

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

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper
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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.

Delighted with result

To the Editor:
I have been as curious, questioning, and impatient as anyone through this summer of street-building. The illusions and disillusion of space adjustment have puzzled me. Now as the project nears completion I can see that it offers more than new asphalt and cement. In fact, I have remembered driving, several years ago, in a similarly designed area. When I visually comprehended how the reorganized space would facilitate parking and driving, Twin Falls, Idaho, came to mind. I have actually driven, parked, shopped, walked while thinking - what a neat change this is. It had been done after 1981, the year I moved from the area. I was surprised by the change and more delighted with the ease of negotiating cross streets and parking.
I returned an hour ago from walking to town (four blocks). I breathed in a sense of relief that our project is coming to

completion. Not only that, I experienced delight to realize how Main Street has changed through the years; now it exhibits a pride the business people and residents have in "their place". Main Street is tidy and pleasant from one end to the other even though there has been constant change and often catastrophe (fire, flood, storm) to deal with.
We are arriving at the season of thanksgiving - for work, health, safety and ease in negotiating traffic, day in and day out. Since my return to the community in 1986, I have marveled at the courtesy offered to pedestrians, in cross-walk areas and between. The new Main Street design adds to the already existing friendliness to residents of every age. It is, as well, a visual welcome to visitor and traveler who passes through alike. I need to express my delight in the result and my gratitude to the planners.
(s) Reverend Grace Drake
Heppner

Arts and Crafts group to meet

Morrow County Creative Arts and Crafts will hold a meeting Thursday, November 13, at 1 p.m. at Yaw's restaurant.

Members are asked to bring examples of art to hang in the county office at the Gilliam-Bisbee Building that day.

lone lists first quarter honor roll

lone high and middle schools have released their first quarter honor roll. To be included on the honor roll "A" students must earn a grade point average of 3.5-4. To be named to the honorable mention "B" list, students must earn a GPA of 3-3.49. Following are the students who qualify:

- lone Middle School
- Grade six "A"-Natalie McElligott and Paul Neiffer, both 4., Billy Gates, Jeff Hunt, Meghan McCabe; "B"-Emily Key.
- Grade seven "A"-Caitlin Orem 4., Tracy Griffith, Diana McElligott; "B"-Jaysi Bennetto, Cameron Krebs, Mike Radie, Koby Rea, Til Tullis.
- Grade eight "A"-Adam McCabe, Colin McElligott and Adam Neiffer, all 4., Salli McElligott, Kristina Powell; "B"-Amelia Peck, Rhonda Wilhelm.
- Freshman "A"-Shelby Krebs, Jeremy Rietmann and Jennifer Thompson, all 4., Charissa Gates, Allison Halvorsen, Amber Lynch, Jeremiah McElligott, Adrienne Swanson; "B"-Katie Bacon, Molly Barrow, Cory Bennetto, Dustin Haguewood, Corey Morgan, Nonnee Walters, Samantha Wilhelm.
- Sophomore "A"-Mark McElligott, Miranda McElligott and Andy Vosberg, all 4., Camie Burrigitt, Erin Crowell, Sybil Krebs, Nikki McElligott, Jacob Neiffer, Joey Powell; "B"-Elizabeth Allen, Brandi Brantley, Steve Crum, Allan Gribskov, Dan Scott.
- Junior "A"-Jessica Krebs and Katie Tworek, both 4., Tori Odinet, Nova Rietmann, Niki Sullivan; "B"-Rosanne Baker, Ryan Bennetto, Lela Gribskov.
- Senior "A"-Tiffani Jones, Jake McElligott, Kara Miller and Jenny Sullivan, all 4., Brenda Burrigitt, Katie Garrett, Marc Orem, Nathan Rietmann; "B"-Len Rietmann.

