

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@rapidserve.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.

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April Hilton-Sykes Editor

News deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

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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.)

Ethical lapses come down to state level

To the Editor:
On November 7, 2000, we Oregon voters passed Measure 7 which protected private property rights. As most of you know the government cannot take your property without paying for it. If the government wants your property to build a road or other "necessary purpose" that property can be condemned but if you are not given full value you can take the agency to court, prove and recover the value plus costs. However the state can reduce the economic value through various environmental acts such as Endangered Species or Clean Water Act or even by zoning and, unless you are denied all use, you cannot recover your economic loss. Measure 7 was enacted to cure that injustice.

When the measure was placed on the ballot our governor, various civic officials and the leftist environmentalists opposed it. Soon after the measure's passage there was talk of taking the measure to court. On November 16, after passage, before any lawsuit had been filed, assistant attorney general for Oregon Sehuman set up a meeting with Kitzhaber to meet with Tom Christ and Jerry Lidz who were to be attorneys for the plaintiffs. That meeting took place for 2½ hours on the 17th with the governor, members of his staff, Dick Townsend of the League of Oregon Cities, Robert Liberty of Thousand Friends, representatives of the city of Eugene and Dick Benner of LCDC. Mr. Sehuman himself did not attend for that would have disqualified him from participating in the trial, but

Lazenby, the governor's staff attorney, did attend.

This meeting was ostensibly to plan the state's budget but meeting notes secured through the Freedom of Information Act by Oregonians in Action never mentions the state budget. The notes seem to indicate that the only thing discussed was how to thwart the will of the voters and, finally, to agree on which judge to hear the challenge.

As of now the Marion County judge has declared the measure unconstitutional. Schuman, who had opposed the measure, put himself in charge of the defense but he has been reported to the Bar Association for failing to provide a vigorous defense.

Governor Kitzhaber was apparently satisfied because he has appointed Mr. Schuman to the court of appeals and Mr. Wyatt, his chief of staff, to be chairman of the Port of Portland. State Attorney General Bill Bradbury is running for Sen. Gordon Smith's job with the governor's endorsement. The only losers seem to be the taxpayers of Oregon.

These forgoing paragraphs are a brief review of a story appearing in the August issue of Brainstorm NW which published a copy of the meeting notes. If this is as it seems to be, a conspiracy by some of our officials to thwart the will of the voters, I think that we must assume that the ethical lapses of our last national administration have come down to our state level.

(s) Don McElligott
Ione

Local liquor stores wont sell to minors

Two area stores were among 18 of 27 state liquor stores checked in 11 central and eastern Oregon counties who refused to sell alcohol to a minor during a recent compliance operation conducted by the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

Liquor stores in Heppner and the Ione refused to sell liquor to minors, according to an OLCC news release.

Five members of the OLCC's Statewide Compliance Team and three underage volunteers conducted the compliance checks on Oct. 24-25 as part of the agency's Secret Shopper program. They visited liquor stores in Baker, Deschutes, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Wasco and Wheeler counties.

The OLCC has conducted checks at most of the state's 237 liquor stores under the two-year Secret Shopper pilot program.

During a compliance check, young people age 18-20 work with OLCC inspectors or other law enforcement officers to verify that liquor stores or licensed businesses are properly checking young-looking patrons and are obeying state law prohibiting alcohol sales to anyone under age 21. The volunteers carry their own legal ID and are instructed not to lie about their age. OLCC inspectors are sworn peace officers.

"We're pleased that 18 of our liquor stores said no to selling to minors," said James Miller, Statewide Compliance Team manager. "A 33 percent sales rate is higher than the statewide average, which is unacceptable. Our goal is for none

of our liquor stores or licensees to be selling to minors," he explained. "That's why we conduct these compliance operations."

The OLCC offers training to store clerks, service permit holders and others on ID checking techniques, identifying false identification and the laws regarding minors and alcohol.

**Fair & Rodeo
Court plans
fund raisers**

The 2002 Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court, consisting of Queen Salli McElligott of Ione and Princesses Julie Proctor and Genia Grant, both of Heppner, are already busy trying to earn money to help offset some of their wardrobe and travel expenses.

The three court members are selling raffle tickets for a half beef and a whole hog that have been donated in their behalf, with cutting and wrapping donated by Mike and Judy (Jepsen) Julio of Mike's Mobile Slaughter in Stanfield.

They are also collecting Red Apple Grocery receipts. Receipts may be dropped off at Green Feed and Seed, Heppner, or Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner.

The 2002 court is looking forward to a busy and fun year as they travel around Oregon and Washington, promoting Morrow County. Those who would like to buy tickets may contact any of the court members.

Economic development director hired



Martin Davis
Martin Davis of Pendleton has been hired by the Port of Morrow and Morrow County as economic development director for both entities.

Davis' extensive business experience includes employment with Inland Empire Bank at Umatilla, first as a management trainee. While with Inland Empire (now Banner Bank) he also spent one year as manager at the Boardman office and several years as a commercial loan officer at Pendleton.

Davis also worked for an ag export business and owned his own small business, selling center pivot irrigation systems.

He later bought Down's Supply in Hermiston, which he owned for two years.

