

The Official Newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

GAZETTE-TIMES
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

U.S.P.S. 240-420

Published every Wednesday and entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Second class postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 147 West Willow Street. Telephone (503) 676-9228. Address communications to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$12 in Morrow, Wheeler, Gilliam and Grant Counties; \$23 elsewhere.

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Letters to the Editor

Finish 1986 business; approve school levy

To the Editor:

As a new year begins the voters of Morrow County have an item of unfinished business from 1986. The funds necessary to balance the school budget, without cutting programs, have yet to be approved.

On January 13, the voters are being asked once again to approve a three year serial levy for \$366,736. The passage of this levy would raise the assessment an additional 42¢ per thousand. Adding this amount to prior assessments would raise the total school tax bill, less bonded indebtedness, to \$7.22 per thousand. This figure is about one half the rate that other districts in this area are paying. Approving the \$7.22 rate would bring the total figure to \$119,604 less than the current budget.

Without these funds about 25 employees that signed a contract to provide their services to the district, for the year, would be terminated. These individuals have honored their part of the contract, but the district would have to renege on theirs. Our teachers, as voters, tax payers, neighbors, and friends, deserve a better fate.

Unquestionably, a first class education is not inexpensive and Morrow County has certainly seen better economical conditions than now exist. These factors are valid reasons for holding the line on expenditures. Numerous committees have removed over \$712,000 from the budget that could be delayed until a later date, knowing that a delay in some

areas is certain to cause additional expenses in the future. Delaying the purchase of text books and not adequately repairing the physical plants in the purest definition of false economy.

There is but one school district in Morrow County, creating situations that many districts never have to address. Imagine the busses required and the logistics of transporting students from an area of over 2000 square miles. That equates to roughly the size of the state of Delaware or twice the size of Rhode Island. Undoubtedly a difficult and expensive task.

These are only a couple of items that warrant your consideration when you go to the polls.

Many voters are concerned about matters other than the budget. Approach your local school administrators, the district office, or your elected representatives about these concerns. Voting against the budget penalizes the entire educational process and doesn't address your specific question or problem.

The economic climate in Morrow County will undoubtedly come around. When this happens let's not be in a situation of having to play "catch up" in our educational commitment. Status quo is tough-catch up is next to impossible.

Let's finish our 1986 business.
(s) Dwayne M. Carroll

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Vote yes for Morrow kids & schools

To the Editor:

Do the voters of Morrow County realize we have one of the finest school systems in the state of Oregon? Morrow County schools have proved themselves time after time both scholastically and athletically at state and national levels. The education that I received at Heppner High School has enabled me to pursue the career of my choice at a major university. I was selected one of twenty from over 200 applicants to participate in

the Radiology program at Boise State University. I am deeply indebted to my fine teachers and counselors at Heppner High School for helping me achieve my goal.

I would hope all students in Morrow County be able to have the same opportunities I had. Please vote yes for Morrow county kids and schools on January 13.

(s) Trisha Mahoney
Boise State University
Boise, Idaho

Disappointed in school officials

To the Editor:

As a concerned parent I am very disappointed in the school officials for using our children as pawns in the political game. Prior to the last levy elections my children have come home from school very upset. The children are being placed in fear of losing their school. They are in fear of losing teachers they like and the school functions they have come to enjoy. Has money become so important to our Educators that they

will compromise the way they treat our children in order to pressure the voters into passing the school levy?

I don't believe these kinds of dirty politics have any place in the school system. Our young children do not need to have this kind of pressure at school. I think it's time the school officials sought another way to influence the voters besides using our children.

Thank you,
(s) Cyde Skroch

Home ec not just cooking & sewing

To the Editor:

Last year the Morrow County Home Ec teachers asked several of us to serve as volunteers on a Home Economic Education Advisory Committee to assist them in developing goals for their department and to facilitate communication between school and community. Our committee includes representatives from business, professional, young homemaker, retiree, disabled, minority, single household, public service and others. We have enjoyed being in this group and have learned a lot about the Home Ec program.

