

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

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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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.)

Move forward with library/city hall plan

To the Editor:
I have followed, with interest, the planning that has gone into the proposed new Library/City Hall. I understand we are now at a point where the city council needs input about whether they should go forward with the project or abandon it. I also understand there are feeling on both sides of the issue regarding the location selected and even the suitability of the entire project. The issues that I have considered are: 1) Can we afford it and do we need it? and 2) Should it be built on Main Street in prime commercial space? The project is needed. Our current city hall is old and dilapidated and is in need of expensive repairs to maintain it. It is an eyesore. The current library is too small and more room is needed. The museum can also use the extra space. We can afford it. The total price of \$1,400,000 is large. More than 80 percent of that total is being provided by grants. The remaining \$250,000 would be paid through

service fees or property taxes. The annual payment of less than \$15,000 is a small price to pay for such a huge improvement to Main Street and the city. It should be built on Main Street. The lot next to the post office has been vacant for 20 years. It is not cost effective to build a commercial space there and pay for it with profits from a business. We are not stealing valuable commercial space. If it were needed for business purposes, it would have been developed by now. The city has a plan for off street parking and the new structure shouldn't take valuable Main Street parking from the merchants. I believe the city and the library district have a great plan for development of Main Street. I urge them to move forward with the plan. Regardless of how you feel about the project, get all the facts about the project and let the city and the library district know how you feel. (s) George Koffler Heppner

Teacher inspires student

To the Editor:
Someone once said, "A good teacher is like a candle-it consumes itself to light the way for others." This is true in so many different ways. Throughout the years I have had the pleasure of meeting some of the best teachers, yet one of those teachers has stood out from the rest. His name is Mr. Gunderson. I was in his sixth grade science class. He might not remember me for I lived in Heppner only a couple of years. My name is Kristin Nesse and I wanted to relay my appreciation to him for all he taught me during the course of his class. When I first started his class I hated learning. Nothing was interesting to me, but at the end of his class, everything was interesting. I wanted to learn anything and everything. He taught me that being shy won't get me ahead and that I have to be open to new ideas. I remember that one day he took me aside and said, "Kristin, there's a new student. She's shy and I want you to show her around." That student's name was Tasha Hollis, who became one of the best friends I made in Heppner. When Mr. Gunderson asked for me to show her around, it was hard for me because I was very shy and I knew it would be hard for me to go up to her and say, "Hi! My name is Kristin, what's yours?" But I did, and that changed my life. Later, when I heard that I was going to have to move to Minnesota with my father, the first thing that came to my mind was, "How am I going to make new friends?" What Mr. Gunderson taught me, whether or not he intended it to be a lesson, stuck with me every time I moved and will stick with me through college because once more I'll be moving, only this time from Minnesota to Washington. There was also another important lesson he taught me, "Life is full of interesting and fun things as long as you keep your mind open to them." He inspired learning in his

students with all the fun things he did. For example, when football season started he asked us to write down who was winning and whom we believe would win. I guess I could say he was the person who first got me thinking about sports after moving to Brainerd, MN. I started playing soccer and am now on the varsity team. (I was nicknamed Fox, for being the one person on the team that can trick the opposing team to giving me the ball or tricking them to believe that I got rid of it when I didn't.) I don't know why you stopped teaching, Mr. Gunderson. I can only assume it was because of the school system. I have seen what the school system can do to teachers that teach differently and all I can think of to say to them is: the best teachers teach from the heart, not from the book. Mr. Gunderson, I say, "I will always appreciate what you taught me." To the world I say, "He got me where I am today. With hard work and a teacher like Mr. Gunderson, anyone can get to be where they want to be." Good luck. (s) Kristin Nesse Minnesota

Arrest account disputed

To the Editor:
In regards to the article in the July 4 Gazette-Times, the only thing correct about the article is my name, age, address and the name of the district attorney, David C. Allen. I did not attack officer Merle Cowett. Merle Cowett, on July 5, told my family and the district attorney that I, Richard G. Peck, did not point the shotgun at anyone. My wife, Frances Peck, also told the district attorney that I, Richard G. Peck, did not commit any act of violence on July 29, 2001, to her or our daughter, Judy Peck. There was no domestic disturbance. Judy Peck told me that I was schizophrenic or crazy. She said she could call someone who could verify that I was schizophrenic. I watched her dial 911; I let her talk, then walked over and took the phone and hung it up. Merle Cowett shows up. The front door was open. I spoke to him. He proceeded to walk right into my house. I got up to shut the door. Merle had his foot in the door. He may have had his arm in the door also. I opened the door half-way and Merle is holding his pistol in his left hand and trying to put a shell in it with his right hand. To defend

