

## Letters to the Editor

### Supports Ed Glenn for Justice of Peace

To the editor:  
I spoke recently and at some length with Ed Glenn who is campaigning for the position of Justice of the Peace for Morrow County. Ed is, in my opinion, competent, practical and fair, with a good understanding of the realities involved when human nature runs afoul of the letter of the law. Additionally, Ed is

law-trained. This is not a prerequisite for the position, nor is it the norm for Justice of the Peace, but it is certainly an unexpected windfall for Morrow County and I would urge voters to take advantage of it on May 20.

Sincerely,  
[s] Valerie B. Doherty  
P.O. Box 582  
Heppner, OR

### Enjoyed St. Pat's Day and parade

To the Editor:  
We enjoyed ourselves and the great St. Patrick's Day parade we participated in, March 15.

We want to thank everyone in Heppner for making us feel so welcome. You really know how to do things up right, even with the weather on the uncooperative side.

I want to thank our Senator, Don Cole, for inviting us and the Vinson family for their generosity in driving us in the parade. There is a pride and joy-a 1958 Chevy. A real dream.

In 1954, I worked a short time for the Ford dealer, Mr. C. Rosewall, near Christmas time and made a few friends but as I asked about them I

was sorry to find most of them had passed on.

'The State of Eastern Oregon' is interested in the town of Heppner and wishes to spread the word about your activities and the growth of your town and believe me it has grown since I worked there and returned last March 15.

I have enclosed a sample of our illegal tender just for you to put up for people to know that this is only for promotion of attention to our area, 'Eastern Oregon' not the Willamette Valley.

We hope you have as much fun as we do. Thank You!

Sincerely  
(s) Vernon I. Rogers  
Secretary of State

### Routine Inquiry boosts Lions eye bank

To the editor:

On February 1, 1986, Oregon's "Routine Inquiry" law went into effect, requiring designated hospital personnel to ask next-of-kin to consider organ donation upon the death of a relative. This is the first legislation of its kind in the country.

The effects of Routine Inquiry were seen immediately at the Oregon Lions Eye Bank at Good Samaritan Hospital and Medical Center. The number of eyes the Eye Bank received in February 1986 was double the amount normally processed. Routine Inquiry will help the Lions Eye Bank help a much greater number of the eight percent of all visually handicapped Oregonians who could benefit from a corneal transplant.

This would not be possible without the help of some unsung heroes. The Lions Eye Bank is assisted by a network of tissue collection centers located at funeral homes throughout Oregon. Funeral directors volunteer their time and services to remove eyes that have been donated to the Eye Bank. In Heppner, Sweeney

Funeral Home participates in this important network.

As Routine Inquiry gathers momentum throughout the state, these volunteers will be donating more of their time to this program. They are performing an extremely important community service.

On behalf of the Oregon Lions Eye Bank and the many people who will regain the gift of sight because of their help, I would like to express our deep appreciation for Oregon's funeral directors, the unsung heroes without whom this revolutionary new legislation would have little effect.

Our gratitude also is extended to the many Oregon Lions who volunteer to transport donor eyes from these funeral homes to the Lions Eye Bank in Portland.

Ralph Jackson  
Chairman of the Board  
Oregon Lions Eye Bank  
1010 N.W. 22nd Ave.,  
Portland, Ore. 97210  
229-7523

### Don't curtail hospital

To the editor:

The proposal to change the mission of the Walla Walla Veteran's Administration Medical Center to an outpatient facility is a major threat to the 75,000 veterans in this area and the economy of the community of Walla Walla, Wa. The V.A. Medical District 27 is the only district in the nation to pursue a planning policy of eliminating a hospital to fulfill its budgetary constraints. Not only is this an inequitable solution to an admittedly difficult problem, it would set a precedent in which smaller facilities in remote areas could be required to bear the burden of a reduced V.A. budget.

The community V.A. meeting held on March 17 left many questions unanswered:

1. Why is the W.W.V.A. Hospital the only V.A. in the country facing the threat of closure?
2. Why does the V.A. District 27 plan to close the W.W.V.A. Hospital even if there would be a 5% increase in the V.A. budget?
3. Why is the W.W.V.A. being asked to take a 90% budget cut when the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings bill would limit V.A. Health and Hospital Services budget cuts to 1%?
4. What medical services will be available now and in the future to the 75,000 vets in this rural catchment area?
5. If the W.W.V.A. Hospital closes (i.e., mission change), how

will this affect veterans' health care and the future of other small V.A. hospitals throughout the country?

Voice your concerns regarding the W.W.V.A. Write your congressman if you haven't or write again if you have. Your continued support is essential.

The Honorable Robert Smith, 118 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, 1-202-225-6730; House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, The Honorable G.V. Montgomery (Chair), 335 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Hospitals & Health Care, 335 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Senator Mark Hatfield, 711 Senate Hart Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510, 1-202-224-3753; Senator Robert Packwood 259 Senate Russel Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 1-202-224-5244; Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs Senator Frank Murkowski (Chair), 414 Senate Russel Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Include return address on letter and envelope.

(s) Nina O. Roth  
Citizens to Save The  
Walla Walla V.A. Hospital  
491 N. Wilbur Ave, Suite 226  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

### Keep tax deduction

To the editor:

Sen. Bob Packwood is proposing to eliminate totally the deduction for state and local sales and personal property taxes and at least partially the deduction for income taxes.

This proposal represents an unprecedented federal intrusion of the fiscal integrity of our state and local governments. The federal government would, in effect, be forcing states and local governments to rely more heavily on property and income taxes for their support.

Packwood's proposal allows the proverbial camel's nose under the tent. It opens the door to further erosion and eventual elimination of the state and local tax deduction. If this proposal is approved, it will make what remains of the deduction vulnerable to the mounting pressures to balance the federal budget on the backs of local taxpayers without directly raising federal taxes.

We who serve Oregon public elementary and secondary education voluntarily, and those career educators who work hard to make Oregon's public school system one of which we can all be proud, are continuing to seek responsible solutions to Oregon's school finance crisis. We are striving toward keeping our school doors open and, at the same time, striking a balance between providing quality educational programs for our children and recognizing the ability of our tax-paying citizens to pay the bill.

A federally mandated change in the current status of state and local tax deductibility will directly increase the net tax cost of public services and inhibit the ability and willingness of local citizens to fund public education and other essential state and local government programs. It should be adamantly resisted in any form it appears.

Oregon taxpayers should urge all of their elected representatives, and especially Sen. Packwood, to support the full retention of the deduction for state and local taxes.

(s) Edith Lippert, President  
Oregon School Boards Association  
154 NE 37th  
Hillsboro, OR 97124

### Proud to be a Doherty

To the editor:

My sister recently gave me a newspaper article from the "Oregonian" concerning the St. Patrick's Day Celebration in Heppner. It was particularly interesting to us because it mentioned a reunion two years ago which attracted 600 Dohertys. We were quite surprised as the spelling of the name is not the most popular version.

My brother-in-law has been working on a genealogy for several years and I know would be extremely pleased to contact any other Doherty doing the same. If any genealogy has been printed I would like to purchase one.

To my knowledge my husband David L. and his brother Larry K. are the last "of a line" and our son Kelly the only heir.

I would sincerely enjoy hearing from other Dohertys and seeing if our lines "connect".


Doherty is a nice name, and since marrying my husband in 1958 I have found that being a Doherty is fun, and I'm proud to have made it my name.

Any help you can give a "Doherty come-lately" is appreciated.

(s) Doris Doherty  
Shamrock Stables  
34079 NE Teddy Ave  
Albany, OR 97321

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