

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

### Carlson concerned about senior citizens

To the Editor:

I would like to give a special thanks to Louis Carlson, candidate for Morrow County Judge, for his concern and compassion for Morrow County senior citizens.

1. Louis has taken time to visit with us to learn about our concerns and problems.

2. Louis has met with our Heppner Senior Center Building Committee and offered any help he can give.

3. Louis has attended our meal sites both at Heppner and Irrigon and is interested in promoting our programs.

Because of the above reasons I am going to vote for Louis Carlson for Judge of Morrow County.

(s) Mary Nikander  
P.O. Box 651  
Heppner, Oregon 97836

### Lions support street repair levy

To the Editor:

The Heppner Lions Club would like to express its support for the upcoming serial levy for street, sewer and water system improvement. Repair and maintenance of these facilities is essential to the health, safety and basic livability of our community. We urge the voters of Heppner to act favorably on this measure.

Sincerely,  
(s) David E. Sykes  
President  
The Heppner Lions Club

### Supports Carlson for Judge

To the Editor:

I'm writing in support of Louis Carlson for Morrow County Judge.

I've known Louis for 25 years as a neighbor and friend through the Valby Lutheran Church and farming in the Eightmile-Gooseberry area. He's always been concerned for the youth on up to the Senior Citizens. Louis seems to be working for the good of the community - 4-H work, Wheat League, church or whatever the task.

I feel he can be supportive of the whole county and work for the good of us all.

Sincerely,  
(s) Shirley Palmer  
Heppner, Oregon

### Measure 15 could shut down Ore. business

To the Editor:

Even though Oregon badly needs jobs, one element of our society appears to be destroying what business we now have. I refer to the effort of sponsors of Ballot Measure 15, the measure which could shut down part or all of the operations of Teledyne Wah Chang at Albany.

At issue is whether Wah Chang should move some slightly radioactive wastes. The facts are that the wastes are no more radioactive than many mineral rich soils in Oregon, and the radiation from these wastes are approximately 30 times less than that received when the Chernobyl radioactive cloud passed over Oregon. In fact, many currently occupied homes in Oregon have higher levels of radioactivity than are measured directly over the wastes of Wah Chang.

If Oregonians adopt unreasonable restrictions against Wah Chang, it will be another signal for other business to stay out of Oregon. This we don't need. Oregonians would be prudent to listen to the responsible scientists and government agencies, all of which agree that the radioactive wastes produced by Wah Chang do not represent a health problem.

Do not be fooled by the promoters of Ballot Measure 15, support jobs for Oregon with a NO vote.

(s) Ralph Robinson  
1501 Cedar Street  
LaGrande, Oregon 97850

### Peaceful change comes through election

To the Editor:

Oregon's State Ballot is our only hope for a peaceful change.

If ever there was a reason to manipulate an election, the Oregon State Ballot Nov. 4, 1986 is it. It is probably the hottest state ballot in the history of this country. The nuclear industry, can be dealt a potentially fatal blow. The government can be limited on the amount of taxes they assess on personal property. The big time drug smugglers would lose their war on drugs because their main money maker would lose its value if adults (who are 90 to 95% of their market) could grow their own marijuana. Only to mention a few.

Even though I have worked for and support many of these issues and would like to see them win. I could only feel the full pleasure that comes with victory, if victory was achieved honestly in a fair contest. If we lose in an honest contest it's O.K. because there is always the chance to go back to the drawing board and try again. If we lose because of systematic manipulation and we can't control it, then the contest isn't really a contest, but just a device to deceive people, and can't be won. With everything that is at stake in this election I not only feel it is my right but my responsibility to do everything I can to see that we have an open and honest election in Oregon. I have recently tried to assure myself that this will be an honest election by going to the elections division of the state to study and learn the process. Quite to the contrary I find only a system that is closed to the voter and serves only to increase my fears of a stacked deck. There is no state wide system. There are at least a half dozen different computer programs used state wide and the supposed public access and certification is a sham and insult to any knowledgeable and concerned citizen. The best way to have an honest election is to have it wide open and accessible to our citizens, that means every part of the process is opened, even the design of the computer programs and the ability of persons outside the elections division to have meaningful access to all data that is pertinent to the election, which is not the case now. At present the design of the programs and the test decks are secret information. If we are not allowed access to the programs and the rest of the system being used to count our vote then we should be allowed to hand count the votes at each of our own precincts and tell elections how we voted. Then they could use their computers to total the vote and each precinct would be able to verify the honesty and accuracy of the vote. Please help make this an honest contest phone or write to government officials and the media, and demand voter access to the system; after all they are working for us aren't they. Come on elections division show us how it works before the election, unless you have something to hide.

(s) William B. Conde  
23005 N. Coburg Rd.  
Harrisburg, OR 97446  
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## Commends Judge Don McElligott

To the Editor:

I'm writing this letter hoping that what I say might influence the people of Morrow County consider a problem that has been with us a long time. The problem is the inability of our society to deal with the lawlessness of some of our youth. When they get into trouble it has been the general attitude to slap their hands and let them off so they can do the same thing again.

