

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
Katie Wall Editor

News and Advertising Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

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Health district to drop Trauma Level

IV designation
continued from page 1

hour, seven-day-a-week ER physician, an additional mid-level provider would be recruited to share ER coverage with the current PA's.

In other business, the board:

-approved budget amendments, including incorporating a \$300,000 donation from the Becholdt estate into the budget, and adopted the 2003-04 budget.

-decided to drop the issue of withdrawal of the city of Boardman from the district, brought to the board earlier by board member Ed Glenn. The board unanimously concluded that the division would be so complicated, involving complex tax issues, boundaries and enterprise zones, and is estimated to cost the people living in the city of Boardman an additional \$1 per thousand, that they decided to drop the issue. The financially strapped district would also have had to come up with monies to pay for an election if the board had decided to take the issue to the voters. The board's action does not preclude other entities from putting the issue on the ballot.

-received the May financial report, which showed a \$62,913 loss for the month, down from the \$117,760 loss for the previous month. Chief

Gazette to be closed

The Heppner Gazette-Times office will be closed Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. The office will reopen on Monday, July 7.

Financial Officer Nicole Mahoney said that the month of June is looking better financially.

-learned from Vander Does that closing the nursing home, which had been discussed as a cost-saving measure, could hurt, rather than help the district. Vander Does told the board that the amount of money nursing home residents bring to the district is significant to the district's financial welfare. He estimated that around \$174,000 a year is billed to nursing home residents for lab, x-ray and other tests, with around \$130,000 of that paid in cash to the district. If the nursing home were closed, Critical Access Hospital program monies could increase by around \$80,000, but ProShare monies, a federal nursing home reimbursement program overseen by the state, would be dropped, to the tune of around \$200,000. The future of the ProShare program, however, is already uncertain. The negative impact on families, hospital and nursing home employees and the local economy if the nursing home closed was also discussed.

-learned that the Irrigon Clinic saw 157 patients, with 19 new patients during the month of May; Pioneer Memorial Clinic saw 404 patients with 16 new patients; Pioneer Memorial had 14 in-patient admissions; Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home had an average daily census of 15 for 75 percent occupancy; the Heppner ambulance had seven runs; the Boardman ambulance had 20 runs; and the Irrigon ambulance, five runs.

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.)

Old Glory was raised high

To the Editor:

The members of one group that participated in the recent golf tournament at WCCC are to be commended for their respect and handling of the American Flag. Not once did they allow Old Glory to touch the ground. Members of the group were John Boyer, Jeff Steger, Paul Ostrom, Larry Conklin and Dustin Conklin. Way to go guys.

(s) Gene Sonstegard
Heppner

Fossil Bluegrass Festival planned over July 4 weekend

The annual Wheeler County Bluegrass Festival at Fossil promises to be bigger and better than ever, as the event has expanded to include the entire July 4 weekend with several bluegrass bands from throughout the Northwest performing all weekend as well as a parade, bluegrass workshops and a community theater production.

Festivities get underway on Friday, July 4 at noon with a parade starting at

Marriage Licenses

June 24: Marc Thomas Orem, 24, Heppner and Lindsay Anne Harle, 26, Heppner.

June 25: James Matthew Browning, 23, Heppner and Sibbea Marie Jones, 18, Heppner.

June 26: Kenneth Delmer Harnden, 66, Athena and Patricia Ann Walls, 50, Athena.

June 27: Steven Paul Cherry, 30, Heppner and Rebecca Marie Breazeale, 22, Heppner.

Justice Court report

Jason Paul Palmer, 34, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Kevin Robert McCabe, 43, Ione, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Darin James Skaggs, 18, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Aaron David Lueck, 18, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Keith Aaron Inman, 22, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Timothy Wayne Judd, 18, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Alita Denise Nelson, 29, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Ernest Clyde McCabe, 78, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Susan Diane Gibbs, 35, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$77.