myself I took two steps back and reached behind the TV set where I have several rifles and shotguns. Merle says to put it away. I realize that it is the only one of the bunch that would not shoot, so I put it away, never pointing it at anyone. Later Merle Cowett and I were in the front driveway. I was leaning against my pickup talking to Merle when Trooper Andrew McCool drives up. At this time, Merle tries to slap me and was doing karate kicks at me to show Trooper McCool that I was resisting. I tell him to put on a good act, which he does. I push Merle away from me. That is when Trooper McCool comes over the edge of my pickup fender and hood, (I) land on my back and he tells me to quit resisting. I relax (big mistake). McCool kicks me in the back of my left leg and shoves my head into gravel. My right hand is lying palm up on gravel. Merle steps on my hand, grinding it into gravel. I was never told by either officer that I was under arrest. I was never read my Miranda Rights by either officer. I was put under \$50,000 bail by Judge David Hill, not \$15,000 as stated. (s) Richard G. Peck Lexington

Measure 7 protects property rights

To the Editor:
Equality and fairness is what Americans want. They are what our founding fathers fought for and protected in the Bill of Rights over 200 years ago. One of our most basic rights is the right to private property (which includes the right to use it) and the right to be compensated if the government takes land for public use. Unfortunately, in recent years, governments have been using regulations to take land for public purposes without paying compensation. Another motivation behind the Bills of Rights in the U.S. Constitution was protection of the

individual -- the minority -- against the power of the majority. This is much needed to protect individual landowners from excessive land use regulations and other burdens imposed by the "majority". Without constraints, landowners are at the mercy of the government. The people passed Measure 7 to protect the property rights and the concerns of the minority. For courts to try to deny such protection is very disturbing. The people have spoken, and unlike Florida, we have counted all the votes and the measure has passed. Allow the decision of the people to stand. (s) Shirley Rugg Heppner

Beverly Stein for governor

To the Editor:
No matter who else gets in the race, I'm supporting Beverly Stein for governor. Stein is the dynamic woman who served as CEO for Multnomah County for eight years. That means she is experienced and tested running the state's third largest government. What makes Stein different? She has a proven record of results. When

she was running Multnomah County, the callback time for county nurses was shortened from three hours to three minutes. We need someone running the state who knows how to deliver that kind of service. And while other candidates have been lollygagging around, trying to decide what to do, Stein has been hard at work. She is drawing people to her campaign. She has over 1,500 volunteers working in almost every county in the state. For her experience, record of results and optimism, Beverly Stein is the best choice to be our next governor. (s) Lynda Westcott Bend

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office at the courthouse in Heppner reports issuing the following marriage licenses:
July 20-Sean David Lee Perkins, 26, Umatilla; and Paula Irene Thorp, 23, Umatilla.
July 24-Robert Wayne Morehouse, 36, Heppner; and Mary Elizabeth Connor, 29, Heppner.

Dr. McBee to speak

Dr. John McBee is scheduled to speak at the "Man to Man" Prostate Cancer Support Group on Monday, August 6, at 7 p.m. at St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton, 1601 S.E. Court, Room 1. Dr. McBee's topic is "GI Complications with Prostate Cancer Therapy." The meeting is open to anyone interested, including wives of patients. For meeting notices or a map contact June Miller, 443-6171.

BEO celebrates summer



Darrell Raver and Lorna Botefuhr, winner of the Bank of Eastern Oregon's summer drawing.

Bank of Eastern Oregon held a "Celebrate Summer" day on Thursday, July 19. In honor of summer time, all employees wore their summer shirts, shorts and sandals. A drawing was held at each branch for two lawn chairs and a cooler. The winner for the Heppner Branch was Lorna Botefuhr of Heppner.

Morrow County Grain Growers and U.S. Cellular wish to announce our new Corporate Wireless Usage Plan.

Stop by and visit us at MCGG's main office in Lexington on Saturday, July 28, between 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., for all your cellular needs.

U.S. Cellular will be on site Saturday, July 28 for equipment purchases and activations (8 a.m.-12 p.m.)

Morrow County Grain Growers

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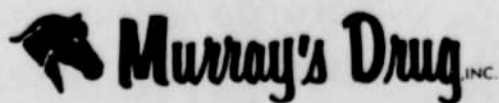
Bank of Eastern Oregon

MEMBER FDIC

Wedding Tables

Shelly Sieler
& Michael Van Arsdale
Wedding: July 28, 2001, 4 p.m.
at the Morrow County Fairgrounds, Heppner

Amanda Gutierrez
& Jeff Wilson
Wedding: August 25, 2001



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