

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

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David Sykes ..... Publisher  
April Hilton-Sykes ..... Editor

**News deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.**

For Advertising: advertising deadline is Tuesday at noon. Cost for a display ad is \$4.50 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 40¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$5 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$5.10 per column inch.

For Public/Legal Notices: public/legal notices deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Dates for publication must be specified. Affidavits must be required at the time of submission. Affidavits require three weeks to process after last date of publication (a sooner return date must be specified if required).

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**Obituaries**

**Chuck Henry Vertz**

Monument resident Chuck Henry Vertz, 73, passed away on Saturday, May 12, 2001, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Prineville.

Memorial services were held Saturday, May 26, 2001, in the "Heritage Chapel" of the Prineville Funeral Home. Pastor Willard Fenderson officiated.

Mr. Vertz was born December 11, 1920 in Little Bear, Wyoming the son of Samuel and Ava (Tucker) Vertz. He was raised in Canby, later moving to Brooks, Oregon.

He married Dolores L. Ramey in February 1948 in Vancouver, Washington. The couple moved to Salem where Mr. Vertz owned and operated two Richfield Service stations. He also worked for several auto dealers in the Willamette Valley and in Hermiston. The couple later moved to Terrebonne where Mr. Vertz worked as a mechanic for Central Oregon Irrigation District until he retired in 1989. The couple then moved to Monument.

Mr. Vertz was a member of the Service Employees International Union #503. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping and rockhounding.

Mr. Vertz is survived by his wife, Dolores Vertz of Salem; son, Dennis Vertz of Stayton; daughter, Sharon Combs of Vale; sister, Hazel Gilbert of Portland, Marian Davidson of San Pablo, California and Dorothy Skyoon of Whale Cove; two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Mr. Vertz was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, one grandson and one great-grandson.

Memorial contributions in Mr. Vertz's memory may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Prineville Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

**Howard William Chance**

Howard William Chance, 84, of Boardman, died Thursday, May 17, 2001, at his home.

A celebration of life service was held Monday, May 21, 2001 in the chapel at Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. Private burial followed at the Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

He was born May 24, 1916, in Portland, to James and Annabell Wade Chance. He was raised in Portland and attended schools there.

He joined the Army, serving as a medic in England during WWII.

He married Janice Luchak. The couple lived in the Portland area. Mr. Chance designed and built custom homes throughout the

Columbia Gorge, all the way to Pendleton. The couple moved to Boardman in 1982. Mrs. Chance died in 1989.

On June 8, 1990, he married Priscilla Garner in Irrigon.

He was a member of the Hermiston Seventh-day Adventist Church, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion.

He helped to build the Irrigon Seventh-day Adventist Church, enjoyed gardening, studying history and aviation.

Survivors include his wife, Priscilla Chance of Boardman; sons, Michael Chance, Bill Chance and Tim Garner, all in Oregon; sister, Jean R. Shibley of Vancouver, Washington; and four grandsons. He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Janice Chance; and brother, Dr. Russell Chance.

Memorial contributions may be made to 3ABN, Voice of Prophecy or ADRA in care of Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, P.O. Box 289, Hermiston, Oregon 97838.

**Sign up now for soccer league**

Anyone 4-1/2 to 14 years old interested in playing soccer this fall is urged to call Tina Edwards or Darrell Raver, 676-8710, as soon as possible. Those interested should leave a message on their answering machine with their name and phone number.

Although the sign-up deadline is past, Edwards said that if there was enough interest a league is still possible. However, she added that as of now, not enough children have signed up.

Practice would begin around the first of August, with the first game sometime after August 25 and the last game around the end of November.

Edwards said that money will be refunded if not enough children sign up. In the event that the league is not started up, those with enough interest may join the Hermiston or Boardman leagues, she said.

**HHS sports dessert postponed**

The Heppner High School sports dessert has been postponed to Monday, June 4, at 7 p.m. at the High School.

The dessert was originally scheduled for Monday, May 21.

**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. (Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$5.)

**Express your support at board meeting**

To the Editor:

The superintendent of the Morrow County School District proclaimed to the East Oregonian newspaper that board member Keith Lewis does not reside in the school zone which he represents. He made this statement even though the district's board had decided to hold a special meeting on June 6 in order to determine the facts of this matter.

Who is right? Is the special board meeting on June 6 a session in which a serious consideration of this matter is to be made? Or, does the superintendent know something that we, the public do not know?

Perhaps this is to be another sham meeting of the directors like that held in February 2000 when the board pretended to listen to our comments then immediately voted to cut 17 teaching positions. Perhaps this too is a fait accompli.

I question both the moral and the legal authority of the board to invalidate the election of this board

member and also that of Barney Lindsay. The board has certified the election of Keith Lewis and his eligibility to serve. The board certified Barney Lindsay's election and eligibility, not once but twice.

These two people have received thousands of votes between them. I would hope that the remaining board members have learned something from our former Vice President's vain attempt in Florida to overturn an election. I hope that they understand the priceless nature of our right to vote and honor the results of these elections.

