

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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editorial

Count your blessings

Those of us mature (notice avoidance of the three-letter word) enough to recall Bing Crosby singing "When you're weary and you can't sleep, just count your blessings instead of sheep, and you'll fall asleep counting your blessings," may wonder how, at Thanksgiving, the crooner would deal with unemployment, below freezing temperatures, family discord, international unrest, and not enough money in our pockets to buy "everything we want to give and get for Christmas."

With so many obstacles in the way, however, it can be even more rewarding to count the blessings we do have. A contradiction? Not necessarily. Unemployment is difficult to deal with, sub-zero weather is uncomfortable, and treacherous, family discord wrenches our hearts, international unrest leaves us uneasy, and not enough money leaves us feeling inadequate. Once these nuisances are put in perspective, however, blessings abound.

In the midst of unemployment, we can still be thankful for the skills and abilities which make us fit for work when used routinely, our minds and bodies have undreamed of abilities which adversity forces us to discover.

The recent snows and sub-zero temperatures have caused many traffic accidents and hardships for those who must work outdoors. Also an additional hardship on our pocketbooks when we must use additional fuel to heat our homes, but we have homes to heat. We have warm boots, gloves, coats, cars and homes to give respite from the harshness of winter. And we have the blessing of moisture added to the ground when the snow melts and the beauty of snow to enjoy.

Conflict among family members, when not of the playful variety, threatens to separate and isolate, but at the same time compels stubborn family members to communicate, to find ways to bridge the gaps, and ultimately strengthens delicate family ties and makes them more precious so that they endure even separations brought on by children growing up, family members moving away and death.

International unrest is the framework not only for war, but also for peace talks and better understanding. It just depends on how maturely we (our political leaders) handle the situation.

When trying to pay utility bills, make car or house payments, or adequately feed our families with half enough money, the pressure from our obligations overwhelms us. But even with an almost non-existent Christmas budget, it is still possible to give to others the most precious thing we have, a bit of ourselves, in a hug, a kind word, a homemade or handcrafted item, a thoughtful gesture or good deed.

When we start adding all these blessings, we begin to forget the nuisances and, in part the stress they cause. Our "blessings" begin to take over: each reminds us of another and we do "fall asleep" in the soothing company of our blessings.

County named in legal action

Morrow County Judge Don McElligott called the Gazette-Times last Friday to report that the county had been named as a party to a lawsuit against the "Independent State of Eastern Oregon."

A letter from Portland attorney A. Michael Adler alleges that serious personal injuries sustained at 10th and Broadway in Baker were caused

by confusion which resulted from a meeting of the Independent State of Eastern Oregon of which Morrow County is a part.

"We're not too concerned about the suit at this time," said the judge. "We haven't even received our membership card in the State of Eastern Oregon yet."

The Gazette-Times will be closed Thursday and Friday Nov. 28, & 29. The staff wishes you a Happy Thanksgiving



Letters to the Editor

Reservoir offers recreation potential

To the Editor:
The Heppner Economic Development Corp. would like to thank the Gazette-Times for its interest in our efforts to encourage formation of a Park District for the development of the Willow Creek Dam recreation area. It is our opinion that there is a tremendous recreation potential offered by the reservoir for folks of all ages. The amount of activity to be seen around the area already would seem to confirm that. It would indeed be unfortunate not to take advantage of all opportunities presented by the reservoir for the benefit to our area.

One important point that needs to be made is that a tremendous amount of credit for getting the program to the point it is now is due the County Court and Judge McElligott in particular. Judge McElligott has and continues to expend a great amount of effort toward development of this program. H.E.D.C. has endeavored to work with Judge McElligott since it is our mutual feeling that a Park

District offers the best method to advance further development of the area.

Also of importance is the interest expressed and the resolutions passed by the City Councils of Ione, Lexington and Heppner supporting the formation by the County of a park district.

The park district concept appears to offer a practical way to provide swimming areas and other badly needed improvements at the reservoir. The ingredient needed just now to get things underway is the signatures of local folks on the petition for formation to be presented to the County Court. People interested in signing these petitions will find them located at Bristow's Market in Ione, Del's Market or the V & G Tavern in Lexington, Central Market, Case Furniture Store, Coast to Coast Stores, Murray's Drug or The Shoebox in Heppner.

