

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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## Letters to the Editor

### Supports Ridgway

To the Editor:

I was pleased to read that Robert "Bob" Ridgway is a candidate for the Umatilla and Morrow County circuit court position being vacated by Judge Robert Abrams.

Bob Ridgway was a member of the Pendleton School District board for nine years and was its chairman for two terms. I was an administrator in the school district during his tenure. He was well-prepared, very fair in

his decisions and always made an attempt to represent the parents, as well as teachers, in a business that came before the board. Also, for the past nine years, he has done a superior job, as judge, representing the city of Pendleton, as he has presided over the Municipal Court.

Join me and cast a vote for Robert Ridgway as our new circuit court judge.

(s) Rudy Rada  
Pendleton

### Support Ridgway

To the Editor:

We would like to take this opportunity to pledge our support to Robert Ridgway as he seeks the position of circuit court judge.

We know that as an attorney, Robert Ridgway treated us in a very professional, kind and sensitive manner. We also

know that for many years our community has been the beneficiary of his personal time, energy and knowledge.

Please join us as we cast our vote for Robert Ridgway for circuit court judge.

Sincerely,  
(s) Pete and Gail Perkins  
Pendleton

### Ridgway brings integrity

To the Editor:

Without a doubt Bob Ridgway is an excellent individual to be elected as our circuit court judge.

I have known Bob for over 15 years. During that time, I have come to know him as a dedicated parent, a concerned public servant, and as an excellent lawyer.

Bob's approach to our judicial system is not complicated. He has a deep respect for the law and simply believes that the law should be obeyed. It follows then that breaking the

law will bring about some unhappy consequences. However, those who come before Judge Ridgway will find that he is fair, compassionate and understanding.

In financial matters, I know Bob to be meticulously honest. He will bring a great deal of integrity and personal responsibility to his court. His tenure as Pendleton's municipal court judge has given him the experience to be a most successful circuit court judge.

Bob certainly has my vote.  
(s) Bob Harper  
Pendleton

### Marie Key for county treasurer

To the Editor:

We believe that Marie Key would bring a healthy and positive change to the office of Morrow County Treasurer.

She has done an outstanding job as Morrow County Public Works office administrator for almost three years.

Marie received her education in accounting and business and

has had years of experience in these fields.

She will bring lots of energy and enthusiasm to this position.

We encourage you to cast your vote for Marie Key.

Sincerely,  
(s) Dick and Lynnea Sargent  
Heppner

### Terry Drever Gee for state senate

To the Editor:

Many topics are out of balance with our national and state governments-abuse of power, out-of-control debt, unfair trading agreements and leadership incompetence to name a few. No topic, no matter how unjust, is as vital to all as the erosion of our private property rights and economic devastation of our great natural resources. One hurdle after another is thrown in our paths by some government agencies and many special interest groups, to curtail business and impede our rights to private property.

Terry Drever Gee has the experience, background and most

importantly, attitude along with energy, determination and talent to combat this war in the political arena. She knows how wealth is produced and even more importantly, how it is conserved and enhanced. Natural resources must be managed and harvested. Property rights must be protected.

These issues are only a portion of the problems facing us all, but Terry can make a difference and is my choice for State Senator, District 28. Please join me in voting for Terry Drever Gee as our next state senator.

Sincerely,  
(s) Dan Warnock, Jr.  
Baker City

### Wenholz for county commissioner

To the Editor:

I was especially pleased when John Wenholz announced he was a candidate for Morrow County Commissioner. He came to the county in 1973 and has remained because, as he says, "Morrow County is a great place to live and raise a family."

John has a special interest in youth as evidenced by hours of time and effort spent on the Columbia Junior High ball field and the local Little League program. Over the years John has performed many services for his community as well as serving on the Morrow County School District local advisory

committee. It is commonly known that if a project is important and needs help, you can count on John.

He has run a successful business in the area for many years and has faced many of the problems of doing business in today's world.

His integrity is without question. He is a man always willing to listen and learn with an open mind.

When you go to the polls on election day, I would strongly recommend that you cast your vote for John Wenholz for Morrow County Commissioner.

Sincerely,  
(s) Matt Doherty  
Irrigon

### Rita Hedman attends conference

Rita Hedman, Morrow County Veterans' Service officer, attended the semiannual statewide Oregon County Veterans Service Officers Training conference held recently in The Dalles.

The session, sponsored by the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs, provided county veterans service officers with updated information necessary to advocate for

Oregon veterans, their families and survivors in applying for state and federal veterans' benefits in such areas as: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health care, priority for claims processing, compensation, pension and education claims. Officers also attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the Oregon Veterans' Home in The Dalles.

### Mushroom hunting permits available

Mushroom permits are now available for the 1996 mushroom season and are available at any administrative site on the Umatilla, Malheur or Wallowa-Whitman National Forests. Permits will also be available on the Snow Mountain Ranger District of the Ochoco National Forest.

Commercial permits will be the only permit required for anyone planning to sell, harvest, possess or transport more than one gallon of mushrooms in Oregon or three gallons in Washington. Persons wishing to harvest incidental amounts of mushrooms will not be required to obtain a permit this year. Incidental amounts are

defined to be consistent with state laws.

Prices for the permits are \$2 per consecutive day (\$10 minimum permit) or \$50 annually.