Sugar 'N Spice bazaar cancelled

The Christmas bazaar hosted annually by Sugar 'N Spice, a group of local craftswomen, has been canceled due to busy schedules and other obligations.
Instead, the group will be offering their craftwork at the Artifactory, slated for Saturday, Nov. 22 at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. This year's selection of home and gift ideas includes tote painting, shelves, Santa and angel ornaments, ceramics and dried flower arrangements.
The items feature the work of Phyllis Piper, Kathy Britt, Sherree Mahoney, Kelly Boyer, Trish Sweeney, Georgia Nairns and Sonja McCabe.
Sugar 'N Spice plans to return next year with its own Christmas bazaar.

Starr, Karwacki announce 1999 retirement

The Morrow County School Board, at their regular meeting Monday night, approved a retirement plan for Superintendent Chuck Starr and Heppner Elementary School Principal Bill Karwacki.
The plan, detailing retirement for Starr, 57, and Karwacki, 65, in June of 1999, is a good idea financially not only for the two administrators, but for the district as well.
In effect, PERS made a deal the two could not refuse. The PERS one-time only retirement plan offered an additional 21 percent toward retirement funds. For example, if a person had \$200,000 in his PERS retirement account, this deal would allow an additional \$42,000 in retirement benefits to be spread out for monthly payments for the remainder of his life.
Starr and Karwacki will take early retirement at the end of February 1998. Between March 2 and December 31, 1998, they will be employed with the school district under a new contract, limiting them to be paid for only 1,040 hours. Starr will be paid \$47,510 and Karwacki, \$42,386. Effective March 2, the district will no longer pick up their 9.3 percent PERS payment. Then, from January 1, 1999, to June 30, 1999, Starr and Karwacki will work an additional 1,040 hours, Starr for \$40,146 and Karwacki for \$29,232.
Savings for the school district will amount to \$43,000, according to Starr.
Starr and Karwacki both said that they will volunteer additional hours past the 1,040 to "get the job done".
Starr, who has had 37 years experience in education, began work as superintendent in Morrow County in July of 1993. From 1972-1989 Starr was also employed by the district, as a mathematics teacher at Heppner High School for four years, as principal at lone High School for nine years and as assistant superintendent for four years. Starr, who underwent surgery in April to remove a cancerous rectal tumor, announced at the Nov. 10 meeting that he will undergo his final chemotherapy treatment on November 21. Starr and his wife Diana live in lone.
Karwacki has had 40 years experience in education. He was a teacher for four years, a school psychologist for seven years and an administrator for 29 years. He was hired as principal at Heppner Elementary School in August 1993. Karwacki and his wife, Pennie, live in Heppner.

District. Starr outlined a plan, stressing that it was his idea and not yet the district's, for construction of two new schools in the district. Starr proposed that the district earmark \$200,000-\$300,000 of those lottery funds to secure sites for that construction. His proposal included putting a \$20 million bond issue before the voters in 2001 to fund the construction of middle schools in Boardman and Irrigon for grades five through eight by 2002 and using the current middle school in Irrigon, Columbia Middle School, to house a high school in Irrigon. High School students from both Irrigon and Boardman currently attend high school at Riverside High School in Boardman. Starr said that the rapid growth of business and subsequent increase in population in area of north Morrow County and Umatilla County will soon necessitate new facilities. He said that growth in north Morrow County has gotten to the point where "adding on is not an option".
-heard a report on "overpressurization" at A.C. Houghton Elementary School in Irrigon. Overpressurization is the method by which the school has been modified to prevent chemical contamination in the even of problems during the incineration of chemical weapons at the Umatilla Army Depot. Principal John Sebastian reported on drills held at the school. Starr discussed a potential problem in the event of a disaster that parents might come to the school to retrieve their children. But once the overpressurization has begun, the doors cannot be opened because of chemical contamination. Children could not be released, nor parents or others admitted into the school until the danger is past.
-heard a report from Heppner High School teacher Greg Grant, director of the work experience program at HHS, and several students participating in the program.
-approved resignations from: John Thomas, Riverside High School extra duty head football coach; Bob Davidson, RHS extra duty assistant football coach; John Larson, RHS extra duty assistant girls' basketball coach; Lana Orr, Heppner Junior High extra duty assistant girls' basketball coach; Jamie Baker,

