

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

U.S.P.S. 240-420

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St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board



By Jane Rawlins

Following the three-day training sessions here last week a local Widowed Persons Service (AARP) will now be available in this area. Mrs. Don (Shirley) Haugen, local coordinator, announced that the group will meet at 9 a.m. the third Thursday of each month in the senior center for further study and support. They plan to offer help to the newly-widowed on a one-to-one basis. For information, call Shirley 676-5252.

This week: Thursday, the BMCC knitting class will be held at 7 p.m. in the dining room.

Friday the Dollaride car will be going to Pendleton at 9:45 a.m. We have room for three more passengers. Anyone interested may call the office 676-9030 or 676-9435. From 2 to 4 p.m. coffee hour will be in the front room.

Sunday, Feb. 4, the Lone Lions Club is giving a benefit bingo party in the dining room. Everyone is invited. Cards are 25 cents each with cash prizes. We do appreciate this help and hope we have a good turnout.

Next week: Monday at 10 a.m. Sharon Kline, administrator for the Umatilla County Health Dept., will conduct a meeting designed to help Oregon rank health care needs. This is an important time for people of all ages in our community to express opinions and values on health care issues. These will eventually reach the joint legislative committee on health care in Salem.

At 1 p.m. "Quilters and Company" meet in the dining room. Wednesday noon dinner menu: macaroni and beef, cheese sticks, green beans, tossed salad, hot bread, cake with peanut butter frosting and juice. Catholic ladies will help with serving and cleanup.

Thursday: BMCC knitting class will be at 7 p.m. in dining room.

Saturday, Feb. 10, a benefit bingo party for Carol Ann Rea will begin at 6 p.m. with pie and coffee. This is sponsored by the Lexington Rebekahs.

Sunday: February potluck and games party is at 4 p.m.

The following Monday the Nutrition Site Committee is giving a "thank you" luncheon at noon for that super special group of women and men from the churches who have helped serve the Wednesday meals. Vital to our nutrition program, they are truly appreciated.

Another services of the Area Agency on Aging offered through our office. The AAA has offered technical assistance and ongoing support in both the establishment and operation of eight multi-purpose senior centers in Eastern Oregon: Hermiston, Irrigon, John Day, Milton-Freewater, Pendleton, Stanfield, Umatilla and Heppner.

In the Heppner-Lexington-Ione area, they encouraged seniors to establish their own center, assisted in forming a board of directors and in becoming incorporated as a charitable, non-profit corporation. They do not tell our board what to do; we are to do for ourselves, but with their assistance and support when needed. They assisted with our decision to locate in the Heppner Hotel, with the contract with the city for a long-term lease (99 years), and with all ongoing projects that occur here if we ask for help.

For example, Merr Reamer, our AAA specialist for Morrow County, organized and continues to train and assist the volunteer office staff. She attends board meetings and cues us into enriching programs for seniors such as the 55-Alive and Widowed Persons Service classes.

But finally, the Heppner Senior Center Board is responsible fiscally, legally, and morally for all activities which occur in the senior center part of the St. Patrick's Senior Center building. Members are Jane Rawlins, president, Grace Drake, secretary, John Wood treasurer, Meg Murray, Bud Batty, Everett Keithley and Paul Jones. We welcome suggestions from anyone and everyone in the community for making this the best senior center ever.

55/Alive class to be offered

By Beth Stephens

Stokes Landing Senior Center will sponsor another driving class in February, dates to be announced. To register call 922-3348. Class will be two sessions of four hours each over a two-day period. The cost is \$7 per

person and a student must attend both sessions to receive the completion certificate. Senate Bill 684 requires a reduction in insurance premiums for those people 55 years and over who have received this certificate. Class is limited to 20.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Chamber Manager

Most people would agree that the trouble with vacations is they end and reality returns. And what an ending, instead of catching Montezuma's Revenge in Mexico, it's the flu bug in the good old USA and far too much to do in town to be sick at home.

