 26 miles of road oiling had been completed that year in the county.

Morrow County had an accident free fourth of July but a private plane did go down near Fossil killing two persons.

The Gazette-Times featured

a series of seven articles on the atomic energy plant at Hanford in south-central Washington.

The 4-H camp at Cutsforth Park was delayed because of rain.

Heppner was going to have free swimming lessons at its pool.

The Rev. John R. Reeves accepted the post as the new All Saints Episcopal Church minister.

1975

Five years ago Donna Bird, "A Happy Wanderer," visited Heppner. She was from Canada and she was touring the United States traveling with a cart full of her belongings pulled by a donkey. She traveled about six to nine miles a day.

The Heppner Gazette-Times received a letter from an unknown person and in it was a \$2 bill. The letter said the person had taken an apple worth about two cents from Thompsons Grocery many years before and the \$2 is to pay the debt back, with interest.

More than 500 persons attended the grand opening of Gardner's Men's Wear. The store had been remodeled and expanded as it doubled in size.

Morrow County Fair Committee met to discuss plans for new events to improve attendance at the fair. The Sweet Adelais singing group from Pendleton was part of a special music and entertainment program planned that year.

A total of 26 youths from around the State of Oregon were registered for the Tupper Forest Camp.

Publisher Ernest Joiner reported in his column "Horse Sense" that crime in Morrow County had increased 1,000 percent in the previous six years.

The Degree of Honor building had its entire front remodeled with brick and cedar shingles. The story in the newspaper said it had been an eyesore for years.

Hospital discussed

First steps in setting up a non-profit corporation, to hold grants, donations, etc. made to the Pioneer Memorial Hospital, were taken at a special meeting held Monday night.

As proposed the corporation would accept property, gifts, donations and grants from individuals, and in turn give the money to the hospital for equipment, facilities or services.

Hospital Administrator A.K. "Lucky" Felt say there is an advantage to having a non-profit corporation handle donations first, rather than the funds going directly to the hospital.

"Right now there is no continuity in how grant money is received (by the hospital)," Felt said. He said the corporation could accept and hold the money for disbursement, which would help greatly in budgeting by eliminating fluctuations.

Under a rough draft of the corporation by-laws presented Monday, memberships would be sold for a yet undetermined fee.

The money, along with other gifts, would be managed and disbursed by a board of directors.

An initial board of directors was chosen Monday. Members are: Jim Bier, Larry Mills, Don Peterson, Rev. Douglas Thomas, Carley Drake, Betty Brown and David Hanna, all of Heppner; and Alfred Clough, Arlington, Linda LaRue, Lone and Cathy Ann Peck, Lexington.

The initial directors will review a set of by-laws, to be submitted by a committee of Bier, LaRue and Felt near the end of July.

In the meantime District Attorney Dennis Doherty will make application to the Internal Revenue Service for tax exempt status for the corporation.

New owners pleased

As new owners of the Gazette-Times, my wife April and I would like to say, we are very pleased to be in Heppner.

When using the word "owner" I must say I use it loosely, for after looking through the files of the paper I realize how old the Gazette-Times is (nearing its 100th year) and it strikes me that a paper with such tradition and so many years of publication, cannot really be "owned". April and I would rather feel that the Heppner Gazette-Times is more Heppner's paper than ours.

Our office will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. (including the lunch hour) and we would like people with news items and stories to feel free and at ease in bringing them by.

We are both looking forward to running the paper, meeting everyone we can, and giving you a newspaper you will want and enjoy reading.

Is it enough?

The Morrow County Budget has failed twice and the county salary committee met last week to discuss the cutting of salaries, realizing that many people are unhappy with the fact that county officials were requesting anywhere from a 20 to 45 percent increase in their salaries.

Friday, the salary committee agreed to some cuts but they were very minor and one has to ask, "Is it enough?"

The county has requested an increase of 45 percent for the county judge from \$17,000 to \$25,000 in one year. The salary committee cut that back to \$22,920 - a 35 percent increase.

The salary committee cut the elected officials request for an increase from \$19,618 to \$18,984. The four elected officials made from \$15,000 to \$16,000 this year, depending on the office. The request now is that they all be paid equally. Even with the cut, they will still get a 20 percent increase.

County employees have been underpaid for years but that does not necessarily mean they should try and catch up in one year. Small increases should be favored instead of large jumps in salary.

Most people are trying to stay within a budget and receive an annual wage increase of seven to 10 percent. Most people feel they have been underpaid for years too. When you're only getting a seven percent raise while inflation is at double-digit figures, it is hard to justify a 20 to 35 percent raise.

Salaries for county officials may not be fair compared to other counties but voters in this county don't seem to want to pay more. The county budget committee continues to look for other areas in the budget to cut when they should know what part of the budget the people are really against.

The county budget committee is sacrificing county services with the cuts so the tax rate will drop low enough that the voters will approve it despite the large salary increases for the elected officials.