From this experience, we agree that the main thing we want to tell the public is that Home Ec. is no longer just cooking and sewing as many people think. We found that these classes also teach consumerism, child care and development, family relationships, money management in family finances, decision making, housing, and home management. In short, they are offering training in basic living skills not taught in any other department. We found the Home Ec teachers

to be responsive to the needs of students and to our committee's suggestions; for example, in increased consumer education, in time management education, and in a Food Science class which meets the basic science requirement.

Throughout, we have been favorably impressed with our Home Ec. teachers, with their competence, their dedication, and their desire to keep up with the times and to be responsive to the needs of the communities, but most of all, with the careful and capable work they are doing in their classrooms. Visitors are always welcomed.

Regardless of one's occupation, what can be more important to a happy, effective life than attaining basic living skills?

Home Ec. is no longer just cooking and sewing.

Sincerely,
(s)Forrie Burkenbine
Monica Swanson
Claudia Hughes
Francie Hansell
Lorrie Smith
Jane Rawlins

Heppner Senior class urges 'yes' vote on school levy

To the Editor:

A very controversial matter has been brought to our attention and we would like to take this time to clear that matter up.

On January 13 the voters of Morrow County will once again decide the fate of our education as they will be voting on a special serial levy to balance this year's budget.

We, as students, stand to lose many things should this serial levy again be defeated.

First, and most importantly, counselors, librarians, and many teachers will be lost.

Our counselors are a very important part in a well-run school. We, as seniors, definitely will be at a loss as we need the counselors for guidance in choosing a career and for providing us with scholarship information to pursue a career.

Our librarians are responsible for keeping the library, or the media center, up to date with current newspapers, magazines, and books as well as arranging for use of all video equipment.

Another tremendous disadvantage of the failure of the serial levy would be the loss of extra-curricular activities. These include field trips, sports, elementary music and art, and textbooks.

Schools necessary for industrial stability

To the Editor:

Dear Morrow County Residents: Why is Morrow County's tax rate one of the very lowest in Oregon?

The Port of Morrow's recruitment of businesses like P.G.E. Coal Fire, Gourmet Brands, Longview Fibre, etc. means that 60¢ + of every tax dollar is paid by industry.

We now are faced with the fact that our county's is the most negative school environment of all the possible industrial locations along the Columbia River.

News people like Russell Sadler and more recently the Governor himself have indicated the tremendous impact that school closure and the threat of closure has on our national image as a competitor for industry. Already the national news has carried stories of the Estacada School closure. We can only hope that Morrow schools are not added to that list in the future.

Your Port Commissioners feel that recent failure to finance our schools

Field trips allow students to learn outside the classroom while sports help promote physical growth and teach the values of teamwork in a competitive atmosphere.

And just think of all these programs and activities you had when you were in high school. Wouldn't it be unfair if we lost those programs and activities?

With all this in mind we urge you to vote yes on the serial levy on January 13.

Sincerely,

(s)The senior class of Heppner High School,
Ashley Conklin, Wayne Wilgers, Kellie Brannon, Scott Bushcke, Bert Cason, Kevin Curnutt, Tina Davidson, Scott Dougherty, Missy Eubanks, Ed Hamlin, Gene Harris, Trent Harrison, Dorothy Hays, Paula Heatherly, Troy Hyatt, Stacey Kennedy, John Kenny, Theresa Lindsay, Carl Martin, Robin Mattison, Tareena Nash, Donna O'Neal, Jason Palmer, David Pedro, Sheri Piper, Christy Rathbun, Bob Riehl, Jacklyn Robinson, John Scaff, Missy Schoonover, Arkie Smith, Cindy Stroeber, Sofi Struthers, Joe Taylor, Pradit Thongdy, Staci Toll, Clark Wallis, Kym Warren, Matt Wilson, Gene Garrett, Mark Hammon.

is taking us out of the competitive market for industry which will employ people with children. Nothing provides more negative advertising for a community than the closure, or threat of closure of its schools.

