



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

The Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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Letters to the Editor

For Frohnmayer

To the Editor:

Oregon faces many challenges as we move into the decade of the 1990's. Included among these are maintaining Oregon's livability while still generating economic growth. Dave Frohnmayer, Republican candidate for governor, has the qualities necessary to deal with these challenges.

Dave Frohnmayer is a lifelong Oregonian, raised in Medford. He has served in the legislature, as our current attorney general, and now seeks the governorship. I am voting for Dave because I believe that he

has the personal characteristics of leadership and vision, combined with down-to-earth common sense, we Oregonians need in a governor.

The crisis in workers' compensation and the "spotted owl" controversy are but a few of the challenges facing the state. I'm voting for Dave Frohnmayer for governor because I feel that he has the experience and ability to deal effectively with these problems.

Yours very truly,
(s) Corabelle L. Norene
Box 3006, Rt. 1
Heppner

Frohnmayer a leader

To the Editor:

Five years ago we were the closest neighbors to an illegal alien called Bagwahn Shree Rajneesh. We saw many of our friends and neighbors literally scared out of their homes by followers of the Bagwahn.

Because my wife and I dared to speak against the terrorist tactics taking place in our community, they stationed armed guards just across the John Day River, less than 200 yards from our house. They watched us with binoculars by day and shined high powered spot lights in our windows at night. (This is documented by Oregon State Police records.)

But what was really frustrating was the way many Oregonians said, "that's Antelope's problem," and the way much of the news media branded us as rednecked radicals who had the audacity to stand in the way of progress and the economic boost the state could receive from the millions of Ma Annand Sheela claimed to be spending.

Elected officials counted the less than 200 votes that the natives in and around Antelope could muster,

against upwards of 6,000 the Rajneeshes supposedly had, and wrote us off. That is, all but a hand full of 'em.

Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer listened when no one else would. He began an investigation. He filed criminal charges and won. And he did it long before it was politically popular to stand against the Rajneesh.

That's the difference between a leader and a politician.

To those who were hoodwinked by the Rajneesh public relations machine, citizens, media and elected officials, we forgave you long ago. But we can't forget someone like Dave Frohnmayer who went ahead and did the job he was elected to do, in spite of the death threats he received.

That's leadership. That's doing what's best for Oregon. That's just one of the many reasons Dave Frohnmayer will make an outstanding governor.

(s) Jon Bowerman
Box 45
Antelope, OR 97001

Urges Frohnmayer support

To the Editor:

I would urge people to vote for Dave Frohnmayer for governor of Oregon. Dave is an outstanding person who will also make an outstanding governor.

Dave Frohnmayer has been attorney general of Oregon for the past nine years. During his tenure as AG, he has been a leader in developing new ways to attack the crime problem, including drugs and child abuse. He has the broad base of experience to start immediately as

governor and get the job done.

Dave is a devoted family man and knows the problems and pressures facing Oregon's families. He knows what it will take to make Oregon a better place for all families.

I would urge you to support Dave Frohnmayer as the next governor of Oregon.

Yours very truly,
(s) Hazel Mahoney
Rt. 1 Box 3431
Heppner

NO

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Fair board questions county

To the Editor:

This letter is to provide public information and to give recognition to volunteers who freely give year-around time devoted to the annual Morrow County Fair and Rodeo. Also, there are many other dedicated volunteers who support other activities that are held at the fairgrounds.

Funds for financing the fair and rodeo and the maintenance of these facilities are primarily provided by annual apportionment to counties from the Oregon Racing Commission revenues.

Under State Statute ORS 565.230, fair boards are granted exclusive management of fair grounds. And these boards are charged with the entire business, financial management and other affairs related to the fairgrounds.

In order that the fairgrounds and buildings be utilized for pleasure, recreation and public benefits, fair boards have the authority for year-around management. State statutes clearly preserve the fair board's authority against infringement by other county bodies, including county courts.

At present, the local facilities are used by mutual agreement by entities such as the school district, the Morrow County Livestock Growers, 4-H and FFA, pre-school, Little League and many other private and public groups. Use of the facilities is also donated for community events such as the Pioneer Picnic on Memorial weekend.

Assistance in cost-savings for fairgrounds operations, given in the past, by the county court has been the use of county equipment, road improvements, auditing and a portion of mailing expenses.

