

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

Published every Wednesday and entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Second class postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 147 West Willow Street. Telephone (503) 676-9228. Address communications to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$15 in Morrow, Wheeler, Gilliam and Grant Counties; \$23 elsewhere.

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Letters to the Editor

Medical board clarifies financial info

To the Editor:

As members of the Morrow County Medical Board, we want to take this opportunity to comment and clarify the financial information presented June 26, 1991, in the Columbia Valley Chronicle and reprinted in the Heppner-Gazette Times. We felt some individuals might find the financial information confusing.

For the budget year, July 1990, through June 1991, the Medical Board's total budget was \$4.0 million of which only \$400,000 was from tax revenues. The remaining \$3.6 million came from outside the tax revenues. This was generated

from patient fees, predominately from Pioneer Memorial Hospital, Nursing Home, Clinic and Ambulance service together with revenue from Home Health which serves three counties.

The board has tried, as needs have been identified, to allocate the tax revenue evenly between the Boardman/Irrigon area and the rest of the county. This has not been possible every year. Last year, the Boardman/Irrigon area received \$210,000 vs. \$190,000 for services to the rest of the county. For the second year in a row, more than 50 percent of the tax revenue has been allocated to the Boardman/Irrigon area.

The Medical Board has struggled for some time to provide the services people desire and would use county-wide with the tax revenues available. Your help and ideas on accomplishing community goals for medical services is needed through your involvement in the Community Encourager Program.

Medical services in Morrow County are a public program. It is only with help through public input that the board will be able to center on the health care goals important to the county as a whole while meeting individual communities' health care needs.

Morrow County Medical Board (s) Jackie Bergstrom, chairman
Paul Sumner, vice chairman
Bill Sheirbon, secretary
Roger Cash
John Hascall
Kelli Strebin
Lori Pruitt
Merle Cowett

Sheriff's Report

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

July 9: Morrow County deputy responded to take a theft complaint; advised a civil matter;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the Boardman Chevron for a 25 year old male with an unknown illness. There was no transport.

July 10: Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area to investigate a juvenile problem;

Morrow County deputy responded to Irrigon to investigate an animal problem;

Morrow County Sheriff's office arrested Robert Gene Morley, 23, on a Umatilla County Warrant for Failure To Appear/Driving While Suspended felony. Subject was lodged at the Umatilla County jail.

July 11: Morrow County deputy assisted Boardman Police department with removing some unwanted subject at a local business;

Morrow County deputy responded to take a report of a missing person in the Boardman area;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area to deliver an emergency message;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area to try to locate a speeding vehicle;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Lexington area to deliver an emergency message.

July 12: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to a motor vehicle accident on Hwy 730, mile post 169. One male subject was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to a residence for a non-emergency transport to The Dalles;

Morrow County deputy responded to a business in Irrigon to investigate a theft of services;

Morrow County deputy responded to a report of mailbox vandalism in Irrigon;

Morrow County deputy and Morrow County ambulance responded to a motor vehicle accident on highway 207. Three subjects were transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital;

Morrow County deputy cited Crescencio Chavez for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. Chavez was cited and released;

Morrow County deputy responded to an Irrigon residence to check the welfare of a resident. Everything checked out to be okay.

July 13: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to a report of a woman with an unknown illness on I-84 mile post 147. There was no transport;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the Marina Park. One male was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

July 14: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Fossil ambulance for a transport of a male with an unknown illness;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman Marina to deliver an emergency message. Message was delivered;

Morrow County deputy assisted a Heppner citizen with a neighborhood matter;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon Park Marina for a report of vandalism. A juvenile was cited and released for criminal mischief;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Wilson Trailer Court in Irrigon, for a report of an animal problem. Problem was solved;

Morrow County deputy responded to a residence on 9th St. Irrigon, for a report of a possible burglary in progress. Call was unfounded;

Morrow County deputy assisted a disabled motorist on Highway 730 in the Irrigon area;

Morrow County deputy received a report of a witness to an attempted vandalism to some phone booths in Irrigon. Suspects fled the scene; Morrow County deputy assisted Boardman Police department with a Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants arrest.

