

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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Letters to the Editor

Lets have straight talk

To the Editor:

After reading the many news articles and letters to the editor regarding the threatened closure of the Morrow County Neighborhood Council, I feel it is necessary to respond. First let me state clearly that we totally support the work being done by the community to assist their low-income neighbors.

The Neighborhood Council was formed to fill the gap left when the Blue Mountain Economic Development Council (BMEDEC) went bankrupt. One of the key reasons for this bankruptcy was that they failed to adjust their operation to fit the financial realities of a reduction in funding.

When CAPECO was formed to replace BMEDEC, the board of directors sought to cost-effective approaches to meeting human service needs of our communities. CAPECO set aside special grant funds for community based services. These services were to be delivered by local groups in a manner determined by local people. This program has been extremely successful. Today there are more community service groups established and operating in our four-county area (Morrow, Umatilla, Gilliam and Wheeler counties) than at anytime in the past. Community sponsored programs operate in Mitchell, Fossil, Condon, Arlington, Irrigon, Boardman, Milton-Freewater, Pendleton, Hermiston and Heppner. Out of all those programs only two have paid staff: Hermiston and Heppner. The Morrow County Neighborhood Council is the only one that finds it necessary to operate with a full-time paid staff person. The Hermiston Neighborhood Center, serving a community with more people than all of Morrow County, operates three days a week with a part-time paid staff person and volunteers. Volunteers make up the bulk of the service providers in our four-county area and do an exceptional job.

Times have changed in the social service business. Resources are tight or dwindling and it is incumbent upon all of us to be creative and cost-effective about how we serve the needy. Organizations like the Morrow County Neighborhood Council are vital to the well-being of our communities but not at any price. We have to be realistic about what

we can do with our limited resources. The Neighborhood Council directors have refused to face the fact that they can't afford a full-time operation, in fact, no one in our four-county area can. The council's threat to close the center without even trying an alternate approach is unfair to the community, its funding sources, and most importantly to the low-income citizens who need these services.

The council is threatening to shut down on April 1, the community has a right to ask why? If services are the concern then shouldn't an alternative delivery strategy be attempted before throwing in the towel. The community and the various funding agencies for the council remain committed to assisting the low-income citizens of Morrow County. CAPECO and the State of Oregon have offered help in developing a realistic and affordable service delivery strategy. But this help does not and cannot include endorsing the current business approaches of the Morrow County Neighborhood Council. The community is not getting a fair chance to consider all the options before the council board of directors elect to close the center. The community has never failed to support the Neighborhood Center, now the board of directors should consider the full range of their options. Regardless of the final decision of the council, the low-income citizens of south Morrow County will be served. But for now it is time for the council directors to offer straight talk on the future or resign and let the community decide how best to proceed.

Sincerely,
(s) Stan Foster

Kit George wins lamb

Kit George, Heppner, was the winner of the Heppner Day Care fat lamb drawing.

The lamb was donated by Wade West. The drawing was held St. Patrick's Day during the downtown auction.

The Adventures of Grazelda & Clem

(After Hours)
5:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Grazelda announced, "Hey Clem, I've got to go down to Miller's Mini Mart & Chevron and get some ketchup, ice cream, green beans and Gator Ade. Do you want anything?"
Clem scoffed, "What are you gonna do with that stuff, bake a cake?"
Grazelda gasped, "Why Clem, you're amazing. I've just got to try this new cake recipe." Clem groaned, "Oh no, I hate to turn green again so soon after last weekend!"



SPRING IS HERE!

Now is the time to start on all of those lawn & garden preparations

We're your source for:

Fertilizer Roundup
Grass Seed Hoses
Sprayer Sprinklers
Raindrip System Seeds

COAST TO COAST

We Know Our STUFF 676-9961

Looking for 157th Infantry

To the Editor:

The 157th Infantry Association is making a concentrated effort to locate all former members of the 157th Infantry Regiment and the 158th Field Artillery. These units were part of the 45th Infantry Division during World War II, and had an outstanding record of combat while fighting in Sicily, Italy, France and Germany.

The Association conducts an annual reunion and a quarterly newsletter is sent to each member. The September 1990 reunion will be held in San Diego, CA.

If any of your readers served, or know of anyone who served with either of these units, please contact Ralph W. Frink, 19 Williamsburg, Hershey, PA 17033, phone (717) 533-5482.

Thank you,
(s) R.W. Fink

Sheriff's Report

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

March 13: Morrow County Sheriff's office paged the Boardman ambulance to the Boardman Clinic to transport a patient to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston;

Morrow County deputy responded to a Neighborhood Disturbance at a residence in Irrigon;

Morrow County deputy responded to assist Boardman Police department with an audible alarm at the Chevron station in Boardman;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for an investigation of a possible theft.

