

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

### Neighbors make good friends

To the Editor:

When our family bought our home at 395 Gale in April of 1980, 9 years ago, we were pleased to be moving into a nice four bedroom home on a large corner lot close to Main street and schools.

Naturally we had a good deal of concern about our neighbors and how we would fit into the neighborhood. We had two small boys who fought all the time, screamed and yelled constantly and generally raised hell. Our dog barked to much and visited the neighbors yards all the time.

When we found that our three closest neighbors were all in their senior years, we didn't know what to anticipate.

Would they like us? Would they like our kids? Would they like our dog?

Boy, were we lucky! These neighbors were the first with a hello in the morning. The first to offer the use of a garden tool or other piece of equipment.

The first to show concern about injuries to our kids or the first to compliment us when they did something right.

I don't know how many times so-

meone threw back an errent ball from the yard next door.

We were never without fresh fruits and vegetables from the gardens of our neighbors.

These strange neighbors quickly turned into our good friends.

We've been very lucky to have lived next to Sophie and Clayton Ayers, Luke and Madalyn Bibby and Ambrose and Marguarite Chapin.

We're moving next week around the block. Another young couple with two young children and a mean dog is moving into the house.

Little do they know that the best thing about living there isn't the four bedrooms, the corner lot or the closeness to town and school.

It'll be the greatest neighbors in Heppner right next door.

(s) George, Debbie, Rick and Brian Koffler

### Marriage License

The Clerks office at the courthouse in Heppner reports issuing the following marriage licenses during the past week:

Tim Edward Patton, 24, Heppner; and

Virginia Lynn Olson, 20, Heppner.

### Misunderstanding regarding due process of law

To the Editor:

There seems to be a misunderstanding that there has been some type of "amnesty" granted for criminal conduct occurring during the recent teacher's strike. This is not the case. Specific instances of alleged criminal conduct which occurred during the strike are being reviewed on a case-by-case basis through normal law enforcement channels. Appropriate charging decisions regarding in-

dividual cases will then be made and these will be handled through the normal court process.

Whatever agreements have been reached between the parties, as to the strike, have no bearing whatsoever on the functions of law enforcement agencies or the District Attorney's office.

Yours Very Truly,  
(s) Jeff M. Wallace  
Morrow County District Attorney

### Boardman representative needed for medical board

To the Editor:

I have served on the Morrow County Medical Board for the past six months. At the March 6 meeting, I resigned from the Board because of a strong disagreement which occurred during the Executive Session. Unfortunately, this leaves the Medical Board with no representation from Boardman. I urge our County Commissioners to appoint, as soon as possible, two persons from the Boardman area to serve as Medical Board members. Adequate representation of all our local communities is a necessity if the Board is to function in a manner which is fair to all citizens of Morrow County. When the County Court does fill the Medical Board vacancies, I would like the new members to be aware of my misgivings regarding the future of the Boardman Clinic.

With the adoption of a new management agreement between St. Anthony Hospital and Morrow County, the Boardman Clinic will no longer be leased directly to St. Anthony. Instead, it will be managed by the County Medical Administrator in the same manner as our other medical facilities. I am concerned about this situation for several reasons. First, St. Anthony Hospital has been operating a clinic in Umatilla which is in competition with the Boardman Clinic. Second, while the County Medical Administrator is responsible to carry out the policies of the Board, he is also an employee of, and responsi-

ble to, St. Anthony Hospital.

The Medical Board has been told by St. Anthony's representative that they lost money during their lease of the Boardman Clinic. This is certainly understandable considering that St. Anthony was operating not only the Boardman and Umatilla Clinics in competition with each other but, until recently, the Hermiston Clinic as well. It should also be pointed out that St. Anthony's recent survey about the Boardman Clinic was not sent to any residents of Irrigon.

I believe that our clinic in Boardman can meet the needs of local citizens with a minimum expenditure of tax dollars if the County Medical Administrator is given clear instructions to pursue the well-being of the Boardman Clinic in the same manner as has been done with the Heppner Clinic. There can be no excuse for the Medical Board to neglect one clinic while nurturing the other. Certainly the successful operation of the Boardman Clinic will require some management skills, but I believe that our Medical Administrator has proved himself quite capable of the task, provided that his abilities are not shackled. The Board must recognize that there exists a potential for conflict of interest with St. Anthony Hospital, and County medical policy must ensure that all decisions which concern the Boardman Clinic are solely based upon the best interests of local citizens.

(s) Stephen G. Mounts  
Boardman

### SB 616 is important for hunters

To the Editor:

SB #616 is a very important bill for hunters and a public hearing on this "local preference" legislation will be held at 3:30 p.m. in room 343 at the State Capitol on March 20. I initiated SB #616 on behalf of my constituents who have felt for a long time that they should receive preference status when deer and elk tags are being used.

This bill will provide hunters with an assurance that they will be given a tag to hunt in their own county if they so choose. A hunter's application must list the first three unit choices within the county in which the applicant resides in order to receive this priority status.

Hunters should be allowed the opportunity to hunt in their own counties. They support the economy there

year around, they pay taxes in their county, they love the country there - and not just during hunting season.

I urge you to come to Salem on March 20 to testify in support of providing this local preference to hunters. (I can assure you that people from west of the mountains will be here in force to oppose such action.)

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact me. Phone 1-800-327-7389 or 378-8849. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you on the 20th.

