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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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April Hilton-Sykes Editor

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.

Don't count on Boardman support

To the Editor:
Perhaps the Morrow County Health District should open a drug store in Heppner. If the district supplemented the facility with \$100,000 a year in taxpayer support, perhaps pharmaceuticals would be available at a lower price than now available in that community. Lower drug prices would certainly serve the medical service needs of a part of the district's constituents.

Sound absurd? But that is exactly what the district is doing in Boardman. Dr. Robert Boss is the only physician in the entire district engaged in the private practice of medicine and in an ill-considered interpretation of its mission, the district continues to operate a tax-supported medical clinic right next door.

Dr. Boss first came to Boardman in response to a taxpayer incentive nearly nine years ago and has developed a strong, supportive practice. But he soon developed personal

animosities because of his political involvement in health care issues. The district has retaliated with a "kill the messenger" syndrome that lead to first, the end of his tax-supported supplement and now direct competition in an obvious effort to drive him from the community.

Dr. Boss now is required to work weekends and nights in emergency rooms throughout the area in order to support his practice in Boardman.

Is there any wonder that the district's current financial crisis is met with cheers in Boardman? If there is any chance to salvage even a part of the district's medical service facilities anywhere in the county, it may well require a substantial tax increase. After the way the district has treated Dr. Boss, his patients and the Boardman community, don't count on any support from Boardman voters.

(s) Ed Glenn
Boardman

Vote for MCURD advisory ballot

To the Editor:
The Morrow County Unified Recreation District has done a good job of maintaining and expanding the school and community activities program for our citizens.

The district board is now asking for the voters to approve continuation of the recreation district program. It is the intention of the district board to accept the result of the advisory vote and act accordingly.

A "yes" vote will enable continued operation of the school extracurricular activities program and the community arts, entertainment and recreation program. A "no" vote will lead to termination of these programs.

I support continuation of the Morrow County Unified Recreation District program and I urge the voters to join me in approval of the advisory ballot.

(s) John Edmundson
Heppner

Vote for Dan Brosnan

To the Editor:
I recently learned that Dan Brosnan is a candidate for County Commissioner for Morrow County.

I have known Dan for 16 years. He was one of my supervisors and was highly respected for his fairness and ethics.

Dan's position required he be

able to not only work with those in our agency but to work with many other agencies and organizations. He was highly regarded by all those he served.

I would urge all those in Morrow County to cast their vote for Dan Brosnan.

(s) Ray R. Graning
Salem

Homeless are people too

To the Editor:
I'd like to respond to a letter from Nella Britt published in the October 14, 1998, HGT.

I gathered that she is really struggling with some thing(s) as a landlady. . . And her letter raised some important considerable questions that compel me to offer my experience and understanding about homeless persons. I do not write this letter in defense but rather to offer my personal perspective.

I myself was once homeless for about three months. And I found myself waiting in line with everyone else at the Social Services agency. I had to struggle with a lot of prejudices that I had. And, without the "system," I don't know where I would be today. Those who know me might be surprised to hear me say that, but it's true.

Allow me to continue.

I found that "the homeless" are people. People who, for whatever reasons, temporary or long-term, do not have the ability to secure permanent housing.

And, "the system" is supposed to work to their - to our advantage. It is a system conceived in grace and unfortunately, today, is pervaded by guilt. It is a system

that is supposed to acknowledge the inherent worth and dignity of each person and acknowledge that sometimes people don't get their basic needs met: food, clothing, housing, heat in winter, etc. (Most of us don't even know what that's like.)

I have known many decent people who have had to ask for assistance - temporary and long-term.

There are too many differing circumstances and situations to make generalizations. And when we hear ourselves making generalizations, we need to ask ourselves what's really going on (for instance, if there is a problem with destruction of property, that needs to be addressed as a problem with destruction of property ...) - instead of laying the problems on the heads of those who do not have the money, or sometimes wherewithal, to defend themselves.

What I'd like to impress is that it is necessary, especially necessary for those of us with the power, money and/or wherewithal to treat each other humanely, in language and action, for any of us can be dealt too many curves in a world which we attempt to define with straight lines.

(s) Monika Hunter
Heppner

We need Ron Wyden?

To the Editor:
We should be grateful to Senator Wyden for promoting the Democratic Party's anti-smoking agenda in the voter's pamphlet.