July 15: Morrow County deputy arrested Timothy Dale Whitaker, 30, Irrigon for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. Whitaker was cited and released;

Morrow County deputy received information from an Irrigon resident of a speeding driver in the Irrigon area;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Philippi residence on Kunze Road in Boardman for a report of illegal littering. Investigation is continuing.

Oops!!

Last week the Gazette-Times ran a picture of the Willow Creek Little League All Stars. The picture was taken by Lisa Willman. Proper photo credit was not given.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Chamber Manager

After spending a week in Boulder, Colorado, at the Chamber Institute for Organization Management, I realize there are mountains and 'there are mountains.' The Rocky Mountains, known as the Flatirons in Boulder, are something to see. Three hundred fifty chamber managers and staff attended this institute. Classes were held from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. all week with advance study and testing as well as mandatory attendance required. The classes and instructors were excellent. In addition, the networking with people from all over the United States was beneficial. I found Kansas and Nebraska chambers to share much common ground with the Heppner chamber. The Mid-West is also dealing with numerous environmental issues; 21 in Forth Collins alone. The important goal for all chambers, large or small, is to focus on quality and to create an environment where people and businesses wish to be. I'll be sharing more about the Boulder experience next week during the chamber business meeting.

Chamber members have indicated an interest in a Forest Service field trip. This is scheduled for Tuesday afternoon, August 6. Our noon program will relate to the tour, which will take up most of the afternoon and part of the evening. More information will be available next week at chamber. Please sign up if you wish to attend.

Mark your calendars for Heppner clean-up, Saturday, August 3.

Thought for the week: "It isn't our position but our disposition which makes us happy."

Births

Alfred Aidan Burt-a son Alfred Aidan, was born to Karla and Al Burt, Heppner, on June 28, 1991, at St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz.

Grandparents are Jo and Al Burt, Heppner, Marlene and Tom Pointer, Lexington; and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Davidson, The Dalles.

Great-grandmother is Ruby Umbarger, Troy, Idaho. Great-grandfather is Howard Eubanks, Condon.

Justice Court Report

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

Clifford Loren Lucas, 22, Pendleton-Driving While Suspended, \$341 fine;

Mark D. Schmeltzer, 33, Heppner-Tandem Axel Overload, 36,000 with a weight limit of 34,000, \$28 bail forfeited;

James Arlen Hoduffer, 46, Dundee-Exceeding the Maximum Speed Limit, 72 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$65 bail forfeited;

Randy Smith, Heppner-Furnishing Alcohol to Minors, \$701 fine, 30 days in jail, \$300 and 30 days in jail suspended with one year probation no further violation of law excluding minor traffic;

Charles Peck, 20, Heppner-Minor in Possession, \$85 fine.

Weather Report

By City of Heppner

July 9 - 15, 1991				
	High	Low	Prec	Rain
Tues.	84	41	.0	
Weds.	84	51	.0	
Thurs.	92	57	.0	
Fri.	96	60	T	
Sat.	95	48	.0	
Sun.	82	48	.0	
Mon.	79	57	T	

Harvest Time

Wheat harvest got underway just after the 4th in a big way. Potato digging is just now starting and of course haying goes on and on all summer long. It's a busy time in most of Eastern Oregon's farming county.

Even the garden is producing. I'm writing this piece with one hand and munching a cold cucumber with the other.

And there's nothing like it anywhere across the country.

You have to admire those folks who work in some factory somewhere making a little part of something bigger, making tens or hundreds or thousands of the same little part day after day.

Come quitting time they can look at a pile of widgets and say "I made that little wheel on every one of these." The next morning when they come to work, the widgets are all gone and there's more little wheels to make.

It takes a special kind of person to go to the same office every day and make out forms or type letters all day and come quitting time they can say "look at the pile of papers, I put all those words on them." Then come back the next day and do it all over again.

People who don't see, can't participate in, the whole cycle of things miss a great deal, it seems to me. You see, for a farmer, and many of the folks who work for and around him, there's a plant, grow and harvest cycle that is particularly rewarding. To me, the greatest satisfaction must come from seeing with your own eyes the transformation of seed to product that goes with growing an annual crop.

