

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

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**Exchange Student** continued from page 1

were a lot of Latin people here, but there aren't any. Where I live there are a lot of Black people who come from Algeria and North Africa."

One of Clementine's biggest surprises about school was not being able to wear what you want, because of a more restrictive dress code. "You can't wear spaghetti straps," complained Clementine, who also commented that everyone seems so busy here. "Everybody is always doing a lot of stuff. Nobody has time because they are in all the clubs."

Still, she is happy about being in America. "Just being in the U.S. is so cool," she says. "My friends can't believe it."

She says that most young people like the U.S., but many older people are not so inclined. "They hate it when young people use English words. They become crazy. They hate, hate, hate it," laughs Clementine.

Since her arrival in Heppner, Clementine has accompanied her host family to Portland twice and has been to a hockey game in the Tri-Cities with other exchange students. A trip either to San Francisco or Canada is planned for spring break. She will return to her homeland in June after school is out.

In Heppner, Clementine is hosted by the Rev. Craig Strobel and Monica Hunter and their daughter, Dawn.

**Engagements  
Edwards-Raver**



Tina Edwards and Darrell Raver

Tina Lynn Edwards and Darrell Raver, both Heppner, announce their engagement to be married.

Tina is the daughter of Gary and Cindy Edwards, Hermiston. She graduated from Hermiston High School and is employed with Morrow County in Heppner.

Raver is the son of Floyd Raver, Madras. He graduated from Madras High School and attended Montana State University at Bozeman, Montana. He is employed with the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner.

The couple plan an April 13, 2002, ceremony at The Cottage in Hermiston.

**Beasley-Norton**



Thomas Norton and Pamela Beasley

Pamela Sue Beasley and Thomas Lee Norton, formerly of Heppner, announce their engagement and upcoming wedding.

The couple plan a December 29, 2001, wedding at 1 p.m. at the Springwater Nazarene Church, 3445 S.E. Hillyard Rd., Gresham. A reception will follow the ceremony.

Friends are invited to attend.

**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.)

**Help out our helpers**

To the Editor:

My grandson Connor Corbin had an idea. Because of the events in New York on September 11th, he wanted to find a way to help and do his part. We decided that whatever we did, that it would be "in memory" of those who lost their lives that sad day, but the money would go to our local firemen.

Our firemen work hard to keep us safe. I read a thank you letter almost weekly in the local paper thanking the firemen and/or paramedics for their quick response and diligent work in saving property and lives. It is time for all of us to give back.

Our local firemen need to

purchase new structural fire fighting turnouts (outer clothing) to be certified. Rusty Estes has applied for grants to purchase the equipment, but has been denied. This is a huge undertaking but I know the community will pull together and make it happen.

Let our firemen know how much we value them and help to keep them safe by sending your tax deductible contributions to Heppner Firemen's Auxiliary, P.O. Box 743, Heppner, OR 97836. We can all use a tax break and you still have time to get this in for this year.

(s) Linda Corbin  
Heppner

**Maybe trails should be in Heppner**

To the Editor:

I'd like to respond to the article in the Dec. 12 Gazette about the ATV trail system. I feel there were many points brought up at the meeting, but left out of the article.

1. County officials said problems of trespass, fire, liability and weed control could be managed. It was pointed out that the DA can't find time to prosecute trespassers now. The county right-of-ways have weeds all over many of them now. County officials had no answer how they would manage liability suits for injury or fire. Mr. Eccles had no input on this either. Is the state going to reimburse landowners for costs incurred from lawsuits? Yeah, right.

2. It was pointed out that it is illegal to ride certain kinds of ATVs such as four-wheelers on public roads now. To get around this, the county will call these roads ATV trails, yet they can't deny access to landowners and maybe some other kinds of traffic. What happens when a cattle truck, log truck or pickup comes around the corner on these 12-foot roads and meets 10 or 12 four-wheelers in the middle of the road?

3. The only part of South Morrow County that possibly can expect any benefit is a few businesses in Heppner. When questioned about who it would help, a county official said there would be a few more meals, groceries, gallons of gas or a couple of tires sold. Sounds like a real return on the \$1.2 million to be spent. I sure didn't hear one benefit for the people most adversely affected, the landowners.

4. When questioned, Mr. Eccles also admitted there is no guarantee of future funds. He said the legislature can choose to end this program. He felt it wasn't likely, but said anything is possible. Again, who would pay for it then? Mr. Eccles also said the state would provide funding for law enforcement. It was pointed out that there are problems with the small numbers of ATVs around now. How will one part- or full-time deputy deal with 75 ATVs a day? I guess he could give a few tickets that the DA won't prosecute.

5. The county will have to come up with \$40,000 for their share of the project. O'Brien said this wouldn't be cold hard cash, just things like gravel, culverts, labor and machinery. I guess the road department gets these things for free.

6. Two thousand, one hundred (2,100) acres will be purchased by the county and taken off the tax rolls. We've all heard how the county is short on funds. Taking land off the tax rolls sure won't help.

Finally, I'd like to point out the straw vote taken was about 8-1 against this project. From my viewpoint in the meeting, the pro votes all came from inside the city limits of Heppner. Maybe this is where the trails should be. The last time the county court and Heppner had such a good deal, the rest of us bought Heppner a swimming pool.

