

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

Citizens urged to address measure 5 cuts

To the Editor:

It is well that the city is asking for citizen input on how best to measure up to Measure 5. Unfortunately, many of us have little knowledge of what services now exist, so it is difficult to know whether we want more or less.

An obviously known fact, however, concerns our swimming pool. With no recreation available for the youth that are unable to participate in team activities but need exercise for physical as well as mental health, do we really want to cut one of the few remaining activities for them? Would increased time on hands see an increase in drug usage?

How can this dilemma be solved? As the situation exists now can we increase our user fees sufficiently to compensate for loss of city revenue? I am told that this is impossible to achieve as an adequate increase would lower usage to the point that we would be no better off financially.

Attacking the problem from another angle, if we improved the pool facilities with a cover for year-round use would we get increased family memberships? Water aerobics are very beneficial for disabled and/or older persons. Could we offer senior memberships and a class in water exercises? Could we get volunteer help in the building process? Could any organization canvas the town and mail rural residents questionnaires asking who would be willing to donate time, money or buy a membership? Would the increased use cover the costs? Can we find out rapidly?

How much does our library cost

to operate? How much student, as well as adult, use exists? At a time when reading is becoming more necessary for scholastic accomplishments do we want to lower this service?

Do all of us know that we have an extremely dedicated and able volunteer fire department? Do we want to support them with equipment and materials? If we don't we'll pay the money out in increased insurance rates anyway.

Hour-wise what is the existing coverage of our police force? Unless times have changed recently we do not have 24-hour coverage now what has been their scheduling for the past year? What would be involved if we were to rely on the Morrow Co. Sheriff's department. Irrigon already does. Do Ione and Lexington? What has been their experience?

These questions need to be asked and answered. We need citizen input at council meetings and budget meetings.

The council cannot do all the jobs alone. They already donate countless hours of volunteer effort on our behalf. Do we want a viable community? Rural communities unable to help themselves have a terminal illness. How many volunteers can we count on?

Heppner Chamber of Commerce encourages you to attend the Panel on Measure 5 during the Town and Country luncheon Friday, Jan. 18 at noon at the Heppner Elks.

Heppner Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors
(s) Bob Kahl, 1st. V.P.
Meg Murray, Board member

Willing to fight and die

To the Editor:

My name is Kevin Ball and I am a soldier in the United States Army.

I am writing because of the protesting I have been hearing about.

People do not understand how we (the soldiers) feel about hearing news of friends, family, but mainly people we don't even know protesting against what we feel is right.

It seems that most people feel the only reason we are here is to keep gas prices down. This is a concern, but what would happen if we weren't here?

Would Saudi Arabia be the next to fall to this Arab Hitler? After that who would be next? Would Hussein be powerful enough to attack anywhere at anytime?

The men that fought in the Vietnam war came home to hatred and name calling. Will we also come home to this hatred, and be called baby killers? Will we be looked down upon for fighting for our country?

Is it so hard to show a little patriotism for your country and the men who are willing to fight and die for your freedom?

"Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country." John F. Kennedy once said this, or does anyone remember, or even care?

Do not get me wrong, I too would rather be home with my wife and child, but I am willing to stay and

fight. Death does not scare me, for if I die I will die a proud man knowing that it was for my country and its people.

(S) Spc. Kevin ball
Ione, OR
Spc. Kevin Ball
542947322
B 1/39 F.H.R. (ABN)
XVIII ABN Corp. Arty
APO NY 09657

Obituary

Charles L. Stacy

Charles Lynn Stacy, 26, Boardman, died Monday, Dec. 31, 1990 at Boardman.

The funeral services were held Friday, January 4, 1991 in the chapel of Burns Mortuary in Hermiston. Burial followed at the River-view Cemetery in Boardman.

He was born Feb. 4, 1964 at Sidney, Neb. to Shirley and Elaine Stacy. The family came to Boardman 12 years ago.

Survivors include his parents of Boardman; a son, Timothy and a daughter, Kayleen, a sister Bonnie, all of Boardman; and a brother, Eugene of Salem.

Burns Mortuary, Hermiston was in charge of arrangements.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's office reports dispatching the following business at the courthouse in Heppner:

January 2: Morrow County deputy responded to the Ione area for a report of tools missing from a shed. Tools were valued at \$300-400;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Wagon Wheel Addition for a report of vehicle damage;

Morrow County deputy took a report of a hit and run that occurred in Lexington. Darla Whitmore was the victim and \$800 in damages were done to the vehicle;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a report of guns stolen from Jim Hart. Amount of value was \$2,585;

Morrow County deputy took a report of a missing female in the Irrigon area. Subject returned home.

January 3: Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a dog complaint;

Morrow County deputy assisted Boardman Police department with a family disturbance;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the Outback apartments. One male was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital with an unknown illness;

Morrow County deputy was advised of an accident on Hwy 207 two miles north of Lexington. Deputy was unable to locate report of vehicle.

