

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

**ONPA**

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

### Slay the hydra

To the Editor:

Reporters spend thousands of hours in city halls and meeting rooms, polishing chairs with the seats of their pants while various and sundry planning commissions do their thing with land use planning. Only the planning commissioners aren't doing any planning. There hasn't been any real land use planning in Oregon since the LCDC (Land Conservation and Development Commission) was loosed on Oregon's unsuspecting people. Resource protection, growth and development have been stopped. The only growth has been in new land use rules and regulations, of which there is a never-ending supply.

Consider this: Under Oregon's current land use laws, rules and regulations, the pioneers couldn't have come over the Oregon Trail (the wagon wheels made ruts and the horses polluted the ground), the internal combustion engine wouldn't have been permitted (nobody had filed an environmental impact state-

ment) and the Grand Coulee Dam would never have been built (the paperwork would have stacked up higher than the dam, would have weighed more and would have required two armies of clerks to complete) and even the world wouldn't have been here, at least in Oregon. Can you imagine the uproar if someone wanted to create all the land, water, trees, animals and people in just six days? It takes at least six weeks to set up a public hearing. Isn't it time Oregonians woke up, took a good look at the hydra-headed monster we have created and slew the sucker? Then we could start all over and do the job right the second time around.

Just think of the sighs of relief from thousands of reporters who could spend their evenings at home playing couch potato and polishing their own furniture. It's awe-inspiring.

(s) Gene Dilkes  
530 Avenue 'U'  
Seaside, OR 97138

### legislation needed to recoup Measure 5

To the Editor:

A funny thing happened at the ballot box on November 6 as Ballot Measure 5 became law. A majority of citizens who own 42 percent of the value of property in the state gave business and corporations a gift of 58 percent of the property tax relief in the passage of Ballot Measure 5. They did not ask for this relief. Nor did they vote for it. They will go laughing all the way to the bank.

As a result, programs and services which are humane and necessary for the protection of property and life of Oregonians are being threatened by timorous and frightened officials.

Now is the time for bold and active leadership. The 58 percent of tax relief which business and corporations received from renters and homeowners, which they did not request, should immediately be reinvested in programs and services for Oregon citizens.

The reinvestment should begin July 1, 1991. Cutting services and programs was a matter of dividing up what was left to parcel out after the vote on 5. This was the easy part. Now comes the second part. Courageous and decisive leadership is needed to devise methods of recapturing the tax relief gift which was given to business and corporations. The hemorrhaging should be

stopped before it begins. Union Pacific will receive a gift of \$25,000,000 in tax relief. Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Japan, England and stockholders around the world will benefit while Oregonians suffer and die.

When new revenues are sought to replace the funds lost to business and corporations, such as a sales tax, every precaution must be taken that they not be placed upon individual Oregonians.

The state of Oregon does not levy a property tax. Local units of government throughout Oregon will receive the brunt of Ballot Measure 5 next year. The \$25,000,000 in tax relief given to Union Pacific will be devastating to many eastern Oregon towns and countries such as LaGrande.

Business interests in general opposed Ballot Measure 5. They understood the problems which would result. The Oregon Legislature must develop legislation which will make it possible for local governments to recoup this "giveaway" which will cause havoc with programs in many areas of Oregon.

Sincerely,  
(s) C.W. Posey  
5086 SW Palatine Hill Rd  
Portland, OR 97219  
636-4971

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## Sheriff's Report

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

February 12: Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to the Boardman area to investigate a hazard;

Morrow County deputy arrested Rafael Cortez-Arevalo, 28, Royal City, WA, and Jesus Gonzalez-Ramirez, 27, California for Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle. Vehicle was stolen out of Santa Paula, California. Subjects were transported and lodged at Benton County Jail.

February 13: Morrow County deputy responded to Hwy. 730, I-84 to a report of a one vehicle rollover. There were no injuries. Faustino Villa-Farias, 22, Othello, WA, was arrested on Possession of a Controlled Substance and Conspiracy to Deliver. He was lodged at Benton County Jail;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman fire department to a structural fire on Wilson Road;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area to take a burglary complaint. Investigations are continuing;

Morrow County deputy assisted Oregon State Police with a vehicle on I-84, mile post 144 east bound;

Morrow County deputy assisted Boardman police with a report of an attempted assault.