Mexican tourism Puerta Vallarta has a story to tell. From a community of 9,000 thirty-five years ago, it grew to a city of 280,000, due in part to the Taylor/Burton film, "Night of the Iguana." Fortunately, situated beside the beach with coconut trees and waves crashing along the shore, you can forget there is so much humanity close by.

Mexico is culture shock. Patience is required. Bartering is a way of life from age two on up. Nerves of steel are a prerequisite for a taxi-cab ride. You think the city of Heppner had sewer problems, volumes could be written about this in Mexico. I don't think a ten-year, five-year or for that matter, a one-year plan was ever put together for restroom facilities for 50 tourists let alone 200,000. Nevertheless, one adjusts to inconveniences. It's a trade off for the 80-degree weather, cruise, jungle tour, horseback ride, afternoon siesta and leisurely, friendly atmosphere of the Mexican people. You wonder about America and our obsession with material needs when you see the smiling Mexican people sweeping their dirt floors and washing their clothes (whiter than white) on rocks in the river.

A vacation is great, but home is where the heart is. Time to get back to work, community development, and St. Patrick's festivities. "Hasta Leugo."

Justice Court Report

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

Tereena Lee Nash, 20, Heppner-Disobeyed Stop Sign, \$20 fine;
Dale Alan Munkers, 33, Heppner-Possession of Mutilated Elk Tag, \$13 fine;

John Edward Graham, 28, Baker-Defective Equipment, \$20 fine;
Donald Robert Kindsfater, 25, Pendleton-Driving Without Headlights, \$20 fine;

Deanna Lou Jackson-Driving Uninsured, \$43 bail forfeited;
Dennis James Trotter, 25, Portland-Disobeyed Stop Sign, \$38 bail forfeited;

Wayne Chester Gorbet, 33, Hermiston-Defective Equipment, \$43 bail forfeited;
John Parker Romano, 28, Seattle, WA - Driving Without Headlights, \$20 fine;

Jess Raymond Knopf, 33, Milton-Freewater-Truck Speeding, 64 mph in a 55 mph zone-\$37 fine;

Robert Hatfield Wight, 36, Lexington-No Operator's License, \$16 fine; Driving Without Headlights, \$31 fine;

Jay Devin, Lexington-Negotiating a Bad Check, 6 months in jail suspended, pay all fines fees and costs on schedule as determined by court.

Sheriff's Report

The Sheriff's office at the courthouse in Heppner reports dispatching the following business during the past week:

January 24: Morrow County deputy responded to Boardman for a report of two missing bikes. Investigations are pending.

January 25: Morrow County Sheriff's office arrested Terrell Lee Rea, 24, Boardman for Failure to Appear/Failure to Perform Duties of Driver at Scene of Accident. Subject posted bail.

January 26: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to an Arlington office for an unknown illness.

January 27: Morrow County deputy began investigation of theft of gasoline from vehicles parked at a Boardman area business;

Morrow County Sheriff's office paged the Condon Fire department to a structure fire in the Condon area.

Morrow County deputy responded to assist Boardman Police department with a welfare check.

January 28: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance for a male patient with an illness. There was no transport.

Morrow County deputies assisted one disabled motorist during the week of January 22-29.

January 29: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner ambulance to a Heppner business for a 70 year old female with an injury. There was no transport.

Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to the Boardman area where two trees had fallen down across the road.

Births

Jessica Marie Connor-a daughter, Jessica Marie, was born to Mary Connor of Heppner on January 17, 1990 at Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 13 ozs.

Grandparents are Lois and Nelson Connor, Heppner.

Great-grandparents are Truman E. Messenger, Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Truman E. Messenger Jr. Hermiston.

Ben Cody McCarty-a son, Ben Cody, was born to David and Dyann McCarty of Heppner on January 16, 1990. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 2 ozs.

Grandparents are Eddie and Lorraine Brosnan, Heppner and Mike and Jane McCarty, Echo.

