

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

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
U.S.P.S. 240-420

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper
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Letters to the Editor

Bad mouthing ill serves county health

To the Editor:
Although I am presently a member of the Morrow Co. Health District Board, I in no way speak for that body. But as a concerned citizen, mindful of the needs of all areas in the county, I feel I have the right to express my own strong feelings of dismay over Ed Glenn's printed remarks concerning the south Morrow segment of our medical system.

His remarks are untruthful, misleading, slanderous and appear to be penned to deliberately divide the county population. His recent statement in the Hermiston Herald stating Pioneer Memorial Hospital was only a place to go to suffer before you go home to suffer more is not only outrageous but cannot go unanswered.

Is this what we want? Does pulling together make more sense? Do area needs enter the picture anywhere? Does anyone consider the tax monies spent comparatively on north and south county on the basis of real medical needs and real sheriff department needs? Aren't needs the paramount consideration?

I don't know when bad-mouthing your neighbors became a journalistic requirement, but it ill-serves Morrow Co. I hope at some time, thinking, caring people in Boardman drown out Ed Glenn's voice.

The past few years Heppner has had two of the finest family physicians (the Drs. Berretta) I have ever known. They have an impressive background our newspapers would do well to showcase. Among their accomplishments they have served on the faculty of the East Carolina University School of Medicine.

Since coming to Heppner, they have set up an acclaimed Trauma IV Center at Pioneer Memorial Hospital. They have been responsible for all care at the hospital, the nursing home, the emergency room, the home health program, the physical therapy program, as well as a

vastly expanded clinical practice. Their work load is mind-boggling to the ordinary person. All this service was provided for a straight base pay, no overtime for 24 hour duties. When exhaustion hit and they took July off, they did so without pay. They have been sincerely dedicated to making our health system work for us. And for their services, they have been bad-mouthed in print in both the North Morrow Times and the Hermiston Herald.

The situation is extremely unfortunate for our doctors, but I can only assume that this was the intention of the writer. It appears that a few vocal people like Ed believe that the best way to get ahead is to take it away from someone else. This perception is counter-productive for the future growth of both ends of the county.

The Drs. Berretta enjoy widespread support in south Morrow and beyond. Our future is tied to continued medical care such as they have provided so diligently. At present, the hospital segment of our health care generates \$2,000,000 annually in county income.

Rural health clinics in Boardman and Irrigon would receive more reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid if tied to a hospital base. This will only become more important due to projected future cuts in these programs. Additionally, the hospital shares staff time with the nursing home to reduce costs.

The Trauma IV Center serves people for 150 miles on three sides and 50 on the fourth. Our logging, ranching and other accident victims would not survive if they had to go further. And there should be no ignoring the growing needs of our retired population. We need people of the caliber of the Drs. Berretta and Dr. Ernie Atkins. Our sincere appreciation of their dedicated efforts should be the only sentiments in print.
(s) Meg Murray

Obituary

Walter R. Edger

Funeral services were held for Walter R. Edger on Friday, October 6 at the United Methodist Church in Heppner. Concluding service and burial followed at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Mr. Edger, 81, of Heppner, died Tuesday, October 3, 1995, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

He was born May 2, 1914, at Pendleton, to Ernest and Manda Cummings Edger. He grew up at Athena and attended schools there, graduating from Athena High School. He later lived in Baker, Pendleton and Boise before settling in Heppner in 1953.

He was employed as a partsman for Farley Motor Company for 24 years.

He married Norma Vawter on September 21, 1979 at Milton-Freewater.

Mr. Edger enjoyed fishing and was an avid rockhound. Survivors include his wife, Norma, at the home; daughter, Delores Rae Peace of Milton-Freewater; son, Dick McRoberts of Pendleton; and a sister Maurine Kester of Pendleton.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pioneer Memorial Hospital, P.O. Box 9, Heppner, Oregon 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office in Heppner reports dispatching the following business during the past week:

Oct. 3: Morrow County deputy responded to a report of a motor vehicle accident on Hwy 730, mile post 172. No injuries were reported and no further action was taken;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner Ambulance to Kinzua Mill for a male with an injury. The patient was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Irrigon Annex for a report of suspicious persons in the area. Deputy was unable to locate anyone;

Morrow County deputy responded to I-84 just west of mile post 161 for a report of an animal problem. The deputy was unable to locate anything;

Morrow County deputy responded for an alarm at Columbia Junior High School in Irrigon. Alarm turned out to be false.

Oct. 4: Morrow County deputy arrested Davia Dianna Haines, 19, Boardman, on a Failure to Appear warrant from Morrow County. Haines was transported and lodged at the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office jail;

Morrow County Sheriff's office responded to Patterson Ferry Road and the Army Depot for a report of potato trucks driving recklessly;

Morrow County deputy assisted with a lost hunter in the Cutsforth Park area. The hunter was located;

Morrow County deputy arrested William Stewart Johnson, 36, Pendleton, on a no bail felony warrant from Umatilla County, for Parole Violation/Driving While Suspended. Johnson was lodged at the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office jail.

