

The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

VOL. 100, NO. 25 THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1982 8 PAGES 25 CENTS HEPPNER, OREGON

Weather

by The City of Heppner

		High	Low	Precip
Tues.,	June 15	90	54	
Wed.,	June 16	88	55	
Thurs.,	June 17	89	56	
Fri.,	June 18	90	57	
Sat.,	June 19	92	65	
Sun.,	June 20	94	63	trace
Mon.,	June 21	86	62	trace

County seeks budget approval for 2nd time

Morrow County ballots will go to the polls next Tuesday to vote on an operating budget cut by over \$299,000 from the first budget, defeated March 30 by 29 votes.

In explaining the cuts, Morrow County Commissioner Dorothy Krebs said \$100,000 was cut from the road fund, \$3,000 from the district attorneys office, and \$138,319 from the North Morrow Medical Clinic.

Cuts from the clinic came when the clinic's board of directors decided to change the management structure at the medical facility.

The board decided to change the county's role in the clinic to that of landlord, leasing the building to a physician.

Presently the county operates the facility and pays the physician's salary. The change in the county's role as well as

decreased cost of equipment purchases at the clinic saved the money, according to Krebs.

Krebs also said that a new building inspector, contracted by the county, will not add additional expense to the budget. She said the inspector will take 70 percent of the fees, with the rest going to the county.

Money for a new sheriff's deputy is included in the budget, which Krebs says is needed to maintain adequate law enforcement.

The deputy would be used to transport prisoners between the jail in Umatilla County and trials in Heppner. "Until we have a jail in Morrow County we are going to have to

do this," Krebs said.

The budget to be presented to the voters will be \$47,100 less than the current year, she said, and the proposed tax rate will be \$4.01 per thousand of valuation, down from \$4.39 in the current year.

Krebs said the drop in rate was due mainly to a large tax settlement with Portland General Electric.

Polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Achievement test results told

Morrow Co. students good at science, poor at writing

Students in Morrow County are good at science, but poor in writing, results of recently completed achievement tests have shown.

Science Research Associates (SRA) achievement tests show that students in nearly every grade level in the county are below the national average in language arts, or writing, and above the national average in science.

The test results were given to the Morrow County School Board by assistant superintendent for the district, John Edmundson, Monday night.

Edmundson said part of the reason writing skills are low is that many students feel writing is not important as it once was.

"A lot of them feel most communication in the future will be electronic - or television," Edmundson told the board.

The reason students in this district do so well in science is that they are outside, and near to nature, more than other students, he said.

The scores were shown by grade, starting with grade two through nine, and grade ele-

ven. The tests measured six different study areas, including reading, math, reference material and social studies.

Two classes, last year's ninth and eighth grades, showed above average in all areas. Some are just "up" groups Edmundson said.

The board discussed the low scores by students in writing, however, no action was taken.

"If you want to put more emphasis on a certain subject you can. But you have to rob Peter to pay Paul," Edmundson said in suggestions that more time be spent on writing.

In other business, the board:

- awarded tire bids to Les Schwab Tire Center in Heppner for retreats, and Firestone of Umatilla for new Gasoline bids were awarded to Devin Oil, Arlington, and Russell Shell, Boardman. Fuel oil to Albina Fuel, Portland. Propane fuel to Heppner Nor-Gas. And a roofing job for Ione school to Eagle Cap of Haines for \$11,534.

- accepted a bid of \$14,731 from a Portland company to install a small boiler in the Heppner Junior High building.

Heat for the building had been piped under the street from the elementary school, however, the pipes were worn out and leaking.

- discussed a policy on hiring relatives of school board members, and employees of the district. School district Superintendent Matt Doherty said there have been instances of the children of principals wanting to work for the district, and of school advisory board members applying for jobs in the district. "The (present) policy is too loose, there is concern out there among your people," Doherty told the board. No action was taken.

- voted to hire a full-time maintenance person capable of repairing the districts heating and cooling systems. Doherty said the employee would eventually have a salary "package" of \$20,000 but would save the district money by eliminating the need for calling in outside repair and inspection men.

- Accepted the resignation of Terry White of Sam Boardman Elementary School.

Heppner men to present petition to Co. Court

By MARY ANN CERULLO

Morrow County Court will receive a petition from Randy Lat and Dick Wilkinson, both residents of Heppner, on Wednesday, June 30 at 10 a.m., instead of June 23, as earlier reported, stated Commissioner Dorothy Krebs.

The petition requests that the county retain the geo-

graphical name of the Willow Creek Dam project instead of naming it after an individual.

Public interest was aroused recently when the Heppner - Morrow Chamber of Commerce and Morrow County Court each drew up a resolution suggesting that the dam, lake or both be named after the late Oscar Peterson.

Co. Judge in good cond., will return home soon

By MARY ANN CERULLO

Morrow County Judge Don McElligott was listed in good condition at Emmanuel Hospital in Portland on Monday, June 21, reported County Commissioner Dorothy Krebs.

McElligott, who underwent triple bypass heart surgery, June 9, was rushed back into surgery June 15 to have his gall bladder removed.

According to the judge's physicians, it is not uncommon for gall bladder problems

to develop after heart surgery' said Krebs, and because of extreme pain, they felt gall bladder surgery was necessary, she continued.

"His voice was strong," said Krebs, who had spoken to the judge over the weekend. "He was well enough to worry about county matters, which I think is a good sign."

