

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

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
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Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: Letters to the editor must be signed. The Gazette-Times will not publish unsigned letters. Please include your address and phone number on all letters for use by the G-T office. The G-T reserves the right to edit.

For four-day week

To the Editor:
I am a seventh grader at Heppner Junior High School. I go to a four day school week and I am very happy with it. I would not like a five day school week. For some reason I don't understand why people are saying that the kids' grades are dropping because we aren't going enough hours a week. My grades have stayed the same and I have been on the honor roll every time since fourth grade. Also, people are saying that the kids going five days a week are getting more learning time than us but we

are going the same amount of hours of a kid going five days a week. A lot of people, including me, are playing school sports and would have to be taken out of school on Fridays and that would include taking my younger sibling out of school on Fridays also. I am not struggling in school and never have because of the four day school week so therefore I state that I think there should be a four day school week.

Jodie Carlson
Heppner

Arts and Crafts group to meet

The Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts Club will meet for lunch on Wednesday, January 22, at 1 p.m. in the coffee room at Yaw's in Heppner. The meeting will follow at 1:30 p.m.
Plans for classes to be held this year and for the fair booth will be discussed. Anyone with ideas is invited to come to the meeting and share them.
Several prominent artists have

been contacted concerning holding local classes in oils, watercolors and pastels. Beginners are welcome to attend.
The fair annex building will also be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on January 22 for anyone who would like to join in old or new artistry or crafts projects or sharing time and ideas with others.
Members, guests and any interested persons are invited to attend.

County flood damage adding up

Morrow County continues to add up damage estimates from the recent flooding. People with damage to farmland or residential property in Morrow County should call 676-5161. This number is for reporting uninsured damages only.
Callers will need to know the name of the owner, the location of the property, a description of the damage and an estimate of the dollar value of the loss. County commissioners need this information to

request state and federal assistance. Estimate of flood damages is at \$250,000. This includes farmland that has been washed away, damage to roads and bridges and damage to other private property. The amount does not include damage that private utilities received in the flooding. Repair estimates are rising as more damage reports come in, said a news release from the Morrow County Emergency Management office.

County awarded emergency funds

Morrow County has been awarded federal funds under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program. The county was chosen to receive \$2,234 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the area.
The local board will be made up of the Morrow County Commissioners and will be

distributed among emergency food and shelter programs run by local service organizations. The local board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds.
Applications may be made to Louis Carlson, Morrow County Judge, P.O. Box 788, Heppner, Oregon, no later than January 22.

E.O.S.C. lists fall honor roll

Eastern Oregon State College's 1996 fall quarter dean's list includes the names of 281 students who achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or better. To qualify for the

dean's list, students must have a minimum of 12 graded credit hours.
Local students who qualified are Heidi Orem, Ione, and Becky Wagenblast, Lexington.

NOTICE TO ALL ELK MEMBERS:
The Dining Room will be closed until Fri., Jan. 31. Our cooks, Karl and Alice, were called back to the Midwest due to illness in the family. Thank you for your patronage and patience.

January 29:
Scholarship interviews for \$2,500 in scholarships.

February 5:
Ladies' Night. Dining at 6 p.m.

February 14-15-16
100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
Music both upstairs and downstairs.

Heppner Elks 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 N. Main

School board proposes '97-98 staffing increase

The Morrow County School Board, at its regular meeting Monday, January 13, in Lexington, approved the first reading of a staffing proposal which would add teachers, educational assistants and extra duty computer trainers for the 1997-98 school year at a cost of \$376,825.

The proposal would fund a licensed art teacher to reinstate the art program in Heppner and provide an art program in Ione and would add a quarter time music teacher at both Heppner Elementary School and Heppner High School.

Morrow County School Superintendent Chuck Starr said that the proposal is dependent on funds becoming available, but added that an increase in students, and a subsequent increase in monies received by the district, is expected to offset the additional expenditures.

The proposal would add the following employees:

Heppner Elementary School (HES)-one full time teacher for fifth-sixth grades multi-age grouping; 4 time art teacher; 25 time music teacher; one extra duty computer trainer.

