

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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DA's Report

Lynn Allan Chaunessy admitted to violation of probation allegations for Possession of a Controlled Substance. Chaunessy's probation was revoked and reinstated and extended for one year from the original expiration date and he was sentenced to 27 days in jail.

Timothy Jean Conner pled guilty to two counts of Sexual Abuse I, a Class-B felony. Conner was sentenced to 75 months in jail. Post Prison Supervision is to be that period of time when added to the incarcerative term equals the statutory indeterminate sentence pursuant to ORS 144.103. He was also sentenced to pay \$154 in fees.

George Norris, Jr. pled guilty to Exceeding Bag Limit of Game Mammal, a Class-A misdemeanor. Norris was sentenced to 180 suspended days in jail, 24 months bench probation, hunting license, tags and permits revoked and hunting privileges revoked for 24 months and payment of \$324 in fines and fees.

Richard D. Hayden, Jr. pled guilty to Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle, a Class-C felony. Hayden was sentenced to 18 months formal probation, 80 hours of community service, driving privileges revoked for one year and payment of \$1014 in fines and fees.

Jose Angel Almazan-Herrera was convicted of Possession of a Controlled Substance-2, a Class-C felony and Possession of a Forged Instrument-1, a Class-C felony. Almazan-Herrera's drivers license was suspended for six months and he was sentenced to 18 months supervised probation, 30 days in jail, 80 hours of community service and payment of \$1828 in fines and fees.

Floriberta Rangel Rodriguez was convicted of

Possession of a Forged Instrument-2, a Class-A misdemeanor. Rodriguez was sentenced to 365 suspended days in jail, 24 months bench probation, 40 hours of community service and payment of \$624 in fines and fees.

Patti Elizabeth Contreras was convicted of Harassment Physical, a Class-B misdemeanor and Contempt of Court, an unclassified misdemeanor. Contreras was sentenced to 180 suspended days in jail, 12 months bench probation, 20 hours of community service and payment of \$524 in fines and fees.

Levi Jeshua Winkler pled guilty to Reckless Driving, a Class-A misdemeanor. Winkler was sentenced to 180 suspended days in jail, 24 months bench probation, driving privileges suspended/revoked for 90 days and payment of \$874 in fines and fees.

Michael R. Snyder, Jr. was convicted of Harassment, a Class-B misdemeanor. Snyder was sentenced to 180 suspended days in jail, 12 months bench probation and payment of \$474 in fines and fees.

DA continues investigation of embezzlement allegations

District Attorney David Allen told the Gazette-Times on Monday that his office is furthering its investigation into embezzlement charges by requesting documents and records from four organizations involved.

Allen, however, would not specify which organizations were involved. He also has not publicly disclosed the name of person alleged to have embezzled the funds.

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.)

Patronize our senior living facilities

To The Editor and Heppner Residents:

It was a sad day when the Pioneer Memorial Hospital Board of Directors had to make the decision to close the nursing home. This was a decision that had to be made and not without a lot of soul searching by board members, I am sure. This is not a job that I myself would want to do, but thank goodness, there are people out there who will do the job and very well, I might add.

We had our mother in the nursing home and when we moved her here from Hermiston, we were hoping this would be the last move for her. It was more convenient for us to have her here and it was wonderful to be afforded that opportunity.

It was not a big surprise when the nursing home closed. We could see the writing on the wall. In this day and age, we were one of the few smaller communities that could still manage to keep our nursing home and were very lucky to have had it for this long.

I must commend the board for the hard work it has done in the past and hopefully, the future, in their endeavors to keep the hospital available to us as it is sorely needed in our community.

We are very fortunate to have the board (members of our community), administration, care providers and staff that we have at Pioneer Memorial Hospital. They are all very caring, dedicated individuals.

While looking for a place for our mother, the administration and staff was more than helpful in the relocation process. When we found a foster home, the staff personally moved her so they could visit with the care providers that would assume her care and give them some insight on mother's care. That

was above and beyond the call of duty and made it so much easier for those of us that involved. It would have been much more difficult without their help. And do you know the best part? They did it because they really cared about their patients.

