

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

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The Heppner  
**GAZETTE-TIMES**  
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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**Letters to the Editor**

**Supports Heppner Hotel project**

To the Editor:

I would like to express my opinion on the St. Patrick's Heppner Hotel Project. As a citizen I found myself supporting this proposal without any reservations. Being elected to the Heppner City Council shed a new light on the subject. The question quickly became "Should Heppner's City Council make a commitment to provide backing for the project?"

Heppner, should it wish to survive in the future, must diversify itself, or wither slowly on the vine. There fore, I am strongly in favor of the project.

From a financial point of view, I recognize that the City of Heppner would be accepting a degree of risk. However, given the facts and

figures, I thoroughly believe that the degree of risk is very minimal. The project should not only pay for itself, but provide an income to the city of Heppner in the long run.

Questions which I had have been answered. I am now, and will continue to be a staunch supporter of the project. I believe that it is in the best short and long-term interest of our whole population to approve this project.

The question on the ballot will be whether or not the citizens of Heppner will allow the City Council to commit itself to this project. This is a one-shot deal. The ballot is written in such a way that any other projects of this sort must again go to the citizens. With this in mind, I am asking the people of Heppner to support the project.

Sincerely,  
(s) John Hempel  
Council person  
Heppner.

**Remodeled hotel would catch travelers' eye**

To the Editor:

The Heppner Hotel, to me is the center for our goals. We need something that will catch travelers eyes.

Who travels the most-retired people. We need a face uplift.

Gee! Look, those Heppner seniors sure have a nice place to gather, some must live there.

For our area we should try to use tourism. It's a beautiful area. We have the dam for fishing. Hopefully the R.V. Park for the travelers.

Baker County is trying for the same goal-tourism.

We should and could help each other.

I'd like travelers to say: "Boy you should go through Heppner and see how they remodeled the old hotel into a senior citizens center."

(s)Wilbur and Dorothy Jackson  
Heppner

**Supports junior bowlers**

To the Editor:

I would like to address a letter published in last week's Gazette. Mr. Britt condemns Rock-n-Roll. However, Rock-n-Roll has been used to raise literally millions of dollars for the African Famine Relief fund and to help our troubled farmers endure the economy that has claimed so many of our American family farms.

There are responsible bands that use their music to promote such things as patriotism, the non-use of alcohol and scholastic achievements. Huey Lewis and Charlie Daniels to name just a few. In fact, it would probably surprise Mr. Britt to learn that two national Christian bands, Stryper and Servant, use Rock-n-Roll and Heavy Metal (they use the term "Heavenly Metal") to reach our young children, in hopes of leading them to God, not turn them away. Not only that, but these top notch Rock bands use the same Rock-n-Roll beat that any other Rock-n-Roll band would use, and Mr. Britt chooses to condemn.

Some of what Mr. Britt has stated is in fact true. Unfortunately there are bands who do use music adversely. Mr. Britt used an example of lyrics used in a song performed by a group called "Equalizer." I don't know where he came up with those lyrics, but personally, I would choose not to listen to that garbage.

I respect Mr. Britt's concerns and opinions; however, I think that he was too quick to address the Jr. Bowlers, condemning them for the

sponsoring of a Rock-n-Roll concert before researching and inquiring as to the originality of the idea.

I can't believe that he would think children ages 6 to 13 would have the resources to schedule a concert. The fact that he had not contacted me, would lead me to believe that he had not inquired far enough.

I choose to bring in a band who absolutely refused to do the concert until they found out it was a benefit for these kids. These are good people making a living using talents God gave them, playing popular music, and who have agreed to monitor the music they plan to perform to accommodate the attendance of our children.

By condemning Rock-n-Roll music and the concert, you are also condemning the artists who are to perform on the behalf of the Jr. Bowler.

I applaud Mr. Britt for his past support of the Jr. Bowlers, but let's not condemn the members of the band or label them when they are only trying to help our children, and not lead them to a life of sin.

