

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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Uneconomic Tax Growth

Tax statements are out in Morrow County.

They bring both good news and bad news. The good news is that our schools operate on a much lower tax rate than most other schools in the state. Morrow County Schools tax rate of \$8.83 per thousand dollars of assessed value is much less than Hermiston at \$14.11 or Pendleton at \$14.81 or Echo at \$25.14.

The low school tax rate in Morrow County has contributed significantly to a relatively low total tax rate in the county for many years since schools make up the largest part of the total tax bill. School boards and administrations, past and present, have worked hard to squeeze the most education out of every tax dollar and they should be commended, striking that precise balance between new and costly programs to keep up with the changing times and the sheer necessity to keep costs within the will of the taxpayer isn't an easy task. It does appear, though, that Morrow County schools have found the right formula.

The bad news though is that the tax rate for Morrow County itself is up more than 10% to \$4.29 compared to Umatilla County at \$2.55. And in Boardman and Irrigon, there's more bad news where city tax rates are up. Some comparisons follow:

City	Tax Rate
Boardman	\$9.90
Irrigon	8.22
Pilot Rock	2.60
Stanfield	4.23
Umatilla	5.59
Pendleton	6.42
Hermiston	7.40

The growing tax rates of local governments are in large part, caused by our own demands on government for services. It costs money to plow snow from city streets, plant flowers in parkways and catch stray dogs, not to mention building and repairing roads, maintaining police and fire departments and staff administrative functions.

Budget times are at hand. We should all be prepared to see even higher tax rates unless we are prepared to point to a specific governmental service that we can do without.

Obituary

Eva F. Hudson

Funeral service for Eva F. Hudson was at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21 at the United Methodist Church in Heppner. Concluding service and burial follow at Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Hudson, 89, died Sunday, Oct. 18 at Delamarter Care Center in Pendleton. She was born June 2, 1898 in Seymore, Iowa, the daughter of Samuel and Margaret Cooley Shannon. She was married to D. (Shorty) Hudson on November 8, 1919 in Mercer, Missouri.

They moved to this area in 1928. She was a member of the United Methodist Church and the American Legion Auxiliary. She also taught piano lessons in this area for many years.

Survivors include her husband at

home in Heppner; sons Hubert Hudson of Arcada, Calif., J. D. Hudson of Heppner; daughters Wilma McTimpeny of Pendleton and Donna Perkins of Pendleton; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. A son, Gladwyn preceded her in death in 1947.

Contributions for those who wish may be made to the United Methodist Church Memorial Fund, P. O. Box 733, Heppner.

Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, in care of arrangements.

Pledges fraternity

Christopher Rea, Ione, has pledged Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity at Oregon State University. A total of 524 young men pledged the 27 fraternities, a college news release said.

Letters to the Editor

Rising crime needs to be top priority

To the Editor:
Last week the Capitol Planning Commission announced a \$130 million plan for new office buildings, parking garages, landscaping and renovations to existing buildings in the Capitol Mall area in Salem.

I am sponsoring an anti-crime initiative that will deny parole to repeat offenders of violent crimes. When I announced my initiative, state officials criticized the idea by saying new prisons would have to be built at a cost of \$129 million.

One month later state officials are calling for more offices, parking spaces, shrubbery and air condition-

ing at a cost of \$130 million. Why is it that making Oregon safe again from violent criminals is too expensive, while luxuries for the state bureaucrats are not?

Oregon's violent crime rate is now fifth-highest in the nation, and it's time that the rising crime problem became a top priority. Passage of our anti-crime initiative will keep violent criminals out of our neighborhoods, and make Oregon safe again.

Best Regards
(s) Congressman Denny Smith
Chairman
Oregonians Against Crime
PO Box 15138
Salem

Road in atrocious condition

To the Editor:
I went to Heppner recently to visit my sister, Zelma McDaniel, who lives on Upper Rhea Creek. The road to her home was so atrocious that my car almost bounced off the road in several places. She has asthma and was ill from the dust that was raised from the traffic that goes up and down on that road. I have never driven on a road that is in such

bad shape. She said the construction started in the spring of 1986. She is a mail carrier and goes approximately 90 miles a day to deliver mail from Heppner and the trip home is the worst.

Can't something be done? Taxes are paid to take care of roads, among other things.

(s) Maxine Jensen
Rt. 1
Waitsburg, Wash 99361

Drug and alcohol free dance success

To the Editor:
The 1987 Homecoming dance was a big success. Our goal of offering the students of Heppner High School an evening of fun without alcohol and drugs was achieved.

That goal could not have been reached without the efforts of several groups and individuals who donated time and materials to the cause.

The Heppner Elks Lodge donated the facility and planned and coordinated the event and cooked breakfast. The Heppner Boosters Club, Pendleton Bottling, Franz Bread, Central Market, Court Street

Market, volunteered their time to chaperone, serve breakfast, etc. Jim Ackley and the members of the Take IV band provided an evening of superb music.

Teens can have a good time without having to use drugs and alcohol. We are glad that kind of option could be provided last Friday night. A lot of people made that option possible.