We appeal to you not to place this millstone around our necks. We need to continue to be noted for the kind of climate that supports industrial growth.

Please take your problems to your school board or to your school administration; please do not vote to destroy our schools. To do this will help destroy our industrial base. Let's not continue to shoot ourselves in the foot on this issue...a positive vote for the upcoming January 13 levy is a prerequisite for our county's industrial stability.

Very Sincerely Yours,

(s) Larry Lindsay
Matt Doherty
Bill Sharkey
John Bristow
Port Commissioners

Vote for the school budget

To the Editor:

Let's vote for the school budget. Admittedly, some voters have legitimate concerns, but it is neither wise nor fair to penalize our children for errors beyond their control. Let's provide the school now, but in the future look to our adult responsibilities of being more attentive and

helpful to the budget committee's work, and above all, by getting to the ballot box to elect board members who will do their homework, be supportive of their committees and responsive to their communities' wishes and needs.

Sincerely,
(s) Jane Rawlins

Commends hospital staff

To the Editor:

I wish to commend the staff and ambulance crew of Pioneer Memorial Hospital for their care and attention on behalf of Ray Boyce.

Losing our hospital would be a tragedy. You don't think how great it is to have these facilities until you need them.

(s) Lil Boyce

Levy defeat would stop season

To the Editor:

The Cardinal girls have set a goal this year of making it to the Big Sky District Tournament in February. There has not been a girls team in the tournament from lone for many years. They realize that every team in the league is going to be tough and want to go after them one at a time. The State "B" basketball poll lists four Big Sky Conference teams in the top ten.

The Cardinals have been receiving excellent support from fans this

season. With this support and the teams working together better every game, the Cardinals can give it their best shot this season. Something the Cardinals have no control over is the School levy on Jan. 13 that could in itself stop the season short. For all of the students and teachers in Morrow County School District, please get out and vote "yes" on January 13.

(s) Wayne Hams
lone

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office reports handling or dispatching the following business during the past week:

December 29-the Sheriff's Office dispatched the Heppner Fire Dept. to a report of a fire at Green's Apts. next to City Hall. The fire caused a lot of smoke but was extinguished right away.

December 31-a deputy responded to a complaint of prowlers on Old Hwy. 30 near Irrigon Mobil Court.

December 31-a Pioneer Memorial ambulance was dispatched to a report of an accident on Hwy. 207 25 miles north of Spray. The ambulance was unable to locate an accident and returned without transport.

December 31-the Sheriff's Office dispatched the back up ambulance to report of two accidents on Hwy 74 near the Kinzua mill. Sheriff's deputies and the Heppner Police Dept. responded. Two people with injuries were transported to the hospital.

January 1-the Sheriff's Office investigated a possible hit and run accident at Hwy. 730 and I-84. Investigation is continuing.

January 1-the Sheriff's Office backed up the Boardman Police Dept. in the arrest of Arlie Jay Hamilton, 28, Boardman, for alleged Criminal Mischief I. Hamilton was also arrested on an outstanding Multnomah County warrant for Secret Indictment/Felony Driving While Suspended.

January 1-the Sheriff's Office investigated an accident at Blakes Ranch and dispatched an ambulance to the scene. Four people were transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

January 1-the Sheriff's Office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the Nomad restaurant where a 34-year old male was having trouble breathing. He was taken to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston.

January 2-the Sheriff's office investigated a complaint of Criminal Mischief that occurred on West Wilson Road in Boardman.

January 3-a deputy assisted Heppner Police Dept. with the investigation and arrest of John E. Sallee, 39, Heppner on charges of Burglary II and Criminal Mischief I. He was transported and lodged at the Umatilla City Police Dept.

January 3-a deputy arrested Joani L. Madsen, 38, lone, for allegedly Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. Subject was released on her own recognizance.

January 3-a deputy arrested Glenn Eugene Bradley, 48, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Negotiating a Bad Check. He posted bail and was released.