(s) Pete McElligott  
Ione

**Humorist suited to weekly column**

To the Editor:

I must admit I was somewhat amused as I read a letter in the Dec. 12 Gazette-Times regarding: "Monaco of ATV Racing." I think you could ask Dick to write a weekly humor column for your paper. I bet he would sure be pleased. It would give him a place to apply some of his God-given natural talent. It would sure help by utilizing quite a bit of his idle time. It's plain to see he's

got a lot of it.

As I read that letter, it looked as if it was going to end as some kind of a joke. All of a sudden, it changed more to ridiculous than funny. Well, you know, it really was a little funny. If I were editor, I think I would go ahead and let him do the humor column. He could probably handle it.

(s) Mel Piper  
Lexington

**OSU announces honor students**

Oregon State University has announced its scholastic honor roll for fall term. A total of 438 students earned straight-A (4.0). Another 2,248 earned a B-plus (3.5) or better to make the listing. To be on the honor roll, students must carry at

least 12 graded hours of course work.

Local students on the honor roll include: Ione-3.5 or better, Robert Crum, senior, and Mark McElligott, sophomore; Boardman-3.5 or better, Cristina Cuevas, freshman; Irrigon-3.5 or better, Jacob Johnson, freshman.



**Greg Smith selected for task force**

Assistant Majority Leader Greg Smith (R-Heppner) has been selected to serve on a special legislative task force examining employment and the economy. The Oregon House Special Task Force on Jobs and the Economy will be looking at both short term and long term measures the legislature can take to help stimulate Oregon's economy and create new jobs.

"Eastern Oregon has some of the highest unemployment rates in the nation and we have to do something about it," Smith said. "It's unfortunate it took the Willamette Valley to enter a recession before we could get this task force convened. But now that it is, let's get to work and find workable solutions to the economic problems we face."

The task force's first meeting, scheduled for Jan. 16, will focus on what practical and viable steps might be taken during the Oregon Legislature's special session to stimulate the economy and create jobs in the immediate short term. Subsequent meetings will look at what legislation should be prepared for the 2003 session that would help the long-term job creation and economic stimulus goals.

Smith, who before becoming a state representative, was an economic development professional with the Port of Morrow in Morrow County, believes the work of this task force could set a framework for revitalizing the economy of Eastern Oregon.

"Before our first task force

meeting, I intend to meet with many citizens throughout Morrow County, including small business owners, farmers and ranchers, port officials, city council members, electric cooperative officials and lenders," Smith said. "I am going to work hard to ensure Eastern Oregon has a solid job creation strategy to introduce to the task force."

During the 71st legislative session, Smith served on the prestigious Ways and Means SubCommittee on Economic Development and Transportation. During the interim, Smith represents the state of Oregon, serving as vice-president of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region.

For more information or to share thoughts and ideas with Representative Greg Smith, call (541) 676-5154.

**High School  
doesn't endorse**

A company called Sports Promotion Network has been contacting local businesses and indicating they have the endorsement of Heppner High School to sell spirit items such as pom poms.

According to a news release from Heppner High School Principal Dick Allen, the school does not endorse Sports Promotion Network and encourages all local businesses and parents not to do business with them.

For more information contact Allen at Heppner High School, 676-9138.

*Christmas Holiday Schedule*

*for Murray's Drug  
& The Country Rose*

Sunday, Dec. 23rd - 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve, closing at 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 25th - MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Wednesday, Dec. 26th - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
1/2 Price Christmas Sale

Tuesday, Jan. 1st - CLOSED... HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**Yankee Candle of the Month  
10% OFF All Christmas Scents**

*Country Rose Decorated Free Ornaments  
30% Off*

We have "Wish Lists" from our Treasure Hunt on file!  
Come in and fill one out if you haven't yet!

**ENTIRE BABY DEPT.  
30% OFF**  
Now through Christmas

Remember, we carry  
all the following items/departments:

- \* Pharmacy
- \* OTC Products
- \* Hallmark Cards & Ornaments
- \* Unique Gifts
- \* Beer & Wine
- \* Toys
- \* Frames
- \* Yankee Candles
- \* Cosmetics & Perfumes
- \* Baby Gifts
- \* Housewares & Kitchen Gifts
- \* Cookbooks
- \* School Supplies
- \* Russell Stover & Novelty Candy
- \* Jelly Bellies
- \* Margaret Furlong Collectibles
- \* Full Service Floral Dept.
- \* Fresh Flowers
- \* Balloons
- \* Plants
- \* Custom-Made Gift Baskets
- \* Delivery
- \* Full Service Espresso Bar
- \* Popular Coffee Cards
- \* **Gift Certificates**

Free Gift Wrapping

WISHING ALL OUR CUSTOMERS & FRIENDS  
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**Murray's Drug** *The Country Rose*  
217 North Main • Heppner • 676-9158  
Serving Heppner, Lexington & Ione  
233 N. Main • Heppner  
676-9426

**Try Our Dinner Specials!**

Wednesday Night, December 19th  
1/2 Chicken (Baked) Dinner **\$9.95**

Thursday Night, December 20th  
Marinated Albacore Tuna Dinner **\$10.95**

Friday Night, December 21st  
Seafood Platter **\$11.95**  
with oysters, salmon, halibut and shrimp scampi

Saturday Night, December 22nd  
SHARE A STEAK NIGHT **\$25.95**  
26 oz. Porterhouse steak - split in 1/2  
and get all the fixings for both of you

NEW DESSERT THIS WEEK:  
Holiday Bread Pudding... It's Excellent!

**John's Other Place**  
Main Street, Heppner • 676-5017