Great-grandparents are Jerry and Mary Brosnan, Heppner, Hattie Harnden, Heppner, Oscar and Marie McCarty, Echo and Ann Webb, Hermiston.

The baby joins one brother, Clay Tom at home.

Cory Dominic Zita-a boy, Cory Dominic was born to Sheridan and Rich Zita of Milton-Freewater on January 7, 1990, at St. Mary's Hospital in Walla Walla. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 13 1/2 ozs.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Sweek, Heppner and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hawkins, Echo.

Great Grandmother is Alta Cutsforth, Heppner.

Health Dept

The Morrow County Health department lists their following monthly schedule:

Friday, Feb. 2-blood pressures and immunizations, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Pettyjohn building, Heppner office.

Monday, Feb. 5 the office will be closed.

Tuesday, Feb. 6-blood pressures and immunizations, 1:30-4 p.m. Boardman City Hall.

Wednesday, Feb. 7-home blood pressures in the morning.

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

Tuesday, Feb. 13-blood pressures and immunizations, 1-4 p.m. Irrigon County office.

Friday Feb. 16-office closed.

Monday, Feb. 19-office closed, holiday.

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

Wednesday, Feb. 21-blood pressures, 2-3 p.m. Ione Bank of Eastern Oregon kitchen.

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

Tuesday, Feb. 27-blood pressures and immunizations, 1-4 p.m. Irrigon County offices.

Heppner Police Report

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

January 22: 9:16 p.m.-Report of Theft.

January 23: 2:30 a.m.-Prowler Call; 8:27 a.m.-Courteous Driver Award to Shelly Sieler; 5:24 p.m.-Motorist Assist; 5:38 p.m.-citation issued for Violation of the Basic Rule, 50 mph in a 25 mph zone; 5:49 p.m.-citation issued for Defective Equipment and Driving Uninsured.

January 25: 5:26 p.m.-Report of Worthless Document.

January 26: 10:49 p.m.-request officer for Security Check; 11:13 a.m.-Dog Complaint; 2:49 p.m.-Civil Matter.

January 27: 12:08 a.m.-citation issued for Driving While Suspended.

January 28: 2:32 p.m.-False Alarm.

Good News

There's good news around the county this week.

The County budget committee has finished its work and the county court has settled on a budget with less than a one percent increase in the total tax it would levy on property owners. Morrow County has had the fifth highest tax rate of all 36 counties in the state and a significant slowing in the growth of county taxes is good news indeed.

I don't always think that one should gauge his own by what that famous neighbor Jones is up to, but sometimes it is one measure of how well we're doing. High property tax rates can give us a competitive disadvantage. New tractors cost as much in Morrow County as they do in Umatilla County and wheat does not sell for any more. But if our taxes are higher, expect our farmers to have a little tougher time to make a go than the folks across the county line.

In spite of the good men and women, with good intentions I can't help but think that a certain amount of every tax dollar is wasted. The only way to cut waste in government is to cut (or at least hold down the growth of) the size of government. The wasted percentage will always remain the same but it will be fewer dollars if government has fewer dollars to start with.

And government always tries to do too much. I don't think there's anything that private industry does that it can't do better and for less than government does. I'd like to see much more competitive bidding by the private sector for the things government tries to do. Like one of the main things county government does, build and maintain roads.

Finally, it seems that nearly everything government undertakes is really another limitation on each of us doing what we want to do.

There's a big movement to free our food supply of what might be harmful chemicals. Recent legislation regulating "organic" food, however, will frustrate that desire. The rules are so onerous that many would-be organic farmers will go back to insecticides, herbicides and chemical fertilizers. The few that don't will have to have twice as much for their produce to pay for meeting the new rules and it will be years and years longer before there is a reliable source of "clean" food. What a blunder.

So you can see why I say holding the line on county taxes is good news indeed.