Benjamin Michael Dick, 22, Portland, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$77.

Howard Leon Patrick, 59, Hermiston, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Deanne Kasten, 38, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Mathew H. Baker, 21, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

Kelsey Coleen Greenup, 18, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$59.

David Leon Peterson, 58, Heppner, Failure to Wear Seatbelt, fine \$77.

the courthouse grounds, where the festival will be held. The parade will honor the Bowerman family, who will be riding in vintage vehicles from Asher's Car Museum in Fossil.

The parade's theme is "Red, White and Blue" and is open for anyone on horseback, on foot, or in any type of vehicle or wagon. Line-up takes place in front of the courthouse at 11:30 a.m.

Five bands will perform at the courthouse grounds on Friday, July 4 and Saturday, July 5 from 1 p.m. until dusk. They include Misty Creek (band members from the Northwest award-winning Misty River Band) performing harmonic folk, country and bluegrass songs.

The Great Northern Planes, an award-winning Portland-based bluegrass band that performs across the U.S. will also perform; as will the Knott Brothers, a nationally acclaimed Eugene band playing acoustic, bluegrass and Americana favorites; and The Fossils, a Seattle band known throughout the West for its bluegrass performances.

On Sunday, July 6 the Mud Springs Gospel Quartet, based in Madras, will perform acoustic, bluegrass and harmonies beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The Fossil Players will present a community theatre melodrama, "The Fairest Flower of the South or To Know Her Is to Love Her" at 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Like last year, the concert will pause while the melodrama takes place.

Area artists will display their works July 4 and 5 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on Friday and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday at the Fossil United Methodist Church.

All weekend events are free and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets to enjoy the performances on the courthouse lawn. Food vendors will be providing concessions and meals all day each day. The county fairgrounds will be open for camping.

For information contact Lyn Craig at 541-763-2355, Wheeler County at 541-763-2400. The event website is www.wheelercountybluegrass.org.

Water Park closed 4th of July

The Willow Creek Water Park will be closed Friday, July 4 through Sunday, July 6, for the 4th of July holiday. The pool will reopen on Monday, July 7.

Engagement

Campbell - Greenup



Sara Greenup and Tygh Campbell

Greg and Janet Greenup have announced the upcoming marriage of their daughter, Sara, to Tygh Campbell, son of Steve and Rhonda Campbell of Wallowa on Saturday, Aug. 2, 2003 in Pendleton.

Sara is a 1994 graduate of Heppner High School. She graduated from Eastern Oregon University in 1998 with a bachelor of science degree, and Oregon State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 2003. Sara is currently completing an equine internship with the Bend Equine Medical Center in Bend.

Tygh is a 1994 graduate of Pendleton High School. He graduated from the Walla Walla Community College farrier and carpentry programs and will receive a bachelor of arts degree in Small City and Rural County Management at Eastern Oregon University in the fall of 2003. Tygh is self-employed as a horse shoer.

The couple plans to live in the Pendleton area.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes

Wow... the year is half gone; less than six months until Christmas. It's time for the Chamber Board of Directors to take a breath and review 2003 goals; just as soon as we hold another Customer Service Training, share the merchants annual "Celebrate Heppner" with locals and visitors, get the applications out for the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Parade, research an OHV kiosk, work on the membership drive, and the list goes on. Our volunteers are working hard. We'd like to hear from you; how is your Chamber of Commerce doing? Share your ideas, suggestions and comments by calling 676-5536.

The Chamber's theme for this year is "Heppner, the place to be in 2003", with the idea being to attract more visitors to our community. We seem to be seeing more. The car clubs like visiting, historians like visiting, retirees like visiting, alumni like visiting and some are even returning. Many have pitched in to assist WCVED with business recruitment and we continue to tell our story, Please visit www.heppner.net/Chamber. Have you visited the Flood Memorial or the flood exhibit at the museum? Take a moment to do so. It's cool in the museum and sunset at the cemetery is breathtaking. The F.A.R.M. still welcomes memorial donations. It's been a pleasure to work with them on the project.