We will see if the board is sincerely interested in decency when making a decision in this matter. I fully expect there to be a complete and fair hearing of fact and law with regard to these matters.

Please attend the meeting at the district office in Lexington on June 6 at 7 p.m. and express your support.

(s) Mike Armato  
Heppner

**Boardmembers' treatment unfair**

To the Editor:

At last week's Morrow County School Board meeting, something happened that I believe the residents of Morrow County should know. Two individual board members, Barney Lindsay and Keith Lewis were intentionally singled out and were not aware of a situation that involved them directly. The superintendent and other board members were not only aware but handled the situation purposely to surprise, and, I believe, to embarrass them.

The situation arose when the school district received a complaint that board members were not living in the correct zone. (Morrow County School District is divided up into seven zones with board members representing each zone.) The district investigated the complaint and found Barney Lindsay and Keith Lewis were not residing in the correct zone. The chairman of the board announced at the beginning of the meeting that a complaint had been received. The lawyer representing the district explained their votes may come under scrutiny. Neither board member was notified about the possible zone violation before the meeting and both were stunned that the superintendent, board members and lawyer were prepared with the information to share with everyone.

Both Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Lewis

filed for their respective school zone position, both won the election, the county clerk's office certified their winning and the school district accepted the results. The school district is responsible to the voters to make sure the candidates for school board positions are in their correct zones. The whole county votes on school board members and both Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Lewis were elected by an overwhelming majority.

At a special meeting scheduled on June 6, the five school board members will now decide if the two elected board members will remain.

I served on the Morrow County School Board for eight years, was chairman for two years, worked with three different superintendents and worked alongside three of the current school board members. During this time, there was never a situation involving a board member that was handled like the present situation. It is unprofessional and unethical in my book to treat elected officials in this manner. Everyone deserves to be treated with respect; isn't that what we teach our children?

Most people may not be aware that the current board members don't always agree on issues, but this is not the way to treat or get rid of board members. It is simply unfair.

(s) Marcia Kemp  
Lexington

**Support "virtual" bucket brigade**

To the Editor:

I appreciate you giving your support to the farmers and ranchers in Northern California and Southern Oregon. Your response has been absolutely phenomenal.

We have received more than 10,000 names of individuals and businesses. But, we need more...

This week we published our first list of the Virtual Bucket Brigade and will be publishing a second list in next week's edition of the Pioneer Press. This message needs to be heard in Washington, D.C. and every

start capitol, where we intend to deliver thousands.

If you haven't already, please consider sending out a request to everyone in your e-mail address list and ask them to send their name and city to <mailto:pioneerpb@sisqtel.net> if they support the ranchers and farmers in their fight for water.

I would love to see this list grow to 100,000 names. Every name counts.

Daniel Webster  
Pioneer Press  
Fort Jones, Calif.

**Blatant attempt to silence board members**

To the Editor:

The latest attempt by the Morrow County School Board and its administration to silence the views of voters of Morrow County should not be tolerated.

At the last school board meeting, an attack was made on board members Barney Lindsay and Keith Lewis, alleging they do not comply with residence requirements to serve in their respective zones. This attack was listed on the agenda under the title of "chairman's inquiry" and had obviously been previously discussed by the remaining board members (agenda packets mailed out five days previously) and gave no notice to Barney and Keith that these charges would be made.

This unethical treatment of our duly elected board members is clearly, obviously and blatantly an attempt to silence the two board members who have dared to oppose the administration in the past. After the charge was made at the beginning of the meeting, it was suggested that those members should immediately be prevented from voting that night and should be removed from the board.

Barney Lindsay was elected four years ago and his residency issue explored and legal opinions written and sent to the board. It was accepted and he was certified. He was recently re-elected from all areas of the county, but before doing so had the same issue checked out again, was advised, re-elected and

again certified.

Keith Lewis who lives in and represents Heppner, asked the district office before the election and was told he was eligible to run from Zone 4, which he did, was duly elected and his election certified.

Barney and Keith have since represented our interests and have spoken up on issues when the other members continued to rubber-stamp the superintendent's proposals. They have stood up against cutting teachers and long-standing programs such as vo-ag. (Recall numerous articles in papers last year regarding infamous February 2000 meeting when the board voted 5 to 2 to cut 17 teachers against the wishes of hundreds of parents.) They have devoted countless hours at these lengthy meetings to represent the views and interests of the whole county. We have elected them to represent us and want to see them continue to do so in the future.

Does the board and administration want them off so they may appoint the members they want to replace them until the next school board election in March 2003? For two years we would lose elected representation to members chosen by the current board. Is that what you want? They have called a special meeting on June 6 at 7 p.m. to resolve this issue. Let them know how you feel.

(s) Ann Murray  
(s) John Murray  
Heppner

**Nursing home workers give seniors a special day**

To the Editor:

I recently attended a Mother's Day tea given for the Pioneer Memorial Hospital nursing home women at the Heppner Elks Lodge. The women had been pampered all day with new hairdos, painting of nails and generally getting ready for their evening out.

