

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

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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Joyce Hughes Office Manager, Typesetting
Diana Ball News Editor
Marie Strubers Graphics Department
Gail Papineau Graphics, Distribution
Eileen Sailing Proof Reading
Jana Marquardt Distribution

David and April Sykes, Publishers

Letters to the Editor

Who is to blame?

To the Editor:
(The article "Proposed Forest Plan will severely impact the timber, water, wildlife and recreational resources" appearing in the Feb. 3 and 10 issues of the Gazette-Times had to be privately paid for because the Forest Service would not publicly respond to the documentation and the G-T would not print the information as a news article.)

When the logging trucks stop rolling and the mill stops sawing and the streams stop flowing in the summer heat and the forest and its wildlife are gone everybody is going to blame everybody else. The timber industry will blame the environmentalists, the environmentalists will blame the government and the government will blame the people and the people will blame the timber industry. In the cross fire will be the Game Commission, Forest Service, hunters, landowner and nature lovers. The cat never catches its tail and before anybody realizes what is happening the forest will be gone and there will be nothing left to argue about. Then we can all pack up and leave because the jobs, food, water, recreation, tourism, grazing, wildlife and spiritual refreshing the forest freely provided will be gone. Everybody will blame everybody else: So who is to blame?

It has been said it is not evil people that destroy a nation it is good people that do nothing. In our democratic system when the people are silent in the face of injustice and falsehood, to protect their own interests, the system breaks down. Democracy demands courage and conviction. When a community

sacrifices its most valuable resource and its children's heritage for temporary economic gain-Democracy dies. Many have spoken valiantly, at great personal expense, exhorting our community to conserve our forest resources. After many failures the most dangerous enemy of all threatens us-pessimism, cynicism, apathy and fear. Our forefathers knew the full price of suffering and sacrifice required to fight to possess the land with their blood they etched our democratic heritage.

We are faced with the same hard decisions our forefathers faced. We have a limited forest resource. We can conserve all of the forests multiple resources and co-operatively work together to sustain our resources and pass on a fair portion to the next generation. Or we can consume the forest resources in the most economically expedient manner for our personal benefit (After all if I don't do someone else will, the argument goes.

We can conserve our wildlife resources and hunting privileges or we can go European-buy um, raise um, plant um, and sell um-for a fee. Thursday evening at 7 p.m. in the Heppner Multi-purpose room "The Last Stand of Heppner's Blue Mountains" will be presented. I cordially invite the public-especially loggers-log truck drivers, Kinzua employees, Chamber of Commerce members, HEDC members, City Council members, County Court members, and Tourism Committee members. The public will be encouraged to ask questions and speak to the issue of the fate of our forests.

(s) Stuart Dick

Early Port Commission accomplishes much

To the Editor:
I was rummaging around and look what I found. Oregon's finest port commissioners, in the 1960's and 1970s, of the 21 ports outside of the Port of Portland.

They started with a \$21,500 district annual budget in 1961 and look what they accomplished:

1. They acquired a 2,500-acre waterfront industrial park on the river, Union Pacific Railroad and access to barges, B.P.A. and US 1-84 freeway.

2. In 1967 the Commission authorized the publication of 3,000 copies of an industrial and development brochure. 250 copies were sent abroad --- and here came the investors.

3. Companies purchased and irrigated 70,000 acres of the desert land without a government dollar.

4. The Commission set up a 350-acre food processing park with all utilities, rails, sewer, water, industrial effluent disposal to their land.

5. This attracted three potato processors for a \$20 million investment and helped bond their facilities. The Commission made Morrow County the second largest potato producer, by county, and moved the county to the sixth in per capita income (in the U.S.A.) in 1976.

6. When Boeing lost their two ma-

mor contracts, in 1967, the Commission organized the Carty energy site on a man-made cooling reservoir. Portland General Electric purchased the site for \$1.2 million. When the Commission lost an \$800 million PGE nuclear plant the Navy forced the nuclear plant to Arlington because they would not move their flight corridor.

7. The Carty energy site then attracted a \$525 million coal plant in a county that was totally assessed for \$110 million in 1965.

8. The Commission lost an \$80 million Alumax Aluminum plant due to objections from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife who, like the 50,000-acre bombing range and the ammunition depot, pay no county taxes.

9. The Commission lost the giant Simplot Potato Plant to Umatilla County because Morrow County didn't have enough employable women to operate the plant.

The great loss to the Port of Morrow was the early death of Garland Swanson and Oscar Peterson. Dewey West and Dick Krebs didn't seek another term. Larry Lindsay is still on the Commission.

Morrow County and the Port of Morrow have the finest future of any port on the upper Columbia River.

With great admiration,
(s) Rupert Kennedy-retired

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's office at the Courthouse reports dispatching the following business during the past week:

February 1: Morrow County Sheriff's office didn't assist any disabled motorist during the week of January 31-February 1;

Morrow County Sheriff's office backed up Oregon State Police and Irrigon Police Department in the investigation of a possible burglary in progress in Irrigon. Unable to locate subject.