Heppner High School (HHS)-4 time art teacher; 25 music teacher; half time office assistant; one extra duty computer trainer.

Ione Schools (K-12)-2 time art teacher; one 3-1/2 hour educational assistant for third-fourth grades multi-age grouping (would expand part time existing aide to full time); one extra duty computer trainer.

Sam Boardman Elementary (SBE)-half time counselor; two 3-1/2 hour English as a Second Language (ESL) educational assistants; 6 time assistant custodian; one extra duty computer trainer.

A.C. Houghton Elementary (ACH), Irrigon-half time counselor; one 3-1/2 hour educational assistant for kindergarten-first grade; one extra duty computer trainer.

Columbia Middle School (CMS), Irrigon-one full time remediation educational assistant; two 3-1/2 hour ESL educational assistants; one extra duty computer trainer.

Riverside High School (RHS), Boardman-one full time advanced math science teacher; one full time language arts/social studies teacher; one extra duty computer trainer.

District-one full time alternative education teacher in north Morrow County schools; one full time alternative educational assistant.

Totals-6.5 teachers/counselors x \$41,000=\$266,500; one half time office assistant x \$18,000=\$9,000; two full time educational assistants=\$33,000; six 3-1/2 hour ed assistants=\$37,200; one .25 media assistant=\$4,125; 6 time assistant custodian=\$16,500; seven extra duty computer trainers x \$1,500=\$10,500.

In other business, the board: -approved resignations of Gregg Rietmann, extra duty head football coach for Ione High School (IHS); John Thomas, extra

duty position as head girls' basketball coach for RHS at the end of the season; Anne Orcutt, special education assistant, ACH; Jim Raible, extra duty contract, head tennis coach, IHS, effective immediately.

-approved termination of Anastacio Garza from 3-1/2 hour assistant custodian position, SBE.

-approved transfer for Ray Godin, from ACH special ed assistant to SBE assistant custodian position; Marjorie Shelly, transfer from SBE to ACH to continue as one-on-one special ed assistant.

-approved employment for Ron Neighorn, temporary contract to teach music and Spanish at Heppner and Ione schools for the balance of the school year; Heather Hacking, temporary contract, Heppner and Ione schools for balance of school year, 1/2 extra duty contract as cheerleader advisor, HHS; Dave Horn, promotion from assistant to head custodian, SBE; Paul Van Cleave, 3-1/2 hour assistant custodian, SBE; Mary Ann Anthony, one-on-one special educational assistant at HES, working with special needs student; Jane Ginther, 3-1/2 hour one-on-one special ed assistant working with special needs student, ACH.

-approved resignation of Janice Huddleston from position #1 of the Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee.

-accepted a donation of \$150 from Mid-Columbia Bus Company for funding drug-alcohol free senior activities at Heppner, Ione and Riverside high schools.

-approved a Heppner High School senior trip request to Disneyland.

-heard a performance by Heppner Elementary School fifth and sixth-grade band students under the direction of Ralph Werner.

-heard a technology update by Nate Arbogast. Arbogast said that the initial computer system installation was completed and E-mail installed at Morrow County Schools by the end of November. He said that parents may now contact teachers by voice mail at all schools at any time of the day. Teachers may elect not to have the phone ring during class time, but parents can leave a message for the teacher without disturbing the class. Arbogast said that Internet capabilities were around 50 percent completed throughout the district, including browsing capabilities with the World Wide Net and T-1 access lines, which would cut access times substantially, have been installed at all schools except CJH, HES and HHS. Installation of T-1 access lines in Heppner are dependent on fiber optics being installed between Lexington and Heppner.

Arbogast said that the Morrow County School District was the largest school district in the state to have such computer capabilities. "Even the Portland school district is not at that point yet," he said.
Arbogast said that the Morrow County School District has acquired ownership of OTIS

software for the entire state of Oregon. This will be distributed to the Educational Service District and then to other schools in the state, which is expected to recoup the district's costs by the end of the year. Arbogast added that PLATO software has been installed in alternative classrooms at Heppner and Riverside and said that he is in the process of setting up a Web server so that the district and schools in the district can create their own home pages. He indicated that there is a possibility of providing dial-in lines for remote access.

