

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

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## Letters to the Editor

### A message to youth

To the Editor:

The following article first appeared in "AWARE" magazine Volume 14, Number 2 July/August 1991. The Heppner/Lexington Oregon Together Group shares this message with you for your consideration and attention.

An Affair, by Robert L. Rodgers  
Dear Ann Landers:

I first met her in high school. She was older than I, and exciting. She'd been around. My parents warned me to have nothing to do with her. They claimed no good could come from our relationship.

But I kept meeting her on the sly. She was so sophisticated and worldly. It made me feel grownup just being with her. It was fun to take her to a party in those days. She was almost the center of attention.

We began seeing more of each other after I started college. When I got a place of my own, she was a frequent guest. It wasn't long before she moved in with me. It may have been common-law, but it was heart-breaking for my parents. It kept reminding myself I wasn't a kid anymore. Besides it was legal.

We lived together right through college and into my early days in business. I seldom went anywhere without her, but I wasn't blind. I knew she was unfaithful to me. What's worse, I didn't care. As long as she was there for me when I needed her (and she always was) it didn't matter.

### Students concerned about community

*Editor's note: Following is a continuation of letters from last week's sixth graders at Heppner Middle School studying newspapers. These students were sick and missed the deadline date.)*

To the Editor:

Last year there was a new program started at Heppner Middle School. The project is to encourage students to work harder on their grades and in school. It is called an Honor Card. The students get this by getting a certain grade point average.

If a student gets an honor card

The longer we lived together, the more attached I became. But, it wasn't mutual. She began to delight in making me look foolish in front of my friends. But, still I couldn't give her up.

It became a love/hate relationship. I figured out that her glamour was nothing more than a cheap mask to hide her spite and cynicism. I could no longer see her beauty after I came to know her true character.

But old habits are hard to break. We had invested many years in each other. Even though my relationship with her made me lose respect for myself, she had become the center of my life. We didn't go anywhere. We didn't do anything. We didn't have friends over. It was just the two of us. I became deeply depressed and knew that she was responsible for my misery. I finally told her I was leaving for good. It took a lot of guts, but I left.

I still see her around. She's as beautiful as when we met. I still miss her now and then. I'm not boasting when I say she'd take me back in a minute. But by the grace of God, I'll never take up with her again.

If you see her, give her my regards. I don't hate her. I just loved her too much. Chances are you know her family. The name is Alcohol.

We hope that this has been helpful in your life.

Sincerely,  
(s) Rev. Stan Hoobing  
Convener of Heppner-Lexington Oregon Together

they get this little sheet that says which stores are participating. They can get something free or at a discount in that store or business.

Businesses involved are Gardner's Men's Wear, Central Market, Orwick's Machine Shop, Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner Gazette-Times, Murray's Drug Store, Miller's Mini Mart, Peterson's Jewelry, Shoe Box, Heppner Bowl, Our Place Cafe, Heppner Auto Parts, Court Street Market and Beecher's Cafe. A big thank you to all of the businesses.

Jaylene Papineau

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To the Editor:

I am writing to complain about the dogs in certain neighborhoods of Heppner. I have a paper route and I have to go by them every day. They growl and bark. I've already been bitten twice in the leg.

It is dangerous for kids. The owners should get kennels or keep them inside.

Andy Sykes

To the Editor:

D.A.R.E. is a program that is being taught to sixth graders in Morrow County.

Deputy Steve Myren is teaching the program to the sixth graders.

It's better to learn about drugs when you are young and before you get in trouble with them later in life. Drugs are really dangerous and can kill people if you take too much or even try them.

Judy Peck

To the Editor:

The pool has been closed due to the fact that there is not enough money to fix it up. I think we should get some money raised and fix the pool. The reason why is that we as kids will not be able to do very much in the summer.

Last year going to the pool was the main recreation most kids did. The younger children went there for swimming lessons. I think teaching younger people to swim is very important. That way children will not be in so much danger around water.

We need to open the pool, and we need your help to open it.

Keith Scott

### Sheriff's Report

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

February 11: Morrow County deputy responded to a three-vehicle accident in Irrigon. There were no injuries;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a report of Criminal Mischief. Investigations are continuing;

Morrow County deputy responded to the lone area regarding a complaint of endangering and farm animals on open range. Call was unfounded.

February 12: Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area to assist a citizen who was locked out of her vehicle;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to mile post 159, I-84 east bound rest area for a male subject with an unknown illness. Subject was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital;

Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to lone to begin investigation of a reported break in at the city pump house;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to Arlington school; one male juvenile with an injury was transported to Mid Columbia Medical Center in The Dalles;

Morrow County deputy located cows out of the fence on Hwy. 74. Owner was located and animals secured in pasture;

Morrow County deputy responded to Division St. near the canal in Irrigon for a report of an unknown vehicle parked on private property with its headlights on for over an hour. Vehicle was gone upon deputy's arrival.

February 13: Morrow County Sheriff's office received a report of excessive noise at a residence south of Heppner. Deputy responded.

February 14: Morrow County Sheriff's office received a report of an animal problem in Lexington. Deputy responded. Dog owner was located and no further action taken;

Morrow County deputy responded to an area east of Irrigon for a report of possible trespassers on private property;

Morrow County deputy arrested Christine Evans, 34, Pendleton, on a Umatilla County warrant for Unlawfully Using Food Stamps. Evans was transported to Umatilla County and lodged.

