

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

**Heppner**  
**GAZETTE-TIMES**

U.S.P.S. 240-420

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**Letter to the Editor**

**No winners with no school sports**

To the Editor:  
I am writing to encourage everyone in Morrow County to vote for the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. As most people know, the district will fund all co-curricular activities, including sports.  
As a graduate of Lone High School, I have seen first hand the importance of sports to the small communities of Morrow County. High school football, volleyball, basketball, baseball, softball and track have provided a greater sense of school pride for both the students and the people of the community with the continuing success of the programs.  
Not only do sports programs provide something to do for kids after school, but they also provide the community with something to do on a Friday or Saturday night. They give the community a chance to gather

and chat, root on their team, or just to have a piece of good pie at the concession stand.  
At the other end of the spectrum, by giving kids something to do after school really helps keep the kids in school and out of trouble. In our small communities, we cannot offer a wide variety of entertainment for kids that would have a lot of leisure time on their hands. Personally, I know that sports kept me and my teammates out of a lot of trouble and also kept our grades higher.  
The benefits of these programs greatly outweigh the price it will cost to fund them. I am asking you, the voters, to seriously consider the consequences of the absence of school sports programs. There will be no winners with no school sports.

Sincerely,  
(s) Ryan Halvorsen

**Young people need rec district**

To the Editor:  
I would like to take this opportunity to encourage the voters of Morrow County to support the Recreation District of Morrow County. By creating this district our education system will continue to function as it has in the past.  
Our young people need this

support so they are able to learn and grow with the same opportunities that we as parents, grandparents and community members enjoyed. The co-curricular activities that this district will provide are very important to the growth of our youth.  
Please support this levy. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
(s) Bill Rietmann

**Ione Repair Announces  
Customer Appreciation Day**

Come join us August 12, 1995  
from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
for free hot dogs and soda pop.  
Also featuring a whole new stock  
of Cat products.  
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of  
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**Extra curricular activities essential**

To the Editor:  
In the history of Morrow County School District, it is difficult, if not impossible, to find the time when students in our schools did not participate in extra-curricular activities. On the contrary, the history of our schools and communities are filled with references about the pride we all felt with the experiences and successes of our students as they participated.  
To say that these activities are not an essential part of education is foolish. For most of us, some of our most worthwhile learning experiences came from

participation. For some students, learning to live, to succeed, to fail, to try again, or just to get along in life can be traced directly to what they learned in these programs.  
I have spent many years educating the children of Morrow County. I can tell you that your support of the Morrow County Unified Recreation District and the three year serial levy will be money well spent. I urge all patrons to support this levy.

Sincerely,  
(s) Dante L. (Dan) Daltoso  
Boardman

**Errors don't justify ridicule of firemen**

To the Editor:  
I volunteer for the Boardman Fire Dept., as do 19 other dedicated people, who work full-time jobs, have families, and still find time to be on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to fight fires, go on rescue calls, and assist anybody anyway that we can.  
I learned, the hard way, on the night of July 4th, that no matter how hard a person tries, people are only going to recognize the worst in you.  
After the fireworks display, on the 4th, myself, a few other firefighters, and our families were getting ready to spend some time lighting our children's fireworks. We had been too busy doing Fire dept. stuff to spend any time earlier in the day with our families. As we were getting ready to start, our pagers alerted us of a "brush fire" at Desert Springs Estates. Once again, we dropped what we were doing to go put out a pile of brush that was on fire.  
I'll be the first to admit that we didn't get there in record time, but we still got there. Yes, there was a comedy of errors, at first, but we were still there. These things that were done wrong were not major things, just little errors made by people that, for the last week, had been fighting fires, going on ambulance runs, doing search and rescue, getting the fireworks display set up, and making the fire trucks look nice for the parade (so that everyone could enjoy them) until wee hours of the mornings.  
But was it enough errors to justify being called names, being laughed at, fireworks being thrown towards us...and being ridiculed by people who are

sleeping when we are being woken up to go on runs, people standing around gawking and getting in our way? These same people will be saying to themselves, when they have a problem, "Gee, I hope those guys don't remember that it was me that was doing all of those things." We'll remember. But, we will still be there to do our job, the best we can, no matter who you are or what time of day it is. The things that we will remember will be our training on how to do the things we volunteer to do.  
As far as the mistakes made that night, they were mistakes made by some extremely tired individuals, who stayed until the danger of the fire spreading to residents was gone. Now, these are the only people, I know, that would do that under those circumstances, for nothing. I will stand by, follow, lead, and put my life in their hands, any day. They are "damn good" firefighters, and I am proud to be a part of their team.