IHS from an anonymous donor; \$2,000 toward new sound system at HES from an anonymous donor; \$200 toward new sound system at HES from Heppner Elementary Parent-Teachers Club; \$200 toward new HES sound system from HES teachers.
-approved a request for an art class, taught by Kaya McLaren, to travel to Portland to see the work of a glass artist.
-heard announcements of early dismissal on Wednesday, Nov. 26, and no school on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27 and 28, for Thanksgiving holiday.
The next regular meeting will be held on December 8 at Columbia Middle School at 7:30 p.m.
Heppner Elementary School three-hour special education assistant; Donna Barton, RHS extra duty head volleyball coach.
-approved a medical leave of absence for Jody Marston through January 3.
-approved transfers/promotions for: Maria Mendoza, from 3.5 hour English as a Second Language ed assistant position to full-time ed assistant at Sam Boardman Elementary; Lupe Colin, from 3.5 ESL ed assistant at Columbia Middle School to same position at SBE; Wendell Kreder, from extra duty assistant boys' basketball coach to assistant girls' basketball coach at RHS; Mary Kay Bellamy, add inventory clerk assignment and increase hours from 30 to 37-1/2 per week.
-approved employment (extra duty contracts) for: John Thomas, RHS head girls' basketball coach; Paul Hibbard, RHS assistant boys' basketball coach; Chad Otterness, RHS head wrestling coach and CMS assistant track coach; John McCabe, Heppner Junior High School head boys' basketball coach; Tony Pupo, HJH assistant boys' basketball coach; Scott Burrigitt, lone High School assistant boys' basketball coach.
-approved termination of Magdalena Mejia from A.C. Houghton Elementary ESL ed assistant position.
-accepted donations of: weight room equipment valued at \$10,852 and gym wall padding valued at \$2,846 to RHS from RHS Booster Club; copy machine valued at \$800 to lone Elementary School and football blocking chute valued at \$550 to

lone High School homecoming royalty (left to right): Princess Jessica Krebs, Queen Brenda Burrigitt, Princess Elizabeth Allen and Princess Adrienne Swanson.

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lone elects homecoming royalty



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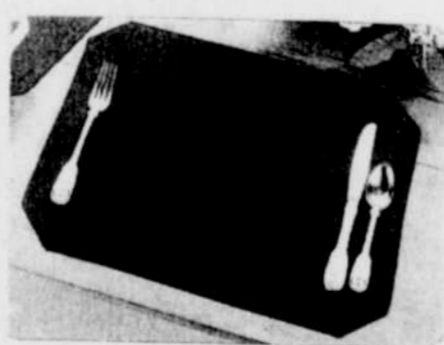
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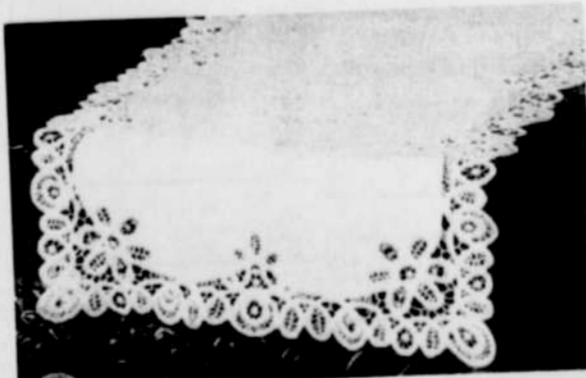
Arlington Heppner lone Condon
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Bank of Eastern Oregon is making a total of \$50,000 of Christmas Cash available so don't wait too long to sign up! Details of the program and a list of participating merchants is available at any Bank of Eastern Oregon branch.

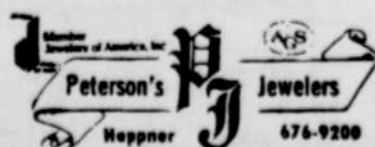
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