January 4: Morrow County deputy made contact with an Irrigon resident regarding property damage. The victim, Myra Wright, had not yet calculated amount of damage;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the Nugget Motel. There was no transport;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner fire department to an electrical fire at 220 S. Chase, Heppner;

Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested Merle Edward Ferguson, 51, Yakima, WA. for Criminal Mischief II. Subject was lodged at Benton County Jail;

Morrow County Sheriff's office assisted Boardman police department with a possible intoxicated driver;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to E 2nd St. Patient was transported to Mid Columbia Center in The Dalles with an unknown illness;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Mitchell ambulance to The Weber Ranch. One male was transported to Prineville Memorial Hospital with an unknown illness;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area to take a report of a shotgun stolen from Mike Tupper, Portland. Amount of value was unknown;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area for a report of burglary that occurred earlier. Investigations are continuing;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a neighborhood disturbance. Robert C. Bryant, 42, Hermiston, was arrested for Menacing. Bryant was cited and released.

January 6: Morrow County deputy responded to Boardman to investigate a report of an assault which occurred in Irrigon on January 5;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to a report of a 90 year old male on Kunze Road with an illness. Male was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital;

Morrow County deputy responded to Kunze Road in Boardman to investigate a report of trespassing hunters. Call was unfounded;

Morrow County deputy cited and released Alice Flanagan, 43, Irrigon for Assault IV.

January 7: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to a residence in Boardman. One female was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston with an unknown illness;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington fire department to the report of an alarm at Oregon Waste Management maintenance shed. Turned out to be a false alarm;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner Fire department to a chimney fire on Linden Way at a residence;

Morrow County deputy responded to investigate a report of animal neglect in Irrigon;

Morrow County deputy responded to Columbia Avenue by the Port of Morrow for a report of an accident involving two vehicles. There were no injuries;

Morrow County deputy responded to the area of 10th and Adams, Irrigon, to investigate a report of a suspicious vehicle. Call was unfounded.

During the week of December 31 to January 6 Morrow County Sheriff's office assisted one disabled motorist.

Justice Court Report

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

Douglas Robert Townsend, 36, Baker City-Exceeding the Truck Speed, 64 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$43 fine;

Lola Ann Taylor, 45, Roseburg-Driving While Suspended, \$172 fine;

Samuel Paul Bellamy, 39, Lexington-Vehicle License Expired, \$9 fine;

Nella Louisa Britt, 45, Heppner-Exceeding the Maximum Speed, 68 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$37 fine;

Vicki Fae Rayburn, 27, Heppner-Endangering Child Passenger, \$16 fine;

Marlene June Barnett, 57, Heppner-Exceeding the Maximum Speed Limit, 84 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$75 fine;

Catherine Rose Bergstrom, 56, Heppner-Exceeding the Maximum Speed Limit, 76 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$20 fine;

Larry Vern Roberts, 23, Imbler-Casting Artificial Light on Game Mammal (deer), \$210 fine;

Laura Wegworth-Allowing Dog to Run At Large, \$29 fine.

Health Dept.

The Morrow County Health Department lists its following monthly schedule for the month of January:

Thursday, Jan. 10-blood pressures and immunizations, Heppner office 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 15-blood pressures and immunizations, 1:30-4 p.m. Boardman City Hall.

Wednesday, Jan. 16-blood pressures 2-3 p.m. Bank of Eastern Oregon kitchen, Ione.

Thursday, Jan. 17-blood pressures and immunizations, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.-Heppner office.

Tuesday, Jan. 22-blood pressures and immunizations, 1-4 p.m. Irrigon County office.

Thursday, Jan. 24-blood pressures and immunizations, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Heppner office.

Wednesday, Jan. 30-blood pressures, Sr. Citizen mealsite, 11 a.m.-noon.

Thursday, Jan. 31-blood pressures and immunizations, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Heppner office.

Births

Meaghan Leigh McElligott-a daughter Meaghan Leigh was born to Mike and Susan McElligott on December 9, 1990 in Santa Maria, California. She weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz.

Grandparents are Jerry and Maryann McElligott of Ione and Joe and Sheila McKenzie of New Brunswick, NJ.

She joins brothers William, 10, and Brendan, 2, at home.

Kyle Raymond Sullivan-a son Kyle Raymond was born to Jay Sullivan and Kelly Olmstead of Irrigon on December 28, 1990 at Good Shepherd Hospital in Boardman. The baby weighed 8 lbs. 9 1/2 ozs.

Development Can Be Easier

The Morrow County Strategic Plan identifies a lot of the strengths of the county as they relate to further development, meaning job and population increase. Some of those strengths have to do with natural resources, others have to do with the people-created resources such as sewer and water infrastructure.

One strength not mentioned, if indeed it is a strength, is perhaps the most important factor. It seems to be there but it is not clearly articulated. It could be that it was just assumed, or that the participants were fearful of clearly stating it because it might have been challenged.

It could be that only I read it in between the lines when it really isn't there. Morrow County's greatest strength, the one most important, nay, essential to any significant new industrial, commercial, residential growth, is a strong, universal feeling that growth is good, desired and will be welcomed.