He worked in sales for the Selectric company in Umatilla, which built irrigation pump panels, and later worked for Selectric as chief executive officer.

Davis was employed for several years by the Oregon Economic Development Department as regional business development officer for a 10-county region, from Gilliam County east.

Davis' career experience includes doing consulting work in business development for private companies and also for the city of Umatilla. He was involved in the siting of the Two Rivers Correctional Institution and worked on the proposal for that area's waste treatment plant.

He was later hired by the city of Umatilla as the city administrator. During his administration he took the community through a period of

rapid growth and change.

In 1999, Davis was hired by the Greater Eastern Oregon Development Commission and this year he came on board as economic development director.

As economic development director, he spends half of this time working for the port and half for the county. Davis says he prefers to think of his job as "community development," working to recruit new businesses while helping create livable communities. "It's important that we don't forget any aspect of the community," says Davis.

Davis said the real challenge in economic development, especially concerning business recruitment in south Morrow County, came after the September 11 terrorist attacks. "We would have landed two or three businesses," says Davis. "But now it's going to be an uphill battle during this recessionary period. People are just kind of hunkered in. We're going to have to see some economic recovery before they're going to relocate. Difficulty in the economy is the message right now."

Davis has an office at the Port of Morrow in Boardman, 481-7678, and also at the Morrow County Courthouse Annex in Heppner, 676-5668.

Davis, 47, grew up in the Hermiston area and has lived in Umatilla County most of his life. He graduated from Hermiston

High School and then attended Oregon State University. He later received a degree in business through Eastern Oregon University.

Davis, who is single, has three children, Molly Loyola, 26, who lives in Wenatchee, WA; Luke, 23, who lives in Hermiston; and Jessica, 19, who is in her second year at OSU.

**Ione Elementary
plans book fair**

Ione Elementary School is planning a Scholastic Book Fair and program on Thursday, Nov. 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria.

Everyone is invited to attend. The theme of the book fair is "Books are Magical". The elementary students will present a short program featuring nursery rhymes, complete with Mother Goose, fairy tales and Harry Potter.

After the program, participants will be able to choose from a selection of Scholastic books to purchase for personal use as well as earn points for the school.

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**Animals
discovered
mutilated**

Two animals have been discovered mutilated in the mountains near Divide Well, west of Ukiah.

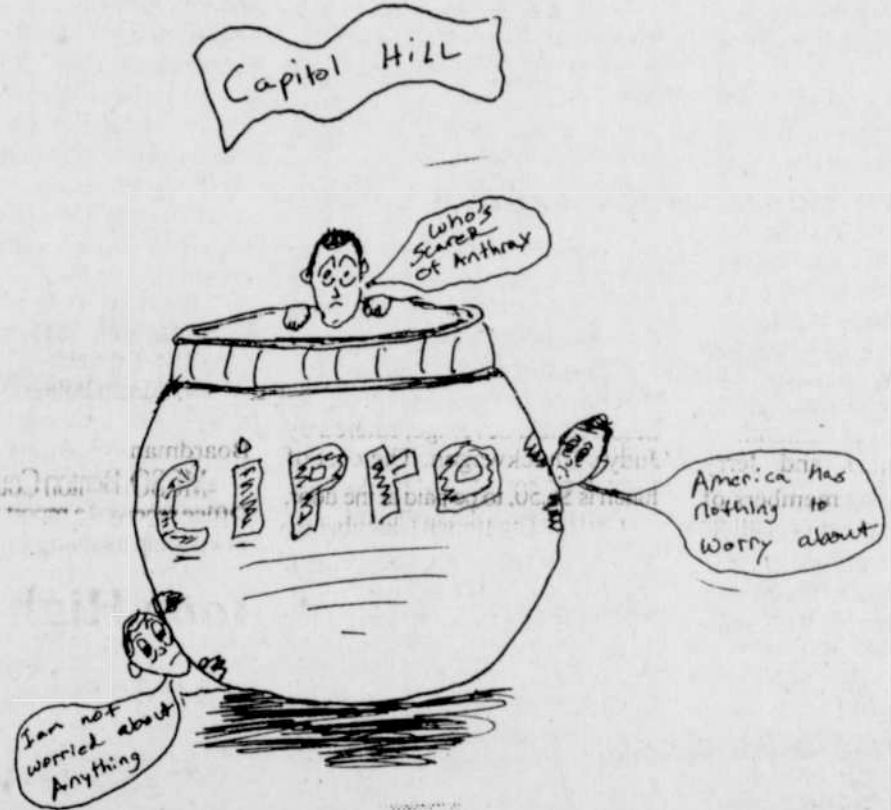
According to the owner of the animals, one cow and one bull were discovered dead the last week in September with their genital areas and tongues removed. The owner said that the parts appeared to have been removed by a knife.

The rancher, who wished to remain anonymous, said that the incident was turned over to the U.S. Forest Service, who told him they planned to notify the Oregon State Police.

**Advisory
committee to
meet**

The Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee will meet for a regular business meeting on Wednesday, November 7, at 7 p.m. at Heppner High School.

On Monday, November 19, at 7 p.m., the committee will meet at Heppner Elementary School to view architect drawings for the school bond construction project and continue the discussion about demolition of old buildings on the elementary-old junior high campus.



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