

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. The G-T is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters.

Ban cruel traps

To the Editor:

Animals cannot speak for themselves, so would you please print my letter?

Mr. Jim Van Loan and Mr. Jim Habberstad, past commissioners of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

If either of you gentlemen were forced to experience the shock and excruciating pain of the metal spring jump traps as wild creatures are, I'm sure that you would not print in big heavy head lines, "Proposed Trap Ban Is Too Extreme."

The insidious act caused by the despicable trap on flesh, bone and nerves could be compared to having someone close the car door on your fingers by accident. The incident would have a much different ending. The person responsible for the accident would release the door, free your broken fingers and torn flesh, and get medical aid for you.

On the other hand the trapper would long be gone and for a very long, long time, perhaps until you were famished from lack of food and water in the hot weather or starved or froze to death in the zero cold, snow, rain, sleet and wind, when your foot would become frozen so hard that if you struggled hard enough, it would break off and set you free. You would be called "Peg-Legs."

On the other hand, in the hot weather, if the horrendous misery causes you to chew off your foot so the leg can slip out and free you, the trapper then would call you "Ring-Offs."

Traps and poisons are indiscriminate, injuring or killing any animal that comes across them. My daughter reads meters for Columbia Basin and she was saddened a while back when she saw a dead fawn in a trap. Later she found one in a trap and she could let it out and see it limp away. Near Arlington, she saw a dog in a trap, but by the position of the trap, she could not release the dog. She went to town and got a man to save the dog. The report is the dog is well and doing okay. A dog in the Lexington area was not so fortunate. His owner had searched for the missing dog for 10 days and when found it was still warm, but too late.

Many states in the U.S. and other countries have outlawed the despicable medieval device of the steel trap. 1080 is the most abominable poison in existence. Poisoned animals suffer violently for hours before dying in agony. Secondary deaths result when other animals feed on the bodies of the poison victims. We have enough at Umatilla Depot to worry about without the danger of 1080 getting in our water level.

Please do join me and help promote the ban of the cruel, evil traps. Attitudes are contagious, but not the one that states "Proposed trap ban is too extreme," by the past commissioners of the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife.

(s) Lois Winchester
Heppner

County court hears school district report

By Doris Brosnan

Morrow County School District Superintendent Bruce Anderson updated the Morrow County Court on some issues concerning the school district at the court's regular meeting June 28.

Anderson expressed concern that some north-south county issues are forming. He observed that if the south county "split and formed its own district, it would die." Based on its valuation and the funding formula, Anderson said, there would not be enough state funding to support it. Anderson urged the court to exercise their influence with their constituency to repair the troubling perceptions.

He noted that the transfer of teaching staff is an attempt to spread resources as equitably as possible. Responding to an observation that some south-county people are bitter because they feel that teaching positions added back were to be in the same ratio as those laid off, Anderson stressed that the question is, and always has been, about equity of service.

Anderson reported that the school district will not be going out for a bond, though the building issues concerning growth are inevitable.

Questioned about the CSEPP bus issue, Anderson reported that he will be asking CSEPP for money for fencing and electrical needs at the CSEPP-bus shed.

Also at the meeting the court convened a public hearing on the proposed zone amendment to the RR-1 zone, to remove the section that would eliminate as a conditional use "operations for the exploration, mining, and processing geothermal resources as defined by subsection four of the ORS 522.005, aggregate and other mineral resources in the rural residential zone."

Planning Director Tamra Mabbott reported the planning commission's approval of the application for zone change. She recommended that the court approve the amendment that would not allow aggregate operations in the rural residential zone, explaining that at one time such operations might have been appropriate but that rural residential properties are becoming more limited and mining is permitted in the Exclusive Farm Use zone.

Petitions were submitted, with 422 signatures in favor and 56 signatures opposed to the amendment. Several individuals in attendance addressed the court, both in support of and in opposition to the amendment or the process. The court will decide the issue on July 12 at 10 a.m. in Irrigon.