"Let you who has never sinned cast the first stone." and Judge not lest you be judged."

We should pull together to make this concert a success for our young bowlers. Please support our bowlers by purchasing a ticket for the concert.

Thank you,  
(s) Kevin Gutierrez  
P.O. Box 717  
Heppner

**Vote for hotel is vote for city's future**

To the Editor:

On March 31 the citizens of Heppner will go to the polls to decide whether to change the city charter for the express purpose of borrowing funds to enable the historic Heppner Hotel to be restored to senior citizen housing and a senior citizen center. The Heppner Chamber of Commerce, its board of directors and membership strongly urge each of you to vote for this charter amendment which will allow the hotel to be renovated.

There are a variety of reasons we feel this project is one worthy of your support and they all boil down to one point, economic growth in your city. The Hotel is a focal point on Main Street and it is decaying.

This is our last and best chance to call together both grant money and loan money to renovate the Hotel into a senior citizen housing project. Besides the obvious esthetic value of having the face lift done, the combination of construction money that would come to the community for the short term and the long term im-

plications of having a group of senior citizens close to shopping areas and using other vital services, such as the hospital makes this project a real boon in these times of economic uncertainty.

We feel this is the first step in a rejuvenation for Heppner that needs to take place if the business community and citizenry of Heppner are to prosper.

Please take the time to become informed about the positive implications of voting for this project. As with any project there is risk associated with it. We feel the risk taken by the city and its people is small compared with the great benefit that would be derived from the project.

On March 31 vote for the future of Heppner and vote for the charter amendment to allow the Hotel project to move forward.

Sincerely,  
(s) E. George Koffler  
President, Heppner Chamber of Commerce

**Fair Board supports hotel project**

To the Editor:

The Morrow County Fair Board urges and strongly supports the City of Heppner's efforts in renovating and remodeling the Heppner Hotel.

The 19 apartment units for Seniors and a Senior Citizen's Center on the main floor would certainly be beneficial to all Heppner. The structure is centrally located, i.e. close proximity of the Post Office, drug store, food market and various other businesses.

The City of Heppner has secured a \$500,000 grant from the Intergovernmental Department and needs to amend their Charter. The

City is asking approval of the amendment to their Charter so that they may secure a \$400,000 loan financing only the hotel project.

With the economy of Morrow County in its present state, any possibility of stabilizing our downtown district and supporting this project is vital.

The Fair Board supports the City of Heppner in their pursuit in completing the Heppner Hotel Project.

Sincerely,  
(s) Charles Daly, Chairman  
Robert McLaughlin, Vice Chairman  
Merlyn Robinson  
Harold Peck Pete Richards

**Rock 'n Roll has been given bad reputation**

To the Editor:

This is a letter in response to the one objecting to rock-n-roll music in last week's Gazette-Times.

Rock-n-roll music, and particularly heavy metal, have been given a bad reputation. Parents everywhere agree with the statements in last week's letter, that rock-n-roll promotes violence, drug abuse, homosexuality, perversion, Satanic worship, communism, rebellion, and general disrespect for all elders in positions of authority.

This is not a true representation of rock music. There are songs which deal with all of these subjects. That does not mean those who hear it will automatically become the image it presents. We teenagers like to be credited with more intelligence than that.

Songwriters are not trying to influence teenagers to become like them-they are reflecting what they see in life. They tell a story, just as authors do.

And not all songs are bad. There are many positive messages given by rock bands. Anti-war songs, anti-drug songs, anti-suicide songs, love songs, anti-racism, and pro-religion songs are abundant. Rock-n-roll heroes, who have much influence on their fans' lives also do benefits for world hunger, American farmers and diseases. Hear 'n' Aid, Band Aid, USA for Africa, Live Aid, and Farm Aid were groups formed for those purposes. Rock-n-rollers can also be seen on television doing anti-drinking and driving commercials during shows many teens watch.

