

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

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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. 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.)

### Kids' letters to the editor

To the Editor:

I told my students at Heppner Elementary that I would give them the recipe for Scotch Shortbread cookies, and decided to put the recipe in a letter to the editor. These cookies were very popular with the young people, but are at their best with a hot cup of tea.

Shortbread

- 1 cup butter, softened at room temperature (NOT margarine)
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 cups flour

Heat the oven to 300 degrees. Mix the butter and sugar with your hands and then add the flour a cup at a time. There are different ways to "decorate" the cookies. I use a cookie stamp of a thistle, a symbol of Scotland. You can also form the dough into 1-1/2 inch balls and flatten on a cookie sheet with the ball of your hand. Use a fork to prick the center of the cookie a couple of times, and then use the back of the fork to press in a design around the edge of the cookie. Bake the cookies very slowly - you'll have to check your oven for time, but probably about 20 minutes. Do not let the shortbread get brown - it needs to be taken out of the oven before browning.

Enjoy, and "Lang mae yer lum reek." (Long may your chimney have smoke!)

(s) Jannie Allen  
Heppner Elementary School

To the Editor:

My name is Ashley Dima from Heppner Elementary School and I've just finished the sixth grade. I want to say that what really bugs me is that people keep saying bad things about the singer Eminem. They keep on saying how bad his music is and I will admit that it is kind of inappropriate. If the people don't want to listen to it, they should not buy it. They can't hear it on the radio because they're not allowed to play it, and if they do it's edited. So please stop saying that it is so bad. Eminem even admitted that he's not a good role model for children. Everybody says that the kids are going to listen to his music and do the bad things in his songs. But if kids listen to that, they'll listen to him when he says that he's not a good role model.

I think people should be nicer to Eminem. I don't think little kids should be able to listen to his music, but he shouldn't be to blame, the parents should be if they allow their little kids to listen.

Sincerely, Ashley Dima

To the Editor:

My name is Kylie Tasker and I'm 12 years old. Something that bothers me is people always complaining about Eminem and his music. They're always talking about how they don't want their kids listening to his music. So why would they buy the tape or CD for them? That's the only way little kids could hear his music because they don't play it on the radio.

If parents are worried about their kids hearing Eminem's songs on TV, make them turn that station until his songs' over. Personally, I'm not a huge fan of Eminem, but I still don't complain about him all

the time.

What I do like about Eminem is that he speaks how he feels and what he thinks. I think that's the coolest thing about him.

Sincerely, Kylie Tasker

To the Editor:

The old pool is a dump. I think we should make it into a youth center. When people come from Condon, Spray, Bend and Madras they get to see the mess of the old pool. If not a youth center, we could make it into an arcade or skating rink.

We need to fix it up so it looks nice. The kids of Heppner sometimes get into trouble, and if they had a youth center, that wouldn't happen. A youth center would give them something positive to do.

Sincerely, Nathan Kennedy

To the Editor:

I think that it is so rude when people lock up their animals and do not let them be free. In John Day there was a person who locked up their horse and its baby and we saw it several times just locked in a very small junky area. My mom and I told the vet and they finally let the horses out. It was so mean because they didn't have any shade from the sun and very little food and water.

I think people need to roll down car windows for their dogs and park in the shade. Then animals will not suffer and I would not have to be so mad at people who aren't kind to animals.

Sincerely, Tiera McCool

To the Editor:

My name is Chelsey L. Foster. I don't think many people pay much attention to this, but I do. When we drive out towards Condon, I see the old pool. I wonder why the city didn't have a "Plan B" when they built it. They probably thought the pool would always be in use.

Since there's not much for kids my age (sixth grade) to do, maybe the pool could be turned into a skating rink or something for us bigger kids. The park is nice, but it's really for kids about two to six years old.

Sincerely, Chelsey L. Foster

To the Editor:

I would like to see people helping the elderly. They should go shopping for them and help them around the house. If the elderly can't read very well, they could read to them.

There are lots of ways for kids to be helpful in the summer. They could even mow their neighbor's lawn just to be helpful.

Sincerely, Lindsey Ansotegui

To the Editor:

I'd like to take the opportunity to tell everyone how much I appreciate them attending the Braves and Pirates games.

