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City of Heppner and the
County of Morrow

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
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Letter to the Editor

Let's keep what we have left

To the Editor:
The school bond levy coming up for vote in March is quite important to all people in Morrow County, not just students and parents, but we as a community, very much interested in our youth.

As rural people in a special area, (no big city) it's hard to continuously see the students in the Morrow County School District taking reductions, and setbacks in school programs. The impact measure 5 has had on Morrow County is devasta-

ting. A four day school week, reduced lunch program, loss of teachers, cutting of extracurricular activities list only a few examples of the funding crisis. It is here and for real. It will take the young and old alike to make good things happen again in our school system. But we must all take a step in the right direction now. No more sitting back.

Please join me and vote a positive "yes" on the school bond levy, so we can keep what little we seem to have left.
(s) Paul Hisler

Don't let our kids down

To the Editor:
In 1918 I entered grade school in what was then the new school house which is still in use. I became seven years of age before that year was over.

I was followed in the next few years by five more Jones boys and girls, all of whom graduated from that same school house.

Those were the World War I years.

Since that time we have seen a great change in the educational facilities in Morrow County, as well as all of

Oregon. Where we walked or rode horseback, a fine fleet of buses now transports the students when needed.

With the tremendous improvement in schools has come a need for more and better educational requirements including athletics.

Let us not let the kids down. Morrow County is only one of many schools that is trying desperately to give students and teachers as well as our fine staff that guides them, the finest leadership available.

I urge each and every voter in Morrow County from: Boardman, Lone, Lexington, Heppner, Irrigon to continue to give our boys and girls the fine sport teams we have had for many years that have put our schools "on the map".

The lessons learned in sports and other extra curricular activities have given a lesson that will stay with them through life.
(s) Paul Jones

Pool viable, needed facility

To the Editor:
The People for the Pool Committee has worked very hard to put together a proposal for a multi-use long lasting pool facility to be located at the Hager Park site in Heppner.

Although I am not usually one to get enthused about additional taxation I view this as a viable, needed facility. Besides greatly helping our youth in south Morrow with really needed recreational opportunities, it will also assist our seniors to remain active.

There will be an indoor general purpose room or exercise room for young and old. An indoor therapy pool would have super heated water for cold weather usage, be deep enough for lap swimming but shallow enough for water aerobics and have wheel chair access. Medical centers use pool physical therapy very effectively for arthritis, stroke patients, accidents victims, etc. I do not want to under emphasize the very real importance of this facility for our youth, but

the medical uses will also become more and more critical. These uses will possibly garner more grants from foundations to lower costs, plus attract users from out of the immediate area.

The operating levy will call for 16¢ per thousand property valuation, and will not impact other district levies unduly. The bond issue will cost 45¢ per thousand but will not have the Measure 5 consequences of impacting other districts needs. This bond amounts to \$27 yearly on a \$60,000 home.

If the levy is not passed in this election, there will be no second chance. No additional vote is planned and we will lose the \$45,000 generously donated by the previous Kinzua Corp.

Some dedicated people have provided us with an opportunity to vastly improve our community. Let us not disappoint them. Vote yes.

Sincerely,
(s) Meg Murray

Obituaries

Mabel L. Ring

The funeral for Mabel L. Ring was held Saturday, Feb. 18 at the lone United Church of Christ. Concluding service and burial was at High View Cemetery in lone.

Mrs. Ring, 96, lone, died Tuesday, Feb. 14, 1995 at her home.

She was born May 22, 1898 at Mountaineer to Michael and Martha Bonge Rowell. She attended schools in the lone area.

On Nov. 22, 1916 she married Harvey Ring at Kelso, WA. The couple had been residents of lone since 1925.

Survivors include a son, Harry of Boise, Idaho; brother Walter Rowell in California; sisters Josie Peck of Heppner and Grace Rowell in California; eight grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren and eight great-great grandchildren. Mr. Ring died in 1971 and daughters, Bernice Thompson died in 1988 and Lois Ring died in 1942.

Memorial contributions may be made to the lone United Church of Christ Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 346, lone 97843.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

John F. Kilkenny

Recitation of the Rosary for Judge John F. Kilkenny will be Thursday, February 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the chapel at Burns Mortuary in Pendleton. Mass of Christian Burial will be 10 a.m. Friday at St. Mary Catholic Church in Pendleton with interment at Olney Cemetery.

Judge Kilkenny, 93, Portland, died Friday, Feb. 17, 1995 at Maryville Nursing Home in Beaverton.

He was born Oct. 26, 1901 at Heppner, to John Sheridan and Rose Ann Curran Kilkenny. He attended Alpine School in Sand Hollow, Morrow County, and Columbia Prep, the forerunner of Portland University. He grew up in Morrow County and worked on stock ranches owned by his father in Morrow, Umatilla and Grant counties. His youth was spent working as a rancher, cowboy, sheepherder, sheep shearer, truck driver and harvester.