Unless an offender is brought to justice and made to make restitution for his offenses he will turn around and do it again.

This summer my wife and I were at Cutsforth Park one evening around 7 o'clock. While we were there we saw Judge Don McElligott

drive in. He had driven there to see that some young people he had put on a work detail because of offenses they had committed were carrying through with their assignments. This is the second summer Judge McElligott has had such a program and he has driven to the mountains many evenings during the week because of his sincere interest in this program.

I know that our youth can become good citizens if we will get behind a program such as this that makes a person responsible for his misconduct.

Judge McElligott, I commend you for your insight into the solution of this problem.

(s) Paul Warren

## North-South medical needs differ

To the Editor:

As a newcomer to Morrow County, I am in no position to dispute Irene Anhorn's letter regarding the history of the north end. I can, however, comment on the petition for formation of separate medical districts and why it is being pursued.

First, no one in the north end is on a vendetta to destroy Pioneer Memorial Hospital. Personally, I have a great deal of respect for the administrator, John Hempel, and I have found the staff to be both competent and cordial. Unlike Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston, which is constantly being criticized, I have yet to hear anything detrimental said about the medical care provided at the Heppner Hospital.

However, the medical care needs differ greatly between north and south. The main difference is Interstate 84. I-84 brings more cars through the north end in one day than Heppner sees in a month. I-84 also brings people and crime and bloody horrendous accidents. Right now we do not have the equipment, facilities or training to provide the necessary trauma care, so people are dying.

I have been told that over 80% of the county's assessed value is in the north end. Yet over 90% of every tax dollar spent on health care is spent in the south end. While some may argue over the exact figures, the disparity should be obvious. To add to the irony, the County Budget Committee (which, like the County Court and the Port Commission, is controlled by the south end,) cut over \$10,000 from the north end health care budget last year.

The same tax split (80% north, 20% south) pays for our County Sheriffs, our "large new schools" and that large accumulation of north end welfare cases (which, by the way, have been doing quite well lately).

Now, I can live with the fact that the roof at my clinic leaks and is trying to cave in. I can stand by and watch the walls crumble and the paint peel. But I won't stand by and watch people die because my defibrillator is useless or the EMT's can't afford the cost of insurance and training or the back-up ambulance can't back up because the engine is falling apart. I may be a newcomer, but I am not a fool.

I am grateful that Mrs. Anhorn is willing to spend more north end money for our health care needs, but where will the money come from? Is the Heppner Hospital willing to go on a diet to feed north end health care?

Would a change in leadership help? Perhaps. Louis Carlson has promised more money for the North

Morrow Medical Clinic, but not for the Boardman Ambulance. If Carlson keeps his promise to cut taxes, the clinic may still get needed funds - but cuts would have to be made elsewhere - possibly the ambulance, or the hospital. Neither answer is palatable.

A better solution is to free the health care system from the politicians completely. Separate medical districts would allow local tax dollars to be channeled to meet local needs under local direction. Presently, with budget control in the hands of the south end, budget cuts are a north end phenomenon since the south holds all the cards, is it any wonder that others would want to cut the deck?

Still, nothing is written in stone so far. The petition was made to the County Court precisely to guarantee extensive public discussions before any ballot measures would be presented. There is ample opportunity for an equitable resolution. So rest easy, Mrs. Anhorn.

The north end has no wish to be your enemy. Just don't make it so hard to be your friend.

Sincerely,  
(s) Steven R. Zielinski, M.D.  
Boardman, OR.

## Corrections

City Attorney Bill Kuhn explained to the Heppner City Council that the city has an arrangement with Morrow County for housing prisoners, those arrested for a criminal offense. Those who violate city ordinances, he said, are fined.

The information was incomplete in a story in last week's Gazette-Times. The McNamie home will not be burned by the Heppner Fire Dept. as was reported in last week's newspaper.

The Gazette-Times regrets the error.

In last week's issue of the Gazette-Times the letter to the editor from Irene Anhorn was mis-printed in the second paragraph. Below is a reprint of that paragraph. The Gazette-Times regrets the error.

"Don't split up county"

In 1917 there was no Boardman (only 2 railroad spots - Castle Rock and Coyote) and about 38 taxpayers from the Irrigon area out of 2300 taxpayers in the county (1917 - Polk's directory).

## Marriage Licenses

Howard Eugene McCall, 59,  
Patricia Mae McLees, 48,  
Boardman.

## Measure 13 attacks voting rights

To the Editor:

Ballot Measure 13 is an attack on the voting rights of all Oregonians. Under the guise of preventing fraud, Measure 13 would prevent legal residents of Oregon from registering to vote after the 20th day before an election.