March 14: Morrow County deputy responded to First St. and Hwy 730 in Irrigon to investigate a two vehicle accident. There were no injuries;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Spray ambulance to a residence in Spray for a female with an unknown illness. Female was transported by AirLife to Bend;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to a residence in Boardman for a female with an unknown illness. Female was transported to St. Anthony's Hospital in Pendleton.

March 15: Morrow County Sheriff's office arrested Michael Lane Brisco, 35, for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. Brisco was cited and released;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Fossil fire department to a residence in Fossil for a chimney flue fire. Page was cancelled.

March 16: Morrow County deputy is investigating a stolen bicycle valued at \$125.00. Bicycle was reported stolen from an Irrigon school;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman fire department to a fire at Desert Springs Estates for an electrical fire.

March 17: Morrow County deputy cited and released Gary D. Hecker, 33, Irrigon for Furnishing Liquor to a Minor;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner fire department to a residence on Gale St. for a chimney fire;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner ambulance to Main Street in Heppner for a male who was injured. Subject was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital with unknown injuries;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to I-84 eastbound at milepost 141 for a male, 45, involved in a motor vehicle accident. One transport was made to Good Shepherd Hospital with unknown injuries;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman fire department to the W. end of Kunze Rd. for a large tree that was on fire;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance for a 93 year old male to be transported to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston.

March 18: Morrow County deputy received a report and began investigation of an unauthorized use of a motor vehicle and possible criminal mischief. Vehicle was driving in seeded field at Lone (Gooseberry) area. Investigation is continuing;

Morrow County deputy responded to a rural Irrigon address and talked to parties involved in a civil problem;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Pioneer Memorial Hospital ambulance to one mile north of Ruggs on Hwy 207 to a one vehicle accident. One male was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital with an unknown injury.

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the Boardman westbound rest area and transported one male to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston;

Morrow County deputy responded to investigate a vehicle without lights and engine off parked on private property. Problem was resolved.

March 19: Morrow County deputy responded to an audible alarm at the Irrigon Market. No action was needed;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner fire department to a brush fire at the west end of Heppner;

ter is sent to each member. The September 1990 reunion will be held in San Diego, CA.

If any of your readers served, or know of anyone who served with either of these units, please contact Ralph W. Frink, 19 Williamsburg, Hershey, PA 17033, phone (717) 533-5482.

Thank you,
(s) R.W. Fink

Morrow County deputy responded to begin investigation of criminal mischief. Lee Picknell reported damage done at a residence near the Dry Fork area;

Morrow County Sheriff's office arrested Jerry Walter Buschke, 53, Lexington for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. Buschke was cited and released on his own recognizance;

Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to a report of a prowler at Irrigon Mobile Court. Deputy was unable to locate prowler, investigation is continuing.

March 20: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the end of East Kunze Road for an industrial accident. One male was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Chamber Manager

"Out of the frying pan and into the fire," isn't that how the saying goes. That was the way people attending the Cycle Oregon III meeting Monday night felt the day after the St. Patrick's Celebration ended. Some of us were barely out of our green and it was tough to switch into cycle gear. But switch we need to do.

The entire community and surrounding area stands to benefit from the event on September 9 when 2,000 bicyclists arrive early in the day to spend the night in Heppner. Mark your calendars now because feeding these people two meals and entertaining them will take "all hands on deck". To give you a small idea of what this entails, there needs to be 15 serving lines. For snacks, purchased in the community, they have consumed 600 pies, 400 tins of cake and cookies, and 200 tins of cinnamon rolls. Start baking now.

Who are these people anyway? Their average age is 39.62 years; 40 percent make over \$50,000 a year and the remainder over \$70,000. They choose to climb on a bike for a week to see rural Oregon rather than cruise the Caribbean. Last year 30 states were represented and four foreign countries. They love small town entertainment and lots of good food. They pay to have their bicycles guarded, tents set up, luggage unloaded...this is their vacation and we want to make their Heppner stop the most memorable one on the trip. Put on your creative caps. More information will be forthcoming.

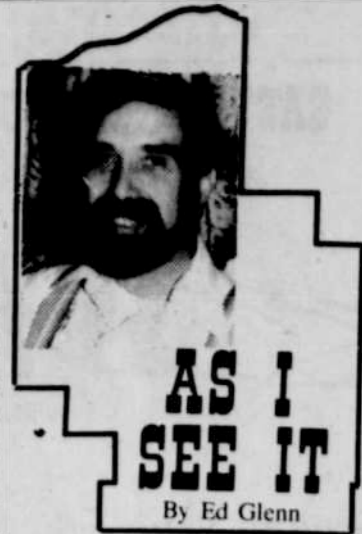
Next week: Brian Scott, Oregon Downtown Development Association.

Thought for the week: "Obstacles are the things you see when you take your eyes off of the goal."