However, within the past year, the fair board has had to expend time and lawyer fees to defend its authority in matters of management as defined by law.

For several months, a dedicated group of qualified citizens volunteered their time to explore the development of a long-range plan that could better serve the community's needs for athletic purposes as well as rodeo of the present facilities. That committee's findings revealed that there is not sufficient space for a desired design that would divide the fairgrounds into specific areas for football, baseball and rodeo.

However, without consultation or approval by the fair board, the Mor-

row County Court has advertised for bids on a comprehensive development plan for the fairgrounds, as published in the Heppner Gazette, April 18.

As members of the fair board, we feel that the county court is again taking unlawful management decisions into their own hands. And the fair board questions the wisdom of expending an estimated \$15,000 of taxpayers' money for this purpose. Should a major development plan be instigated, the estimated cost could ultimately run around \$150,000.

Numerous meetings were held concerning the present antiquated rodeo field lights that are primarily used for football. Many organizations expressed interest in helping with a community project to finance this need. To expedite matters, the fair board had the light poles tested for soundness. This testing and the reinforcement of one pole was a fair board expense of about \$1,500. And a professional engineering plan determined that up-dated lights on existing poles would provide an adequate system.

The cost estimate of \$20,000 for lights and installation is beyond the fair board resources. And since the facilities are leased by the school district for football, etc. it would behoove school management to take the lead to secure funding for new field lights.

The 1990-91 county budget received voter approval. However the allowable 6 percent increase in the county tax base and a projected drop in the county's assessed valuation are reflected in higher taxes. But there is no automatic built-in cost-of-living revenue increases for businesses and agricultural-based taxpayers.

The fair board has worked to accommodate fair ground users, to update the facilities and operate as frugally as possible. However, it is the dedication and involvement of people and organizations throughout the county that makes the annual fair and rodeo a successful production that demonstrates the quality of our sparsely-populated county's productivity.

Respectively submitted,
(s) Merlyn Robinson
Harold Peck
Rob Meakins
Charles Daly, chairman
Richard Ladd, vice chairman

Enjoyed St. Pat's Bed Race

To the Editor:

We Brosnans enjoyed the St. Patrick's Day weekend in Heppner. It was an opportunity to visit among our families and to see many fellow Irishmen and "Irishmen."

We have learned from our first bed race experience and know that we can triumph (if we can talk those young'ns into running again). Victory will taste so much sweeter,

though, if we see more Morrow County family contenders, trying desperately to catch us with their bed entries. So, we hope some other pioneer Irish clans will join us next year.

Thanks for a fine day and excuse to get together with family and old friends. It was truly a fine "Irish" happening that weekend.

(s) Doris Brosnan

Lottery not stable school funding source

To the Editor:

Recently, there has been a great deal of debate about the proper use of Oregon's lottery money. As you will recall, in November of 1984, Oregon voters approved an initiative that established a statewide lottery. The measure directed that all proceeds from the lottery be used for economic development.

Many have suggested that we now redirect the lottery dollars to help finance Oregon's public schools. While this idea sounds attractive, let's review some facts:

- * In the 1987-89 biennium, the lottery raised \$60,955,000;
- * During the same biennium, \$4,369,000,000 was spent to fund Oregon schools from Kindergarten

through the 12th grade;

- * If redirected, the lottery money would account for only 1.4 percent of the total education costs;
- * The lottery is not a stable funding source.

I would like to hear what the people of District 59 think about this issue. Please write or call me at my Baker City office.

Thank you for your time and I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
(s) Michael Nelson
State Representative
Route 1 Box 54B
Baker, OR 97814

Justice Court

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

John Francis Marik, 34, Ione-Exceeding the Maximum Speed, 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$37 fine;
Shirley Ann Haugen, 55, Heppner-Wrong way on a One-Way Street, \$20 fine;

Leslie Lee Thompson, 28, Ione-Exceeding the Maximum Speed, 71 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$37 fine;
Mary Catherine Kilkenny, 48-Exceeding the Maximum Speed, 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$65 bail forfeited;

Rick Rea, Heppner-Maintaining a Dog as a Public Nuisance. \$38 fine.

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FREE

Not long ago, a mayor friend of mine accosted me with the challenge "You really don't like government, do you?"