Oct. 5: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Mitchell ambulance to assist the Prineville Police Dept. with a two vehicle accident on Hwy 26 at mile post 47-48;

Morrow County deputy responded to the BP station in Irrigon for a report of firecrackers going off;

Morrow County deputy arrested Waynn T. Charpentier, 47, Hermiston, on a warrant out of Pendleton for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants;

Morrow County deputy responded to a disturbance in the Irrigon area. Steve Brockett, 36, Irrigon, was arrested for Assault IV/Domestic. Brockett was lodged at the Umatilla

County Sheriff's Office; Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to Paul Smith Road. One person with an illness was transported to Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to Shane Drive. No transport was made.

Oct. 6: Morrow County deputy arrested Teddy Eugene Young, 26, Springfield, for Attempt to Elude and Reckless Driving. Young was lodged at the Umatilla County Sheriff's Office jail;

Morrow County deputy responded to a Boardman residence to assist with a civil standby;

Morrow County deputy responded to Irrigon for a report of a theft of food stamps. The stamps were returned to the owner and no further action was taken;

Morrow County deputy responded to Ione for a report of a possible juvenile problem; Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area for a disturbance;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Lexington area for a disturbance. An investigation was begun;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner ambulance to a residence on Balm Fork Road. One male was transported to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

Oct. 7: Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Condon Fire Dept. to a vehicle fire on Hwy 19 south of Condon;

Morrow County deputy responded to the Boardman area for a family disturbance;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Arlington ambulance to the grain elevators for an injured crew member. The patient was transported to Mid Columbia Medical Center in The Dalles;

Morrow County deputy responded to the gravel pits in the Boardman area for a report of shots fired;

Oct. 8: Morrow County deputy began an investigation of telephone harassment at a residence outside Lexington;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Mitchell ambulance to a residence eight miles out of Mitchell for a female with an injury;

Morrow County deputy took a report from a Hermiston resident regarding the theft of a livestock animal that was pastured in Irrigon;

Morrow County Sheriff's office assisted Gilliam County deputy with an arrest of Bruce Mitchell, 51, Lone Rock, on Morrow County charges of Menacing and Telephonic Harassment. Mitchell was transported and lodged at the

Umatilla County Sheriff's Office Jail.

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman ambulance and Fire Dept. to I-84 mile post 156 eastbound for a semi-rollover. One male was reported trapped and was transported to Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston with unknown injuries;

Morrow County deputy responded to Ione to begin an investigation on a possible sex abuse crime. The investigation is continuing;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Condon ambulance to the Gilliam County Medical clinic in Condon for a routine transport;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Heppner ambulance to Court Street for a female with injuries. Patient refused transport;

Morrow County deputy contacted a female who wanted to report reckless driving of log trucks on Willow Creek Road;

Morrow County Sheriff's office dispatched the Boardman

ambulance to TACX, Tower Road for a male with an injury. The patient was transported to Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston; Morrow County deputy responded to Cascade Tree Farm on Homestead Road for a report of trespassing.

Births

Colby James Hedman-a son Colby James was born to Jacque and Tim Hedman of Heppner on September 27, 1995 at St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton. The baby weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz.

He joins a sister, Chelsey, 4, and a brother, Jared, 2, at home.

Grandparents are Rick and Susan Johnston and Arnie and Rita Hedman, all of Heppner.

Scratch Pads 50¢
Gazette-Times
676-9228

Ladies Night

October 12:

Lasagna by Jay Straley and crew

D.D. Visitation

Heppner Elks 358

676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 N. Main

STEAK FEED & AUCTION

Sponsored by the Heppner Booster Club
Saturday, Oct. 14
Heppner Elks Club

Dinner - \$7.⁵⁰, 6 to 8 p.m.
Auction to begin at 8 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased at Murray Drugs, Bank of Eastern Oregon, Ployhar Insurance, MCGG

Menu: BBQ New York Steak
(by Lee Ansotegui and crew),

Baked Potato, Salad, Homemade Bread, and Dessert.

Auction Items

Far West Classic tickets, HHS Season Passes, family membership to Willow Creek County Club, Blackhills Gold Ring, Fishing trips, 100 gallons of gas, Trailblazer tickets, Hunting trips, wood, Pickup & Car tires, lamb and much, much, more.

"Booster Club supports scholastic and athletic activities"

COLD

Weather Automotive Batteries Antifreeze Oil & Gas Additives & much more

Coast to Coast

Heppner WE CAN HELP YOU 676-9961

SWEATSHIRTS

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Red, Navy
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Brown

Size Med, Large
X-large, XX-Large

\$29⁹⁵

Gardner's MEN'S WEAR

193 N. Main St. 676-9218 Heppner