Rising prices have already caused many smokers to overcome their addiction, reducing adult smoking from 60 to 30 percent.

The current plan should increase the price of cigarettes from \$2.50 to between \$5 and \$7 a pack within five years, forcing retirees and low-income workers to stop smoking and bringing the

smoking rate to under 10 percent.

If science can show a cause-and-effect relationship between smoking and cancer during this time, we should then be able to ban tobacco completely.

Only with full prohibition will we be able to ensure that our children will not be tempted to experiment with this dangerous drug.

We need Ron Wyden and his Democratic Party in Washington to ensure that people don't do things that are bad for them.

(s) Stan Forrester
Clatskanie

Photo misidentified

To the Editor:
Our family recently completed the paper work necessary to become a 100 year farm. The picture that was taken at the ceremony at the Lexington Grange Hall was okay, but the labeling of who the owners are of the farm was bad. The first one on the left is Gerald, who is the operator of the farm, the second person is Eunice, an absentee landlord, the third person is Don, who is a close at hand landlord.

Gerald has been the operator of the farm or many years now, even while the folks were still alive.

Our grandfather, like many at that time, homesteaded during the time of 1870s to 1890s. All

three claims were approved, which were called donation claim sites: homestead, preemption and timber culture. We still have the homestead and preemption. Tom McElligott found the original documents filed away at his office. We will frame them.

(s) Don Peterson
Ione

Measure 67 not about medicine

To the Editor:
Measure 67 is not about medicine. A written prescription is not needed. A person can obtain marijuana privileges without seeing a doctor. A doctor does not supervise the use of "medicinal" marijuana. And Measure 67 bypasses the protective safety of the prescription drug approval process of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber, who is also a licensed doctor, does not support Measure 67 and will not vote for it. In comparing marijuana with morphine, the governor's office said that while everybody supports the use of morphine in pain relief, it is not suggested

that people should grow their own opium poppies to make morphine.

Smoked marijuana has never been shown to be safe and effective treatment for any medical problem. Twenty-five years of scientific research and more than 12,000 published studies have confirmed only harm and health damage from smoked marijuana.

Making people sicker is not compassion. We must not legalize dangerous drugs in the name of "medicine". Marijuana is bad medicine for Oregon. Please join us in voting no on Measure 67.

Oregon Together
(s) Doug Rathbun
(s) Barb Peterson

Boardman potato bake, harvest party planned

The Kid's Club of Boardman Community Church is hosting a Potato Bake and Harvest Party on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 5-8 p.m. Families of all ages are invited to attend.


The Potato Bake will feature baked potatoes with choice of toppings. Potatoes will be served in the Fellowship Hall of the Church beginning at 5 p.m. Donations will be accepted and any proceeds will benefit the Kid's Club ministry.

The Harvest Party provides a safe environment for family fun on Halloween, said a club spokesperson. Activities will include games, hay rides and a bonfire on the church grounds. A costume contest with the theme "Old

McDonald Had A Farm" will take place at 7 p.m. Prizes for the funniest and most creative costume will be awarded. The evening will conclude with marshmallows and hot cocoa around the bonfire.

Boardman Community Church is located at the corner of Second Ave. N.W. and Park Street. For more information, contact Laura Neefe at 481-4915.

Kid's Club is an outreach ministry of Boardman Community Church and is designed to reach children ages kindergarten through fifth grade. Membership is open to any child. The club meets at the Boardman Community Church on Wednesday evenings from 6-7:30 p.m.



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WANTED:

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?

WANTED FOR CANDY THEFT



John aka Johnnie aka Yigs aka Yiggers

Perp. last seen leaving a bowling alley with said Snickers (regular size).

If you have any information regarding this suspect, please contact the local authorities.


Approach with caution!

May be hungry and dangerous!

JOHN F. MOLLAHAN

There are issues concerning the county that I will strive to solve.

I will be there for the people and their county. I have the ability, knowledge, insight and innovation to serve as your County Judge and commissioner.



- I will work for county unity and progress
- I support efforts to reduce juvenile crime
- I have a belief that good government is based on having consensus on the issues
- I take the future of Morrow County seriously and believe in maintaining Morrow County as a great place to live

ELECT

JOHN F. MOLLAHAN

MORROW COUNTY JUDGE

Paid for by Friends of John Mollahan Committee, P.O. Box 306, Lexington, OR 97839