

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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Letters to the Editor

Cooperation not conflict needed

To the Editor:  
After reading your front page story on the senior center in last week's Gazette I feel responsible to our community to supply information which may clear up some confusion and misinformation. Your story made the joint decision of the Fair Board and the Senior Citizen Building Board to locate a multi-use building on the fairgrounds look like a serious conflict and like more are opposed to it than favor it.

The facts follow. Both boards made the decision only after careful consideration and interaction on all angles we could think of, including ramifications of the project both now and in the future. Of the combined eleven members of these boards, 9 are for it and 2 against it, one member from each board. The majority of both boards had no thought of causing conflict in this community. We were cooperating to construct the building not only for the mutual benefit of both groups, but for the benefit of the entire community as well.

Not satisfied with the majority vote, the two against it have gone into the community to raise opposition to the project. I think people here deserve to know the reasons why the majority want to build on the fairgrounds.

First of all, it is cost effective: (1) The fair, badly in need of more exhibit space, gets a good exhibit hall free. Also, they no longer have to maintain the 100' x 150' plot they offered the seniors (2) The seniors can build at less expense than on the Hinton Creek site because of easier access to sewer and water and no cost for paving the parking areas (these well offsetting some additional cost of floodproofing to meet the engineers' flood zoning requirements.) (3) County taxpayers will be saved around \$100,000 or more for the initial cost of a bridge and access road to the Hinton Creek site plus ongoing tax-dollars for maintaining the road. (4) The community gets a low rental multi-use building in the fair complex for receptions, dinners, family reunions, district meetings, conventions and so on. This will be the only complex of its kind in South Morrow and on the only location where it could be with the cost of constructing only one building. It looks like a wise use of dollars to us.

Furthermore, in the future the project may aid in some economic impact on the Heppner area. With seniors being the fastest growing segment of our population and the baby boomers now in their 40's, senior citizens will be important in the country's economy for many years. Especially can this impact Heppner's economy because people from urban areas in California and the Willamette Valley are considering retirement in the smaller towns in Eastern Oregon for cleaner air, quieter environment, less congestion and other reasons. Heppner people should cooperate to encourage retired people to live here. The hotel renovation project would be an incentive. An active senior center would, too. The office of the Area Agency on Aging with multiple services for seniors would operate from this center. It has potential for other social, recreational, and educational activities in addition to the meals being served to 50 to 80 plus seniors now each week at the fair annex.

Another reason for the fair site is the comfort and convenience of easy access for seniors or any group using the building, whereas the other location has a steep street to drive, not good especially in icy weather. Also in the future, after it is built, will the seniors be able to support the ongoing operation of the building? What if they bankrupt? We felt the fair site would offer them more opportunities to rent the building and to serve from their kitchen to defray expenses, if they were not able to swing it, the title would revert to the

**We Will Be CLOSED**  
Sat. May 24  
Lexington Lumber

Fair Board. The building located there could be used by the fair and the community.

Admittedly, there are disadvantages and obstacles, but these can be solved with cooperation and some resourcefulness. For example: the building will take up some parking space, but a good deal is left. A bus can be used again to transport fair visitors from downtown to the fairgrounds. At fairs everywhere exhibit space takes priority over parking space. Fair evaluators frown on parking inside the grounds and very few fairs do it. What will it do to the Little League? Neither board intended to harm that program. Little League Officials had told the Fair Board some time ago that they will not be using the field after this season because they will have their new field below the dam. We were surprised when George Koffler said they need an extra practice field and junior high baseball needs a practice field. Surely we can find another spot. The area behind the proposed building is about the same size. The rodeo field is large enough for two diamonds. Another possibility is the Hinton Creek site which was formerly prepared to use as an elementary school playground.

Since the site is in the flood plain, wouldn't that mean the building would be high and ugly? Actually, engineering requirements are for metal bars inside the cement blocks so the building would be similar to the other fair buildings and with shrubbery and floral landscaping would be an attractive addition to the grounds and to that entrance into town.

One real disadvantage is that the fair will not have points for revenue from the racing funds when the building is rented, but any time a function there involves using space outside the senior plot, the fair would get points. Sometimes more than one group want the hall for the same date.

The county court, of course, will make the final decision. They asked our two boards in the beginning of this project to reach a decision satisfactory to both before bringing the agreement to them. Officially the two boards have respected that request. I feel sorry that the dissenting members have not respected it, have pressured the court, have, it seems, made a political football of the issue in an election year. The court is to be commended for their generosity, support, vision, and patience in this situation.