And that desire for growth could be our most valuable resource. Farm land is abundant across the nation, so much so that many farm commodities are produced to surplus. Our timber land, as timber land goes is no more productive than forests elsewhere, nor more pristine. It's availability to produce timber will be as limited as elsewhere.

Our people work a little harder than many places but so much so that others that labor availability makes us unique. Our water, land, air and other resources are pretty widely distributed over the state and nation.

We tout our transportation facilities but that hardly even makes us even with sites in Portland and Seattle that are next door to raw material supplies and just down the block from major customers. There are whole industries there who rarely even make a long distance phone call.

Growth does have one really important limiting factor across the land. In many places, maybe most places, it is unwanted. Not welcome. Told to go someplace else. Some years ago, we allowed Governor Tom McCall to speak for us all: "Come and visit, but don't stay." Much of that same sentiment can be heard today: "Don't Californicate Oregon."

The 1990 census reported the impact of McCall's ghost. In the past 10 years the Nation as a whole grew 10 percent. More than that in the West: California grew by 22 percent, Washington by 16 percent.

But they didn't stay in Oregon. This state has only eight percent more people than in 1980. There are some reasons: We now have the highest minimum wage in the nation. Our gas tax went up to 20 cents a gallon, one of the highest in the nation. We have had some of the highest property taxes, soon to be replaced by a sales tax on top of a pretty stiff income tax. We have the most stringent land use planning laws and but one of two bottle bills. You can't save a little money pumping your own gas in Oregon and New Jersey.

It should be pretty obvious that a lot of things are more important to Oregonians than growth. It's plain that the welcome mat is not out.

So maybe Morrow County can't compete with the rest of the nation, but we can be the most competitive spot in Oregon. And the thing that will set us apart from the rest of the state is a desire to grow.

That very desire, in this desert of a state among states, will prove to be our most important resource. With the desire to grow, and the action it takes to cause that to happen, Morrow County will become an oasis in that desert state. It will become easier and easier to promote development when we can loudly and collectively say, "Come to visit, and stay to live, work, play and become our neighbor, you're welcome in Morrow County."

I'd like it a lot if that strength were emblazoned across the Strategic Plan.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Chamber Manager

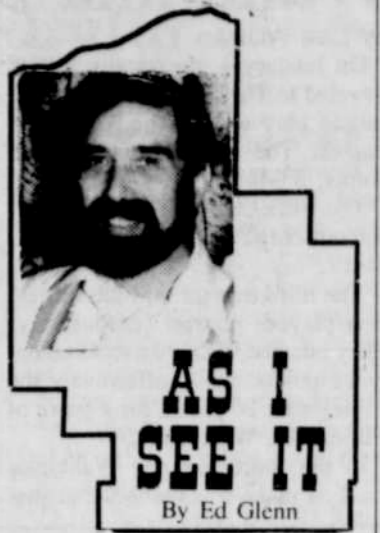
We're five days away from kicking off Town and Country Week.

"Meeting Tomorrow's Challenges." And challenges there are, not the least of which is Measure 5. We've met problems head-on before, we take them one day at a time, and we work through them.

stagnation and becoming too complacent. Faith, hope, trust, work, commitment, prayer, extends also to the decision (out of our hands) that will be made on January 15. Let us hope as we join together for our annual Chamber luncheon that we will also be celebrating peace.

* Our mayor attended the farewell dinner for Governor Goldschmidt (Arnold Goldfish as he was called by Lonnie Rill). Seems that the story is still being told and along with it the fact that "Heppner has a great St. Patrick's celebration everyone should attend." Eight hundred and fifty additional people to prepare for in March.

* And speaking of our "Wee Bit O'Ireland in Oregon," 18 Irish visitors will be arriving Thursday, March 14, to celebrate with us and share their culture, music and dance.



ing. Word has it they're very excited and looking forward to meeting Morrow County folk. The St. Patrick's committee will be needing housing and three to four vans for transportation to and from Portland.

Nine weeks is not far away. The next committee meeting will be Thursday, January 24, 7 p.m. at the Extension office conference room. Everyone is welcome.

Thought for the week: "Happiness is not a place to travel to: it's a way of getting there."

Marriage Licenses

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

January 7: Scott Allan Buschke, 22, Fairview; and Lori Kay Patterson, 20, Heppner.

Weather Report

by City of Heppner

	Jan. 1 - 7, 1991	High	Low	Prec	Snow
Tues.	46	15	.0		
Weds.	39	16	.0		
Thurs.	25	20	.0		
Fri.	28	18	.0		
Sat.	24	17	.0		
Sun.	22	10	.05	1/2"	
Mon.	46	32	.0	0	

Coming Events from the Elks

Thurs. Jan. 10 - Ladies Night

TOWN & COUNTRY DAYS
Jan. 15-18

Thurs. Jan. 17 - 5:30 p.m. Wine Tasting

Fri. Jan. 18 - 7 p.m. Prime Rib dinner

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

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