

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

GAZETTE-TIMES
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

U.S.P.S. 240-420

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Letters to the Editor

Concerned about emergency speeding

To the Editor:
Last Wednesday, local police officers sped through our town of Lexington at an extreme rate of speed. The authorities were responding to the bank robbery in lone.

Law officials please hear our plea slow down before someone is injured.

The Department of Motor Vehicles statute No. 487075 states a driver of an emergency vehicle can exceed the designated speed limit so long as he does not endanger persons or property.

At the time of this incident the road was not ideal road conditions as it was slick from a recent rainfall during the day.

Lexington is a small town with lots of traffic especially heavy semi-trucks carrying wood chips, lumber, logs, wheat, petroleum products and other carrying heavy freight.

At any time these trucks travel through town at the posted speed of 30 miles per hour. This fact combined with the fact that school busses meet at different locations in town with children walking and riding bicycles to and from these busses. If the bank robbery had happened just one hour later these children would have been getting off the busses and crossing the highway heading home.

This incident isn't the only time law officials have sped through town. Many times they have

exceeded the speed limit at a high rate. One such incidence happened last summer when Lexington celebrated the county centennial, a police car drove through town at a high rate of speed. The town was filled with residents young and old enjoying games and activities.

In contrast, ambulances with patients in a life and death situation only exceed the speed limit by 10 miles in accordance with the law.

We are asking all law officials to please slow down and drive carefully before a tragedy kills or injures one of our children or residents.

Signed Concerned Citizens

- of Lexington
- Mr. and Mrs. Ray Papineau
- Candy Gates
- Kenny Gates
- Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Papineau
- Mr. and Mrs. Morris McCarl
- Linda Jones
- Mr. and Mrs. John Tillechea
- Cherry Webber
- Mr. and Mrs. John Ripple
- Mr. and Mrs. Joe Yocom
- Jack Yocom
- Mr. and Mrs. Mark Pointer
- Charlene E. Papineau
- Earl L. Papineau
- Mr. and Mrs. Gary D. Munkers
- Mr. and Mrs. Al Brazzell
- Carmen Looslie
- Crystal Papineau
- Lorene Papineau
- Marion Robinson
- Sharon Schoonover
- Laurence Schoonover

Co-operation of law enforcement agencies

To the Editor:
This letter is in reference to the armed robbery of the Bank of Eastern Oregon on the afternoon of May 29.

I was on duty for the City of Heppner when the call came in. I checked with the Morrow County Sheriff's dispatcher and was told of the situation and that my assistance was needed.

All units in the area were being pressed into service. Morrow County Sheriff Dept., Oregon State Police, Boardman P.D., Irrigon P.D., Arlington and Heppner P.D. I will not go into further detail of this because the case is still pending.

I will add the following information for the benefit of the citizens of Heppner, Lexington, and lone.

(1) Heppner Police Department has a mutual aid agreement with Sheriff's department. Under this agreement, we provide assistance to each other when needed.

(2) Just because we are a municipal police, our authority does not end at the city limits. We have police powers within the boundaries of the State of Oregon.

(3) When I left town on the afternoon of May 29, Chief Rathbun came on duty and Officer Bingham was at his residence on standby alert. Thus, the City of Heppner was not left unprotected. If no one had been able to take over, I would not have left the city.

(4) As for a few uninformed citizen's of Lexington who are complaining about the speed of the patrol vehicles going through Lexington, those police officers were responding to an emergency situation where time was of the essence. They are trained professionals who know how to handle a patrol vehicle at high speeds.

(5) Do not criticize your law enforcement officials, unless you know what you are talking about. We have operating procedures that we cannot divulge, because both honest and no so honest would know and that would defeat our purpose.

(6) If you have any questions, you can contact me at Heppner City Hall and I will be available to talk to you.

(s) Merle G. Cowett
Assistant Chief
Heppner City P.D.

Unselfish support gratifying

To the Editor:
It's most gratifying indeed, that Morrow County residents so unselfishly supported the areas Emergency Medical Transport Service known as Lifeguard. This much needed service was designed for emergency transport from accident scenes and has expanded to emergency hospital transfers for the critically ill and injured patients.

What should be remembered is that anyone can call for a transport by phoning 503-276-1234, also important to remember is that the dispatcher when answering will ask questions such as the location of the accident and condition of the patient. This information is needed to dispatch the proper medical materials and attendants in the helicopter to best fit the needs of the particular patient.

The administrator, Craig Manly, is completing his first full year as the only paid staff of Lifeguard. Craig has spent many endless days working with area hospitals, staff, physicians, and city and county governments seeking a solution to common needs in medical transport service for residents of Eastern Oregon.

This is your service too. Servicing most of Eastern Oregon, Morrow County should be very proud to join Grant, Wallowa, and Umatilla counties. Lifeguard is a very unique medical transport service.

