

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  
Katie Wall ..... Editor

News deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

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**secession**

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research the issue of secession. He says that state representative Greg Smith (R-Heppner) has worked in the legislature on a bill to expedite the secession, but withdrawal will still be possible, if the bill does not pass.

Rietmann says that donations have been received and a foundation has been set up for the secession process and remaining funds will go toward operation of the new school district, if it comes into existence. A local option tax, if passed, could raise an additional \$100,000, he says.

A map outlining the proposed district indicates that the coal-fired plant is not within the proposed new boundaries, and neither is Lexington (see map back page).

If enough signatures are gathered Tuesday and voters approve secession, Rietmann says that the local ESD would appoint the new lone school board and settle the separation of the funds from the Morrow County School District. It is believed that voters county-wide would decide the issue.

**CLC to host men's breakfast**

There will be a men's breakfast, Sunday, Feb. 16, at 8 a.m. at Christian Life Center, in Heppner. The menu will include breakfast burritos, hash browns, juice and milk. After breakfast, a short devotional will be shared.

All men are welcome to attend. Christian Life Center is located at 535 W. Morgan St.

**Wyden to host  
Morrow County  
Town Hall meeting**

On Sunday, Feb. 16 at 4 p.m., in Irrigon, U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) will host a public town hall meeting at A.C. Houghton Elementary School, 1105 N. Main St.

Morrow County residents are encouraged to attend the public forum to voice their questions and concerns. Keeping his promise to host a town hall meeting in each Oregon county each year, Wyden has held more than 285 such meetings since first being elected to the Senate in 1996.

**DA's Report**

Robert Gene Morley admitted to violation of probation allegations for Possession of a Controlled Substance. Morley's probation was revoked and reinstated and he was sentenced to five days in jail and 80 hours of community service.

Frank B. Engelman admitted to violation of probation allegations for Possession of a Controlled Substance. Engelman's probation was revoked and reinstated and he was sentenced to 10 days in jail and his probation was extended for 12 months.

**We Print Business Cards  
Heppner Gazette-Times  
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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 \$7.)

**Cheer a veteran on Valentine's Day**

To the Editor:

As America's military forces deploy overseas, we are reminded of the brave men and women who bear the burdens of war so that we, as a Nation, may live free from fear. Our active duty and reserve troops carry the burden today, just as America's veterans did in the past.

We at the Jonathan M Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center are honored to spend our days caring for America's veterans - men and women who bore the burden at places like Utah Beach, Pork Chop Hill and Khe Sanh. We invite everyone to join us in honoring them during the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Feb. 9-15.

You can join our "Visit a Vet for Valentine's Day" program or stop by anytime during the National Salute to visit with hospitalized veterans and remind

them that their sacrifices have not been forgotten.

We strive to provide veterans with the best quality health care as a way of demonstrating our gratitude for their service. You, too, can show that you care by spending time with veterans during the National Salute. A visit from school children and other community groups does so much to lift the spirits of hospitalized veterans. I invite every member of our community to participate.

Show your care. Call our Voluntary Program office at 1-888-687-8863, ext. 22458 or (509) 527-3458 to schedule a visit.

(s) Bruce Stewart, Deputy Director  
Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center  
77 Wainwright Drive  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

**Support quality education, join in lobbying Salem**

To the Editor:

I appreciate Representative Greg Smith for the help he is giving to the Lone Lobby Committee in our efforts to lobby Salem for continued state support for education. Representative Smith has helped our committee in putting together lobby packets for a letter writing campaign. He is also assisting us with setting up meetings with key Legislatures who share our concerns about getting the money into our small schools and into the classroom to keep rural schools educating our children. He will help us put together a large group of other small schools to rally in Salem on behalf of all small schools in Oregon. Representative Smith supports small schools and small school funding and will work very hard

in the Joint Ways and Means Committee to keep schools in the state open and educating.

The Lone Lobby Committee invites all communities who support quality education to join us in our efforts to lobby Salem. We are currently seeking volunteers to visit Salem in small groups to deliver community letters. We will be contacting 1A and 2A schools from around the state to join us in Salem for a large rally day on behalf of small schools very soon. If you are interested in joining our efforts by letter writing, personal visits to Salem or to join us for a big rally day, please contact me or another Lone Lobby Committee member for more information.