February 14: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to Peters and Canal Road. One 80 year old male was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Fossil ambulance to Clarno; one male patient was transported to The Dalles with an illness;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to a one vehicle rollover accident on I-84 eastbound, mile post 116. Patient was transported to the hospital with unknown injuries;

Morrow County deputy responded to begin investigation of a motor vehicle accident on Hilltop Drive. No further action was taken by deputy. Parties involved will resolve problem;

Patrick V. Erickson, 24, Irrigon was arrested on a Circuit Court warrant for Failure To Pay Fine, Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle felony and Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure To Pay Fine-Furnish Alcohol to Minors. Erickson was transported and lodged at Benton County Jail;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Heppner area to investigate a report of Criminal Mischief amount of damage was unknown. Michael P. McBride, 20, of Lexington was issued a citation for Criminal Mischief II and released.

February 15: Morrow County deputies responded to Irrigon to the Irrigon Market, Browns Truck Stop and Stokes Landing for reports of alarm and burglaries and arson. Amount of damage and thefts was undetermined, investigations are continuing;

Morrow County deputy made contact with a Boardman resident regarding recovered property that had been missing;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area to take a report of theft of services. Investigation is continuing. Victim was Ivan Dike and amount of value was unknown.

February 16: Morrow County deputy responded to the John Conard residence in Honeywild Estates in Irrigon to investigate a report of a vandalism. Amount of vehicle damage was undetermined. Investigation is continuing;

Morrow County deputy received a report of found property in the Boardman area. Name is being withheld pending notification of owner;

Morrow County deputy responded to a report of a speeding driver in the Wagon Wheel Estates Addition in Irrigon. The deputy was unable to locate vehicle;

Morrow County deputy responded to a report of possible vandalism near the Wilson Trailer Court in Irrigon. Call was unfounded;

Morrow County deputy arrested Robert Hinkley, 28, of Vale on a Malheur County warrant for delivery of marijuana for consideration. Hinkley was lodged at Benton County Jail;

Morrow County deputy took a report and began investigation of a bicycle stolen from a residence at Country Garden Estates in Irrigon; Bicycle is valued at \$400 and belongs to Cindy Jensen;

Morrow County deputy and Oregon State Police responded to a location in Irrigon to investigate a report of a family disturbance. No arrests were made, situation had calmed down upon officers' arrival;

Morrow County deputy responded to Paul's in Irrigon to investigate a report of criminal mischief. Win-

dows were broken out of a vehicle in the parking lot. Vehicle belonged to Billie Lou Sadler. Investigation is continuing.

February 17: Morrow County deputy responded to Paul's in Irrigon for a report of a subject refusing to leave. Robert James Keller, 32, Hermiston was cited and released for Criminal Mischief II;

Morrow County deputy responded to Wilson Trailer Court to investigate a report of an unwanted female subject. Brenda Le An Drury, 28, Irrigon, was cited and released for Assault IV domestic;

Morrow County deputy responded to investigate a report of a prowler outside an Irrigon residence. No action was taken;

Morrow County deputy responded to assist Boardman Police department with a report of subject of unknown status lying on the floor of the post office. Subject was found to be OK;

Morrow County deputy cited and released Dean C. Anderson, 31, Boardman for a Horse-At-Large in a Livestock District;

Morrow County deputy cited and released Richard Allen McEachern, 32, Irrigon for Driving While Suspended Infraction.

February 18: Morrow County deputy assisted in solving an animal problem on Wilson Road in Boardman;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Wagon Wheel Addition in Irrigon for a report of a neighborhood disturbance. Problem was solved.

During the week of February 11-17 Morrow County deputies assisted two disabled motorists.

February 19: Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to the Boardman rest area west bound I-84 for a traffic problem. Problem was resolved.

## Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Chamber Manager

What a wonderful rain-an Irish blessing. Makes you get excited about "spiffing up Heppner" for spring. Plans are underway for an all out "Spiff Up Heppner" day, March 9.

Results of the "Heppner Eyesores" survey sponsored by the Vision 2000 committee clearly pointed out the need to focus on the entrance to Heppner coming from Lexington; Heppner's Main Street; the creek bed; and numerous citizen problem areas. It will take many "warm bodies" to make the all-out clean-up a success. Groups and organizations willing to donate some time to this project March 9 are asked to let Peggy Fishburn know prior to that date for an assigned area downtown; Dave Pranger or Renee Devin to work on the creek; or Fred Lundin for the entrance to Heppner from the railroad tracks below the Pettyjohn Building to the bridge by the park. Weeds and junk were the biggest "eyesores".