The court also held a public hearing on the amendment to the zoning ordinance to change a one-acre parcel of land located in the Lone Urban Growth Boundary from residential to general commercial. Hearing no comment and following the recommendation of the planning commission, the court approved the amendment.

The court session continued as assistant Public Works Director Burke O'Brien reported the following: the crew continues paving work on Wilson Road and the Anson Wright project, which should be completed in two weeks. During the first week in July, small projects, such as the paving at the fairgrounds snack shack and the sweeping of Columbia Avenue, will get attention.

Bob Nairns has been chosen for the position of assistant public works director.

Judge Terry Tallman reported

on the unsettled question of having a county representative on the Integrated Process Team that examines the secondary waste issue.

A representative of the Army has stated that there is not "room for everyone who wants to be on this committee," that is not important enough for us to attend, that the Department of Environmental Quality is our representative and that the "county is and has been uncooperative on the matter of incineration."

Tallman replied to the representative that he saw the arguments as a "smoke screen," that the Army simply does not want the county to be there.

Louis Carlson addressed the court as a representative of the Heppner Economic Development Corporation. Informing the court that the group works with a focus on the Willow Creek Valley, he explained that they want to assist in any efforts to retain the Morrow County labor force.

One such effort is a packet of information on housing and the benefits of living in the Willow Creek Valley, which they hope to send to companies locating in Morrow County.

Carlson was told that the county is working to get an economic development coordinator position funded with the regional investment dollars and that HEDC's efforts will complement those of the county.

Three reserve members of the Morrow County Sheriff's Department spoke to the court about the reserve program. Explaining their work, budget, and fund-raising efforts, they requested that funds for their program be included in the county's budget in future years.

Sgt. Mark Miller described some history of the program and stated that the department began rebuilding it this year. He explained the benefits of the reserve program and added that at a time of staff reductions, augmentation of services through use of the reserves becomes especially important.

The importance of training was discussed, and the court learned that at a recent reserve academy graduation, the Morrow County reserves took all of the honors. Also noted was the high rating of the reserves in the department's community survey and fact that a significant number of law enforcement personnel started in a reserve program.

The department would like to build from the present nine reserves to 15, were resources available.

In other business, the court: -appointed Arnold Joe Theisen to the Regional Investment Board and Regional Partnership of Baker and Morrow Counties.

-appointed of Kelly Sager to the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council.

-reappointed of Al Osmin, Cecil Rill, Ken Nelson, Bob Harrison, Richard Wood, Sharon Harrison and Jerri Sly to the Museum Commission.

-approved paying workers compensation insurance for 2000-2001 on a quarterly, prepay basis.

-approved an approach permit from Eighth Street for an Irrigon resident.

-approved Deborah Kendrick's design services for the Boardman Annex.

-approved a request from Heppner Day Care, which came in under their budgeted tippage fee award; to purchase an air conditioner.

As its last business, the court

W.C.C.C. Golf

WCCC Ladies' Play
Tuesday, June 27

Low gross of the field: Pat Edmondson.

Low net of the field: Shari Stahl.

Least putts of the field: Carol Norris.

Flight A: low gross Jan Paustian; low net Eva Kilkenny; least putts Lois Hunt, long drive Shari Stahl; K.P. Pat Edmondson.

Flight B: low gross Carol Norris; low net Joyce Dinkins; least putts Della Heideman; long drive Carol Norris; KP Joyce Dinkins.

Flight C: low gross Lorrene Montgomery; low net Dorris Graves; least putts Dorris Graves; long drive Lorrene Montgomery; KP Lorrene Montgomery.

Chip in: Della Heideman on #11.

Wedding Currin-Williams



Angela and Ronald Williams

Angela Marie Currin and Ronald Nathan Williams were united in marriage on April 8, 2000, in a 3 p.m. ceremony at the Port of Morrow building in Boardman. The Reverend Chris Barker from the Hermiston First Christian Church officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Gerald and Dianna Hoeft, Hermiston, and John Currin, Pendleton. She graduated from Heppner High School in 1990 and attended college at Monmouth, OR, and Pullman, WA. She is employed with Red Robin at Kennewick, WA.