Finally, I feel confident that the people of this community will keep their heads (and use them) and cooperate in supporting this project, will cooperate in overcoming the problems and not permit a vocal, aggressive minority to stir further conflict here. Cooperation, not conflict, makes a better life for us all. One of the beauties of the democratic way is that everyone has the right to express his opinion but that the majority determines what will be the greatest good for the greatest number. I truly believe in that system, and I truly believe that this building on the fair ground site will be an asset to our community now and for a long, long time.

Sincerely,  
(s) Jane Rawlins  
P.S. To readers who do not know me, I have worked for the fair in several capacities for over 30 years, have been secretary and am now president of the Senior Center Building Board. I support these groups for their value to the whole community.

**Plan Now On!**  
**Vacation Bible School**  
June 9-13 9:00-11:30  
Ages 4 years - 6th grade  
Sunshine Factory Film, Series 2  
Church of the Nazarene

Contributions appreciated

To the Editor:  
By the time this letter is published, the May 20 school district election will have been conducted and the outcome known. No matter how turns out, this County owes a debt of thanks to a number of people and organizations for their contributions of effort, time, money, materials and supplies. They gave to try to inform the voters of how important a positive vote for the levy is for a high quality of education in the County.

We sincerely appreciate all of those who contributed, in whatever way they contributed; we apologize to any people who helped who were not properly recognized and those whose names were inadvertently left out of the paid ad which appeared in this paper.

Sincerely,  
(s) Jerry McElligott, Chairman  
Budget Election Coordinating Committee  
Morrow County School District

Obituaries

Marshall A. Nelson

Marshall A. Nelson, 56, of Baker, died Sunday May 11, 1986 at St. Elizabeth Community Hospital. Funeral Services for Mr. Nelson were Saturday, May 17, at Gray's West and Co. Pioneer Chapel with the Rev. Ralph Holcomb of the First Christian Church officiating. Concluding services followed in the Sumpter Cemetery.

Nelson was born July 24, 1929 in Tacoma, Washington, to Clarence and Letha Austin-Nelson. He married JoAnn Adams in Kinzua in 1950. He lived his younger years in Tacoma, and later in the Izee, Suplee, and Seneca areas where he did ranch work. He moved to Baker County in 1951 where he lived and ranched in the Keating area until 1966. He ran the road grader for Ellington Timber Division until a disability in 1973. After his retirement in 1974 he puttered in wood-working and became interested in mining and the geological aspect of mining six years ago. He had a tremendous love for horses and the mountains and mines of eastern Oregon.

Survivors include: sons, Joe Nelson of Monument; Rod Nelson of Gatlinburg, Tennessee; daughter, Connie Morgan of Baker; grandsons, Mike and Jason Nelson of Pendleton, Luke Morgan of Baker; sister, Lillian Stodelman of Salem; brothers, Herman of Baker, Lloyd of Seattle, Russel of Puyallup, Washington, Chris of Tacoma. He was preceded in death by a sister Beatrice, and both parents.

Evelyn Valentine Lea

Evelyn May Valentine Lea, 58, Salida, died Friday, May 9 in Modesto, California. She had attended Heppner schools during the 1940s.

A native of Portland, she lived in Salida 36 years. She was a sales clerk for J.C. Penney Co. for 10 years.

Survivors include a son Richard Allen Lea of Riverbank; two daughters, Judy Lea Bolen of Woodland and Linda Rose Wilson of Elgin; a brother James Valentine of Manteca; and eight grandchildren.

For those who wish, remembrances may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 285, Modesto, California 95353 or Gideon International, P.O. Box 4493, Modesto, California, 95353.

Heppner Police Report

The Heppner Police Dept. reports handling the following business during the past week:

May 12: 8:34 a.m. - Courteous Driver Award given.

May 13: 10:30 a.m. - assist Morrow County Sheriff's Office; 8:39 p.m. - flu fire, assist Fire Department.

May 14: 1:01 a.m. - request officer for security check; 2:27 a.m. - citation issued for parking on the sidewalk; 11:50 a.m. - assist Morrow County Sheriff's Office; 9:52 p.m. - citation issued for Violation of the Basic Rule (36 in a 25 mph zone).

May 15: 12:45 - request of officer for Security Check.

May 15: 3 a.m. - assist citizen; 8:40 - report of Family Disturbance.

May 18: 12:24 - citation issued for Illegal "U" Turn; 8:31 - request for officer for Security Check.

Correction

Florence (Mrs. Millard V.) Nolan, Jr. is the mother of Airman 1st Class Michael V. Nolan. In last week's "Service News," Nolan was listed as the son of Millard V. Nolan, Jr. There was no mention of his mother.

The Gazette-Times regrets the error.

