

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

Published weekly and entered as periodical matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Periodical postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 147 W. Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: gt@heppner.net or gt@rapidsolve.net. Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$24 in Morrow County; \$18 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 62 years or older); \$30 elsewhere.

David Sykes Publisher
Katie Wall Editor

News and Advertising 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, turn date must be specified if required).

On the HEPPNER WEBSITE: www.heppner.net

- Start or Change a Subscription
- Place a Classified Ad • Submit a News Story
- View Real Estate for Sale • City Council & Planning Minutes
- Local Businesses • County Park • Willow Creek Park Reservations
- Free Digital Postcards • Senior Housing • and more!

Informational meeting regarding distance education to be held at BMCC

With the increase of employment opportunities in the criminal justice field in the Eastern Oregon region there has been considerable interest in higher education programs by criminal justice professionals. People are finding that a baccalaureate college degree is advantageous for career advancement and are seeking the assistance of a cooperative program between Blue Mountain Community College, Eastern Oregon University and Southern Oregon University to meet their educational needs. An information session explaining how Criminal Justice professionals can complete a college degree via distance education will be held at 7:15 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 25 in Pendleton at BMCC, Morrow Hall Room 3.

Adult students who want to continue their education in Criminal Justice to advance their careers can take advantage of distance education courses at the lower and upper-division levels towards a degree from Eastern Oregon University. "Since many of the courses are available via the web, they

offer flexibility to students and professionals currently in the criminal justice field who have difficulty continuing their education because of 24-hour work shifts," says Deborah Lee, EOU Regional Center Director in Pendleton.

The courses will be taught by BMCC and Southern faculty members and will apply towards Eastern's distance learning Liberal Studies major (with a Criminology minor). BMCC will be offering at least one of the program's lower division core courses each term.

Mary Koza, Director of Distance Learning at Eastern Oregon University commented, "These courses illustrate how colleges and universities are working together to provide degree programs at a distance whereby students are able to apply courses from one university toward degree programs at others. Sharing resources to save funds and bringing education to students at convenient times and places is what effective partnerships are all about."

For more information contact the EOU Umatilla/Morrow Regional Center (541) 278-5776 or toll free at (866) 801-6196.

Boardman-Irrigon CEC separates leaving vacancies

The Morrow County School District Board of Directors has recently split the Boardman-Irrigon Community Education Committee (CEC) into two separate committees, one for each community.

The Boardman CEC has four vacant positions—three new positions and one created by a recent resignation. Candidates must live in the Boardman school attendance area.

The Irrigon CEC has three vacant positions—all new positions. Candidates must live in the Irrigon school attendance area.

To be eligible for appointment, you must be a registered voter and submit a letter of interest to: Julie Ashbeck, Board Secretary,

Morrow County School District, P.O. Box 368, Lexington, OR 97839.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to determine eligibility. The people appointed to these positions will serve until the next regular election in 2005. For more information, please contact Chairman Dean Mason at (541) 481-3511 or Julie Ashbeck (541) 989-8202. These positions will remain open until filled.

Order
Magnetic
Door Signs
HERE

Heppner Gazette-
Times
676-9228

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.)

Property should be cared for

To the Editor:

All properties and equipment used by the Heppner city officials and city employees, including City Hall, the City Corporation Yard, the vehicle parking garage, and all vehicles were acquired using taxpayers' dollars. The city officials and employees are then allowed to use this property and equipment free of charge. Even the maintenance costs are borne by the taxpayers. Heppner residents have the right to demand this property be cared for, and not allowed to become in such a run down condition that it is a shame for visitors to see.

The house I purchased in Heppner is in somewhat of a run down condition. I did not take this problem to some out of town newspaper. I did not allow it to deteriorate further. It took

me years to correct this condition and make the house livable. If I would have had the manpower the city has I could have accomplished this in about a week.