Sincerely,
The Heppner Economic Development Corp.
(s) Bob Kahl, Chairman

Blood drive nets 48 units

To the Editor:
Pioneer Memorial Hospital conducted its blood drive November 20. Considering the weather, we had a remarkably good turnout. We collected 48 units of blood; we were targeted for 75 units.

I would like to thank our co-sponsor, the Elks B.P.O.E., Pioneer Memorial's staff, the PMH Women's

Auxiliary and the Teen 4-H group for helping set up, process and dismantle the equipment for the blood drawing. We are lucky to be in a community who appreciates other persons needs.

Special thanks are to go to the Red Cross.

Sincerely,
(s) John Hempel

Southern Oregon senator offers assistance

To the Editor:
Just over one year ago, I was selected State Senator from Southern Oregon.

As this holiday season approaches, my wife, each of our five children and I wish to thank everyone in the State for the opportunity to serve in the Oregon Legislature. This past year has been an improvement in the leadership and the willingness of many of the legislators to cooperate with each other for the benefit of the Oregon we love. This was especially true of Senator Gene Timms and Representative Ray French.

When I was campaigning for office, I said as often as possible that Oregon's future was on our shoulders. It is up to us to work together to bring about a stronger economy, better local government and schools, and above all a brighter

vision of our potential quality of life. I know how that the number of enthusiastic, positive, community action oriented people is growing throughout Oregon. For this I am very thankful because it is the substance of true success in any endeavor.

My father and mother put their lives into the future of their children. When we remain committed to the future and each other with positive expectations our sustained labors will yield a great reward for our posterity. The State of Oregon is increasingly becoming known for an open-minded, warmhearted and hard-working people. If I can ever be of any assistance to the people of this area, please let me know.

May God bless each of you!
(s) Senator Bill Olson & Family
1220 East Main Street
Medford, OR 97504

Provisions for special elections to prevent school closure

To the Editor:
Oregon's last regular 1985 election date to consider school levy elections was November 5. When the votes were counted, 11 Oregon school districts faced closure before the first 1986 regular election date on March 25. For 25,776 children in Oregon, we had a real crisis.

But there was hope. Because of Oregon's limited number of regular election dates, for 1977 Legislature had provided another alternative. The law provided for special elections to prevent school closure. However, the special provision in the law had been rarely used and the

language was not clear. Conflicting opinions about the law resulted in different practices in counties where schools faced closure.

As Secretary of State and Chief Elections Officer of Oregon I am required by law "to obtain and maintain uniformity in the application, operation and interpretation of election laws." The law in question (ORS 255.355) allowed for "special" elections if the Superintendent of Public Instruction concurs with the local school district that closure will occur. Furthermore, the law provides that the requirements relating to the notification process and sample ballots "shall" be waived. But there were ambiguities in the law that demanded clarification for school districts, county election clerks and voters.

My office is administering a law designed by the legislature solely to address special elections dealing with the problem of school closure. I remain mindful of that policy mandate. However, legislative clarification of the law cannot wait for the legislature to reconvene in January, 1987.

On November 6, therefore, my office held a public hearing on a proposed Administrative Rule to govern the special elections for the eleven affected school districts. Under the rule any district where closure was more than 34 days away was required to use the full 34 days for election notice and other procedures normally used in regular elections. Eight of the 11 districts fell into this category.

Because closure was imminent in the three remaining districts, Gresham Elementary, Albany, and Sandy Elementary, a revised election schedule was necessary.

After examining the circumstances of the school districts and the requirements for absentee voters, I set all three elections for December 3.

In making these very difficult choices, under Oregon law and the provisions of the newly adopted Administrative Rule, some flexibility was necessary. The highest priority was given to those voters who regularly use the more time-consuming absentee ballot process - senior citizens, handicapped citizens, and our military voters. For voter participation and convenience I wanted to avoid strict timetables that might cause an election to fall on a weekend or holiday. I gave preference to Tuesday, our traditional election day.