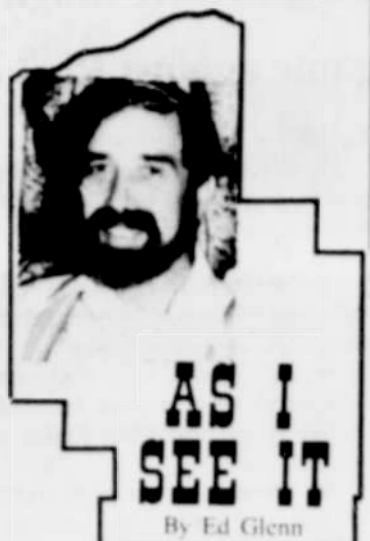
And there's the same good news from the school district. They say next year's tax levy will not be up just a little like the county's they say "no new taxes." Unless the budget committee adds back some of the wish list, the school levy will be exactly the same as this year.

One way the school district can do that is to spend part of the slowing accumulating "savings account" they've put together over the years. The district has underbudgeted (a good thing to do, right?) both the beginning and ending cash balances. But when you underbudget both, there's a kind of invisible accumulation over the years that has grown to well over \$1 million.

In addition to the zero-tax growth posture, the district will propose a new tax base for the same amount. I really like that idea.

With annual tax levy elections based on a woefully inadequate base, we have approved an annual growth greater than 6 percent per year. If we update the tax base now, we will be less inclined to override it with an annual levy. That will mean we may have a better chance to hold the line on school tax increases if we have an up-dated base than if we go on like we have these past years.

Taxpayers in the city of Irrigon had their good news last year when taxes dropped by almost half. Boardman and Heppner remain in the top 10 percent of all cities in Oregon with more than \$12 rates. Maybe folks there will get some good news before spring.



AS I SEE IT
By Ed Glenn

Irrigon Lions to sell tickets for vacation

By Beth Stephens

Irrigon Lions Club members are

selling tickets for a weekend for two at the Inn at Otter Crest. Other prizes will also be drawn. The tickets are \$1 each. Contact Roger Trueax 922-5188 or Greg Barron 922-4657 for tickets or more information.

Medical board

to meet Feb. 5.

The Morrow County Medical Board will meet Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. at Irrigon City Hall.

The agenda will include general business matters. The public is invited to attend.

Marriage Licenses

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

Clifford J. Dougherty and Dawna Ann Devin.

MILLER'S MINI MART & CHEVRON
OPEN 5:00 A.M. - 11:00 P.M.

Clem was so busy at Miller's Mini Mart & Chevron pumping gas and selling goodies that he forgot to write this weekly bi-line. Oh well!!!
See ya next week.

COAST TO COAST
your SOURCE for 1990's

Stop by and see our new and exciting additions
Fishing Tackle - Guns
Drip Irrigation

★★★ Coming Soon ★★★
Do-It-Yourself
Underground Sprinkler System
Mobile Home & RV Plumbing
Repair System

★★★ Expanded Assortments in Most Departments ★★★

Coast to Coast
Heppner WE KNOW OUR STUFF 676-9961

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

Yellow Dry Onions	5 lbs \$1.00	Hind Quarter (frozen) Turkey	49¢ lb.
5 lb bag Potatoes	99¢ ea.	Fresh Smelt	59¢ lb.
Oranges	29¢ lb.	4 lb pkg. Reg. 3.79 Spaghetti or Macaroni	1st one \$1.99
Turnips	5 lbs \$1.00	Gold & Soft 1 lb Tub Reg. 1.09	Margarine 1st Four 89¢ ea.
Beef Chuck Roast	\$1.59 lb.	Pacific Pearl 4 1/2 oz Reg. 1.69	Tiny Shrimp \$1.00 ea.
Beef Rib Steak	\$2.59 lb.	Tillamook Baby Loaf Med 2lb Reg. 5.79	Cheese 1st one \$4.00 ea.

Prices Good February 1st - 5th

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - 7 A.M. - 6 P.M.
Court Street Market
111 N. Court Heppner 676-9643