I hadn't really thought much about it before, but when I did, I had to agree, "No, I really don't."

You see, I think a human being is born to be free. Free to roam like a lion, to soar like an eagle, to race the wind like a wild stallion. Man is ill equipped to live in a cage or be a slave. Ground zero, to me is absolute freedom to do as one will.

But unlike any other free thing, man is unique in two regards.

Man is absolutely ingenious in devising ways to limit and restrict the freedom of his fellows and relentless in applying those ways. Somewhere in our make-up there is a great penchant for imposing control, limitations and restrictions on our fellow man. I think that is part of the nature of man, like the drive of a bull elk to assert control over his herd of cows. Unlike the bull elk, though, is man's inventiveness in concocting ways to accomplish that desire to control others.

The other part of man's nature that compounds the equation is his great complacency in being controlled. You'll know what I mean when you try to catch a badger by the hind leg to put him in a cage.

So I see my fellow man with a strong drive to assert control over each other, including me; and with a weak desire to resist being controlled. No wonder, then, that organized government came about to satisfy both drives.

Perhaps some rules are necessary. As we crowd more and more people into less and less space, some territorial disputes are bound to arise. But it is our complacency that leads us to demand that government solve all of our problems, real or perceived. We have lost our own responsibility for the environment around us and seek to pass it on to the government. We refuse to seek a solution to every disagreement on our own, and pass it on to our government.

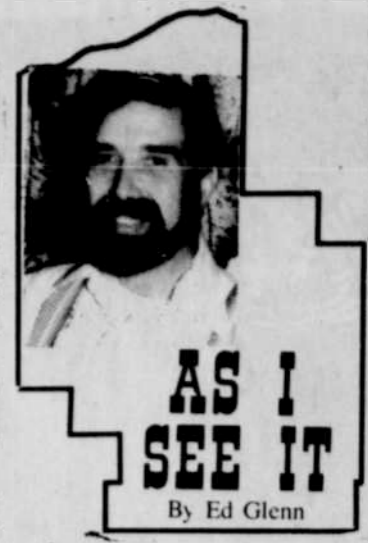
There is very little of the kick of a badger in us, no flight of an eagle, no race of the stallion at all.

Quick and eager to respond to our own lethargic passiveness, our government rises to the occasion and rules, regulates and governs to its heart's desire. These are the same ordinary sensible folks who live next door that when elected to the city council, legislature or congress grow giddy with the power to control.

Just as there are excesses in our insistent demand for more control of others, there are excesses in the degree of control asserted. When bringing the soaring eagle a little closer to earth, it's easy to clip its wings too closely, to hobble the stallion to tightly, to finally pen the badger with death.

I don't like government because I think it has gone too far in corralling a free being; a being that does not recognize the limiting affect of the pen nor is inclined to resist. Unless some of us decry the loss of our freedom to our own government, we will soon be a world of slaves and masters.

The need for government permits, permission, special dispensation will become greater and greater, for just a little trot around the fenced pasture. Soon we'll each be relegated to a mere box stall and the mere thought of soaring, racing or roaming will be gone.



St. Jude's Bike-a-thon is Sunday

By Anne Morter

This Sunday is the St. Jude's Bike-a-thon to be held in Ione. Proceeds benefit the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Participants will be grouped into two categories--"oldsters" and "youngsters". An "oldster" is anyone old and strong enough to ride from Ruggs to Ione, approximately 22 miles. The "youngsters" will ride bikes or trikes or just walk on a course set out within the city limits of Ione.

Registration for the ride will take place between 12 and 12:30 p.m. in

the Ione City Park or at Ruggs at 12:30 p.m. Both the ride from Ruggs and the ride in Ione will start at 1 p.m. Pickups will be available to transport people and bikes to Ruggs if needed.

A pickup will follow the riders from Ruggs for those unable to finish the course. Drinks will be available at the halfway point from Ruggs. Lemonade and cookies will be available at the city park for all participants.

For more information, see the posters around the area or call Loa McElligott at 422-7228.

Dining room will be closed Friday, May 4.



Open Saturday, May 5.
Ladies Night
and
Mother's Day
observances May 10.
Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
by Lorraine Ball

Heppner Elks 358
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42oz. Liquid Dawn		Fryers	79⁰⁰ lb.
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