(s) Arlynda Gates  
Lone Lobby Committee  
Ione

**Births**

**Oscar Lee Cota, Jr.** - a son, Oscar Lee, was born Feb. 5, 2003, at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston, to Alaina D. Abbott and Oscar R. Cota, both of Boardman.

**CLC to host music group Step of Faith**

A special musical program will be held at Christian Life Center, Sunday, Feb. 16, at 10:30 a.m., with the "Step of Faith" trio.

Leah Hedge, Kelle Schott, and Cathy Shumway created "Step of Faith" in 1997. The ladies had sung together in church for many years before becoming a group and have developed their own tight and unique sound.

"Step of Faith" travels statewide to gospel music events, women's ministry banquets and statewide camp meetings sharing their music. They recently released their second CD "Sittin' in the Pew."

Hedge, Schott and Shumway are all actively involved in their local church and married with children.

**Sen. Ferrioli looks to add rural Oregon perspective to government**

The office of Senator Ted Ferrioli is looking to add the perspective of Oregon's rural communities to Oregon's Boards and Commissions. He feels that many of Oregon's boards and commissions reflect an "urban, I-5 corridor perspective."

"Rural Oregonians are highly qualified and eager to serve on Oregon's Boards and Commissions," Sen. Ferrioli said in a letter. "Let us do all we can to help them serve our great state."

To find out more information, you can contact Sen. Ferrioli in Salem at Oregon State Senate, Office of Sen. Ted Ferrioli, Salem, OR 97301.

**Notes from Willow Creek Terrace**

By Jean Nelson

Hello again. Life at the Terrace is moving along smoothly, with Tonia Adams as administrator and a staff of seven, our needs are well taken care of. Members of the staff are known as "universal workers," meaning that they not only act as caregivers but also perform such duties as cook and housekeeper, along with assisting the residents as needed with showering, dressing, washing clothes and other needs. Staff members include: Karen Phegley, Sue Baker, Linda Corbin, Diana Sharp, Jacque Hedman, Nella Britt and Bobbie Angel.

We also have a salon and barber shop furnished by a contribution from John and Louise Wood. At the present time, Jan Stroeber of Country Shears comes each week to shampoo, curl and cut the hair of the residents.

Special services furnished for the residents include making arrangements for transportation to medical appointments, church services and attending special programs, such as, "The Flood-We Remember," which residents were able to attend this last Thursday.

Recent visitors include the Ione Topic Club members, Shenanigans fiddle group, Heppner Garden Club, for the blue spruce tree dedication, Irrigon Senior Mealsite members, Grand Square dancers and Morrow County Historical Society Steering Committee members.

On Monday, Feb. 17, special guest, Hasa Brown, of Ione, will share his Indian culture with the residents, through stories and demonstrations.

As you can see, residents at the Terrace are living a full and satisfying life.

Changes and improvements are still occurring regularly. We now have our official sign near the flagpole and three directional signs to point the way to our residence. Bob DeSpain, of Heppner, constructed the sign and Mark Bruno, of Ione, created the copper sculpture attached to the sign that makes it very special.

We will be continually adding complementary touches with the aid of gifts from interested friends. One gift we've already seen is a piano and in the future we may be getting patio furniture.

Any individuals or groups that wish to visit and view the facility are welcome at any time. To find out more information or set up a tour you can call Willow Creek Terrace at 676-0004. We love to have visitors.

**CHAMBER CHATTER**

By Claudia Hughes, Executive Director

What a great community. Hundreds turned out for the Chinese dinner at the Elks last Thursday evening and then headed for the presentation by Heppner's own Shenanigans and Mulligan Stew. Those in attendance were treated to an awesome musical/multimedia presentation remembering the Heppner Flood of 1903. Peg Willis, who teaches the fiddle students, did a fantastic job of researching the flood and creating the presentation. It's history, and all who missed it will want to mark their calendars for June 13, 2003 to see a repeat performance.