We need to keep these people, who lost their jobs in our thoughts. They also have some major life changing decisions to make in the future.

This is another reason we need to patronize our senior living facilities, i.e. St. Patrick's Senior Center and Willow Valley Terrace Assisted Living, so they can continue to pay their bills and keep as many of our seniors in our community as possible.

Sorry for the lengthy letter, but this is something I feel very strongly about and all of us are getting there very quickly.

(S) Diana Ball Heppner

City council

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farmland en route from the city wells to town. Work is being done to correct the problem, said city manager Jerry Breazeale.

In other action, the city heard from Bank of Eastern Oregon Heppner branch manager Darrell Raver, who said via a letter that the bank would be interested in selling the former Klamath First Federal building to the city for a tentative price of \$325,000. Bank of Eastern Oregon has purchased Klamath First and the city is indicated an interest in moving into the building. At this time the city is also looking at renovating the present city hall building, however, it has been investigating the option of buying the bank building for use as city hall.

In other business, the council authorized \$2,500 to clean up the property on Matlock Street. A house belonging to John LeDoux burned on the property in March and LeDoux has been unable to get it cleaned up. The city gave LeDoux one week to clean up the property or it would bring in a crew at city expense to do the work. LeDoux was at the meeting and said he would bring a "tort claim" against the city if it touched anything on his property. He said he was already considering action against the city for items he said were taken from his property following the fire in March. The city sheriff deputy also told the council that there were four vehicles on the property with expired tags that would be removed.

The city also heard from city manager Breazeale who said no one has been hired as public works director. There has been a shortage of qualified applicants, but he said the city is continuing to look for a new public works director.

Cub Scouts to host Fun Night

The Cub Scouts will be hosting a Fun Night at the Wilkinson Arena at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. Boys in the first through fourth grades and their parents are invited on Thursday, Nov. 13, at 6:30 p.m., to come and enjoy games and other activities.

The Cub Scouts are looking for interested participants as well as adult leaders. Anyone interested in joining or becoming a leader can get more information at the Fun Night.

Births

Emmali Alizabeth Grigsby-Smith - a daughter, Emmali Alizabeth, was born Oct. 29, 2003 at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Amanda Grace Grigsby and Jeffery Allen Smith, Jr., of Irrigon.

Morrow County School Board

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Springs will pay \$2,712,376 in lieu of taxes for 2003-04, which includes \$549,990 to the Morrow County School District, \$76,795 for the Umattilla-Morrow ESD, \$90,129 for Blue Mountain Community College, \$582,154 for Morrow County, \$85,430 for the Morrow County Health District, \$11,875 for the Port of Morrow, \$475,740 for the city of Boardman, \$105,396 for the Boardman Rural Fire District, \$4,010 for the Boardman Cemetery District, \$42,206 for the Boardman Park District, \$64,390 for the Morrow County Unified Recreation District, \$26,815 for the North Morrow Vector Control District, \$35,810 for the Oregon Trail Library District, \$114,390 for City of Boardman bonds, \$400,569 for Morrow County School District bonds, and \$46,671 for BMCC bonds.

The school district will receive the \$549,990, but will hold it only for a short time, as the state school funding system will take it back next year. Schools are now state funded based on attendance and any additional income will offset the amount the district receives. The other \$400,569 due to the district will go toward bond retirement.

