

Letters to the Editor

How low should we go?

To the Editor:

Following are the test scores of Morrow County schools as published this year by the Oregon Dept. of Education, as published in the East Oregonian. Much has been made publicly of the alleged fact that students' test scores have not gone down in the short time that we have been using a four-day school week.

Area Student Test Scores

How area students scored when compared to classes in the rest of the state with 0 being equal to the statewide average.

Third grade

School (Average)	ReadingMathRank (206) (201)
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Morrow County		
A.C. Houghton	-4	-2 120
Sam Boardman	-3	-5 109
Heppner	0	0 453
Ione	+5	+5 466

*SES rank: Third graders in 739 schools throughout Oregon were rated according to socioeconomic standing, in order to help account for the wide variance in test results. Wealthier schools received the higher rankings. The rankings are based on the number of students participating in the free-and-reduced lunch program.

Fifth grade

School (Average)	ReadingMathRank (216) (214)
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Morrow County		
A.C. Houghton	-3	-6 131
Sam Boardman	-3	-4 92
Heppner	-1	-3 426
Ione	+2	-1 388

*SES rank: Fifth graders in 739 schools throughout Oregon were rated according to socioeconomic standing, in order to help account for the wide variance in test results. Wealthier schools received the higher rankings. The rankings are based on the number of students participating in the free-and-reduced lunch program.

Take students into consideration

To the Editor,

I am a seventh grader at Heppner High School. I am writing in regards to the issue on the four day school week. I have gone to school with both a four day week and a five day week. When we go to school on the four day week we go from 7:55 a.m. until 3:36 p.m. This all evens out to almost the same amount of time as the five day school week.

My grades have actually raised on the four day week because it gives me more time to focus on my homework and school. On the five day week on Friday we didn't do much of anything. This arrangement has taught me how to budget my time and allows me to spend more time with my family. On this program the school has cut out wasted time like recesses and time in between the classes.

Benefiting from this program, I am able to take private music lessons and it also makes me feel better about taking sports and being in the Outdoor Club because I don't have to worry about missing school and having mountains of homework.

I hope that the school board will think about how it affects the people who go to school every day and not how it suits their schedule. After trying to make the adjustment from moving from the junior high to the high school already I would like to see some consistency instead of constant change. I just hope that the school board will take the students into consideration because we are the ones that have to go to school every day and live with it.

(s) Meghan Bailey
Heppner

Public Notice

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CALL FOR BIDS:

Sealed bids for the purchase of flushometers will be received by Morrow County School District at the District Office, 270 W Main, Lexington, Or 97839 until 2:00 p.m., February 5, 1997. At this time, all bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Bid documents may be obtained at the District Office in Lexington, OR, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Scope of work called for in this project shall include, but is not limited to all necessary crafts required by the nature of the specific project. Morrow County School District may reject any bids not in compliance with all prescribed public bidding procedures and requirements and may reject for good cause any and all bids upon a finding of the district that it is in the public interest to do so.

Charles D. Starr
Superintendent,
Morrow County School District
Published: January 22, 1997

Eighth grade

School (Average)	ReadingMathRank (229) (231)
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Morrow County		
Heppner	0	+3 273
Boardman	-6	-4 46
Columbia	-2	-2 286

*SES rank: Eighth graders in 348 schools throughout Oregon were rated according to socioeconomic standing, in order to help account for the wide variance in test results. Wealthier schools received the higher rankings. The rankings are based on the number of students participating in the free-and-reduced lunch program.

Tenth grade

School (Average)	ReadingMathRank (236) (232)
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Morrow County		
Heppner	-6	-3 199
Ione	+5	+5 230
Riverside	-2	-2 13

*SES rank: Tenth graders in 250 schools throughout Oregon were rated according to socioeconomic standing, in order to help account for the wide variance in test results. Wealthier schools received the higher rankings. The rankings are based on the number of students participating in the free-and-reduced lunch program.

How far down should we tolerate?

(s) Meg Murray
Ione

Justice Court Report

The Justice Court office at the courthouse annex building in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

David Lee Hanna, 49, Heppner-Violation of the Basic Rule, 83 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$122 fine;

Dale Jay Wilson, 19, Lexington-Violation of the Basic Rule, 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$67 fine;

Dina L. Schacher, 28, Hermiston-Unlawful U-turn, \$67 fine;

Kay Francis Ford, 57, White Salmon, WA.-Unlawful U-turn, \$67 fine.