Training sessions on Internet access have been scheduled at schools in February.

-heard a bond projects update by Bob Baker.

-heard a report on a burglary of a computer at ACH.

-heard a report on state standards compliance. "In every instance (the district) met or exceeded state standards," said Starr. "We do exceed state standards in instructional time."

-approved a bid for wheel chair lifts at the district office from Klau-Med, Inc., Beaverton, for \$22,706.55

-heard announcements of the following upcoming events: Jan. 16-last day of first semester; Jan. 20-Martin Luther King, Jr., holiday, no school; Jan. 21-27-special education due process hearing; Feb. 7-budgets from administrators and supervisors due.

The board is expected to consider the four-day week at the regular meeting scheduled for Monday, February 10, at SBE at 7:30 p.m.

MC Gun Club sets trapshoot

The Morrow County Gun Club will be open Sundays at noon on a weekly basis for trapshooting. Members and interested persons are invited to attend.

Elks Hoop Shoot set for Jan. 25

The annual Elks Hoop Shoot for Heppner and Ione boys and girls ages eight to 13 will be held Saturday, January 18, at the Heppner High School gym beginning at 9 a.m. Signup begins at 8:30 p.m. This is the 25th anniversary of the national Elks Free Throw Contest, says local organizer Dave Gunderson.

The competition will be divided into three age groups: eight to nine; 10-11 and 12-13. Age is determined by the child's age on April 1, 1997.
Those planning to attend should bring clean tennis shoes.

Local winners will go to the district contest in Hermiston January 25. The date of the state competition will be announced later.

teachers
from page one

already," laughed Broden. She has commuted back and forth from Pendleton and also stayed at the homes of fellow teachers in Heppner. Broden says she hopes to continue teaching here after the baby is born.

Broden loves to read and travel and has been to Europe and all over South America. She hasn't been to Mexico and would like to travel there, but any trips will have to wait for a while until after she is done "nesting". Her parents and sisters, Elena Chigas, New York, and Margarita Quevedo, Ecuador, will all be on hand for the baby's birth, which is scheduled for Jan. 16 at Walla Walla.

Obituaries

Harold C. "Doc" Sherer

Harold C. "Doc" Sherer, 87, of Ione, died Saturday, January 11, 1997, at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston.

The funeral was Tuesday, January 14, 1997, at the United Church of Christ in Ione. Concluding service and burial was at the Lexington Cemetery.

Mr. Sherer was born January 31, 1909, in Moscow, Idaho, to Guy and Cora Gilman Sherer. The family moved to Top, in 1912, and later to Lexington, where he attended school and graduated from high school. He attended Benke Walker Business College in Portland.

On September 14, 1934, he married Beulah Pettyjohn at Yakima, Washington. They lived on a dairy farm before he went to work for Pacific Power and Light Company.

In 1937, he began working for the Morrow County Road Dept. as a truck driver and rock crusher. The family lived in Heppner until 1945 when they moved to their present home, four miles from Ione.

Mr. Sherer continued to work for the road dept. in Heppner while operating the farm. He retired as Morrow County Roadmaster in 1979, when he was 70 years old.

In the 42 years he was with the road dept., many changes occurred. He worked with six different Morrow County judges and assisted in developing the Bombing Range Road which connects north and south Morrow County.

He enjoyed his family, spending time with his grandchildren and teaching each of them how to drive.

Survivors include his wife, Beulah, at the home; son, Dick of Ione; daughters, Kay Barnhart of Redmond and Judy Ripka of Dallas; brothers, Riley Munkers of Heppner, Dale Sherer, Russell Sherer and Bob Sherer, all of Hillsboro, Illinois; and sister, Joan Boas, also of Hillsboro, Illinois; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ione United Church of Christ Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 346, Ione, OR. 97843.
Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

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