All of the players like to see all of the people cheering for them. We all play better because we smile and have a lot more fun when we know somebody is cheering for us.

Please continue to come to the games.

Sincerely, Quinn Peck

To the Editor:

I think the police should enforce parking laws more strictly. On Cannon Street lots of people park on a "No Parking" street. They should get tickets because it's the law.

Sincerely, Caleb O'Neal

To the Editor:

I'm Brandon Davis. My friends and I would like the town to make a bike track. If possible, down by the Hager Park would be a good place.

It would keep kids on bikes off the sidewalks and out of the street.

Sincerely, Brandon Davis

To the Editor:

I think that people with mean or aggressive dogs should be charged with assault. I have been bitten five times for no good reason. I wasn't even on their territory. The only reason they bit me was because their owners trained them to. I think all aggressive dogs should be kept behind secure fences or chained up.

Sincerely, Drew Prindle

To the Editor:

I really feel sorry for animals in the summer. More specifically, dogs. Many people this time of year are very inconsiderate of their animals. They leave them in the car for maybe 30 minutes to an hour, and sometimes don't even leave the window down. Or if they do, it's only a quarter of an inch or so. Someone should lock them in the car and see how they like it.

Sincerely, Mechele Voorhes

To the Editor:

A few weeks ago I went to Tupper and it was one of the most fun things I've ever done. The counselors were awesome. The people who came up to help were also great. I am so glad that Tupper has kept going.

A couple of years ago the "Hermit" stories from Tupper caused the fictional fellow to be eliminated. At least getting rid of the fun of the Hermit is not as bad as getting rid of the whole outdoor school.

Hopefully someday I can be a good Tupper counselor just like the counselors I had at Tupper this year.

Sincerely, Mahaley Huddleston

To the Editor:

I am writing to you about the old swimming pool. I just moved here from Hermiston and when I saw that pool I was disgusted. I was thinking, "They actually swim in that thing?" Then I heard that it's been abandoned for a long time. No one seems to know why the old pool is still there. I wish the city would tear it down because it looks so ugly when you come into town.

Sincerely, Bryson Wood

To the Editor:

I think we should do something to the old swimming pool. It is really an eye-catcher and it might make people think that Heppner is a dirty town. Maybe the town could use it for a little park or a skating rink.

Sincerely, Justin Gregory

To the Editor:

I think that the townspeople should get together and help build a skateboarding rink for the kids of Heppner. The skating rink would be located where the old swimming pool is.

The reason is the swimming pool is not a very good eye catcher for the people that come through town from the Condon direction. These people might not think too much about our town when this is the first thing that they see.

My mom's always saying that I need to do something besides sit and watch TV. This would give people something to do and keep kids off the street and off drugs.

Sincerely, Colton Hanson

To the Editor:

Swimming season is coming up. Here are some things that people should remember:

- Walk on the concrete around the pool, especially when it's wet.
- Don't dunk people.
- Stay in the shallow water if you can't swim very well.

Sincerely, Kate Kendrick

To the Editor:

Eminem's music is bad and you can tell just from the titles. Wal-Mart won't even sell their CDs because it has "Parental Discretion Advised" on the CD. My point is, if a song has a filthy word in it about 40 times, it's not a song.

It's a free country, so if you want to listen to it, go ahead. But at least

put on head phones.

Sincerely, Regi Seitz

To the Editor:

I think the Heppner City Council should do something about the old pool. They should turn it into a skate park or something like that. We could use a skate park like Hermiston's. We're not doing anything about the old pool. It could also be turned into a batting cage.

Sincerely, Justin Delveaux

To the Editor:

I'm a fifth grader at Heppner Elementary. My name's Logan Anthony. I'm complaining that children of today are too busy watching TV to read a book or play a sport. Well, they should turn it off.

Parents should be signing them up for sports like baseball, basketball, football or track. They should do anything to get their kids out of the house. They could send the kids to a friend's house so they won't be bored and turn on the TV.

Get a trampoline or a basketball hoop. Anything that would help them get out of the house. Maybe even a day time job in the summer.