February 2: Morrow County Sheriff's deputy responded to Irrigon area to a complaint of a possible Driver Under the Influence of Intoxicants;

Morrow County deputy assisted Irrigon Police Department with a complaint of a male subject causing a disturbance.

February 3: Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area on a report of theft of livestock.

February 4: Morrow County dispatched the Boardman ambulance to 203 Kinkade SW to a report of a neck injury. One subject was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital;

Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to investigate an animal problem in the Irrigon area;

Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated an animal problem in the Irrigon area;

Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to back up Boardman Police Department with removal of unwanted subject from the Hitchin' Post.

February 6: Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated an animal problem in the Heppner area;

Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated an animal problem in the Boardman area.

February 7: Morrow County Sheriff's office assisted Oregon State Police with a Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants arrest;

Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated report of Criminal Mischief in the Irrigon area;

Morrow County Sheriff's office and Heppner Police Department arrested Bryce Shawn Powell, aka Madison, 27, on a Coos Bay warrant for Failure to Appear-Driving While Restricted;

Morrow County Sheriff's office investigated report of suspicious subjects in the Ione area;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner Fire Department to 340 Green St.

During the week of February 1-7 Morrow County Sheriff's office assisted no disabled motorists.

Justice Court

The Justice Court office at the Courthouse Annex in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

Joseph Walter Daniels, Pilot Rock-Exceeding the Maximum Speed, 65 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$13 fine.

Fabric's Classes!

Feb. 13th, 9:30 Crochet Class
Instructor Pat Scott-2nd session
1:00 Making a Sweatshirt
Instructor Marty Mitchell
Fabrics Etc. 676-9615

D.A.'s Report

The District Attorney's office at the Courthouse in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

Gerry Kirkpatrick, 31, Washington, was acquitted on a charge of First Degree Sexual Abuse in Morrow County Circuit Court on February 1. The former Boardman resident had previously been indicted by the Morrow County Grand Jury during the Fall of 1987.

Terrell Rea, 22, Boardman, was convicted of Theft in the First Degree, before Judge Ralph Curriu on February 5 in Morrow County Circuit Court. A Pre-Sentence investigation was ordered. No Sentencing date has been set at this time. The Defendant had previously been indicted by the Morrow County Grand Jury during the Fall of 1987.

Francisco Santa-Cruz, 31, Boardman, appeared for Entry of Plea February 5, before Judge Ralph Curriu on the charge of Kidnapping in the Second Degree, and, Sexual Abuse in the Second Degree before Judge Ralph Curriu. He entered a plea of Not Guilty on both counts. No trial date has been set at this time.

Leonard David Abercrombie, Irrigon, appeared for Entry of Plea February 5 before Judge Ralph Curriu on the charge of Driving While Suspended. Abercrombie plead guilty to the lesser-included crime of No Operators License. He was fined \$57, to be paid by March 15, 1988.

John Walton Duncan, 25, Irrigon, appeared for Entry of Plea on February 5 before Judge Ralph Curriu. He plead not guilty to the charge of Forgery in the First Degree.

Desk Dust



Survival Instinct made me do it. Clean the clutter on my desk, I mean. Thank goodness that urge only hits a couple or three times a year. Maybe you'd like to read some of it before I throw it away.

-the new North Morrow County Ambulance is in town. As soon as it's operational, one of the old ones will go to Irrigon for an early response rig.

-the second annual Walleye fishing derby will be held out on the Boardman Marina on August 13 and 14. In addition, OMC has designated the Morrow County stretch of the Columbia as one of 15 walleye tournament sites they sponsor with winners invited to a 'national' back east where they fish for \$45,000 in prize money.

-Billy Doherty, last of the good old boys.

-my editor got a phone call from Joe Locke, I got a phone call from my editor, Joe got a call from me. I think we all now understand each other now.

-Superintendent Doyle McCaslin got a phone call from budget committee member Bruce Nicholes. I'm not sure either understands.

-had smelt for supper last night. Reminded me of the time both my brothers, Big Dave and I all went smelt dipping. Have you ever driven across the river at Bonneville Dam? I mean on the dam?

-Jack Stregre is new president of Boardman/North Morrow County Chamber of Commerce. Jack is a survivor at PGE.

-talked with Don Aikman, the County's Director of Public Works. Based on that sole and exhaustive phone call, I think he's going to be good.

-Let's see now, fifteen various rough drafts, three unread magazines, a pile of unopened junk mail, sixty five assorted newspapers, partially read and four broken pencils. All trash.

-a felt tip pen I thought I'd lost, some paper clips, three more unread magazines, six rejection slips, a pile of photos, and today's paper. All of that I'm gonna keep for seed.

Livestock growers donate to 4-H

Morrow County Livestock Growers recently made a \$500 donation to the Morrow County 4-H program to help provide visual aids for leader/member training. The funds will be used to build a VCR library covering all areas of the 4-H program. Tapes will be made available for all 4-H and FFA members to use in Morrow County.

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