

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

Published weekly and entered as periodical matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Periodical postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 147 W. Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: gt@heppner.net or gt@rapidsolve.net. Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$22 in Morrow County; \$16 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 62 years or older); \$29 elsewhere.

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).

On the HEPPNER WEBSITE: www.heppner.net

- Start or Change a Subscription
- Place a Classified Ad • Submit a News Story
- View Real Estate for Sale • City Council & Planning Minutes
- Local Businesses • County Park • Willow Creek Park Reservations
- Free Digital Postcards • Senior Housing • and more!

DSL from page one

manager Bill Weinman. These 19 new locations are in addition to 10 sites that were part of an initial roll-out by the company in late 2000. CenturyTel already offers DSL services in Lebanon, Sweet Home, Brownsville, Shedd, Scappoose, Aurora, Charbonneau, Glenden Beach, Depoe Bay and Creswell.

DSL is among the newest technologies allowing very high-speed, simultaneous transmission of voice and data - including video - over a single telephone line. The best application for DSL, according to Weinman, is high-speed Internet access.

"Among the unique features of DSL is that it's always 'on,' eliminating the need of dialing an access number for an Internet connection," explained Weinman. "You can be 'online' and on your phone at the same time, on the same line, saving the cost of a second line for Internet access. In addition, business users can connect many computers to one DSL line with special equipment," he added.

With DSL, CenturyTel customers in the rollout areas will enjoy increased download data speeds up to 512 kbps per second, which is many times faster than typical dial-up modems. DSL is ideal for the quick transfer of large data and graphics files, telecommuting and distance learning.

For more information, call the CenturyTel Customer Service Center from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1-800-637-9843.

Bacon to compete

Katie Bacon, Prineville, daughter of Bill and Marcy Bacon, formerly of Heppner and Ione, will compete in the Silver State International Rodeo in Fallon, Nevada, July 3-7.

Bacon qualified in barrel racing and may pick up poles. She represented Ione High School in rodeo for three years.

She was also awarded a \$500 scholarship by Oregon High School Rodeo Association. She will use the scholarship to attend Western Montana College in Dillon, Montana.

*Men's and Ladies'
Fashion Bracelets*

Peterson's Jewelers
Heppner 676-9200

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.)

Lewis, Lindsay acted in good faith

To the Editor:

Warner V. Wasley, Special Master for the Morrow County School District, announced his conclusions Tuesday, June 26. His findings regarding the matter of board members Barney Lindsay and Keith Lewis are that they do not reside in the zones from which they were elected. Therefore, according to Wasley, the other board members should vacate these positions and appoint new board members. I believe that Mr. Lewis and Mr. Lindsay have acted in the best of faith to represent the people Morrow County. Their actions have not been deceitful. They acted in good faith based on information given to them by the school district and the school board.

It is unfortunate that the school board has acted by voting to vacate the positions held by Mr. Lewis and Mr. Lindsay. In the beginning, both parties agreed that the opinion of the Special Master would not be a binding, as this decision is simply an opinion and not a legally enforceable determination. However, so much time, money and energy has been expended by Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Lewis that one must question how much these non-paid elected officials owe our communities in the fight for what is right. It is unfortunate that the "anonymous group of concerned citizens" never came forward to explain their true concerns about our communities' right of representation. The biggest concern as stated by school board chairman Gary Frederickson was the possible position in which Mr. Lewis and Mr. Lindsay placed the board. It was suggested that actions taken by this board could be jeopardized due to the questionable eligibility

of these two board members.

Without doubt, the school district needs to be able to act with confidence on actions taken by the board. Without this confidence the school district would cease to be effective. We now need to satisfy the concerns of all citizens in regards to the actions of the remaining board members. Board Chairman Gary Frederickson, during his sworn deposition to the district's special master, testified that he, along with board members Dwayne Carroll, Julie Weikel and Pat McNamee, have violated Public Meeting Laws (ORS 192.610192.690). These activities place the board's subsequent determinations and actions in danger of becoming voidable and subject to suit by anyone affected by these determinations or actions (ORS 192.680). It appears as though the reason to pursue the residency issue against the expressed wishes of the communities represented by these board members hasn't solved the actual legal problems of this board.

