

The Heppner Gazette-Times

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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12 PAGES

by the City of Heppner



Weather

March 4-10

	High	Low	Precip
Tues	64	37	
Wed	62	41	.02
Thurs	67	46	.41
Fri	59	39	.08
Sat	49	36	.22
Sun	57	42	.01
Mon	60	36	.10

Two file for Morrow County District Attorney



Richard McNerney

Two candidates have filed so far for the office of Morrow County District Attorney to be on the May 20 primary election ballot.

Incumbent Richard McNerney, Irigoin, and a deputy district attorney from Umatilla County, Jeff Wallace, Pendleton will run for the office. If

no one else files by today's deadline, the results of the primary election will be final and there will be no need for the position to appear on the November general election ballot.

McNerney, 36, has been an attorney as an associate to F.E. Glenn of Boardman, a law clerk for the firm of Lively and Wiswall, and spent three years with Fred Meyer, Inc. He served the summer of 1980 as an intern trial deputy for Coos County and worked as an administrative assistant to the Chief of Police in Eugene.

He attended the University of Oregon School of Law and earned a J.D. in 1981. He attended Willamette University Graduate School of Administration and earned a Bachelor of Science in political science from the University of Oregon in 1972. He also attended California Lutheran College and Portland State University.

He and his wife, Susan, have no children. He is a member of both the Boardman and Heppner Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club of Irigoin, the Heppner Elks Club, the Oregon State Bar Uniform State Laws Committee and is a one-year member of the Columbia Little League Board of Directors.

McNerney says that he has learned a lot that is essential to carrying on his goals while serving his first four years as district attorney and a second term would give him a chance to carry on toward those objectives.

Wallace, 36, has served as deputy district attorney for Umatilla County since 1983. Prior to that, he served Malheur County for one year in the same capacity. From 1981 to 1983, he was city administrator for the City of Weston. From 1978-81, he was in private law practice in Milton-Freewater. From 1977-78, he was deputy district attorney and county counsel with the Umatilla County District Attorney's office. From 1976-77, he was employed on a one-year contract basis by Corey, Byler and Rew, attorneys, Pendleton.

He attended Oregon State University and the University of Oregon from which he graduated in 1972 with a Bachelor of Science degree with honors in journalism. Following graduation from the university, he enrolled in the Oregon National Guard and attended Department of Defense Information School at Ft. Harrison, Indiana. He enrolled in Willamette University College of Law, Salem in 1973. While in law school, was active in Moot Court Board and Client counseling competition. He received a Doctor of Jurisprudence from Willamette Law School in 1976 and was admitted to the Oregon Bar the same year.

He is a member of the Sixth Judicial District and Oregon Bar Association, the Oregon District Attorney's Association and has been



Jeff Wallace

admitted to practice in U.S. District Court for the district of Oregon.

While in the National Guard, he was a first lieutenant with the Judge Advocate General Corps. His hobbies and interests include music, sports, and jogging.

Regarding his candidacy, he says "I feel that I am qualified due to the fact that I have six years experience as a Deputy District Attorney and City Prosecutor, am a lifelong Eastern Oregon resident, and would work effectively with local law enforcement agencies."

St. Patrick's schedule

Friday

6 - 8 p.m. Roller Skating - Morrow County Fair Pavilion
8:15 - 10:15 p.m. Dance to Live Music - Elks Lodge & Wagon Wheel Lounge
9 p.m. - 2 a.m. Lounge

Saturday

8 - 10 a.m. Continental Breakfast - Ron McDonald Chevrolet Showroom
9 a.m. V.F.W. food sale
10 a.m. State of Eastern Oregon Legislative Meeting - Heppner Elks Lodge
10 - 11 a.m. KUMA Coffee Hour - LIVE AM - Upstairs Heppner Elks Lodge
10 a.m. - 4 p.m. M.C. Creative Arts Show & Sale - Les Schwab Tire Store
10 a.m. TOPS Bake Sale
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Brunch - Elks Dining Room
1 p.m. Bed Race Starts in Front of Central Market
1:15 p.m. Irish Parade - Main Street
2 p.m. Sheep Dog Show - Morrow County Fair Grounds
Wrangler's Horse Club Rummage & Food Sale
CowBelles Baked Irish Potatoes
Cub Scout Cake Sale
Sheep Shearing Contest
Preschoolers Coin Hunt, downtown
Slide show of Ireland - Upstairs at Heppner Elks Lodge
2:30 p.m. Roller Skating - Morrow County Fair Pavilion
2 - 4 p.m. Babysitting by Jr. Bowlers at All Saints Parish Hall
2 - 6 p.m. Social Hour - Ron McDonald Chevrolet and Farley Motor Co. Showrooms
4:30 - 7:30 p.m. St. Patrick's Day Dinner - St. Patrick's Catholic Church Parish Hall
6 - 8 p.m. Skating - Morrow County Fair Pavilion
9 p.m. - 2 a.m. Dance to Live Music - Elks and Wagon Wheel Lounge