The groom is the son of Ron and Kathie Williams, Boardman, and Scott and Sue Young, Pasco, WA. He graduated from Hermiston High School in 1991 and is employed with Tyler Construction.

The bride wore a full-length organza gown, trimmed with clusters of seed pearls and sequins. The dress featured a chapel-length train and a scoop neckline with drop-cap sleeves, a bouffant skirt and a fitted-corset bodice. The waist-length veil was accented with pearls and a flowered headband with pearls, made by her grandmother, Beverly Wright. She wore a new strand of pearls with a teardrop pearl hung in the center, given to her by her mother. Angela carried a large bouquet of lilac roses with white stephanotis, ivy and fern.

Maid of honor was Stephanie Wright, Lewiston, Idaho, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Nance (Wright) Reid, Bend; Amy (Hoeft) Osmin, Union, sister of the bride; and Sheri Arbogast, Heppner.

Best man was Marek Kopacz, Hermiston. Groomsmen and ushers were Andy Williams, brother of the groom, Hermiston; Ben Harrison, Hermiston; and Steve Taylor, Pacatello, ID.

Candlelighters were Robbie and Andy Katz, New York, cousins of the bride. Flower girls were ShaeLee Arbogast, Heppner, and Hailey Basford, Hermiston. Cody Basford, Hermiston, was ring bearer.

A reception and dance following the ceremony were held at the Port of Morrow building. Music was provided by a DJ who played the couple's favorite songs. Hostesses were Cindy Kinman and daughters, McMinnville, OR. Gayle Hoeft, Pilot Rock, made the cake, which was served by Celia Currin Katz, New York, aunt of the bride, and Jeannie Bloodsworth, Hermiston, aunt of the groom. Jennifer Gutridge, Lake Oswego, cousin of the bride, tended the guest book. Tina McBee and her mother Darlene helped with the reception. Kathie Williams and Tami Williams also helped with the reception and decorations.

The couple's honeymoon was a ski trip to Mount Hood.

Churches join for summer VBS

"Club Can-Do: Kids Called To Care," a vacation Bible school co-sponsored by All Saints Episcopal, Hope and Valby Lutheran and Heppner United Methodist churches is coming the week of July 17-21.

Club meetings will be held at Heppner United Methodist Church on the corner of Church and Gale Streets, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. till

noon. All kids, preschool through fifth grade, are invited to attend. Registration forms are available at each church and at various business locations in Heppner, Lexington and Lone and may be returned to All Saints, Episcopal Church.

A fee is requested to help cover costs of materials: \$4 per student or \$10 for a family of three or more.

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Hanna, 16 yrs.

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Jan, 17 yrs.

Call for information or to choose your own exchange student. Large variety of nationalities, interests, hobbies, etc. now available (single parents, couples with or without children may host). Call us now.

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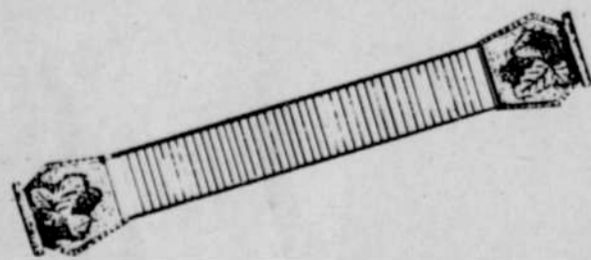
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Truck Driver: Transport onions and products around the Boardman/Heppner area, home every evening. CDL Class A license required. Must work weekends. Starts July 13th. Days, \$10/hour to start.

Lead Industrial Labor: To fill positions available in onion dehydration plant in both mill and processing areas. Starts July 13th. All shifts available, \$8.50/hour with shift differentials.

Industrial Labor: To fill positions available in onion dehydration plant in both mill and processing areas. Starts July 13th. All shifts available, \$7.25/hour with shift differentials.

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