During the week of December 30-January 5, the Sheriff's Office assisted two disabled motorists in the county.

Heppner Police Report

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

December 29: citation issued for Reckless Driving.

December 30: 12:02 a.m.-report of Prowler; 3:35 p.m. assist MCSO; 11:40 p.m.-officer requested for Security Check.

December 31: 11:40 a.m.-served two Justice Court warrants for Assault IV and Criminal Mischief on male subject; 12:30 p.m.-assist Mental Health; 1:05 p.m.-assist MCSO four vehicle accident at Mill; 11 p.m.-recovered Lost Property.

January 1: 5:03 a.m.-report of Missing Person; 4:21 p.m.-assist MCSO; 4:34 p.m.-assist Ambulance.

January 2: 6 a.m.-took report of Burglary.

January 3: 12:21 a.m.-arrested one male subject for Burglary II, Criminal Mischief I and Theft I.

Health Dept.

Friday, Jan. 9-blood pressures and immunizations, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Heppner office.

Tuesday, Jan. 13-blood pressures and immunizations, 1-4 p.m., Irrigon County Offices.

Friday, Jan. 16-blood pressures and immunizations, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Heppner office.

Tuesday, Jan. 20-blood pressures and immunizations, 1:30-4 p.m., Boardman City Hall.

Wednesday, Jan. 21-blood pressures, 3-4 p.m., lone Bank of Eastern Oregon kitchen.

Friday, Jan. 23-blood pressures and immunizations, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Heppner office.

Tuesday, Jan. 27-blood pressures and immunizations, 1-4 p.m., Irrigon County Offices.

Friday, Jan. 30-blood pressures and immunizations, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Heppner office.

Hospital Notes

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

Art Warren, Heppner-admitted December 31, discharged January 2; Julie Wilde, Heppner-admitted January 1, discharged January 3; and Harriet Evans, Heppner-admitted January 3, discharged January 5.

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

Claude Buschke, Heppner-admitted December 28;
Cecelia Matteson, Heppner-admitted December 28;
Delbert Emert, lone-admitted December 31;
Balynda Hager, Heppner-admitted January 1;
John Ferrell, Lexington-admitted January 1; and
Cleta Walters, lone-admitted January 3.

Chamber Chatter

by Claudia Hughes
Chamber Manager

Happy New Year. Chamber is off to a busy beginning for 1987, offering support for quality health services and schools, promoting Heppner's Town Hall meeting, and supporting economic development. One of their main goals is to increase communication with city, county, HEDC, merchants, schools, ICABO, and Boardman Chamber. Seems to me, the best way to promote communication is to have everyone represented at Chamber, so think seriously about joining if you aren't already a member and let your voices be heard.

Everyone is invited to attend the annual Heppner-Morrow County Chamber Banquet Tuesday, January 13 at 7 p.m. at the Heppner Elks. Theme is Heppner: Oregon's Gateway to the Blue Mountains. John Maas, pastor of Lutheran Church in Prineville will be guest speaker. Chamber officers will be installed and Man and Woman of the year announced. Call 676-9021 for reservations.

No Chamber meeting January 13 because of banquet; however, there will be a short board meeting at noon at the Elks.

Meeting Notices

Port of Morrow

The Port of Morrow Board of Commissioners will meet at 3 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 14 at Port offices, No. 1 Marine Drive, Boardman.

Willow Creek Country Club Ladies

Willow Creek Country Club Ladies will meet at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13 at the Pettyjohn office building to talk about the club's new by-laws.

Willow Creek Country Club

A special meeting for all Willow Creek Country Club Ladies will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 1:30 p.m. at the new Pettyjohn building. Important business will be discussed.

JANUARY
Clearance
30% Off
Storewide
(everything in stock excluding coffee, candy, plants, flowers & wire orders.)

Towels, Blankets
Ladies & Junior Apparel
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Baskets
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Stuffed Animals
Sale starts Thurs., Jan. 8

The Country Rose
Heppner
676-9426



For
Morrow County
Schools &
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