Sunday

10 a.m. Sheep Dog Trials - Morrow County Fair Grounds
10 a.m. 1st Annual Irish Sweepstakes Bowling Tournament Heppner Bowl March 8 & 16th
11 a.m. Rebroadcast KUMA Coffee Hour - Tape FM
12 noon - 2 p.m. Mario Zubirri Basque Barbecue - Morrow County Fair Grounds - (Lamb) \$6.00 Adults, \$4.50 12 & under

County's need for roads presented to state committee

Chairman Anthony Uturri of the Oregon State Transportation Committee and Bob Hector, Region Engineer for Region 5 conducted a hearing for Morrow County and Umatilla County on the preliminary six year Highway improvement program last Friday, March 7 in Pendleton. Suggestions and comments from a series of these hearings will be analyzed before the fiscal plan is approved this summer, says Morrow County Judge Don McElligott. Presently \$200,000 is recommended for a rest area facility at Boardman. Other projects are Highway 74 for planning in 1987 and Patterson Ferry Interchange for future consideration.

Judge McElligott reports that he and Commissioner Jerry Peck presented Morrow County priorities for improvements at the meeting.

First, to advance Highway 74, Lone-Cecil section from the 1987 engineering to construction made. The County presented a resolution offering \$50,000 in matching funds (F.A.S.) upon completion and help in securing right of way.

Second priority was to up grade the Patterson Ferry Road interchange from consideration to the construction schedule with a similar matching fund offer.

The cities of Heppner, Lexington and Lone, Heppner Chamber of Commerce, Heppner Economic Development Corporation and Lone Community Agri-Business Organization gave testimony in favor of the Highway 74 project continued the Judge. Frank Lamb of Eastern Oregon Farms offered \$10,000

matching funds and right of way for the interchange project. Officials of the Port of Morrow, Morrow County School District, City of Irigoin, Boardman Chamber of Commerce, Morrow County Grain Growers and others spoke as offered testimony on this project.

County officials placed Highway 207 in Umatilla County from the Junction to I-84 as third priority. This section is on the 1988 construction schedule. A number of Buttercreek area residents were presented to advocate this project, said McElligott. Another project of interest is the improvement of Highway 395 on Long Creek Mountain in Grant County. Final request by the County Court was for the Highway Department to secure the railroad right of way which is being abandoned by Burlington-Northern Railroad and borders Highway 730 from Irigoin to Umatilla in anticipation of future widening of that highway.

Judge McElligott said that a modern state system is as important to our County as good county roads. The contributions of financial support were made to fit the criteria of the State modernization program which gives priority where there is strong local support, where there is local government or private sector financial support and to projects which encourage economic development to create or save jobs.

The Highway 74 improvement is absolutely necessary if the Heppner branch line is abandoned and should also increase tourism in our area, the judge concluded.

School levy up \$47,252 over last year

Morrow County voters will go to the polls March 25 to decide the fate of a \$6,180,808 one year tax levy for operation of the school district. The levy is up \$47,252 or 6 percent over this year's tax levy. No election is required to approve the \$834,809 tax base and the \$709,684 bonded debt levy; adding these two amounts to the special levy will result in a \$9.66 property tax rate per \$1,000 of asses valuation. This year's tax rate is \$8.75.

Next year's total proposed operations budget is \$9,471,688, a 9.07 percent increase or \$787,387 over this year's total budget. Expected resources other than the property tax are \$2,915,036. The largest expenditure increases are due to staff additions and negotiated salary and benefit costs, item replacement, school vehicle replacement, and continuation of several maintenance projects.

Proposed staff additions for next year are an additional primary teacher and library aide at Sam Boardman elementary school, a health teacher and special education teacher at Columbia Junior High, two additional teachers at Riverside High School, and a lunch-office aide

to keep various records required for the lunch program that operates in the four north county schools.

Staff, additions, the board's offer of salary and wage increases, plus benefit increases account for 8.7 percent or \$735,143 of the budget increase. "The board's objective," said Superintendent Doyle McCaslin, "remains to pay competitive salaries at all levels and in all job categories, with emphasis on attracting teachers to the system as the need arises."

Items to be replaced include contracts for roofing, lowering ceilings in older classrooms, burner and boiler replacements, and fencing. There are also substantial increases for legal and architectural services; the Education Service District contract for handicapped education; maintenance of equipment contracts; and rental of facilities such as fairgrounds, golf course, and the Project Help classroom.

Water, sewer, garbage, and telephone services generally show a four percent increase over last year as do textbook, library book and periodical supplies. Electrical costs, says the budget officer, continue upward based on increased consumption; the district is researching reasons for the increases.