Births

A daughter, Gabriela Christine, was born to Bob and Vicky Broden, Pendleton, on January 16, 1997 at St. Mary's Medical Center at Walla Walla, WA.

The baby weighed six lbs. 7-1/2 oz.

Grandparents are Elsie Broden, Libby, Montana, and Juan and Monica Quevedo, Caracas, Venezuela.

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office at the courthouse in Heppner reports issuing the following marriage license during the past week:

Jan. 3: Juan Carlos Gonzales, 29, Boardman, and;

Barbara Joanne Aguilar, 29, Boardman.

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

Published weekly and entered as periodical matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Periodical postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 147 West Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$18 in Morrow, Wheeler, Gilliam and Grant Counties; \$25 elsewhere.

April Hilton-Sykes News Editor
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David Sykes, Publisher

Off the Wall

By Marilyn Robinson

If there's a washed out bridge or a burned-out building for sale I'd undoubtedly be considered a likely purchaser. That's how gullible I've become.

At the Town and Country banquet I finally tumbled to the fact that Cara Osmin was reading the not-so-famous past history of my life in conjunction with a first citizen award. Thankfully this wasn't a roast and toast to broadcast major catastrophic events involving this very country person.

While I am still in a shell-shocked state, I would like to thank the Heppner Chamber of Commerce for this honor. Yet I know of many people who are far more deserving of this award, for community service. Perhaps caring for ungrateful animals that often kick or shove you in the muck may have earned me some brownie points.

Blissfully unaware of what was about to happen that evening, I enjoyed watching the surprised look on Kevin Erich's face as his life story unfolded. Still I was unaware of the the snowball job given me by my own family members to explain their presence for this well-kept secret.

A daughter-in-law is a smooth operator as she told me extra tickets had come her way, explaining the presence of our oldest son and grandson. Knowing the Robinson appetite it sounded perfectly logical. And even the lame excuse given by my sister wasn't questioned as she has a habit of popping up in unexpected places.

It's ironic that for a number of years, I had enjoyed sleuthing out the details of the personal lives of first citizens for newspapers. But I had no idea that Jean Jepsen and others would turn the tables on me, causing me to want to crawl under said table.

Now I know it's not possible to hide even in the country, especially when prone to opening my mouth in public. But I'm just grateful that there isn't vision access with telephones thereby making a fashion statement of my often scruffy getup or hair standing on end.

And thankfully there hasn't been anyone around with a video camera to watch me doing the Macarana on ice or when I've been launched not too gracefully from the back of a horse. Yet even more embarrassing is forgetting a well-known person's name. Consequently I'm still working on the identity of some folks who sent me a very personalized Christmas card.

I'm fortunate to have ancestral roots in this great northeastern Oregon country where caring people reside. There are many individuals who freely give of their time to help others, serve on volunteer boards and help our lifestyle in many ways.

St. Patrick's Senior Center Bulletin Board

There were 74 present for the senior meal Wed. Jan. 15, and six meals were home delivered. Norma French won the free meal ticket. Members of the Christian Missionary Fellowship did the serving and cleaning up after. Ralph Struthers and Bill Cox set the tables. Bob Taylor, Barton Clark, and George Jeffries cleared and washed off the tables after the meal. Irene Schroeder was the hostess. She is taking Lynn Bibby's place while Lynn is on vacation in Florida. Rose Marie Buschke and Eleanor Gonty were at the sign-in table. Daisy Collins and Irene Schroeder took care of the leftover food. It takes a lot of volunteers to keep the center meal site open.

A Senior Center Board meeting followed the dinner. The menu for the birthday dinner Jan. 29 will be country beans, coleslaw, peaches and cottage cheese, cheese sticks, cinnamon rolls and ice cream. Milk, coffee and tea are served with each meal. The suggested donation is \$2 for those 60 and over. The charge for those under 60 is \$3.75.

Thirteen volunteers folded bulletins for the Extension Service on Tuesday morning. There was one table of cards in play Friday afternoon. No movie was shown Sunday.

News Deadline: Mon. 5 p.m.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHRIS!

LOVE, MOM, DAD, ANDY, ALLISON & CAMILLE

Come Share With Us at

Willow Creek Baptist Church

Bible Study for all ages 2 p.m.

Worship Service 3 p.m.

Meeting in the

7th Day Adventist Church

560 North Minor



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EACH CRAB WILL BE 2 lbs. +/-

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First come, First Serve

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Reservations O.K. but not

guaranteed on this event

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