McElligott is expected to return home by the end of the week (June 25), but not to return to work for at least six weeks.

Heppner women retire from local business



Melba Quackenbush and June Bellenbrock

By MARY ANN CERULLO

On Thursday, July 1, Heppner's Main Street will be losing two familiar faces to retirement, Melba Quackenbush and June Bellenbrock of Lebush Shoppe.

Mrs. Quackenbush has been employed by Lebush for approximately seven years and was manager for the last two. Bellenbrock has worked there for two years.

Upon their retirement, the

two sisters are planning to travel to the coast together with their husbands. Afterward, Melba is looking forward to her oil and toll painting while June says that she plans to retire along with her husband, Don, who has been an employee with Kinzua Corp. for 33 years.

"We would like to extend our thanks to all our friends and regular customers who have been so supportive through the years," they said.

Heppner Soroptimist officers installed, new members initiated



1982-83 officers L to R: Mary Goheen, Lenna Smith, Jackie Allstott, Pat Hyatt, Vi Wilgers, Cista Venard, Bettie Doherty and Gail Burkenbine (center), past president. Not pictured: Christy Lovgren and Joan McDonald.



New members L to R: Molly Rill, Joyce Hughes, Margo Sherer, Norma French and Marilee McDowell. Not pictured: Judy Osmin and Ann Spicer.

New officers were installed and new members were initiated into the Soroptimist International of Heppner in a Friday night ceremony following a no-host dinner at the Heppner Elks Lodge.

New officers for 1982-83 were installed by Sally Shumway, district no. three director

of Baker. Jackie Allstott will serve as president; Bettie Doherty, first vice president; Christy Lovgren, second vice president; Mary Goheen, recording secretary; Vi Wilgers, corresponding secretary; Pat Hyatt, treasurer; Lenna Smith, regional representative; Joan McDonald, alternate representative; Cista Venard, federation representative; and Cista Venard, board member.

New members Norma French, Joyce Hughes, Merilee McDowell, Judy Osmin, Molly Rill, Margo Sherer and Ann Spicer were initiated by Cista Venard.

Willow Creek Dam rising 1 to 1 1/2 feet per day

Construction on the Willow Creek Dam near Heppner is proceeding at the rate of one, to one and a half feet per day, an engineer with the Army Corps of Engineers told the Heppner Chamber of Commerce last week.

Engineer Herb Bessey said that 35 feet of the dam had already been built, leaving about 100 feet to go.

"In a couple of months you're going to see a tremendous structure there," Bessey said in explaining the speed with which the dam is going up.

He said the 35 feet already built brought the dam back to ground level, since contractors had to dig down to reach bedrock and a solid foundation for the structure.

Bessey gave a run-down on

the progress of the dam construction work, saying that the new Willow Creek Road, and both the Willow Creek and Balm Fork bridges, would be open the first of July.

Also, a new public viewing area should be open by mid-July he said. It will be located above the former Pete Lennon property, and will include a parking area and covered shelter for the public to view work on the dam.

Bessey said that crews on the dam project are working two eight-hour shifts in order to place the entire dam in one "lift".

A lift being one continuous piece of concrete when finished.

Pipes are being included in the dam, some for monitoring water temperature, Bessey

explained. He said pipes would allow water from both the top and bottom of the lake behind the dam to be tested. The water directly behind the dam will be 60 to 70 feet deep.

He said water temperature is important to the fish which will be planted in the lake.

In a related matter, Bessey said quite a bit of vegetation was being left at the lake site to provide better wildlife habitat.

"The lake will be quite small," Bessey said in explaining the recreation potential. It would extend only about 100 yards past the former Thompson ranch.

There will be a recreation area with a boat ramp, restroom and picnic tables, however, he said.

Lexington City Council meets, adopts budget for 1982-83

Lexington City Council met last Tuesday night, June 15 and adopted a \$98,154 budget for 1982-83, reported Linda Jones, Lexington city recorder. The amount of tax to be raised locally is \$9,452 which includes a six year, \$74,000 serial levy for a new fire truck.

The increase is within the six percent limitation. (An increase of up to six percent

over the present budget does not require voter approval). The new tax rate that Lexington property owners will be paying has not yet been computed.

In other business:
- the council vacated North Street and scheduled a hearing for July 13 on vacating West Street. Jones said the streets aren't graveled and aren't being used as streets.

The property presently occupied by the two streets will be divided among property owners living on the streets, the recorder said.

- the council agreed to install a two inch suction line with a foot valve, 100 feet down the main line to Mel Boyer's residence to stabilize the city's water pressure and to give Boyer's better water pressure, Jones concluded.

Accountants to open Heppner office

In an effort to better serve the people of the Heppner area, the accounting firm of LeMaster & Daniels has announced the forthcoming opening of its Heppner office on Thursday, July 1. The office, which will be located at 269 A, N. Main, will be open Monday and Thursdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Benham Malcom and Dennis Barnett, certified public accountants of Hermiston will be in charge of operating the office.

Services the accountants will provide include tax preparation, financial statements, management and advisory services, auditing, tax planning, estate tax planning and



Benham Malcom

other general accounting services.

LeMaster & Daniels is a Spokane, Washington based



Dennis Barnett

firm with a number of offices in Eastern Washington as well as offices in Hermiston and Umatilla.