One might wonder what Chamber is about and why they would join. Because the members believe in Heppner and in the dedication to seeing it thrive through a combination of means such as business success, offering culture, supporting youth activities, staying in touch with legislative activity, communication, events, and the list goes on. Membership is open to all, with "supporter membership" for first time members offered at \$25.

Next week is "Third Tuesday", with the focus on merchants and retail. Dave and Linda Meholovitch will be presenting the program related to customer service. The committee planning customer service training will be reporting and merchants will be looking ahead to the St. Pat's Celebration.

Remember to come up with some creative St. Pat's auction items and support the Parents Club and the Chamber as they work together to have the best auction ever. The Chamber office headquarters the Celebration for 1/4 auction proceeds; 1/4 goes this year to the Parents Club for Tupper and other expenses that are needed for the kids, and the other 1/2 goes toward keeping the Irish celebration going year to year. It takes a community coming together with a mix of history.

Thought for the week: "Look at everything as though you were seeing it for the first or last time."

**Heppner honor roll students**

Heppner Middle School has announced their honor roll and honorable mention students for Quarter 2 and Heppner High School has announced its honor roll and honorable mention students for Semester 1.

**Heppner Middle School Quarter 2:** Seventh grade-Honor Roll: Sean Murray (4.0), Lane Bailey, Sarah Johnson, Whitney Matthews and Kelsey Wolff; Honorable Mention: Luke Basile Aftan Betsinger, Jenna Bowman, Kelsie Fox, Tayler Hodges, Baillie Keithley, Tayler Kempas, Kate Kendrick, Katie Kilkenny, Patricia Little, Ben McCarl, Meagan Orr and Andre Rauch. Eighth grade-Honor Roll: Cody Zurn (4.0), Aaron Allstott, Ashley Dima, Tony Haguewood, Mahaley Huddleston, Brendan McElligott, Mechele Nieman and Regina Seitz; Honorable Mention: Kimberly Crumbliss, Justin Delveaux, Cody Hollis, Nathan Kennedy, Ches Little, Quinn Peck and Kylie Tasker.

**Heppner High School Semester 1:** Ninth grade-Honor Roll: Laurie Murray (4.0), Mathew VanCleave (4.0), Chelsey Betsinger, Mikel Britt, Rory Kilkenny, Krystal Nairns, Sean Richards and Heather Rill; Honorable Mention: Daniel Basile, Kyle Carlson, Charlene Houweling, Brianna Jones, Matthew Kenny, Julianna Moore, Roy Proctor, Brenda

Victorio and Heather Yocom. Tenth grade- Honor Roll: Kyle Huddleston (4.0), Josh Lankford (4.0), Shanna Rietmann (4.0), Madison Bailey, Blair Keithley, Cara Kennedy, Elizabeth Orwick and Jessica Wainwright; Honorable Mention: Emily Bergstrom, Tyler Boyer, Chelsea Britt, Ryan Campbell, Jode Coil, Josey Grant, Kylee Disque, Linsey Mitchell, Kory Paullus and Terra Wilson. Eleventh grade- Honor Roll: Sarah Barrow (4.0), Luke Murray (4.0), Brooke Rust (4.0), Blake Allstott, Brian Haguewood, Judd Lemmon, Danielle Looslie, Kiel Nairns, Courtney Nelson, Sheena Shank, Cody Walton, Adam Wight, Jessie Woodward and Matt Young; Honorable Mention: Justin Botefuhr, Tanner Britt, Lindsey Clough, Juan Elguezabal, John Franzwa, Stefanie Hanson, Aaron Lueck, Chantea Macaulay, Tiffany Piper and Brian Smith. Twelfth grade- Brad Adams (4.0), Don Adams (4.0), C. Tyler Henderson (4.0), Lacey Matteson (4.0), Marcy Miller (4.0), Doug Orwick (4.0), Ashley Ward (4.0), Darren VanCleave (4.0), Aleshia Geer, Genia Grant, Rachel Howard, Daniel Jepsen, Jesse Kempas, Conor Kilkenny, Nicole Wilson and Josh Winters; Honorable Mention: Tracy Baker, Maggie Beam, Lacy Davis, Dawn DeBoer, Nicole Sisk and Ben Turrell.



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