Sincerely
(s) Barbara Hayes
IMPACT team of Heppner Schools
Heppner High School Student Council

Landfill proposal process flawed

To the Editor:

Contrary to the impression many are trying to promote, those of us who quietly, or not-so-quietly have supported the initiative calling for a vote on the landfill proposal in Morrow County are not insane, neither are we opposed to economic development in our county. This initiative was born out of a deep concern for the future of Morrow County on the part of many of its citizens. I felt insulted when some of our county leaders implied that the several hundred voters who supported this initiative were somehow duped into signing the petition.

There were two types of people who signed the petition which has led to the ballot before us. One type, which includes myself, does oppose the landfill proposal and would like to see it stopped. This opposition is not based solely on environmental concerns (although these are certainly a factor), but rather on the perception that Morrow County, and the City of Boardman in particular, can do much better. We do not want to see the image of our community soiled by a designation as "Portland's Dump". The potential for clean, respectable, community-enhancing economic development will, we believe, be greatly diminished when the "open" sign goes up on the dump.

Yet, there are others who joined me in signing the petition who are not necessarily opposed to the landfill. These citizens signed because they saw deep flaws in the process being used to evaluate the proposal. Their questions were not being adequately answered. Their concerns were not clearly addressed. Their in-

put into the process was seemingly being ignored. These citizens signed because they want to have a voice in the future of our county.

Some are now saying that the ballot is confusing. This is an open insult to the intelligence of Morrow County's voters. The initiative was not designed to be "yes or no" vote on the landfill proposal, it was designed to be a "yes" vote for citizen involvement in a vital economic decision.

Some are now saying that a "yes" vote could kill the landfill prospects. I believe this to be blatant economic blackmail. If the proposal for the landfill is sound, and its potential for profit high (as we are being told), then a one-year delay in a twenty-five year project should make little difference. What the citizens of Morrow county may learn during that year could make a big difference.

I encourage the voters of Morrow County to join me in saying "yes, I want to have a voice in this important decision".

Sincerely
(s) Rev. Steven Rowe
PO Box 233
Boardman, OR 97818

Merchants applauded

To the Editor:

On September 29, 1987, it was the privilege of the Heppner Garden Club to host the District 10 annual fall meeting. Our members worked long and hard to make our guest's visit a memorable one. One of the nicest memories they had to take home with them was a bag of items donated by Heppner and Lexington merchants.

We were expecting 100 guests and without batting an eye, the following merchants gave us items to fill that many tote bags: Morrow County Grain Growers, Lott's Electric, Bank of Eastern Oregon, Murray's, Gardner's, VanMarter and Kahl, Peterson's, First Interstate Bank, Coast to Coast, Farley's, Central Market, Farmer's Insurance, Forest Service, Gazette-Times, and Columbia Basin Electric. Our guests were delighted with their "goodies" and left Heppner with a positive feeling.

We are often exhorted to shop at home. One of the benefits of doing that is getting to know your hometown merchants. When they know you, they are exceedingly willing and generous when you ask for help. There wouldn't be much in Heppner without the merchants, would there?

(s) Martha Doherty
President
Heppner Garden Club

Sheriff's Report

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

October 12: a deputy investigated a complaint from a shop in the Irrigon area, investigation is continuing.

October 14: deputy responded to complaint of animal problem in Irrigon.

October 14: deputy backed up Boardman Police Department report of stolen vehicle.

October 16: deputy responded to Kunze Rd., Boardman, to investigate animal problem. Owner contacted and problem resolved.

October 16: deputy responded to Irrigon to investigate report of possible domestic disturbance.

October 16: deputy responded to county fair grounds to investigate report of juvenile problem.

October 16: deputy responded to Irrigon area to investigate report of female possibly being held captive.

October 17: deputy responded to Irrigon to assist Irrigon Police Department with domestic fight.

October 17: deputy responded to Jordan elevator on Hwy 74 to investigate one-vehicle accident. Non-injury.

October 17: deputy dispatched two Boardman ambulances to a two-vehicle accident on I-84, one mile West of boardman, four subjects transported by ambulance and one by deputy to Good Shepherd Hospital, Hermiston. Unknown injuries.

October 18: deputy responded to Port of Morrow on ramp on I-84 to investigate report of vehicle in the ditch.

October 18: deputy responded to residence in Irrigon to investigate possible burglary. Investigation continuing.

October 18: deputy responded to Boardman to assist police officer with arrest of Tony T. Sepulveda, 22, of Boardman on Hermiston warrant for Failure to Appear on Disorderly Conduct citation. Transported to Umatilla Army Depot and placed into custody of Hermiston Police Department.

October 18: sheriff's office dispatched fire department to Kunze Rd., Boardman upon receiving report of grass fire.

October 18: deputy dispatched to Irrigon area, animal problem. Citation issued of Animal at Large.

October 18: deputy responded to assist Boardman police department to Boardman apartment building to investigate complaint of fight and neighborhood disturbance.

October 18: deputy responded to residence in Irrigon to investigate complaint of vandalism. Damage unknown.

October 18: deputy responded to assist Boardman police department to handle complaint of unfamiliar vehicle parked with male occupant.