Sincerely,  
(s) Eugene "Gene" D. Timms  
State Senator District #30

### Justice Court Report

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

Christopher Murray-Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor, \$387 fine, one year probation no further violation of law excluding traffic;

Richard Allen Basford, Ione-Careless Driving, \$57 fine;

Lowell T. Laite, Spray-Offensive Littering, \$31 bail forfeited;

Dennis Harl Round, Canyon City-Violation of the Basic Rule, \$57 bail forfeited;

Jess Osmin, Heppner-Wrong Way on One Way Street, Driving Without Lights, \$34 fine;

Frank Robert Challis, Hermiston-Truck Speeding, 69 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$30 fine;

Jess Dean Osmin, Heppner-Criminal Mischief II, \$337 fine, 30 days make restitution to Morrow County High School, \$200 fine suspended and 30 day suspended on condition of restitution.

### Heppner Police Report

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

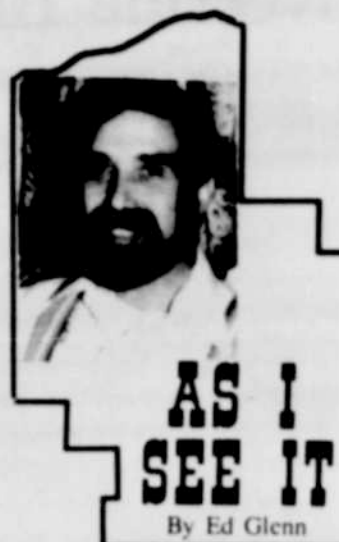
March 20: 7:16 p.m.-Motorist assist.

March 21: 10:56 p.m.-Motorist assist.

March 23: 1:50 a.m.-request officer for Security Check; 2 p.m.-Funeral Escort.

March 26: 8:40 p.m.-citation issued for Expired Vehicle License; 10:37 p.m.-request officer for Security Check.

### Some Days: Nothing



There was bound to be a day like this. My day for writing. And no story to write. Nothing.

I read through a month's worth of old newspapers. Pete Rose is having his troubles, isn't he? I did find a couple of things that deserve comment, but not today. Like this column that had a typo a few weeks back. I'm surprised I haven't had an angry phone call over it. But since I haven't, you're forgiven, Joyce.

Watched Bob Hope last night. Seems he's finally showing his age. Well, part of it. Bob says he thinks George Burns will run for President. George would make a good one too. He has experience playing God.

Went down to the coffee shop in search of a story. The prison is on most minds and lips. Boardman needs some kind of a boost really bad and some of the city fathers see a new prison as the silver lining. Big public meeting for Wednesday night. We intend to speak. I tried to think up a story on the prison, but just can't. Maybe later.

Social gaming good for some idle talk. Gosh, it's all I can do to keep up with the pony parlor. Did you even know that there's horse racing in Boardman? Portland Meadows telecasts the races to The Nomad Restaurant and they take bets as part of the Portland Meadows para-mutual pool. The Nomad plans to have the dog races from Multnomah Kennel Club starting in May. I haven't been a big winner so far. Maybe that's why you haven't heard about this before.

Aldicarb (Temik) came up. That's the insecticide used on potatoes that's been in the news. Not the knee-jerk reaction we saw with Alar on apples, but nevertheless a concern to local spud growers. My theory is that if we holler "fire" enough times when there ain't, no one will run when there is. And the truth is even the most enamored health nuts won't pay the cost of producing food without the use of chemicals. Some growers guess three or four times for poorer quality.

One city father complains that the assessor consistently over-values property in the north end. He points to a cash deal for \$58,000 where the buyer had to go clear to the State Department of Revenue to get the local assessment lowered from \$100,000. Could be property is wasting away so fast even the assessor can't keep up with it. Why does it seem that the Reagan Recovery is all around us, but not here? Has it always been that way? Don't we really kind of want it to be that way?

We got called "scurrilous" about a recent column, and the caller reserved amendment rights until he could check to see if that was a strong enough term. I checked it: "vulgar; abusive; obscene." Then I reread the column. He's right.

When I got back from the coffee shop, no story in mind, I found the family cat asleep in my chair. He's deserved it, we had him "fixed" last week. All the be-kind-to-animals ads advocate the practice and being a farm boy, I know it's universal use. But I just can't help but think how cruel, demeaning, demoralizing and destructive it can be. Just imagine a life without sex!

I called an old friend of mine. One I hadn't talked to in years. In another state. Didn't get to talk to him, he was out, but I did leave a message on his machine. He'll call back when I'm not here and talk to my machine. I think the phone company should give those machines away free to anyone who will hook them up. Just think how many more long distance phone calls would be answered and thus paid for.

Did you ever think about how marvelous that telephone is? I did, again and that's fun, but not a story.

My daughter came home from school. Fifteen and into that loud music. It takes loud music to study by, to clean the kitchen, even to go to the bathroom by. But she's the apple of her daddy's eye and can get away with it. She's just finished writing a novel for her school class, and I'm jealous. My own lies collecting dust only about half done.

I told you there was no story today. Sometimes it's like that. Its evening now and deadline approaches. Some jobs just can't be done by the deadline. Some jobs have to wait until past the deadline. (continued next week) (Remember Ed, I always get the last word in-eh?)

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Prices Good March 30th. - April 3rd

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