Prior to approving the proposed levy, the budget committee cut \$261,037 from the original total budget proposal.

In his written budget message the budget officer, Superintendent Doyle McCaslin said:

"Last year at this time we delivered a budget to the budget committee that was up approximately 13 percent, with the opinion of the budget officer that the increase, overall, was unacceptably high.

"Neither this committee nor the voters agreed with that opinion however, and as a result we are presently managing one of the best funded budgets this district has ever had."

"We urge you to examine your educational priorities carefully and translate those into expenditure priorities. The need to strive toward educational excellence is very real, and many reports demonstrate that trying harder is not enough; trying harder goes hand in hand with more resources to do the job. And when the federal government, the state, and the local people demand more programs for youngsters, more resources of all kinds have to be expected.

"Yet a balance must be struck. The County's economic prospects in the forthcoming year may be no better than they were at this time last year; they may actually be worse. And you must seriously question whether or not you can

allow the schools to seem to exist as an island in the economy."

Voters will also consider a new tax base for the school district in the May primary election, said McCaslin, because statute dictates that when the budget in an odd-numbered year exceeds the tax base

a vote for a new base must be held during either the primary or general election of the following even-numbered year. At the March 17 school board meeting, the proposal will be discussed, McCaslin said, so that the county clerk can be notified of the amount by April 10.

Heppner goes to State

Fans of the Heppner Mustangs and Fillies will want to be at the Pendleton Armory March 12-15 to cheer on the teams as they compete for the state "A" basketball championship.

Thursday at 1:30 p.m. the Fillies meet the Amity Warriors for the first game in the tournament. Should the Fillies lose this game, they will enter the Consolation round of the tournament and face the loser of the Crow-Lost River game at 9 a.m. Friday. The winner of this match will play for the Consolation award at 9 a.m. Saturday. If the Fillies win the important game against the Warriors, however, they advance to the semi-finals at 7 p.m. Friday, to take on the winner of hte Lost River-Crow game. The loser in the semi-final match will compete for the state third place slot at 1:30 p.m. Saturday. Winner of the semi-final game will play for the

championship at 7 p.m. Saturday. The Mustangs meet the Sheridan Spartans for a late, 8:45 p.m. game Thursday. Loser of this game will enter the consolation round at 10:30 a.m. Friday and winner of that match will compete for the Consolation award at 10:30 a.m. Saturday. Winner of the important Heppner-Sheridan game will compete in the semi-finals against the winner of the Lost River-Crow game at 8:45 p.m. Friday. Loser of the semi-final match will compete for the state third place trophy at 3 p.m. Saturday. Winner of the semi-final game will compete in the championship match at 9 p.m. Saturday.

Ticket prices for the tournament are \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for students per session or \$22 for adults and \$12 for students for a season ticket which is good for all the tournament games.

Halley's Comet rises at 4 a.m.

For the week of March 12 - March 16, telescope viewing under clear skies at Goldendale Observatory should reveal the Moon, the planets Mars, Saturn, and Uranus, and Halley's Comet, the bright star Sirius, the double star Cor Caroli, the open star cluster M41, the globular star cluster M3, the planetary nebula M97 (the Owl), the diffuse nebula M42, and the galaxy M31.

"ABC Astronomy", the portion of the program dedicated to words and phrases, will explain joule.

During "The Stars Tonight," observers will identify the constellation Cancer.

And during "Practical Astronomy," visitors in the theater will see demonstrations about the Milky Way.

Call the Observatory at (509) 773-3141 for more information about any of these programs.

Special hours are now in effect at the observatory through March. Regular visiting hours are Friday, 7-9 p.m., Saturday, 1-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m., and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Other times Wednesday through Sunday by appointment. Extended hours which include viewing Halley's Comet when it is visible are Wed-

nesday through Sunday from 11 p.m. until dawn the following morning. This week Halley's Comet rises about 4 a.m.

Farley celebrates 40 years in Heppner

Farley Motor Co. in Heppner is celebrating 40 years in business in Heppner this year, says owner Jim Farley.

Farley started in business after returning home from the Army in 1946, when he was appointed Shell Oil Agent for the area. He also purchased a Shell service station at that time.

In March of 1948 he was appointed Pontiac Dealer, 1949 the Willy's Jeep dealer, 1951 Buick and GMC and in October 1971 he was made the Ford dealer in Heppner.

Farley has combined his anniversary celebration this year to coincide with St. Patrick's Day, and well-wishers may stop by on Saturday from 4 to 5 p.m. and partake of the social hour at the showroom.



Getting into your work

We've heard of People getting into their work, but this is ridiculous. Actually someone found use for an old mannequin's leg in the new courthouse parking lot sewer pipe