It would be understandable if Mr. Lewis or Mr. Lindsay felt that continuing this fight would be a misuse of our children's resources. It is also understandable if the community demands protection against the consequences of the illegal actions of these four other board members. If Mr. Lewis and Mr. Lindsay must leave, so too must Frederickson, Weikel and McNamee. Only then can we be assured that the actions of board can not be voided. Only then can we know that the true spirit of these activities by the board have not been in vain.

(s) Kim Cutsforth
Heppner

Let your voices be heard

To the Editor:

At the special Morrow County School Board meeting held on June 28, five board members moved forward in removing Barney Lindsay and Keith Lewis from their positions. Then without input from these two members, the remaining board members not only voted to continue Superintendent Anderson's employment contract but extended it.

Having been previously stated that this contract review would be held on July 9 at the regular board meeting, it is apparent that this was done to ensure a favorable outcome for the superintendent's review and evaluation. Not only were two board positions left vacant and without input, but it also precluded the

installation and input of a newly elected board member who will join the board at the July 9 meeting.

This was an effective way of controlling the evaluation results. We feel that this was not an appropriate action to take at this time. If you feel as we do, take some time to call and express your feelings to any or all of the current school board members. Let them know that as Morrow County residents, both north and south, we really care about our schools and our children. We want the best for everyone throughout our county and hope that they will demonstrate that they have that priority as well through their future actions. Let your voices be heard.

(s) Ralph and Sally Walker
Heppner

Portland student reports on Morrow County

To the Editor:

Remember back in January when you received a letter from me. I was writing a report on Morrow County. I want to say I appreciate you for (sending) the newspaper. It was very helpful. It taught me about a lot of stuff.

I learned a bunch of stuff about Morrow County, like the flood of

1903 and what's going on in Morrow County.

If you hadn't sent your stuff then I would have had a bad report.

I want to visit Morrow County sometime. I have enclosed a copy of my report for you to enjoy.

(s) Jeffrey Hart
(fourth grader at Edwards Elementary School)
Portland

Think before you sign recall petition

To the Editor:

To Morrow County Citizens, I was glad to see Ms. DeHaven's article in Tuesday's East Oregonian. It prompted me to finish this letter. Before you sign any petition, I hope that you ask yourself these questions:

1) Have you ever served on a board that had to make financial decisions using taxpayer money when there is not enough money to make ends meet? If you have, then you understand what kind of decisions these people have been having to make. Nobody will make everybody happy all of the time. Nobody likes to lose precious teachers, needed staff and valuable programs. If you have not, then you really have no business judging the jobs that any of these people are doing. School boards all across the state are facing financial difficulties; it is not just a Morrow County problem.

2) Are you willing to sit on the Morrow County School Board? Do you really want everything you say during a meeting discussed and re-discussed across the phone lines across Morrow County? Are you prepared to have people talk about you and criticize your hard work behind your back? Are you willing to sit in a room with 100 screaming people demanding that you give them what you cannot give them? If you are willing to do these things and give up you and your family's privacy, then I suggest to you that, when the position in the district in which you reside, comes up for re-election, that you file to run. God be with you. If you are not willing to sit on the board, then why are you signing a petition to kick someone who is willing to do it?

3) Do you really want to join in this "Witch Hunt"? Do you really understand why this recall is going on? I'm sure if you ask those that are circulating these petitions, they will gladly tell you their side of the story. I would bet by bottom dollar that they will in no way relate any part of the other side of the story. Remember, there are two sides to

every story; please make sure you know exactly what you are putting your signature on. It cannot be erased.