Last week's letter also mentioned rebellion. Restriction is what causes rebellion-not too much freedom. And who says rebellion is all bad? Without rebellion, there wouldn't have been a revolutionary war. Change is necessary for progression.

Rock-n-roll is not the only music

dealing with sex, drugs, violence, and other undesirable factors in life. Country and Western music deals primarily with adultery, drinking and driving, sex, booze, and violence. Folk music which has been around since the beginning of recorded time, also deals with these things.

It has been noted that rock music is closer in mechanics to classical music than any other form. This is because the music is the focal point, not the vocalist. Rock and Jazz are the only two types of music besides Classical where the musicians are famous instead of only the singers. What kids listen to is the beat first and then the lyrics, not the other way around.

It is a parent's responsibility to provide a decent moral background and good set of standards for his or her children, so that they will recognize rock for what it is-entertainment, pure and simple. And if you don't like it, turn it off. But don't try to make that choice for the rest of us.

The Defiant concert will bring business into town, and give the kids something to do. The Junior Bowlers are only selling tickets, not sponsoring the concert, and they deserve the proceeds for their hard work selling tickets. We hope the concert goes well and to see you all there.

Heed the wise words of Ozzy Osbourne.

"Look at yourself instead of looking at me with accusation in your eyes. Do you want me crucified for my profanity? Concealing your crime behind a venture of lies, tell me where do I begin if you think you will not sin. Be the first to cast the stone. You're no different to me." ("You're No Different" Bark at the Moon)

(s) Ed Hamlin  
Soft Struthers  
Bert Cason  
Heppner

**Hotel project major benefit to city**

To the Editor:

The Heppner St. Patrick's Hotel project will be of major benefit to the City of Heppner. It will bring into the community 20-25 residents, will employ a number of people in the construction process, and will add to the economic base of the community.

I am aware that there is some concern as to how the project will be paid back. The rental rates from the apartment are calculated to more than cover the repayment on the loan, the maintenance and repairs and upkeep. If the hotel stays 80% filled, the hotel project itself will generate all the funds necessary for

repayment of the loan. At the current time, we not only have all the proposed units rented, but we have a waiting list of people who want to be in those units. In addition, once the loan is repaid, all revenue from the hotel will be revenue direct to the city. It can then be used for roads and other necessary city purposes.

All in all, it appears that there are no detriments to the project. It can only benefit the city, the seniors, the citizens, the hospital, and general economic development in south Morrow County.

(s) Annetta L. Spicer  
Heppner

**4-H Clubs**

**Martingales**

By Kimberly Bedortha  
Martingales 4-H Club met February 25 in the Lone High School. Club members discussed the St. Patrick's Day parade and the possibility of each family hosting a trail ride. Gail Papineau showed how to tie different types of knots. Anne Bedortha showed a video on western horsemanship. The next club meeting, members will begin demonstrations on breeds of horses.

**Heppner Police Report**

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

March 2: 9:50 a.m.-complaint about garbage; 8:34 p.m.-parking citation issued.

March 3: 11:31 a.m.-citation issued for Violation of the Basic Rule (51 mph in a 35 mph zone);

3:24-citation issued for Violation of Basic Rule (50 mph in a 35 mph zone); 11:43 p.m.-parking citation issued.

March 5: 9:07 a.m.-citation issued for Criminal Mischief I; 11:16 a.m.-citation issued for Violation of Basic Rule (50 mph in a 35 mph zone); 12:16 p.m.-citation issued for Driving While Uninsured.

March 6: 9:50-assist Heppner Fire Dept.

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It's Time to Plan the Work.  
And Bruce Has Time to Work the Plan.

Paid for by Nicholes for the Port Committee  
Art Negler, Chairman

**St. Patrick's Irish Festival**

Heppner, Or.  
Ham Dinner and Entertainment  
Saturday  
March 14  
Serving from 4:30-7:30

adults - 7.00  
12 & under - 2.00  
3 & under - free  
family - 12.50

Catholic Church Hall 580 Jones St.

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