Justice Court

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

Carl David Christman, lone - Exceeding the Maximum (66 mph in a 55 mph zone), \$30 fine.

Mike Kelley, Hermiston - Angling Prohibited Method to wit: Chumming, \$38 fine.

Tony Paul Striebeck, Winchester, Idaho - No PUC Permit, \$57 bail forfeited.

Vernon Lethcor, Tillico Plains, Tennessee - No Operator's License, \$110 bail forfeited.

Douglas L. Hale, Echo - Violation of the Basic Rule (39 mph in a 25 mph zone), \$67 bail forfeited.

Wayne Ronald Wood, Bridal Veil - No Vehicle License, \$13 fine; No Stop Lights on Towed Vehicle, \$13 fine.

Bradley J. Zoon, Baker - Failure to Yield to Pedestrian in Cross Walk, \$41 bail forfeited.

Richard Leon Goben, La Grande - with criminal negligence: Failure to Tag Steelhead on Punchard, \$29 bail forfeited.

Esta M. Bigelow, Prineville, Violation of the Basic Rule (37 mph in a 25 mph zone), \$57 bail forfeited.

Frank Blaine Engelman, lone - Exceeding the Maximum Speed (75 mph in a 55 mph zone), \$36 fine.

Betty Caroline Bergstrom, Heppner - Failed to Drive to Right of Centerline, \$13 fine.

Correction

Morrow County Court has not yet approved the transfer of land on the fairgrounds from the Fair Board to the Senior Citizens for building a senior center as reported in a story in last week's newspaper. The County Court has, however, said that it would approve the transfer once the two boards have worked out a contract agreeable to both boards. The newspaper regrets the error.

Hospital Notes

Pioneer Memorial Hospital admitting and discharging the following patients during the past week:

Marie Boor, lone - admitted May 13, discharged May 15;

Mindy Binschus, Heppner - admitted May 16, discharged May 18;

Bernard Cox, Lexington - admitted May 12, discharged May 14;

Edgar Olson, Heppner - admitted May 11, discharged May 13;

Erma Hams, Heppner - admitted May 11, discharged May 14; and

Charles Greenfield, Condon - admitted May 10, discharged May 14.

The following patients were still receiving care at the hospital Monday:

Archie Cox, Fossil - admitted May 17;

Harold Stevens, Heppner - admitted May 8; and

Ray Blankenship, Heppner - admitted May 13.

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's Office reports issuing marriage licenses to the following:

Alex Andrew Estrada, Jr., 25, and Neilla Thelma Rauschert, 25, both of Boardman.

Eduardo Mendoza, 26, Boardman, and Rosalba Montegano Cervantes, 24, Hermiston.

D.A.'s Report

Joseph Paul Focht, 24, Hermiston appeared for sentencing on May 14 for Burglary I. He was sentenced before Judge R.B. Abrams to 10 years to the legal and physical custody of the Oregon Corrections Division with a five year mandatory minimum. He was ordered to pay \$3,652 in restitution to Mrs. Leila Palmer and \$50 to the Crime Victims Assistance program.

Oscar Morales aka Francisco Almares, 32, Boardman, Oregon entered a Plea of Not Guilty to two counts of Driving While Suspended and one count of Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants before Judge Ralph Currin on May 16.

Scott T. Poorman, 18, Lexington, entered a Plea of Not Guilty to Theft II before Judge Ralph Currin on May 16. Trial has been set for June 13.

Ruth Delores Williams, 55, Boardman, Oregon, entered a plea of Guilty to Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants before Judge Ralph Currin on May 16. She was sentenced to one year to the Oregon Corrections Division and fined \$2500. All money and jail time suspended on the condition that she receive in-patient treatment on Alcohol Abuse within six weeks after sentencing and advise the Court to enrollment date, and pay additional fines of \$245.

Users of KODAK Instant Cameras

For information about the KODAK Instant Camera Exchange  
Call toll-free:  
**1-800-792-3000**

When you call, the operator will request your name, address, and the model of your KODAK Instant Camera so we can determine which shipping materials to send to you.

Recently, a court order was issued that will affect us all. Kodak must stop making instant cameras and instant film immediately.

But don't worry. Even though Kodak must leave the instant photography market, we will not be leaving our customers.

KODAK Instant Camera Exchange will help you meet your picture-taking needs with other Kodak photographic products.

The name Kodak has always stood for quality products and quality customer service. We are determined to continue that tradition.

For information on the KODAK Instant Camera Exchange, please call the toll-free number, **1-800-792-3000**.

Cameras to be exchanged must be received by Kodak no later than December 31, 1986.

Murray's Drug 217 N Main 676-9158

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