This letter isn't saying that everyone out there is doing these things, it's just a few and they know who they are.  
If anybody thinks that they can show us how to do our job better, you can have your chance any Monday night at 7 p.m. Maybe you could teach us something or maybe you might even learn something. You might even like it and stay. Volunteers are always needed.  
There is one question that everyone should ask before they go and start bad mouthing Boardman's volunteers, no matter what they volunteer to do, "What if volunteers didn't volunteer?"  
Thank you,  
(s) Bill Ellis, Lieutenant  
Boardman Volunteer F.D.

**Restore lost opportunity**

To the Editor:  
I am urging you to join me in voting for the Unified Recreation District for the benefit of our school children. It is important to me that my grandchildren have the same opportunity to participate in all phases of school and community activities that young people have enjoyed in the past.  
Passage of the extra-curricular levy restores funding for activities to the 1993 levels. This is the level before cuts were made. By passing this levy we can restore opportunity that has been lost for our young people.

This can be the most cost effective money that can be spent on children. They can be kept in the classroom where grades, student behavior, community pride, family entertainment, school pride, and the teaching of discipline.  
By passing this levy we can do something about what the state has forced us to do, to support both education in the classroom and learning outside of normal "school" hours. This will be a vote in support of invaluable opportunities for the people of Morrow County and their children.

Sincerely,  
Norma French

**Pioneer Memorial Hospital's  
"Hot Meal Express"**



"Hot Meal Express" provides homebound Heppner area residents with a nutritious hot lunch on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of each week. Meals may be scheduled on an ongoing basis or as needed.

If you require this type of assistance and are handicapped, elderly, disabled, or recovering from an illness, please call Evelyn Sweek, PMH Dietary Director, for more information. Phone 676-9133.

**Get back lost rights; vote for rec district**

To the Editor:  
It seems that each time a new law is passed in our state, we lose a little more of our freedom. There was a time, before Measure 5, that if a community wanted to raise money for a school program they could hold a local election and levy enough money to provide for their needs. Since the passage of Measure 5, we no longer have those rights. We pretty much have to stick to the dictates of people living hundreds of miles away and their opinion of what is best for us.  
Coming in September, however, is a chance for us to gain back a little of the rights we have lost. We have the right to levy money for a new taxing district which was formed last winter by vote of the Morrow County Court. This new taxing district is called the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. The money that will be levied will go to fund all co-curricular activities for Morrow County school district as well as funds for community activities. Co-curricular activities include FFA, drama, sports, band trips, Outdoor School, field trips and any other activity that takes place outside of school hours.  
The reason that this district was formed was to help find a way to bring these activities back to our students after they were cut from the school budget. A group of hard-working individuals from our local communities of Ione, Heppner, Lexington, Boardman and Irregon have put many hours into researching this issue. The county court agreed that the district should

be formed and voted in favor of its formation in January. The next step is for the funding.  
The ballots should be arriving in your mail sometime around September 1. I realize that many people may open their ballots and think "not another tax" and decide to vote no. Before you make your final decision, I ask you to think about a couple of things.  
First, it is one of the ways we, as a community, can regain some of the control lost to us by the passage of Measure 5. Second, I ask you to think back to when you were in high school. Think of the activities you were involved in and what sort of mischief you might have gotten into if you hadn't had school activities to keep you busy. Then think of some of the types of alternate activities and types of behavior our kids are exposed to today that we never had to face as kids, activities such as gangs, drugs, criminal activities. To me, I think of this levy almost as a cost prevention measure. I would rather pay a few cents per thousand now and watch our youth in activities we can share and enjoy than for the incarceration of one of them later on. Each young person is important to our communities and deserves a chance to be the best they can be. I feel that in the passage of this levy, we are at least giving them that chance. Please vote yes on your ballot. If you aren't registered to vote, this is a perfect reason to get registered. Remember, we are talking about our kids and their future.  
Sincerely,  
(s) Robin Huxoll  
Irregon

*James Wishart & Darla Patterson  
would like to invite all friends and family to  
join in the celebration of their marriage  
at 5 p.m. August 12th at Anson Wright Park.  
Food, Refreshments  
"Live Band & Entertainment"*

**HEY KIDS!**  
4 yr. - 6th Gr.

Craft Projects    Lots of Fun!    Games!    Bible Stories!

**Summer End Extravaganza**  
August 21 - 25th 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
Meeting at 560 N. Minor (Seventh Day Adventist Bldg.)  
Sponsored by the Willow Creek Baptist Church

**CREATIVE CARE PRESCHOOL**

Open House Thurs. Aug. 10, 10:30 a.m.

- \*Enhanced Curriculum
- \*New Materials and Equipment
- \*Developmentally Appropriate Preschool Program
- \*Head Start Scholarships Available

New Pre-K Program for Children Age 5 Before Nov. 1  
Located on the corner of Main and "E" in Ione  
For more information or a private tour  
- call Michelle Raible - 422-7037



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