The intent of the mushroom program is to establish a consistent policy and price for the Blue Mountains forests in northeast Oregon, said a Forest Service news release. As a result, a person will be able to obtain a commercial permit in any Forest Service office in northeastern Oregon and will be able to harvest mushrooms on any of the three national forests' lands.

For more specific information about mushroom permits, contact a local Forest Service office.

## Off the Wall

By Marilyn Robinson

It's a world of contradictions, and opinions by so-called experts or public figures can be very confusing to the general public. No matter that the average person has a better, common-sense approach to solutions.

Let's hope you didn't foolishly molest a dandelion or squash an insect during Earth Day last week. We must not upset the ecology though slugs are multiplying like rabbits during cool, damp weather. I did give a decent burial to an earthworm that unfortunately was struck by my shovel.

Hopefully, on their designated day, secretaries who are the foot soldiers of home and business front lines, were dutifully remembered with bouquets. Some hothouse beauties are grown in a sterile environment without destructive pests. Yet to haul out the pesticides or fertilizers means war with organic promoters.

There are thousands of wooded acres where logging restrictions were supposed to protect the spotted owl habitat. I guess eagles are more urban-minded, as those big birds are seen nesting inside Seattle city limits.

The salvage rider on logging has been upheld by the courts. It authorizes logging of 4.5 billion board feet of timber on federal land nationwide. Much of this timber would come from trees that have been killed or damaged by fires and insects, and also allows some thinning of live trees. Yet several reports say that under this rider, thousands of acres of old-growth, live trees will be clearcut without any environmental restrictions. Old-growth trees, from the days of Paul Bunyon, do not have an indefinite lifespan and trees are a renewable resource.

Did you watch the Country-Western Music awards? The focus of male cowboy styles was by popular "wannabes" with long, scraggly hair and whiskers wearing cowboy boots. Some male performers appeared to be trying to impersonate the old time circuit rider preachers. The rodeo cowboy athlete of today is a clean-cut, well-dressed individual who still knows it's proper to take off his hat while inside. Even the working cowhand who drags in out of the corral muck sports a better, if less expensive, set of duds.

I hope you didn't miss out on a chance to buy a trinket for a mere pittance during the auctioning of Jackie O's estate. After Uncle Sam's share, there should be enough cold cash to keep several generations of that family in necessities. They could share with us common folks!

Yes, our cows are sane, except for one old hide that likes to destroy fences. That's more that I can say about some two-legged inhabitants on this place. Take the goose episode, for example, when trying to capture newborn goslings as ganders were threatening to rip off my hide. Beef is our main diet and I don't think the Oprah show propaganda will keep others from eating red meat. With cattle prices in the cellar, it's the producer and the consumer who are getting ripped off, thanks to the meat packer exploitation.

Petroleum prices are at an all-time high due to shortages, they say. Yet this nation could have become more energy self-sufficient if the oil companies that lobby our representatives hadn't effectively blocked the widespread production and use of ethanol, made from a renewable resource.

Now the experts say that the Columbia River should be allowed to flow more freely with natural scouring of riverbanks. Low dam reservoirs will impact river transportation, growers and electrical energy output. If it hadn't been for the network of river dams during the recent flooding, there would have been more property and people "scoured" downriver into the ocean.

Rantings for a home-based soapbox can also be questionable. Putting up "No Trespassing" signs near free-running spring water to keep domestic animals, including geese, from polluting the water just won't cut it under the proposed clean stream initiative. I'm open to suggestions that don't involve penning or barbed wire.

### Math contest winners announced

The 1996 Morrow County School District Middle School Math Contest was held April 10 at the Ione School.

Seventh grade winner was Jacob Johnson from Columbia Middle School. Eighth grade winner was Matthew VanLiew, Heppner Middle School. Other winners are as follows:

Seventh grade-first Jacob Johnson, Columbia Middle School (CMS); second Jeremiah McElligott, Ione Middle School (IMS); third Josh Reeve, fourth Sheree Steiner, and fifth Beth Skoubo, all CMS; sixth Amber Flaiz, seventh Mandy Sned-

don, and eighth David Piper, all Heppner Middle School (HMS); ninth Rio Weikel-Magden and 10th Greg Grabeel, both CMS.

Eighth grade-first Matthew VanLiew, second Trisha Adams, and third Matt Jepsen, all HMS; fourth a tie between Leah Denton, HMS, and Clint Shoemaker, CMS; fifth Ashley Ropp, HMS; sixth Kristina King, CMS; seventh Mark McElligott, IMS; eighth Laurie Michael, HMS; ninth Jesse Hirai, CMS; 10th a tie between Casey Ingraham, HMS, and Randi McElligott, IMS.

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will be at Heppner Clinic on **May 8**  
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**HUNTERS**

Big Game  
Controlled Hunt  
Deadline is  
**May 15**

Apply early and avoid long lines. Hunters must apply at a "Point of Sale" license agent.

Local POS Agents Are:  
Coast to Coast - Heppner  
M & A Auto Parts - Condon  
Fossil Hardware - Fossil

Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife

**ANGLERS**

The Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife will conduct a meeting to solicit public input on proposed changes to the 1997 angling regulations. The meeting is scheduled

**May 6**  
**7:00 PM**

ODOT Conference Room  
3012 Island Avenue  
La Grande

The public is encouraged to attend.

OREGON  
Fish & Wildlife