Sincerely, Logan Anthony

To the Editor:

My name is Trent Miles and I think the city should either fix the old pool or tear it down and build a new ice cream shop.

Sincerely, Trent Miles

To the Editor:

I am part of a fifth grade class and I am writing to say that Heppner should change the old pool into a skating rink so kids will have more stuff to do.

Sincerely, Eric Skaggs

To the Editor:

I am writing to encourage all the people of Heppner to go and look at the wonderful murals at the Agricultural Museum down by Green Feed.

The people who painted the murals answered all of the questions they were asked. There are eight pictures of horses, barns, tractors and many more country scenes.

Sincerely, Whitney Matthews

To the Editor:

I'm in the fifth grade and I'm writing to you to tell you that the creek should be cleaned. The banks are littered in some places. People going fishing should clean up after they fish. And the county should trim some trees where people go fishing because there is line and also hooks galore in some trees.

Sincerely, Andre Rauch

To the Editor:

My name is Kyle O'Brien and I'm 11 years old. I think the city should have more public activities for kids. Now don't get me wrong, I think the bicycle rodeo was a great idea, but think to yourself how many public activities have there been for kids of every age in the past year. If you've lived here long you'd know there weren't many.

I suggest maybe we could have a kids' scavenger hunt around town, or maybe we could raise money for a bigger park. If you ask any kid about the park, they say we need more equipment.

These are just a few suggestions.

Sincerely, Kyle O'Brien

To the Editor:

I'm a part of the fifth grade class at Heppner Elementary School. I would like to say that Eminem should not be listened to by kids under 15 because of the foul language. Eminem is not a very good influence to younger people like me.

Eminem has some good songs and bad songs. There is a difference between "edited" and "parental advisory". Edited is no foul language and parental advisory is bad language. Parental advisory means parents should really look out for those CDs.

So, if you are a parent, look out for edited and parental advisory labels.

Sincerely, Matt McCabe

To the Editor:

I am a granddaughter and I like to help my grandparents. I think all people should help out elderly people. I'm sure they would appreciate it because they may not be able to get around as easily as younger people.

Maybe you will even enjoy helping out. I know when I help out at my grandparents' house I get a reward ... my Grandma's first-class cookies. I love them.

Sincerely, Katie Kilkenny

To the Editor:

I was walking home from school yesterday and I passed the creek. Trash was floating in the water and piling up on the banks. I think that Heppner should have a clean-up team that goes around the town and the creek picking up trash and recycling the plastic and cans.

We should keep our home clean.

Sincerely, Jessica Heliker

To the Editor:

I'm a fifth grade student at Heppner Elementary. Something that has been on my mind is the old pool and what they're going to do with it. I think they should make a basketball court or a park out of it, so we would have more places to play. Not only would we have more places to play, but it would look a lot better than the pool with an old diving board in it.

Sincerely, Cyde Coil

To the Editor:

My name is Kendra and I am a fifth grade student from Heppner Elementary. I am writing about the new mural in between Linden Way and Riverside Street. The artists behind all of this beautiful work are Robert Thomas, his wife Caroline and daughters Brenda Thomas and Debbie Lunz.

This mural is about the people of Heppner before modern farming equipment. Each piece describes early time work and machines that were used. Most of the items painted can be found inside the Agricultural Museum.

Be sure to go by and look at the mural on the west wall of the Agricultural Museum.

Sincerely, Kendra Rayburn

To the Editor:

Every day I come to town I see kids riding scooters past old people and spooking them. To give the kids something to do and keep our elderly people safe, maybe Heppner needs a skate park.

Sincerely, Luke Basile

To the Editor:

I'm in the fifth grade at Heppner Elementary School and the thing that has been bothering me is the blowing dust in Morrow and Umatilla counties. I think to solve the problem trees or bushes need to be planted.

It is very dusty on the way to Hermiston and there have been wrecks caused by the dust because the drivers can't see the road. A person from Heppner was in the bad wreck by Pendleton. It only dented her car, but could have hurt her very badly.

If we had trees along the road the dust wouldn't be so bad.