Sweek told the board that the Coyote Springs monies would be a one-time payment only as next year Coyote Springs will be included in the enterprise zone and will have a five-year tax exemption.

arrived at a consensus to take no action with regard to a notification from the state school superintendent that she will accept the recommendation of Judge Frank Yraguen with regard to the division of assets and liabilities between MCSD and the Lone School District. Yraguen recommended that MCSD pay ISD in excess of \$100,000 as a result of the division.

heard a monthly enrollment report which shows and increase of 100 students district-wide over last year, with 2,267 this year, compared to 2,167 last year, excluding data for Ione, which seceded from the district. A.C. Houghton Elementary lost 51 students with 351 on Nov. 3 of this year, compared to 402 on Nov. 1 last year; Columbia Middle School lost 105 students, with 270, compared to 375 last year; Heppner Elementary School lost nine students with 205, compared to 214 last year; newly established Irrigon Elementary has 121 students; Windy River Elementary, also newly established, has 156 students this year; Heppner High School gained 20 students with 214 this year, compared to 194 last year; Riverside High School gained 31 students with 458 this year compared to 427 last year; Sam Boardman Elementary lost 46 students with 430 this year compared to 476. Dr. Crippen was pleased with the gain and noted that A.C. Houghton, Sam Boardman Elementary and Columbia Middle School each lost a grade with the establishment of two new schools. "This is truly exciting because we are seeing new growth," said Crippen.

voted five to two that all students within the Irrigon Junior/Senior High School attendance area begin attendance in the fall of 2005, with the exception of the Riverside High School senior class. RHS seniors may choose which school to

attend, either Riverside or Irrigon. Pat McNamee and Julie Weikel were in the minority.

heard a concern from board member Barney Lindsay, whose family traditionally attends Heppner Schools, that his home would be in the Irrigon attendance area. Lindsay proposed that the boundary to attend Irrigon be changed from the D.O. Nelson Lane (Lindsay Feedlot Lane) to Homestead Road which is a paved road that intersects with Bombing Range Road. Currently the Lindsays are the only family involved.

approved retirement for; Bob Deeter, from his teaching position at RHS, Sharon Erck, Sam Boardman Elementary reading specialist, Jennifer Wade, SBE Title I teacher, and Benn Houk, all effective Dec. 31 and to continue through the end of the school year.

accepted resignations from Mila Inman, Irrigon Elementary School assistant custodian, Denise Riddle, programs director secretary, Dana Reid, HHS head girls' basketball coach, and Ken Eckman, HHS assistant boys' basketball coach.

approved employment for: Tom Shear, whose contract was increased to be paid by Adopt a Teacher Foundation; Terri Cable, ACH one-on-one special ed assistant; Jennifer Jennings, Windy River Elementary Title I ed assistant; Annabel Sosa, SBE ESL assistant; and Jose Aguiar, CMS Title I ed assistant.

approved extra duty contracts for: Ron Brisbois, HHS head girls' basketball coach; Chuck Matteson, HHS assistant boys' basketball coach; and Brooke Spencer, RHS assistant girls' basketball coach.

approved ratification of administrative, confidential and supervisory contracts with one exception.

approved hiring of a two-hour aide at HES to be paid by Adopt a Teacher Foundation.

approved a transfer for Rose Dirksen, CMS secretary, to program director's secretary, due to resignation, effective Nov. 17.

approved a migrant preschool at SBE to be run by the ESD.

declared surplus property from ACH.

dispensed with oral principal and maintenance reports from now on, opting instead to receive those reports electronically in order to shave time from lengthy meetings.

learned from program director Jack Johns that he believes it is important to keep his office in the north end because most of the students in the programs he supervises are in the north end, such as the migrant, special ed, and the Title I programs. He says he is often out of his office in north end schools in special education meetings with parents, observations of special education teachers and meetings with principals.

learned that a meeting to determine the level of student and community interest in reestablishing an FFA program will be held this Friday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. at Riverside High School.

heard the following announcements: Oregon School Boards Association convention in Portland, Nov. 14-16; next board meeting at CMS Dec. 8 at 7 p.m., a new time.

You are invited to Maralyn Stelk's Retirement Open House



The Pendleton Staff of Farm Credit are sad to see Maralyn go. You are invited to her open house on Thursday, Nov. 20 from noon to 3 p.m. and wish her well.

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We understand agriculture like no other lender in the field.

The Windmill Cafe in Ione
(formerly the Office Cafe)
will be CLOSED Thursday & Friday,
November 27th - 28th
so our employees
can be with their families.
Have A
Happy Thanksgiving!