All of Heppner working together can make the difference. We want our visitors from County Cork and all those who come for the St. Patrick's celebration to be hooked on Heppner. Community pride in action, that's what it's all about. Circle March 9.

\* Heppner chambers new phone number is 676-5536.

Thought for the week: "When you fall, pick something up."

## Signs of Spring

The signs of spring are everywhere around and I can't say that it's too soon. Oh sure, we'll have a little rain and some wind and a few dreary days yet. Nothing like spring in Wallowa County where I grew up.

Winter wheat is beginning to turn green in places. A field north of Lone I watch is looking a lot more alive than it did just two weeks ago. Winter wheat around Boardman is dead though. That's what most farmers rely on to keep the ground at home, and when the famous Boardman breeze gets through, some guys will have to travel quite a ways to farm their soil this summer.

Basketball tournaments signal spring. Lone's hopes were dashed last weekend after a wonderful season. Heppner will test their luck this weekend, and we hope they have plenty. Riverside has had no luck at all, all season. They'll be done with regular season play.

Governments write their budgets in the spring. Morrow County jumped in and got theirs done before the cities could put pressure on them to pick up the services they will have to cut. The school district will have a tough meeting next Monday, trying to second guess what the legislature might do. Budgets are definitely spring work.

War in the Persian Gulf is about to get bloody. The bloody parts of wars past has been in the spring. Funny, a time of year for birth, growth, renewal, is also the time man picks for death.

But the most telling sign of spring is the arrival of all those seed catalogs. Have they been coming to your house too? I've got mine all collected on the stand next to the only chair in our library at home. Gurney's is the first thing I read in the morning and Harris Seed the last thing at night. I even glance through one when the lid is up.

I always lay great and grandiose plans while studying the seed catalogs. Here's a promising new seedless watermelon in this catalog. And a 65-day cantaloupe in this one. I can make successive plantings of radishes and this new color of marigold will be just right by the north end of the house.

This year I've been looking at trees. Walnut trees for the spot out away from the house. Some new hybrid poplars for quick shade. Some split leaf maples for their summer shade and fall color. I've even drawn out on paper a whole orchard of apple, peach, apricot and cherry trees. Trees are big in those quiet times in my library this spring.

It will never happen of course. I know that while I'm making these most ambitious plans.

But I've decided that's OK. I need spring to spur me on to great and glorious plans. I get a little depressed in winter when the country side is lying dormant under a blanket of snow or the landscape is hidden in the fog. In fact, I get pretty darned hard to live with in the dark days of winter. It's a really good thing to have spring come along and brighten my spirits.

And I know, just like my tree planting plans, that the other signs of spring will fade with the summer. The winter wheat will turn and mature before the heat of summer is well upon us. The winds of spring will weaken and we'll have some breathless days of unbearable heat by August.

Basketball will turn to golf, and governmental budgets will be forgotten by all except those who carry a grudge.

And thank God, it will be that way about the bloody war too. It will burst into a fury of battle at first, then wain through the dog days of summer and eventually die as dead as the petunias along my lane. Wars always do that. My heartfelt hope is that the war dies long before all the young men and women who fight wars do.



## Heppner Police Report

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

February 11: 2:15 p.m.-Dog Complaint; 8:08 p.m.-citation issued for Driving While Suspended; 10:41 p.m.-request officer for Security Check.

February 12: 1:30 p.m.-Dog Complaint; 2:30 p.m.-Found Property; 8:57 a.m.-Assist Court.

February 14: 1:17 p.m.-five cases of Worthless Documents; 8:57 p.m.-report of Assault; 9:37 p.m.-assist Morrow County Sheriff's department.

February 15: 7:58 a.m.-parking citation issued; 5:17 p.m.-assist Morrow County Sheriff's department; 5:24 p.m.-assist Morrow County Sheriff's department; 5:24 p.m.-assist Morrow County

Sheriff's dept.; 5:36 p.m.-assist Morrow County Sheriff's dept.; 9:12 p.m.-assist Morrow County Sheriff's dept.

February 17: 5:50-citation issued for Driving While Suspended; 9:19-Dog Complaint.

## Market Report

Compliments of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Tues. Feb. 19		White
Soft	Feb./March	\$3.04
	April/May	\$3.05
	New Crop	\$2.98
	Barley	
	Feb.	\$1.06
	March/April	\$1.07
	New Crop	\$98
	Pik	99 %

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