Thank you for your support
Sincerely,
(s) Peter W. Slocum
Lifeguard Board Member,
Hermiston

Police car welcome sight

To the Editor:

It was a welcome sight to see the first police car arrive in lone following the May 29 robbery of the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

A call was made to the 911 emergency number as the robbers were entering the bank and then the "long wait" began.

The "long wait" turned out to be a very short time. The first sheriff's deputy arrived followed by the Heppner City Police and O.S.P. in what must have been a record time.

Needed to assist

To the Editor:

During the bank robbery in lone on May 29, the Heppner City Police Department was asked to assist the Morrow County Sheriff's Department. The City Police, Oregon State Police and the Sheriff's Department are always prepared and expected to assist each other.

When the Heppner City patrol car and officer on duty went to lone last Wednesday, Officer Bingham and I

I believe this quick response from all police agencies was certainly instrumental in the apprehension and capture of those involved.

I know many citizens of lone join me in saying "thanks" to the City of Heppner which spared an officer. A special "thanks" to the City of Heppner which spared an officer to come to our aid and to Sheriff Roy Drago who spearheaded the capture at great personal risk to himself.

(s) Don Bristow
lone, Oregon

were on standby in Heppner.

Of course you realize, the first concern of the Heppner Police Department is the City of Heppner. If there was no officer to standby, the car would not have gone.

I would like to add that I think the Sheriff's Department did an excellent job.

(s) Chief Douglas C. Rathbun
Heppner City Police

Compliments Sheriff's Dept.

To the Editor:

I want to publicly compliment Morrow County Sheriff Roy Drago and all County, State, and Heppner City Police officers for a job well done. These men worked on the apprehension of the robbers of the Bank of Eastern Oregon in lone. In approximately one hour and 10 minutes the suspects were in custody. I listened on the police radio in our office at City Hall while Sheriff Drago efficiently directed the chase. His voice was marked with strain.

Another person who did a first rate job is Rita Hill, who was dispatching from the Courthouse. Her voice remained calm which must have given a feeling of support to the officers in their cars in the countryside.

Justice Court

Justice Court at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

- Tracey Lynn Moore, Hermiston - illegal "U" Turn, \$15 fine.
- Judith Ann Towne, Bend - Exceeding the Maximum Speed (65 mph in a 55 mph zone), \$13 fine.
- Mathew Charles McElligott, lone - with criminal negligence: Angling Prohibited Area to wit: Close Stream, \$38 fine.
- Joseph P. McElligott, lone - with criminal negligence: Angling Prohibited Area to wit: Closed Stream, \$38 fine.
- Donal Robert Kindsfather, Lexington - Exceeding Maximum Speed (65 mph in a 55 mph zone), \$26 bail forfeited.
- Louis A. Carlson, lone - Expired Vehicle License, \$9 fine.

Births

Trevor Curtis Rhea - a son, Trevor was born at Pioneer Memorial Hospital May 30 to Steven and Molly Rhea of Lexington. He weighed 8 pounds.

Grandparents are Gene and Fay Pierce, Heppner, and Mildred and Carl Rhea, Hermiston.

When all was well, I heard the Sheriff ask the dispatcher to call his residence and tell them he would be a little late. All in a days work, I guess.

I would also like for the citizens of Heppner to know that during emergencies our city patrol car and the officer on duty have certain duties to perform that may be outside the city limits. At these times other city officers are standing by in Heppner, and with no compensation, I might add. In the event that there would not be an officer to stand by, then our patrol car and officer would remain in Heppner.

Show your appreciation. Wave at an officer today.

(s) Mary Jean McCabe
Heppner, Oregon

Heppner Police Report

The Heppner Police Department reports issuing the following citations during the month of May:

- two citations for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants
- two citations for Driving While Suspended
- Two citations and five warnings for Speeding
- three citations and four warnings for Turning Lane Usage
- one citation for Other Moving Violations
- one citation and five warnings for Other License Violations

- eight warnings for Equipment Violations
- two warnings for Parking Violations
- one citation on an Arrest Warrant

The Heppner Police handled the following business during the month: four False Alarms, one Theft I, one Found Property, one Careless Driving, one Mental Hold, one Assault on a Police Officer, one Theft II, four Motorist Assists, two dog complaints, four Courteous Driving Awards, two traffic accidents, two prowler calls, and one Hit and Run.

The Heppner Police Dept. assisted other local law enforcement agencies on 10 occasions during the month.

Entomologist to tell survey results

An informational meeting to discuss the extent of the grasshopper problem in Morrow County is scheduled for Friday, June 7 at 7 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds.

Dick Jackson, state of Oregon Entomologist, has been in Morrow County for three days surveying the situation. He will present the results to the survey and discuss the options available to growers.

Kinzua reunion slated

A reunion for the community of Kinzua has been scheduled for June 15 beginning at 8 a.m. at the Isobel Edwards Hall in Fossil. There will be a potluck dinner.

Reunions for the classes of 1955 through 1960 are also scheduled for the day. All other alumni are welcome, concluded a spokesperson for the reunion.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

On May 29, the Heppner Fire Dept. responded to a mobile home fire on Linden Way at 6:48 p.m.

