

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.

For Advertising: advertising deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Cost for a display ad is \$4.75 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$7 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$5.35 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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**Karen's Korner** By Karen Masshoff

Dear Readers,

As many of you know the State of Oregon has taken away the funding for the Tobacco Prevention/Education Program. Will it be reinstated again in the new fiscal year? More about that later. Before I left Morrow County this spring, I wanted to put out one more column.

One important consideration regarding Oregon's Tobacco Program is its comprehensiveness. This means we approach tobacco use issues from many aspects: through school curriculum and tobacco-free campuses, by having smoke-free workplaces in our communities, by encouraging smoke-free homes - then by having access to cessation programs for those that want to quit. Where is Morrow County in the scheme of all this? Pretty good actually, but there is more to do.

There is much we can do for ourselves at home. What can parents do? Set good examples by not using tobacco and give clear, consistent messages about the dangers of tobacco to their children. Something I just read: teenagers who smoke and are suffering nicotine-dependence tend to have an attention span of about five minutes. Also, of those that smoke, only about seven percent get 'A's in their schoolwork.

Support coordinated school health programs and insist that they include tobacco-use prevention education. Work with the school board to provide assistance programs, rather than punishment, for students who violate tobacco-use policies. If your children already use tobacco, help them understand the underlying reasons they are using tobacco (to deal with stress, to feel accepted, to show their independence). Help them set realistic goals for stopping; give them positive reinforcement and encouragement.

Help your children critically analyze messages that glamorize tobacco use on television, in movies, and in magazines and other print media. This is where the tobacco industry is really targeting our young people. The Master Settlement in 1998 did away with Joe Camel, but the industry is only getting more creative with introducing more exotic appearing tobacco blends (that may be even more addicting), with the "sizzling" and enticing ads to go with them. Tobacco officials state they are speaking only to those of "legal age." Do we believe this? Write to those periodicals where such ads appear.

At this moment in Salem, the Ways and Means Committees are in the midst of deciding the fate of Oregon's exemplar Tobacco Program. How can we afford to not continue the cost-saving progress we've made? Write to those committee members, encouraging them to fund HB 5030 for 2003-2005. Their E-mails: [rep.gregsmith@state.or.us](mailto:rep.gregsmith@state.or.us); [sen.jackiewinters@state.or.us](mailto:sen.jackiewinters@state.or.us); and [sen.avelgordly@state.or.us](mailto:sen.avelgordly@state.or.us).

I do want to come back to Morrow County. I care about the health and well-being of all you.

**OWC to hold meeting**

The Oregon Wheat Commission will hold regular meetings on Tuesday, April 29 at the Wheat Marketing Center Conference Room, 1200 NW Naito Parkway, Suite 240, Portland, at 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Dress is business casual.

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. The Commission meeting is open to the public and anyone wishing to attend is encouraged and welcomed to do so.

**RETIREMENT  
OPEN HOUSE  
for  
BUTCH LAUGHLIN**



**Wednesday, April 30th  
11:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Morrow County Grain Growers  
in Lexington  
Refreshments will be served**

**St. Pat's Senior Center announces  
upcoming activities**

Stokes Landing Senior Center in Irrigon and The Old Time Fiddlers Show is the destination for the next St. Patrick's Senior Center bus trip, according to Ed Baker, chairman of the transportation committee. The show will be held on Saturday, April 26. The bus will begin loading at 5:15 p.m., on Main Street, in front of St. Patrick's Senior Center.

On Friday, May 2, the St. Pat's dining room will be transformed into a Bingo Hall. The Adopt-A-Teacher Committee is sponsoring the Bingo fundraiser. The fundraiser will lend support to the program to help provide for an adequate number of teachers in local schools. Watch for details on the TV bulletin board and other places.

The lunch menu for Wednesday, April 30 beginning at 11:30 a.m., is roast beef with whipped potatoes, hot rolls and other goodies. Members from St. Patrick's Catholic Church will volunteer on that day.