Sincerely, Lane Bailey

To the Editor:

I'm a fifth grader at Heppner Elementary School. I have a concern about all of the power Heppner is using. The other day I was out on a walk and I noticed that this one house had, what looked like, all of the lights on.

Some easy ways to save power are to: one, instead of watching TV, read a book; two, turn off all of your lights if you're not using them; and three, if you have more than one electric clock in a room, try to lower it to one.

Sincerely, Baillie Keithley

To the Editor:

My name is Jenna and I'm writing to tell you about sportsmanship. I think sportsmanship is a very important part of a game. You should always be nice to your teammates and the people on the other team, too, whether you win or lose.

If you lose your temper and start acting like a poor sport, just think of it this way: you can always try to defeat them next year.

Sincerely, Jenna Bowman

To the Editor:

I'm only in fifth grade and I'm worried about cutting teachers. If a 10-year-old boy is worried about cutting teachers, there are hundreds of people who feel the same, and that's not right.

People keep on complaining but most of the school board just ignores them. They are going to build a new gym at the grade school, but they cut the P.E. teacher. What good are buildings without teachers?

They are making our teachers teach more classes than ever before. We have great teachers, but they need help.

Sincerely, Sean Murray

To the Editor:

I'm a second year 4-H member. I think everyone who is a 4-H leader

should have a secretary of their club that writes 4-H news for the Gazette-Times. I'm a person who likes to read the 4-H news to see what other clubs are doing. Please write so I can see what's going on.

Sincerely, Kelsie Fox

To the Editor:

I think kindergarteners should not have to go to school a whole day. When they get home they are really tired. So I think all of the citizens of Heppner should think about that.

Sincerely, Taylor Kempas

To the Editor:

I am a fifth grader at Heppner Elementary. I would like to ask if people would mow their lawns and take care of their gardens. If they don't, their houses will look really bad. So I just want people to mow their lawns at least once a week and water their lawns. But remember to water at night.

We want people to think Heppner is a good place to live.

Sincerely, Megan Orr

To the Editor:

I am a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School. The old Heppner pool has been lying there for quite awhile now. They've been making improvements everywhere else in Heppner, but the old pool hasn't been touched. What I'm trying to say is they should do something with the old pool.

Sincerely, Tony Haguewood

To the Editor:

I think the school district should change the school schedule. I think that we should go to school for two-three months and then have a break for a couple of weeks or a month. Then I think we would learn more because we would be in school more. Plus we would get a break to unwind and rest.

Quite a few of the other countries in the world are a lot smarter than the U.S. We could catch up to them.

Sincerely, Brendan McElligott

To the Editor:

The handicapped parking is great for old people that need it. Some people park there just to be closer to the store, and then old people can't park in the spaces. We should make it easier for them because they can't walk as far as we can.

Sincerely, Lyndi Patton

### Local woman rare and wonderful

To the Editor:

Jane (Huston) Rawlins is a rare and wonderful life force. She is known to be opinionated and aggressive in her views; but behind that exterior is a kind, caring and empathetic woman. Jane forces you to think. As a teacher, advocate or opponent all she seeks is your involvement. It really does not matter if you agree or disagree with her opinion, she only wants you to voice your side of the issue at hand. She begs you to support and defend what you believe to be true.

We are all better for having been loved, nurtured, mentored and prodded by her. She has been teacher, philosopher, activist, friend and foe. The lives she has enhanced is beyond my ability to list and I guarantee, she has touched everyone of you at some time. Whether it was as a teacher or taking you or your kids to the Shakespearean Festival or watching Arsenic and Old Lace or enjoying the Morrow County Fair or the Senior Citizens Center, the list could go on. More than that, she has been a guardian and champion for those that had no voice nor strength to fight.

In her home is a small plaque with a poem, the author I do not recall, but I will never forget the words and meaning:

"Two ships set sail. One goes east and the other west, by the self-same winds that blow. It's the set of the sail and not the gale that determines the way they go. Like the ships at sea, so goes life as we travel along its shore. It's the set of the soul that determines the goal and not the calm or strife."

My Aunt Jane Rawlins' soul is well set, her course has been true and her accomplishments...continue.

(s)Bob Dobbs

# FAX PAPER

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