Ballot Measure 13 is a crude response to the 1984 attempt by the Rajneeshes to pack the voter rolls in Wasco County. Norma Paulus stopped this attempted fraud with Oregon's old "same day registration" law, thus demonstrating that Oregon does not need Measure 13.

In November of 1980, the 20 day cut-off would have prevented 100,000 people from registering to vote. In November of 1984, 70,000 would have been disenfranchised. These thousands of potential voters are Oregonians who changed their residence, their name, or their political party since the last time they voted. These are voters who would have been denied the opportunity to vote under a 20 days cut-off law.

Unemployment is high in Oregon. And people who lose their jobs are likely to move to more affordable

housing or to a new locale searching for work. Ballot Measure 13 would increase the burden the unemployed already bear by punishing those who forget to update their voter registration before late April or mid-October.

Many other voters would be disenfranchised if Ballot Measure 13 passes--women, minorities, renters, students, the low-income, urban dwellers, the young, the elderly--anyone whose name or address changed. The only way to regain their franchise would be to reregister at a time when the election is still back page news. By the time many Oregonians become aware of the coming election, it would be too late to register--if Measure 13 passes.

Oregon is sixth in the nation in voter turn-out, because it is easy to register to vote here. Statistics show that every barrier raised against registration lowers the turn-out rate. Measure 13 would lower Oregon's voter turnout rate without improving our elections process.

Sincerely,  
(s) Richard C. Levy

## Births

**Alyssa Marie Rietmann** - a daughter, Alyssa Marie, was born October 10 to Brian and Sharon Rietmann.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Howard Crowell and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rietmann, all of Ione.

Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Steagall, Lexington, and Mrs. Margaret Hurst, Arlington.

The baby joins an older brother, Andrew, at home.

**Shanna Kristen** - a daughter, Shanna Kristen, was born October 2 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston to Mark and Tami Rietmann of Heppner. The baby weighed 8 lbs. 3 oz.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Don Anderson, Arlington, and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rietmann, Ione.

Great-grandmothers are Mrs. Mildred Wright of Heppner and Mrs. Margaret Hurst of Arlington.

The baby joins an older sister, Shelley, at home.

**Kelly Kristopher Thompson** - a son, Kelly Kristopher, was born September 28 to Kim and Leslie Thompson of Ione at Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston. He weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz.

Grandparents are Skip Pettyjohn, and Donna and Lewis Thompson, all of Ione, and Ginny McKern, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Great-grandmothers are Helen Pettyjohn, Ione, and Myrtle Thompson, Dufur.

He joins a brother Jared, 4, and a sister Olivia, 2, at home.

## Heppner Police Report

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

October 6: 12:10 a.m. - motorist assist; 6:30 p.m. - report of Suspicious Person; 7:40 p.m. - report of Theft; 10:47 p.m. - report of possible prowler; 11:50 p.m. - report of Theft.

October 7: 7:34 p.m. - assist Oregon State Police; 8:05 p.m. - report of Suspicious Circumstances; 8:39 a.m. - report of Suspicious Driver.

October 8: 12:05 a.m. - request officer for Security Check; 2:55 a.m. - citation issued for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants; 12:12 p.m. - Warrant Arrest.

October 9: 8:29 a.m. - false alarm; 6:52 p.m. - citation issued for Careless Driving; 7:24 p.m. - citation issued for Open Container; 9:15 m. - report of Strange Noises; 11:33 - report of Fight.

October 10: 9:45 p.m. - citation issued for Illegal "U" Turn; 11:01 p.m. - report of Fight.

October 11: 1:30 p.m. - report of Suspicious Vehicle; 2:35 - citation issued for Violation of Basic Rule (41 mph in 25 mph zone); 3:46 - report of theft of services; 7:10 - citation issued for Violation of Basic Rule (49 mph in 35 mph zone); 12:20 a.m. - request officer for Security Check.

October 12: 10:20 p.m. - Motorist Assist.

## It's a Party!

Who: Judy Buschke

Why: She's Moving On

When: Saturday, October 25

Where: at the Elks Club

No Host Social Hour - 6:00 p.m.

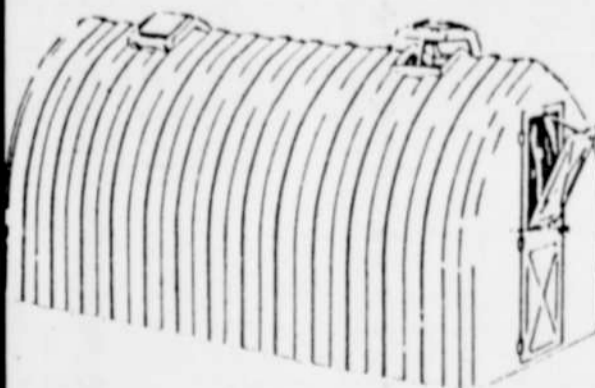
Pot-Luck Dinner - 7:00 p.m.

Money Tree

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