October 18: deputy responded to assist Boardman police department with complaint of disturbance inside local business.

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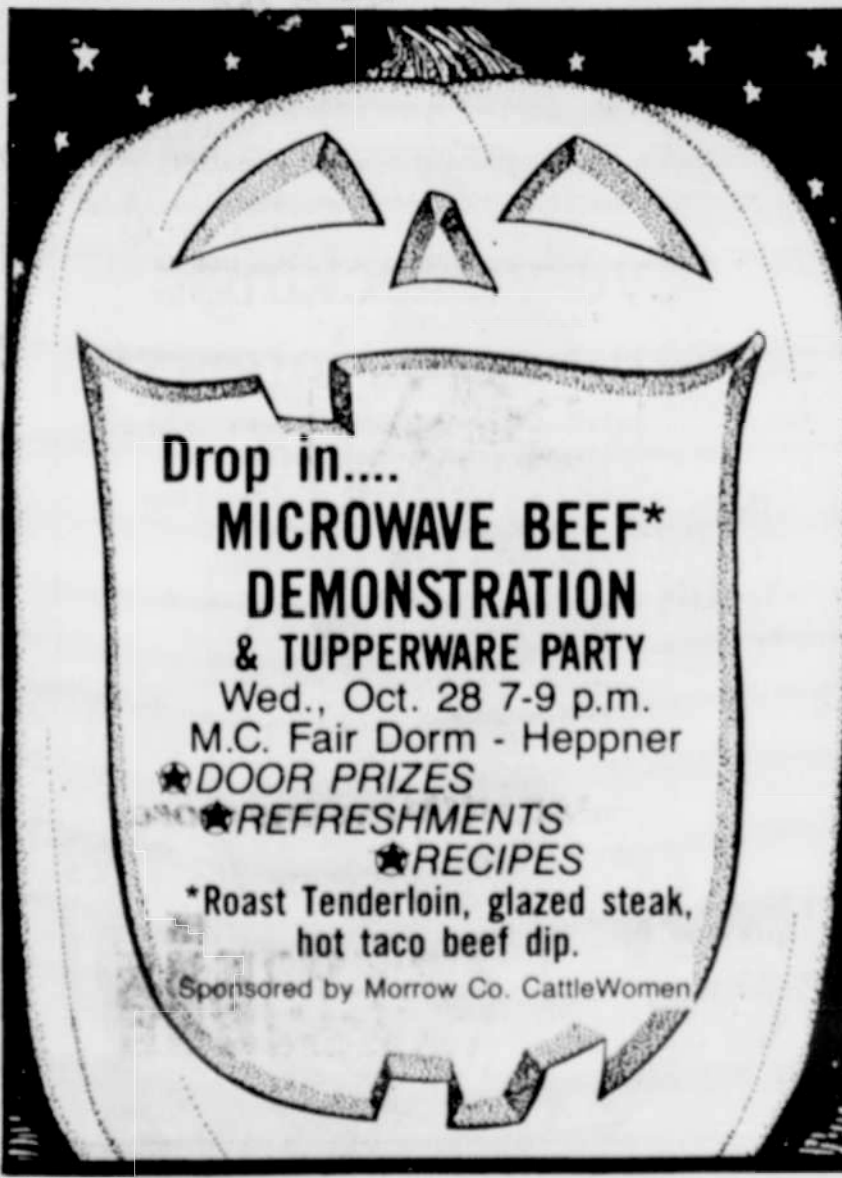
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Drop in....
MICROWAVE BEEF*
DEMONSTRATION
& **TUPPERWARE PARTY**
Wed., Oct. 28 7-9 p.m.
M.C. Fair Dorm - Heppner
★ **DOOR PRIZES**
★ **REFRESHMENTS**
★ **RECIPES**
*Roast Tenderloin, glazed steak, hot taco beef dip.
Sponsored by Morrow Co. CattleWomen

Happy 33 Sis



Love, Mom, Dad
Gerald, Angie
& Derek

OREGON LOTTERY

Court Street Market
CHECK OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES
WHERE YOUR DOLLAR MAKES MORE CENTS

Fresh Bulk

Carrots	19¢ lb.
Fresh Broccoli	39¢ lb.
No. 1, 5lb. Potatoes	49¢ bag
Red Snapper-Ling Cod-True Cod	\$2.44 lb.
Beef Cube Steak	\$2.39 lb.
Ground Beef Precious	\$1.29 lb.
Mozzarella Balls 16 oz.	reg \$3.99 \$2.39 ea.
Parkay Veg. Oil	
Margarine 1 lb. quarters	reg. 79¢ \$59¢ ea.
Spam	
Luncheon Meat 12 oz.	reg. \$2.19 \$1.79 ea.
Western Family Ramen Noodles 3 oz.	6 for \$1.00
Crystal White Liquid Detergent 40 oz.	reg. \$1.49 \$1.19 ea.

Prices good Oct. 22nd - Oct. 26th
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - 7 A.M. - 6 P.M.
(Still time to stock up on canned case goods)

Court Street Market
111 N. Court Heppner 676-9643