**DA's Report**

Tony Ralph Page was convicted of Contempt of Court, an unclassified misdemeanor. Page was sentenced to 90 suspended days in jail, six months of bench probation, 40 hours of community service and \$374 in fines.

Ephrem Espinoza was convicted of two counts of Possession of a Controlled Substance-2, Class-C felonies, one count of Possession of a Forged Instrument-1, a Class-C felony, and one count of Endangering the Welfare of a Minor, a Class-A misdemeanor. Espinoza's driver's license was suspended for six months and he received a concurrent sentence that brought: 24 months of supervised probation, 90 days in jail, 80 hours of community service and payment of \$2492 in fines.

James Ernest Stout was found guilty of DUII, a Class-A misdemeanor. Stout was sentenced to 180 suspended days in jail, 80 hours of community service, 24 months bench probation, completion of a misdemeanor alcohol package to be provided by Morrow County Behavioral Health, driving privileges are suspended/revoked for one year and payment of \$1294 in fines.

**Pioneer Memorial Hospice  
honors volunteers**

National Hospice Volunteer Week is April 27-May 3. During this week, Pioneer Memorial Hospice wishes to honor the following volunteers who have trained and registered to assist in this health care program.

From Heppner: Michael Armato, Nella Britt, Betty Carlson, Louis Carlson, Barb Coiner, Aloha DeSpain, Cyde Estes, Joy Krein, Judie Laughlin, Sherree Mahoney, Veda Nave, Delia Robinson, Florene Robinson, Debbie Sumner, Paul Sumner, Lindsey Ward, Mary West, and Carolyn Willey; and from Boardman: Marie DeBoer, Norman DeBoer, Dona Edman and Alice Ellis.

A hospice volunteer is a lay, or professional person, trained in providing support and companionship to the patient and family, including

Fred Eugene Stephens, Jr., was convicted of Harassment- Physical, a Class-B misdemeanor. Stephens was sentenced to 179 suspended days in jail, 2 years bench probation, 20 hours of community service, one day in jail as part of probation, and payment of \$424 in fines.

Todd Patrick Copenhaver was convicted of Attempting to Elude Police, a Class-A misdemeanor. He was sentenced to 90 suspended days in jail, 24 months bench probation and \$374 in fines. Copenhaver was also found guilty of DUII, a Class-A misdemeanor. For this, he was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 178 of those days suspended and the remaining two days converted to 80 hours of community service, 24 months bench probation, completion of a drug package to be provided by Morrow County Behavioral Health, driving privileges suspended/revoked for one year, and \$1294 in fines.

Hussain Jassim Alsuwaihy was convicted of Providing False Information to Police on a Citation, a Class-A misdemeanor. He was sentenced to 90 suspended days in jail, one year bench probation and \$374 in fines.

regular survivor contact as needed. Volunteers may also provide supportive services to the hospice staff in such areas as, but not limited to assisting in the office, public relations, fund raising and other various hospice activities.

The above-named people have taken a seven-week training course, made the decision to serve as a volunteer in some areas and continue to participate in the monthly educational meetings.

Currently, a volunteer training class is underway in Condon under the direction of Robanai Disque, Hospice coordinator, Carolyn Willey, volunteer coordinator and Cyde Estes, teacher-in-training.

For more information on the Pioneer Memorial Hospice Program call (541) 676-2946, weekdays, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Morrow County OHV Park  
Quads, Dirtbikes, Jeeps  
Opening May 17, 2003**

**For More Information Contact:  
Morrow County Public Works  
(541) 989-9500**

**Morrow County OHV Park  
Work Party  
on Sunday, April 27, 2003**

Bring your gloves, hammer, wheelbarrow, rakes, fencing supplies, pitchfork, chainsaws, and, of course, your OHV. We will be marking and clearing trails, fixing fence, etc.  
**Help get your park ready to use!**

**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

**District office move creates  
unknown burden**

To the Editor:

At its last meeting, the Morrow County School Board voted to move the school district offices from Lexington to Irrigon's new school building. The idea of moving the offices was originally intended to save the district money in this revenue crisis. Moving the offices to unused space in Heppner Elementary School and closing the Lexington building made good economic sense. However, the superintendent didn't feel "wanted" when Heppner requested that the district pay a portion of expenses such as utilities and custodial care (currently in the district budget). Now, seemingly from out of nowhere, the superintendent claims carte blanche to move the offices wherever he wants them, regardless of cost and future consequences.