4) Are you willing to burn bridges before they have been completely re-built? Many people on both sides of Morrow County have been working real hard to help bring both ends of our county together again. The big gap between north and south has been going on far too long. In this time when schools across Oregon are suffering financial difficulties, we as citizens and parents need to be working to bring both sides together. A burnt bridge leaves nothing but a pile of nothing. A good strong bridge brings people together to share ideas, knowledge to solve problems constructively.

5) Will this recall really solve any problems? No matter who sits on the school board, the school funding problem will still be here. Until the State of Oregon decides that our children are worthy of educating and start taking their responsibility seriously, tough decisions will continue to plague school boards everywhere. To me, this is just another waste of precious money that is not there to waste

This county has lost enough as it is now. Jobs, families, revenues, the list goes on and on. Due to the hard work of many citizens of Morrow County from Ione to Irrigon, we are finally seeing signs of "new life". Companies that will offer and are offering family wage jobs, a bond that will bring good things to each community, and the many other good things that are happening in each of our communities.

Let us not drive another stake into the heart of Morrow County. Do what you feel is right but I ask you to please think real hard and really consider the future of your children and your grandchildren, your community, your school, your "way of life" and this county before you sign your name to any recall petition.

(s) Arlynda Gates
Ione

Gordon Smith aids farmers

To the Editor:

Senator Gordon Smith is determined to get relief to Klamath County farmers and ranchers. Senator Smith has put the new Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman, Robert Byrd, and Democratic Senate leader, Tom Daschle, on notice that their attempt to strip aid to drought-stricken Oregon farmers and ranchers is not going to happen without a fight.

On June 21, Senator Smith informed the Democratic Senate leaders that he intends to prevent by filibuster, the passage of their Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill unless they replace the provision for \$20 million in Klamath County emergency drought aid that was requested by President Bush.

A federal judge's order to divert more water for species listed under the Endangered Species Act this year than in previous years threatens to put Klamath County's farmers and ranchers on their own Endangered Species list.

In essence, the Federal Judiciary has exacerbated the water-shortage by diverting too much water, so Senator Smith is going to force the federal senate to remember Oregon's farmers and ranchers in their time of emergency.

God may giveth and taketh away, but if the federal government taketh away the farmer's water, it should giveth assistance to those it hurts by its confiscatory actions.

Go Gordon.
(s) Dennis M. Richardson
Central Point

**JUNIOR GOLF LESSONS OFFERED
at the Willow Creek Country Club**

July 17, 19, 24 and 26

Ages 10 to 15, 8 to 10 a.m.

Ages 6 to 9, 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Cost is \$10 per child

Call 676-5437 to register



CALEDONIAN GAMES

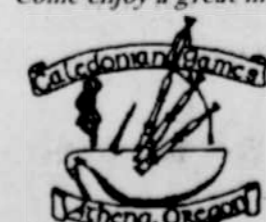
*Scottish Piping, Athletic Games
and Highland Dancing*

July 14th & 15th

City Park in Athena, Oregon

Don't miss the traditional Scottish athletics, bagpipe bands, sheepdog trials, Highland dancing and Scottish music, caber toss, 5K run, mini-golf tournament, plus the CALEDONIAN PARADE!

Internationally-known Celtic Band GOLDEN BOUGH will perform July 13. There will also be a benefit barbecue that evening. Come enjoy a great meal & Scottish music at its best!



FOR SCHEDULES VISIT:
www.oregontrail.net/~caledonian
For more information, e-mail to:
calgames@oregontrail.net

**JOIN IN ON TWO
GREAT WEEKS IN IONE!**

**Celebrating the
Fourth of July
and
Tobacco Free
Week
on July 9-14**



"Country Fresh Air" - Small Town Hospitality
Caring Community!

**Lots of Fun Activities Planned
Including Bingo and Free Swimming!**

Call Ione City Hall for More Information
422-7414

Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.