February 15: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner ambulance to a business in Heppner for a male with unknown injuries. Male subject was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital;

Morrow County deputy responded to a residence in Irrigon for a report of a prowler. Suspect was gone upon arrival;

Morrow County deputy responded to Irrigon near the county road for a report of illegal dumping;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Burroughs Ranch in Boardman for a report of trespassers hunting on private land. Deputy was unable to locate anything;

Morrow County deputy responded to a privately owned location in Boardman for a report of illegal dumping.

February 16: Morrow County deputy received a report of a speeding driver in the Irrigon area. Deputy was unable to locate driver.

February 17: Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon area for a report of a domestic dispute in progress. No action was taken upon arrival on scene;

Morrow County Sheriff's office assisted Umatilla Police Department with a transport of a male subject to a residence in Boardman;

Morrow County deputy made contact with a Heppner area resident regarding suspicious circumstances;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Condon ambulance to the Condon Clinic for a transport to The Dalles;

Morrow County deputy responded to a residence in Irrigon Mobile Court, Irrigon, for a report of a possible break-in/unwanted person. Investigation is continuing.

### Births

**Danny Micheal Hottel**-a son Danny Micheal was born to Nadine and Darrell Hottel of Irrigon on February 4, 1992 at Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 5 oz.

**Robert Byron Hoepher-Phillips**-a son Robert Byron was born to Traci Hoepher of Irrigon on Feb. 5 at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 14 oz.

**Alexander Louis Carlson**-a son Alexander Louis was born to Sarah and Clint Carlson of lone on February 6, 1992 at St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz.

Grandparents are Dr. Robert and Joanne Wilcox, Central Point; and Louis and Betty Carlson, Heppner.

Great grandmothers are Alice Chiappetti, Central Point and Dorris Graves, Heppner.

## Simple Work Ethic



So we've become a little irritated by some Japanese official laying the blame on American work ethic. The message isn't new, only the messenger. Ten years ago, a committee was working in Eastern Oregon to identify educational needs of local industries and employers. The idea was to fine tune the education system to meet the needs of employers.

Surprise, surprise. Job skills, like welding and bookkeeping, machine operation and applied math, were way down the list of priorities from an employer survey. Employers identified work ethic as their greatest unfulfilled need. Well, an education committee was not prepared to deal with ethics and so not much came of it all. But the message was clear, years ago, young workers entering the job market just don't know much about work.

Just what is this work ethic? Simple. Employers said (1) show up for work on time (2) every day and (3) do the work.

Schools aren't very well prepared to teach those things. And not many kids grow up on a farm anymore where those things just come natural. I remember and old red rooster who told me when it was time to start work. And an old brown milk cow who'd stand by the barn every evening and bawl and bawl if I got off schedule during the day.

Excuses for being late are so common anymore and just as commonly accepted that no wonder employers put tardiness at the top of the list. It must cost thousands of dollars to hold up a crew waiting for some key member of the team to show up late. That's why sports is an important part of one's education. If the star quarterback doesn't show up by game time, the sub is in. Maybe we need more performance production. If the lead isn't ready at curtain time, the understudy goes on. But in much of our society, tardiness is so acceptable, we just don't heed the crow of a rooster anymore.

Employers like folks who show up every day. I remember feeding livestock when I just didn't really feel well. The snow gets pretty deep in the high country and the cold wind can cause a chill. I remember having the cold and flu til my nose plugged, my lungs ached and my whole body hurt like the devil. But those old cows weren't sick. They had to eat every day, all winter long.

I heard the head trainer for Safeway stores tell a high school class to protect their health, because Safeway wanted employees who were healthy enough to show up for work every day. At the time, I thought what a lot of baloney. The problem was that folks were lying about being sick because they were lazy. Now I know that most of the problem is that we've become a bunch of babies, staying home sick with the slightest little problem. A hang nail is good for a couple of days and a little case of the sniffles a week at least.

American workers are not too sick to work anymore now than 50 years ago, nor than anyplace else in the world. We just think we are.

And why not? We get excused from school when we say we're sick. We get paid sick leave from work when we say we're sick. We get let off the hook from just about everything when we say we're sick. Everything except those old cows still wanted to eat, they weren't sick.

Most employers say that when they get an employee that does show up on time, every day, all they want is for him to do the job. I remember one morning when I got a load of hay stuck in the mud on the way to feed the cows. I had to tinker quite a bit with the old cat to get it started to pull that load out. Those old cows were leaning over the fence bawling their heads off.

Well, nowadays, lots of folks who were there to pitch hay, would not have messed with that old cat. "That's a mechanics job," "that ain't my job," "they don't pay me enough to do that."

And with union rules and job descriptions we've almost destroyed American workers' ability to get the work done. Too few employees really know why they have a job. They don't know that the reason they have a job in the first place is that the work expected of them is worth more to the boss than their pay.

More, you say? Well, sure. If it was less, why in the world would anyone have the work done? An employer is in business to make a profit. And if he hires someone to do part of the work, he can't pay more in wages that the work is worth or he'd be out of business in no time.

It's pretty plain that what the Japanese are saying is really true. Our work ethic is really rotten. To do something about it, we will require a substantial reworking of our school system, with some important rethinking among employers.

Or we could all move back to the farm and buy an old red rooster.

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