Since the district has already balked at paying rent to

whatever school building it is housed in, it seems that the district's electricity, water, heat, and maintenance will come out of Irrigon's "equalized" portion of the budget, or the superintendent won't feel wanted. Furthermore, when the time comes that the district can afford to staff Irrigon's school, a new administration building will have to be built. From what funds, pray tell? The bottom line is that Irrigon will not be able to use its school for children until the district can afford a new office building. At the same time, available space sits empty in Heppner. What started out as a cost saving exercise has turned into an unknown burden on district funds, and potentially a large burden on Irrigon. Surely our school board can do better than this.

(s)  
Joel Peterson  
Ione

**Show your support for MCHD**

To the Editor:

I wanted to take a few minutes and tell my opinion on the Morrow County Health District.

I've lived 50 years in Morrow County and have had many dealing with all aspects of the care offered. In 1950, when the hospital opened, my son was one of the first babies born in the facility and I have been using MCHD ever since.

It is my feeling that they all do a wonderful job from the clinics, hospital, physical therapy, home health, speech and occupational therapy and nursing home. They have all been very supportive to my problems and rehabilitation.

In October 2002, I moved to the Willow Creek Terrace (assisted living) and enjoy the facility very much. In February 2003, I began having medical problems that required me to spend time in

the hospital and in March 2003, it was decided that I needed to recover in the nursing home to regain my strength and mobility.

People think nursing homes are just for long-term care, but I have found that the staff works very hard to rehabilitate residents in all aspects of care to help them return to as normal a life as possible.

The kindness shown to me and the other residents has been exemplary. All the employees of the MCHD should be recognized for their professional care and faithfulness to the district.

I would like to ask everyone in the county to give their support to the Health District. We need our facilities on both ends of the county so that everyone has adequate health care.

(s) Jean Nelson  
Heppner

**Final thoughts on the war**

To the Editor:

The coalition counties are being told they must now deal with Jihad. For those readers who don't know exactly what that means, here's a note from Webster: 1- a war by Moslems against unbelievers or enemies of Islam, carried out as a religious duty; 2- a fanatic campaign for or against an idea, etc.; crusade.

I need to take a step back to the onset of this war when a news reporter asked the Commander in Chief how he is handling this on a personal basis. His answer: "I pray for guidance every day."

Very shortly after that, Hussein was quoted as saying, "I pray for salvation, long live Islam."

Yet, they both let it happen.

I understand, for myself anyway, that about 50 percent of this letter will be in

the realm of fiction; at the very least, debatable ideas.

Considering the two aspects: "guidance" and "religious duty"; could there be something else that the general public isn't hearing? Something that is, as a show title indications, "Beyond Belief"?

Think for a moment about Nostradamus' quatrain about a third world war holocaust being led by someone in a blue turban.

Could all this be happening because of oversimplified, very fearful ideas.

Last line about this war: I would sooner put my faith in us. Us humans, the peacemakers, the ones who open their mouths and keep the box of bullets closed.

Now I'll shut up; for a while.

(s) Phillip Kight  
Heppner

**Smith to hold Town Hall meetings**

Representative Greg Smith will hold Town Hall meetings, Thursday, April 24, in Heppner, Ione and Lexington to discuss the release of the Co-Chair's and the Governor's 2003-05 budget and other legislative items.

"This is an opportunity for us to sit down and discuss Oregon's economic crisis," said Rep. Smith, "It is a time

for us to discuss the Oregon that we want."

The first meeting will be held in Ione at the United Church of Christ at 3:30 p.m. The second meeting will be held at 5 p.m., at the Lexington City Hall. The third and final meeting for the day will be held in Heppner at John's Other Place at 6:30 p.m.