The standards I have used for the first application of this important new rule will guide me in all such future decisions. I will work to insure voter participation, uniform election procedures and a clear process to meet the legislature's directive for special elections dealing with school closure. The final decision on school closure rests with the Oregon voter.

(s) Barbara Roberts
Secretary of State

Obituaries

Andrew Wayne McClintock

Andrew Wayne McClintock of La Grande, died Thursday, Nov. 21, 1985 in Phoenix, Arizona, as a result of an automobile-motorcycle accident.

He was 18 years of age. McClintock was born April 12, 1967 at Pendleton. He graduated from high school in June, 1985. He had been attending U.T.I. for the last 6 weeks.

McClintock is survived by his father and stepmother Gale and Pat McClintock of Boardman, his mother and stepfather, Mary (Rosann) and Jess Telrich of La Grande; brother William and a sister, Kelly, of Pendleton; grandfather Ray Ayers of Pendleton; great grandfather Clayton Ayers, Heppner; great grandfather and grandmother, Raymond and Opal Pettyjohn of Arlington; a niece Kylene McClintock and other relatives and friends.

Services will be held Friday, Nov. 29 at 11 a.m. at the Daniels Valley Funeral Home in La Grande with the Rev. Rick Skeen of Pendleton Church of the Nazarene officiating.

Concluding services will be at 2 p.m. at Folsom Bishop Funeral Chapel in Pendleton. Internment will be at Olney Cemetery.

Memorials in memory of Andrew McClintock may be made to the Phoenix U.T.I. scholarship fund in care of Daniel Valley Funeral Home, 1502 7th St., La Grande, Oregon.

ville, OR, and Elnor Lane, Bellevue, WA; six grandchildren, brothers: Dr. Ralph Thompson, Medford, Ted Thompson, Green Valley, Arizona, Norris Thompson, Sacramento, California, James Thompson, Portland.

He began his schooling in Portland and in 1918 the family moved to Morrow County where he attended Ella School and Ione High School. He later farmed and drove school bus having the first non-high school contract in the county.

In 1942, World War II brought the family to McMinnville. He then drove to the Oregon Ship yards until 1945. Then he was a carpenter, until he contracted Polio in 1947. When he had recovered he learned bicycle and lawn mower repair and was in business for 30 years.

He was a active member of United Methodist Church and Walnut City Kiwanis Club, Chamber of Commerce and was an honorary volunteer fireman.

Memorial services were Thursday, Nov. 21 at United Methodist Church.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Church or the Salvation Army.

Front End Alignment

M.C.G.G. 989-8221

Christmas Gift Savers SALE

Look For Special Insert In This Week's Paper

Starts Nov. 30

Barb Wire \$24⁹⁵ Roll

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Sweep Blades 18-Inch \$11⁹⁵ IN STOCK ONLY

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RAYOVAC Workhorse Flashlight With 20 batteries (9-14887) SALE 4.99 Less Mfr. Rebate -1.00 Final Cost 3.99	WISE-GRIP Gift Set Contains 5" and 10" vise grip units (9-227330) SALE 11.99 Less Mfr. Rebate -3.00 Final Cost 8.99	Great Neck 6 Piece Combination Wrench Set SALE 4.99 Drop forged, chrome plated raised panels, Lifetime guarantee (4-93877)
SHARP EXTRA LARGE KEYS AND KEYS! SALE 4.79 (9-802776)	BLACK & BECKER Spot Light Stores in its own recharging unit, so it's fully charged when you need it. Up to 1 1/2 hours on each full charge. LED charging indicator light (9-44891) SALE 19.88 Less Mfr. Rebate -3.00 Final Cost 16.88	Sunbeam Electric Buffet Fry Pan No stick cooking, completely immersible. Almond exterior finish (9-251384) SALE 22.95 Less Mfr. Rebate -3.00 Final Cost 19.95
3M "Scotch" Transparent Tape (9-270438) 2 for 88¢ with coupon	SEALED AIR 9 Ft. Extension Cords White or brown (9-80108) (9-180117) 89¢ with coupon Reg. 1.39	Chicago Cutlery "Kitchen Favorites" Knife Set 3" parer, 6" utility and 8" slicer (9-88824) SALE 26.95 Reg. 33.95

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