Births

Juan Carlos Ruiz-a daughter Juan Carlos was born to Carlos and Candelaria Ruiz of Irrigon on March 10, 1990 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 8 lbs. 11 ozs.

The School Mystery



There appears to me a mystery abounding: what about the schools? There isn't much mystery in Boardman, the schools are an important part of the community. The town rallies around the basketball team, the Junior High spends most of a day picking up trash in town. The auditorium is often too small to hold the crowd that shows up for some event or another and the cake decorating contest at Sam Boardman Elementary is a social highlight.

The role of the schools in Boardman is clear. The community supports them strongly. Boardman precincts nearly always support school tax levies and this election period, the Boardman seat on the School Board is contested by two highly qualified candidates. There are two Boardman people vying for the same Advisory Committee slot.

There's no mystery about how important schools are in Boardman. There's not much mystery in Irrigon either. County-wide consolidation took away their high school, their community identity, their pride. Many of them are still sore, most of the rest don't care and they almost always vote no on school money issues. Irrigon too is a known quantity, no mystery there.

Ione is well known too. Especially now that the Lady Cardinals have firmly established themselves as the best in the state. Way to go girls. But even before that, Ione was quick to rally around its school. It may be the most expensive school, per student, in the county. It may not be able to make the broad curriculum offerings as other high schools in the county. No matter, the folks in Ione so strongly support their school no one in their right mind would dare to suggest there might be a better way.

And when it comes to putting your money where your love is, the Ione folks do it with the same passion they feel about their school. Money items on the ballot are heavily favored in Ione. That's something you can count on. There's no mystery in Ione.

Look for the mystery about schools in Heppner. A full array of schools, elementary, intermediate and high schools, with some of the best teachers in the district. And more of them per student than in Boardman and Irrigon.

A great program, with graduates moving on to some of the best colleges and universities. Others distinguishing themselves in business, industry and on the family farm.

A great competitive spirit, most visible in the Heppner Fillies and Mustangs both with a great basketball season, but also seen in FFA, speech, essay and other competitions.

The mystery is the apathetically indifferent community attitude toward schools in Heppner. School money issue election watchers say: Irrigon votes heavily 'no', Boardman votes mildly 'yes', Ione votes heavily 'yes' and if Heppner doesn't vote too heavily 'no', the issue will pass.

And school money issues have not had a pleasant reception in Heppner over the years.

Now we have school director elections under way. There's an abundance of candidates in Boardman. There are none in Heppner. Three positions on the Heppner, Heppner/Lexington Advisory Committee have no candidates. They may simply go unfilled.

With such a good school program as Heppner has, with such apparent interest as some folks take in the hope for a better future, the mystery is this: When the community is so indifferent how can the school remain long? Who is it that will assure there are even any schools in Heppner? The dedicated candidates in Boardman?

Justice Court Report

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

Charles Henry Peck, 19, Lexington-Driving Uninsured, Failure to wear Headgear on a motorcycle, License Expired, No Operator License, \$241.00;

Kenny Stookey, 26, Heppner-

Following to Close, Excessive Tire Noise, \$69 fine;

Melvin Duane Smith, 33, Kennewick, WA-Driving without Headlight, \$38 fine;

Clark S. Wilson, 43, Portland-Allowed Unlicensed Juvenile to Operate Vehicle, No Vehicle License, \$62 fine;

Pammy Johnson, Heppner-Maintaining a Dog as a Public Nuisance, \$49 fine;

Donna Cox, Heppner-Allowing Dog to Run At Large, \$20 fine.

Look What's Happening at the Elks!

March 23 - Prime Rib Dinner \$9.95 (BOYS NIGHT OUT)

8 p.m.

March 24 - (GIRLS NIGHT OUT)

8 p.m. \$2.50 cover charge

Heppner Elks 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 N. Main

Court Street Market

CHECK OUR EVERYDAY LOW PRICES WHERE YOUR DOLLAR MAKES MORE CENTS

New York Steak \$3.00 lb.	Van D'Kamp Brealed 26.4 oz.
81% Ground Beef \$1.60 lb.	Fish Sticks 1st 2 \$3.59 ea.
T-Bone Steak \$3.00 lb.	Banquet Fried 28 oz.
Parkay Veg. Oil, 1 lb. cube	Chicken 1st 2 \$2.59 ea.
Margarine 1st 4 \$59 ea.	Lettuce 2 heads for 99¢
Heinz 32 oz.	Fresh Broccoli 49¢ lb.
Ketsup \$1.39	Bananas 39¢ lb.
Fresh 8 oz. pkg. Mushrooms 79¢ ea.	6 pk. 12 oz. cans Pepsi Products \$2.99 +dep.

Prices Good March 22nd - 26th OPEN MON - FRI 7 A.M.-7 P.M. SAT & SUN 8 A.M. - 6 P.M.

Court Street Market
111 N. Court Heppner 676-9643