On May 30, a Heppner ambulance and the Heppner Police Dept. responded to an accident and transported a young man with an injury to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner. The injury was allegedly caused when he was thrown from a horse.

On May 31, the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, the Boardman Police Department cooperated in the arrest of Robbie D. Hagen, 32, Boardman, on charges of Assault IV and Menacing. He was lodged at the Umatilla City Jail.

Also on Wednesday, May 29, the local law enforcement agencies cooperated under the direction of Morrow County Sheriff Roy Drago in the arrests of Sheri Lynn Holtz, 22 La Grande, Sandra Machele Burgess, 34, Woodburn, Richard Glenn McCawley, 46, Oregon State Penitentiary, Salem, and John William Krebs, 34, Oregon State Penitentiary, Salem, following a robbery at the lone Branch of the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

D.A.'s Report

The Morrow County District Attorney's Office at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

Patrick Verdell Erickson, 19, Irrigon, arraigned May 28 on charges of Minor in Possession of Alcohol and two counts of Driving While Suspended.

Bernard Trujillo, 38, Boardman, arraigned May 28 on a charge of Driving While Under the Influence of Intoxicants.

John Krebs, 35, State Penitentiary, Salem, was arraigned May 31 on charges of Attempted Murder, Assaulting a Public Safety Officer, Ex-Convict in Possession of a Firearm, Possession of a Firearm by an Inmate of a Penal Institution, Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle, Burglary I, and Robbery I.

Richard Glenn McCawley, 46, Oregon State Penitentiary, Salem, was also arraigned May 31 on charges of Attempted Murder, Assaulting a Public Safety Officer, Ex-Convict in Possession of a Firearm, Possession of a Firearm by an Inmate of a Penal Institution, Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle, Burglary I, and Robbery I.

Robbie Dean Hagen, 29, was arraigned May 31 on charges of Assault IV and Menacing.

Hospital Notes

Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner reports admitting and discharging the following patients during the past two weeks:

- Dana Crowl, Heppner - admitted May 20, discharged May 25.
- Lincoln Nash, Heppner - admitted May 20, discharged May 22.
- Douglas Dubuque, Heppner - admitted May 20, discharged May 21.
- Della McCurdy, Heppner - admitted May 20, discharged May 26.
- Jackie Mikesell, Heppner - admitted May 21, discharged May 22.
- Lowell Jones, Heppner - admitted May 21, discharged May 22.
- Madge Thomson, Heppner - admitted May 31, discharged June 1.

Oops!

A story about the Pioneer Picnic in last week's Gazette-Times contained an incorrect spelling of Edith Tucker Castle's name. She won the prize for the traveling the second farthest to attend the picnic.

The Gazette-Times regrets the error.

A story in last week's Gazette-Times which named the top scholars graduating from Heppner and lone schools contained an error.

Renée Stuthers is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Struthers, Heppner; and Jodi Padberg, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Padberg, Lexington.

Somehow the type gremlins got in and snatched a row of type from the copy ready for print.

The Gazette-Times regrets the error.



Chamber honors Pettyjohns

Morrow County Chamber of Commerce Vice President Birdine Tullis (right) shows Pettyjohn family the chamber's appreciation for work done on the family's farm and building supply store in Heppner.

The Chamber's colorful sign saying "Congratulations we're proud of you" will be displayed in front of Pettyjohn Farm & Builders Supply store to show appreciation for remodeling work, and the addition of a Radio Shack outlet, at the store.

"We want them to know the Chamber appreciates their continued improvements of their business and the added product line. It's good for Heppner's business," said Tullis.

Left to right is Larry, Howard and Jo Pettyjohn. The sign is moved by the chamber around town to honor various businesses.

lone woman to receive M.S.

Lori F. Longway-Vince of lone is a candidate for a Master of Science degree in Education at the annual spring commencement at Western Oregon State College in Monmouth, June 15. The college will confer 142 master's degrees and 467 bachelor's degrees at the commencement exercises, reports a WOSC news release.

Bridal shower slated

A bridal shower for Debby Johnson, bride-elect of Terry Starr, will be held Friday, June 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the lone United Church of Christ. Everyone is welcome to attend.

KIDS COME TO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND TAKE A WEEK LONG TRIP THRU THE SUNSHINE FACTORY

AT THE HEPPNER NAZARENE CHURCH

JUNE 10 - 14 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Rides 676-5529

Mary & Robert Kilkenny and Peggy Zimmer & Jack Reid invite all friends and relatives to the wedding reception of their Children

Kellie Marie Hammond and Matthew Glenn Reid

Saturday, June 15, 1985

3 to 5 P.M. Heppner Elks Club

Fathers ARE SO SPECIAL

Make your gift to him a special one. See this exquisite gold jewelry, handcrafted of yellow, pale green and rose gold. Choose from many beautiful designs in a wide range of prices.

Created by Stamper GENUINE Black Hills Gold Jewelry Company.

Peterson's Jewellers Heppner 676-9200