Tea was served with a large variety of desserts to chose from. Wonderful music was provided by Nancy and Amy Jensen and Julie Howard. Victor Vanderdoes made an excellent waiter.

Pennie Miller and her crew did

a wonderful job of making the arrangements and putting on this exciting event. My mother and I am sure all of the residents greatly enjoyed their 'evening out'.

One woman expressed some regret that the men were being left out of the festivities, but Pennie assured her that "their day was coming."

The care these people at the hospital give the nursing home residents is unmistakable and they do a great job. Keep up the good work.

(s) Diana Ball  
Heppner

**Salli McElligott selected as Girls State rep**

Salli McElligott

Salli McElligott, a junior at Lone High School has been selected by The Lone American Legion Auxiliary Unit #95 to be a delegate to Girls State. Salli is the daughter of Paul and Charity McElligott of Lone. Salli is an honor student and is active in all sports at Lone High School. She is also active in FBLA, the Lone Youth Group and St. Williams Church in Lone.

Girls State will be held at Willamette University on June 17-23. This is the 41th annual session of Girls State. Holding Girls State at Willamette University will allow them to utilize the state capitol and surrounding state offices for a fun and educational.

Sponsors for this year are: Morrow County Grain Growers, Les Schwab and Columbia Basin Electric Coop. Lone Legion Auxiliary is the organization that selects the girls and prepares them for Girls State.

Salli, the 16-year-old daughter of Paul and Charity McElligott of Lone, attends Lone High School where she is a junior. She is a member of National Honor Society

and is on the A-honor roll. The past three years she has been a member of the varsity volleyball team, the varsity tennis team and basketball. Her volleyball team was the 1998 and 1999 Oregon State IA champion.

She has been a member of the school annual staff in the past, as well as FBLA. She was freshman and junior class president and is a student representative to the Morrow County Parks District. She has also been active in the Lone Youth Group for the past three years.

Salli has been in 4-H since her fourth grade year and was the 2000 All-Around Champion swine showman. She represented her county as a Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Princess in 2000.

In addition to school and extracurricular activities, Salli has a summer job babysitting for Bink and Lynn Dee Ramos of Lone.

Although Salli is only 16, she is considering taking courses in politics in college. Salli's family includes her brother Jeremiah, 18, a senior at IHS, and sister, Diana, 15, a sophomore at IHS.

**IT'S TIME FOR THE**  
**IONE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**39th ANNUAL AUCTION & BARBECUE**

DRIVE    TO WILLOWS GRANGE HALL  
**IONE, OREGON, on SATURDAY, JUNE 2nd**


COUNTRY STORE OPENS AT 10:00 a.m.  
AUCTION BEGINS AT 10:30 a.m. BY TRIAD AUCTIONEERING  
SILENT AUCTION BEGINS 10:15 a.m. - BIDS OPEN 12:20 p.m.

ANTIQUES - CRAFTS - HOME-BAKED FOOD ITEMS  
HAND-MADE ITEMS - NEW TO YOU - SNACK SHACK  
FISH POND - BOOKS - TOYS

PIT BARBECUED BEEF DINNER AT 12:30 p.m.  
ADULTS \$6.00 • 6-12 YEARS \$3.00 • PRE-SCHOOL FREE

Receiving donations and for pickup, phone:  
Laurel Cannon at 422-7165 • Bill Rietmann at 422-7296

**We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the wonderful people who helped with the Juan G. Elguezabal Memorial Dedication at the Bob Kilkenny Field.**



First of all, we would like to thank Dave Fowler and Darcy Robinson for their talents and organizational skills; without their dedication, this BIG project would not have come together. A big thank you to the Heppner Little League for authorizing the site. Thanks to Mr. Allen and Mr. Anthony for their opening words of wisdom at the dedication. Thanks to Kyle Robinson, Larry Mills, Andrew Johnson and John Wight for their advice and expertise on where and how to dig and where and how to place the drip lines.

Thanks to Virginia Grant, Coach Lindsay Harle and her softball team for donating one tree and supplies and their hard work in planting the trees and landscaping the site. To Dale Adlard of D & L Auto Parts and Repair for donating the metal for the bench. Thanks to Dave Fowler and his family for all their work and for donating the wood for the bench. Thanks to Brandon Young who built the frame for the bench.

Thanks to Heppner High School Staff and Student Body for donating one tree, supplies and pitching in to help dig and plant! Thanks to HHS Technology Education Department and Manufacturing Construction Class taught by Dave Fowler for their work on the concrete and bench. Thanks to Valery Campbell and Jean Strange for the arranging, organizing and printing on the wood. Thanks to Adam Doherty for his hard work in burning the letters into the wood.

With everyone's special talents, time and hard work, the trees, bench and landscaping have not only left our town more beautiful, but it has once again left us with a real feeling of what it means to be part of a wonderful community. "Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together."

**Familia Elguezabal**



**Now you CAN have a new home in beautiful Heppner, Oregon.**

**Heppner's newest home**

**OPEN HOUSE**

**Saturday through Monday**  
**May 26-28, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.**  
875 Lakeview Drive, overlooking Willow Creek Lake.