He entered Notre Dame Law School in 1920 and played football under Knute Rockne for three years until a knee injury ended his career. He graduated cum laude in 1925 from Notre Dame and received LL.B and J.D. degrees. He returned to Pendleton where he began as a junior lawyer in the firm of Raley, Raley and Steiwer. In 1931, he became a partner in the firm of Raley, Kilkenny and Raley and from 1932 until 1952 he specialized in trial work on both civil and criminal cases. He briefed and argued nearly 100 cases in the Oregon Supreme court and the U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth circuit. He also did trial work in both

state and federal courts in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

In 1952, he became chief partner in the law firm of Kilkenny and Fabre, working until his appointment to the U.S. District Court in 1959.

He served on the Board of Governors of the State Bar from 1940 until 1944, as president of the Oregon Bar in 1943 and 1944. He had been a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers since 1953 and was on the Board of Regents at the University of Oregon for 10 years. He was a past Indian director and past director of Happy Canyon.

The Post Office and U.S. Courthouse in Pendleton was named in his honor in 1984.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia, of Portland; son, Michael, of Pendleton, daughter, Karen, Klosterman, Gearheart; a brother, Robert of Lexington; nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Umatilla County Historical Society or the Morrow County Historical Society, directly or through Burns Mortuary of Pendleton, PO Box 489, Pendleton, 97801.

Burns Mortuary, Pendleton, is in charge of arrangements.

Correction

Heppner High School honor roll students in the Junior class were incorrectly listed in last week's Gazette-Times. The list should have said honor roll, not honorable mention. Listed are the honor students for the junior class:

Honor roll: Angela DeBo, Ben Ewing, Kristina Grant, Tina Kemp, Phillip SpicerKuhn, Jessica Sumner; honorable mention-Dodie Givens, Stephanie Johnson, Brian Struckmeier, Rodney Zumwalt.

Community choir formed 10 years ago and still going strong

There is a group of people who meet every Monday night at Heppner High School. They are there for a variety of reasons: for relaxation, as a tension buster and to learn something new. However, they have one common thread. They are there to make music and sing. The group, South Morrow Community Choir. This group has been around for the past 10 years and is still going strong.

There were several ways that this group formed. In the spring of 1985, Peter Sinkevitch, HHS math teacher, formed a choir made up of community members to sing an Easter Cantata. It was performed in April, 1985. Meanwhile, several churches had their own church groups that sang on Sundays. They were small in numbers, but enjoyed singing.

In the fall of '85, the idea was bounced around of pulling together these smaller church groups. The cantata that was formed the previous spring showed potential for a community choir. The South Morrow Community Choir started with the idea that these small church groups, as well as other community members, would learn pieces of music that could be taken back to their own churches. The first director to start this was Kathy (Melby) Turner. A choir director, and a member of Valby Lutheran, she directed for several years. With her background in Jazz, the group learned several jazz songs. At times, Don Boyce, Methodist minister at the time, shared directing duties with Turner.

They performed two concerts a year and made special appearances at different church services. They also made a guest appearance in Portland for the Wheat League, and were paid for performing. Other appearances were at a Moonlight Madness sale, lone Legion Hall meetings, and Singspirations.

In '89, Kathy moved to Boardman and Don moved to another parish. Kathy continued doing some directing, but shared duties with Bob Isted, HJH & HHS music teacher, who had been here several years, but was singing bass. He then took the group completely over in the next couple of years. He took a different approach by further expanding the choir repertoire to a more serious nature by learning a variety of choral styles, both sacred and secular. Isted wanted to provide the community a musical cultural experience. The group continued with the two concerts a year, singing at special occasions, in-

cluding the nursing home, the Intergenerational Theatre group at lone and Heppner, and community dinners and celebrations and added a new tradition, singing at the St. Patrick's Day celebration.

In the spring of 1993, Isted decided to move on. The role of director went to Debbie Wryn, who moved to Heppner in the fall of 1990, and became the accompanist for the choir. She is currently in her fourth year at Stanfield s the elementary music specialist. The group is still using the whole choral idea of learning of variety of styles. They have sung at several special occasions such as singing the "Star Spangled Banner" at Heppner Basketball games and at two weddings of members of the group: Kathy and Del Turner and Joel and Lea Mathieu Peterson. Plans include singing at the St. Patrick's Celebration, and the spring concert. There is a strong possibility that the group will perform another cantata for Christmas next year. Cantatas are a serious work that are 30 to 60 minutes in length and are a wonderful opportunity to learn a serious work of music, said Wryn.

"The choir is as always looking for new members to join," added Wryn, "All one needs is the desire to sing and have fun with a wonderful group of people. We have a wide array of members with the youngest juniors in high school and nobody will admit who's the oldest. The group could always use tenors and basses who are in short supply," concluded Wryn.

Anyone interested in joining, should come to the HHS band room Mondays from 5:30-7 p.m. or call Wryn, evenings at 422-7017 or talk to the current members. Sarah Carlson, Norma French, Carol Hoobing, Nancy Kurts, Shirley Landauer, Andrea Miles, Cork Norene, Shirley Palmer, secretary, Lynnea Sargent, Luvilla Sonstegard, Donna Bergtrom, Lea Calvert, BonaRae Miller, Becky Weseman, Dan Calvert, Clint Carlson, Kent Goodyear, Joel Peterson, Laurel Temple, Jason Palmer, and Louis Carlson.

Death Notice

George Waterland
George Waterland, 40, of Heppner, died Monday, February 20 in Portland. A complete obituary will be in next week's Gazette-Times.

Arrangements are pending at Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner.

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