One good thing about the budget cuts that are currently being made, it looks like Morrow County property owners could be paying less for county taxes than last year, especially if the voters stand firm and continue to vote "no" until the salaries come down to a 15 to 20 percent increase - which is a healthy raise that I would take anyday.

Gazette asks for letters

Morrow County's budget for 1980-81 has been defeated twice by the voters.

In an effort to help the county budget committee make the right decisions on where to cut the proposed budget, the Heppner Gazette-Times is encouraging readers

in the county to write to the newspaper in the form of a letter to the editor and tell why they voted "no" on the budget or why they think the budget was defeated.

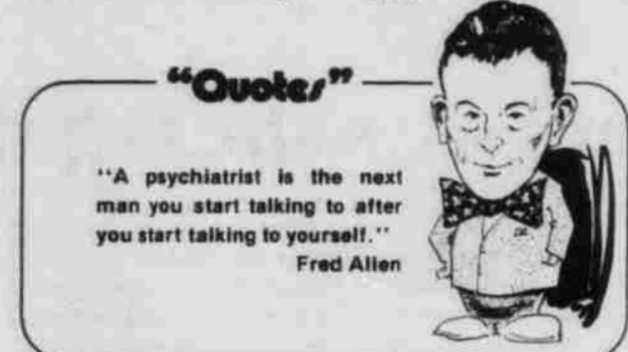
Letters must be received by the Gazette-Times by 5 p.m. this Monday, July 7.

Information center opens

A Federal Information Center has opened in Portland to aid the public in obtaining service from or information on Federal Government programs.

To contact the center, per-

sons may call 1-221-2222 from 8 a.m. to 4:25 p.m. Monday through Friday or write to the Federal Information Center 109 Federal Building, 1220 S. W. Third Ave., Portland, OR 97204.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Energy breakthrough possible'

Editor:

Oregonians have the unique opportunity to make a renewable energy breakthrough in 1980 with the initiative petition signature drive for the "Renewable Energy Development and Conservation Act." The initiative implements Oregon constitution Article XI-D, which calls for the election of a three member, non-partisan Oregon Energy Development Commission (OEDC) to administer an aggressive financing program for renewable energy development and conservation using existing state bonding capacity.

In addition to making loans available to individuals, community development corporations, small businesses, and consumer-owned utilities for solar, hydro, geothermal, biomass, wind, alcohol fuels, and conservation projects, the OEDC will be the wholesale power supply agency for our newly forming people's utility districts (PUDs).

Portland General Electric

and Pacific Power and Light both have extensive nuclear investments and are fighting the Renewable Energy Development and Conservation Act tooth and nail. They will have made only token efforts to develop renewable energy resources while the Governor's Alternative Energy Commission indicates there is a tremendous potential in Oregon.

The final deadline for submitting the initiative to the Secretary of State is rapidly approaching; it's July 3. So concerned citizens should "Sign for Solar" now. Over 15,000 public power advocates, environmentalists, and Democrats have petitions in their possession, so you should not have to look far for an available petition.

Sincerely yours
Dave McTeague
Democratic National
Committee Person Elect
290 18th St. W.E.
Salem, OR 97301
370-8115

'Government wastes money'

Editor:

Some very interesting excerpts from a book, "Fat City," by Donald Lambro, a Washington reporter for United Press International, are quoted in the May 26 edition of U.S. News & World Report, page 88. He contends the government wastes \$100 billion a year, almost a fifth of the total budget. This is incredible!

"Item: At least 175 federal officials in Washington are driven to and from work in chauffeured government cars at an annual cost of \$4.8 million.

Even bigger sums are being squandered on programs our country could better do without: wasteful programs that belong at the bottom of any national ranking of social priorities; programs whose original purpose for being no longer exists; programs that

serve only a tiny fraction of the people at the expense of the nation as a whole; programs that duplicate what is already being done by the private sector."

In Al Ullman's TV ads, it is claimed that he is one of the most powerful men in Congress. If he is so all-fired powerful, why hasn't he done something about this flagrant waste which is all around him? Instead of that, he has consistently been one of the biggest spenders of all. In addition, his recent tax ideas are completely out of step with most Oregonians.

Let's retire him and put in Denny Smith—an intelligent, able businessman who will help Ronald Regan turn this country around and get it back on track.

Charles G. Richmond
Imbler, OR 97841

Business Directory

Auto Parts

Heppner Auto Parts
234 N. Main Heppner 676-9123

Floor Covering

M & R FLOOR COVERING
Carpet, Linoleum, Ceramic Tile, Kitchen Cabinets, Rapco Insulation
422 Linden Way, Heppner 676-9418

Furniture

CASE FURNITURE
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Beauty Rest mattresses, Fabrics and Accessories, Sherwin Williams Paint
Heppner

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T TURNER VAN MARGER & BRYANT
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