That annual transformation involves a variety of skills and different kinds of work. Even today, a farmer must be a welder and a soil chemist, a tractor driver and a computer bookkeeper, a diesel mechanic and a commodities trader. And during the cycle there are a multitude of tests of his skill at each of these tasks. Success shows up in the bottom line, failure means a dose of humble pie in the banker's office. Too many failures at too many tasks and he's looking for one of those factory jobs with a bankruptcy on his record.

But few farmers I know do it for the money. Most earn a good living all right, but that is not the real reason farmers farm. It's the sheer joy of seeing the seed you plant sprout, grow green and lush, mature into food or fibre and be delivered for distribution across the world. There's a special calling in that that makes the effort worth while.

Farming is not a job or even a business like other people have. It's more like an obsession.

I've known third generation saw millers who have a strong sense of identity with the mill that Granddad saw through the depression, that Dad rebuilt from the ground up and that son had raised a family while serving. Those folks talk and act like saw milling is hereditary, part of the family, more akin with every generation. But it isn't the same as farming.

I know a fourth generation grocer. Great Granddad sold produce when he was fresh off the boat. Granddad had a store in the East. Dad still has his store in Seattle and son now has two stores of his own. Selling groceries is in the blood so deep, grandson can see no other future. But it isn't the same as farming.

Farming is not necessarily a father-to-son thing. It is not even the future fathers see for their sons, and frequently not the work farmers sons take up. It is not lucrative enough to attract hundreds of new college graduates every year.

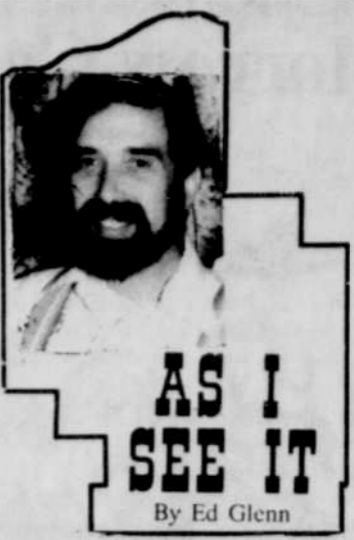
Farming is more a calling. There's some mystical quality beyond definition that keeps farmers going on year after year. Only part of it is the elation of harvest.

Part of it must be that farming is on a higher plane than other kinds of work. It is essential to life. It is more like the rising sun than another styrofoam cooler. It is an ancient kind of work, older than carpentry, or automaking. And inspite of how it may seem from time to time, farming will go on farther into the future than we can imagine.

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease. Genesis 8:22

Harvest is the best time of the cycle. Great satisfaction overcomes the hard work, worry about the weather, uncertainty about the future. This is the time of year I most envy my farmer friends. And the time when I most applaud their gift.

Harvest is here... what a great time of year.



AS I SEE IT
By Ed Glenn

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St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board



A large crowd was present at the Senior Center mealsite Wednesday July 10, when Dr. Jeanne Berretta introduced Ken Niles of the Oregon Department of Energy. He gave a slide presentation outlining the health hazards associated with Hanford. It was a very interesting informative program. One hundred seventeen people were present for dinner and three dinners were taken out. Members of the Seventh Day Adventist and Nazarene churches served. Helen Crawford won the free meal ticket. Door prizes were given to Frances Murty, Bernice Thomson and Dr. Jeanne Berretta.

The menu for July 24 will be sweet and sour pork with rice, brussels sprouts, applesauce, biscuit and cookies. Members of the Methodist church will serve.

The senior center activity committee will meet at 1 p.m. Wednesday July 24 following lunch. This is an important meeting and all members should attend if possible. Plans will be made concerning the fair.

The quilters meet on Mondays, 1-4 p.m. All the blocks have been completed for the new quilt and are being set together. This is a beautiful St. Patrick's quilt to be raffled next March. Tuesday and Thursday 10-10:30 a.m. is exercise time and Tuesdays 1-4 p.m. is hobby time.

A senior center office staff meeting will be Tuesday, July 23 at 10:30 a.m.

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