"Celebrate Historic Heppner" is scheduled this year for Friday, July 25. In addition to the sidewalk sale complete with dunk tank, the barbecue, pie auction and Music In the Park will be returning. Pie bakers, start practicing. The event promises to be bigger and tastier than ever. Invite your friends for an old fashioned community event. Our community has much to share.

Interested in joining the Chamber? Half off to join right now for the rest of the year. We welcome businesses, organizations and individuals. Though we meet every Tuesday at noon, we welcome members unable to attend who also believe in the Chamber's efforts to make "Heppner the place to be in 2003".

Everyone have a safe and memorable Fourth of July, remembering why we celebrate and the people we have to thank for our freedom.

Koffler graduates from OSU

Brian Koffler the Monterrey Peninsula and at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club at Southampton, Long Island, New York.

He is currently working at Cyprus Point Golf Club as a spray technician. Cyprus Point is located on the Monterrey Peninsula near Carmel, CA.

Koffler is the son of George and Debbie Koffler of Heppner.

Annual Lexington yard sale to be held

Lexington will be holding its annual Town-wide Yard Sale, Saturday, July 19. There is sure to be items for everyone, with townspeople and local merchants selling on that day.

Approximate hours will be from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Lexington Fire Fund, who will also have a table to raise monies for the Fire Fund.

The Heppner High School baseball program would like to thank the Heppner-Ione-Lexington communities for the tremendous support during our very successful baseball season. We have always said we have the best fans in the state and you proved it again. Every team we played commented on how many people attended our games. We had a season to be proud of but we are proud of the people who gave us such tremendous support.

Special thanks go out to the following people for the donations and labor throughout the season:

Dick Sargent - countless hours on field during the entire year and before our playoff game with Reedsport.

John Murray - for donating trees and installing new driplines for trees at baseball field and for the many hours put in during the installation.

Wade Smith - for your continued support of our program during regular season and the playoffs.

Greg Grant - for the great schedule you worked out for us and the great effort you put out during the playoffs.

MC GG - for your continued support and donations during season and donation of the flag for our new flagpole.

Mark Miller & Miller Ranches - for your donation and hauling of dirt yearly.

John Britt - blading the road up to the baseball field.

Sam Bellamy - help with wiring snack shack and donation to our baseball program.

Ione Booster Club - providing Gatorade and ice for each playoff game.

Heppner Booster Club - for helping with drinks and pizza after District playoff game and for enabling us to take the cruiser to John Day for semi-finals. The kids and coaches really enjoyed it!

HHS shop class - for making signs for our field.

Jay Coil - for making pitching ramp and installing gate on batting cage. Also for helping with new flag pole.

Chuy Elguazabal and Brian Hagewood - for organizing the installation of the flag pole in left field. It really adds to our field and is something we should have done long ago.

Tim Hedman - for installing carpet on pitching ramp.

Josh Roy - for donating use of boom truck and helping repair our backstop net.

For all the farmers who donated tarp and helped with getting field ready for our playoff game with Reedsport. Thanks to: Mac Hoskins, Brian Thompson, Ron Bowman, Jerry Healy, Jay Coil, Heppner Baseball team and Reedsport team.

Thanks to Willie Gentry for playing the National Anthem at our two home playoff games. You were great!

Thanks also to the following businesses who helped during the season - Green Feed, Westwind Nursery and the City of Heppner.

Thanks to John McCabe for organizing and keeping the snack shack supplied.

Thanks to all the parents who donated time to work in the snack shack. This is one of our biggest fund raisers.

Hopefully we haven't forgotten anyone. Thanks again.

CALEDONIAN GAMES
July 12th - 13th in Athena
*Hoot, mon! Give the caber a toss,
run the 5K race,
join the mini-golf tournament.*
Check www.athenacaledoniangames.org for schedules!