I have observed city employees busy watering hanging flower baskets, polishing drinking fountains, trimming trees, and mowing grass on Main Street, while potholes in other city streets become deeper (Riverside Ave. is an example), the equipment and the building in the City Corporation Yard slowly rusts and rots away, and City Hall becomes even more run down. Looking to the past, it seems if something will get a city official's picture in this newspaper it will be done. Filling potholes should qualify.

(s) Gene Sonstegard
Heppner

Regarding Morrow County 4-H

To the Editor:

I would like to respond to some questions I have heard about the 4-H program. First I would like to explain the programs 4-H offers today. Most of us know the traditional 4-H program as "4-H". The traditional program consists of livestock, home economics, horse, small animals, expressive arts, which is the 4-H we grew up with.

Today we have two additional components to the 4-H program. One is school enrichment. This is curriculum developed or adopted by Oregon State University department of 4-H to supplement learning in the classroom. Oregon Ag in the Classroom is one example of school enrichment curriculum. This fall we brought the director of the Ag in the Classroom program to Heppner to provide a teacher training. This was offered to all the teachers in Morrow County. All Heppner elementary teachers plus one from Ione and two from Boardman were trained. Now they have some excellent agriculture curriculum to support what they are teaching in the classroom.

The other component of today's 4-H program is outreach to underserved audiences. About four years ago, Mario Magana was hired by Oregon State University Extension to provide programming that would encourage more Hispanic students to get involved in Morrow and Umatilla County 4-H. There was a great need for this type of programming since 65 percent of the population at Sam Boardman Elementary alone is Hispanic. The traditional 4-H program is available to everyone, however it is utilized by and large by Anglo youth. The programs Mario started were also available to everyone, but mainly utilized by Hispanic

youth.

Last year, OSU Extension had major budget cuts at the state level. One of the results was Mario was transferred to the Salem area to be an area agent (programming for several counties). Mario's move left us without any way to maintain the Outreach programs. With the help of a grant writer from the Oregon 4-H Foundation, we were able to get three grants to try to keep those youth involved in positive youth development programs. The grants were from PGE Foundation, Wildhorse Foundation and Trust Management Services. It is monitored by the 4-H Foundation since they wrote the grants. This money did not come to the Morrow County 4-H Leaders Association treasury.

At the current time, I am looking into possibilities for an after school program in Heppner and/or Ione. In a recent conversation with Wade Smith, Heppner schools' principal, it sounded like there were programs happening after school at Heppner Elementary almost every day of the week. I would be interested in talking with anyone that has ideas on how we can provide additional programs for the students at the elementary or high school level. Some of the previously mentioned grant funds can be utilized to start a program in South Morrow County communities. If you have any ideas or suggestion, call Bill Broderick at 676-9642.

(s) Bill Broderick
Morrow County 4-H Agent

**Custom
Banners**
Any Size
Lots of Colors
Heppner Gazette-Times
676-9228

Moving City Hall better choice than upgrading

To the Editor:

A recent letter in the paper made me pause and think about our city hall, and what a wonderful job the staff there does in making us all feel welcome. It is not easy to make an old building look inviting, but they have gone that extra mile to make it as attractive and welcoming as they can.

I am sure, that when we stop and think about the age of the building, we realize that the building codes at that time don't begin to meet the needs of the 21st century. It would cost a lot to update the

building and we would still have a deteriorating building that is a potential fire-trap.

The current building is inadequate, not from neglect or misuse, but by time and state and federal mandates. Our money is more wisely spent in having the city hall moved to a new location that has the needed upgrades.

I would just like to say I appreciate the mayor and the city workers for doing such a wonderful job for all of us. I wish it could be in a nicer environment. And, hopefully, in the near future, it will be.

(s) Pat Edmundson
Heppner

Maryan L. McElligott Memorial Fund now accepting applications

The Maryan L. McElligott Fund is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2004-2005 academic year. Applicants must be a graduate of Ione High School in the second, third or fourth year of study at an accredited institution of higher education.

The Maryan L. McElligott Memorial Fund was established in 1994. Maryan McElligott was an active and longtime member of the Ione community. She placed high value on community and education. She raised eight children, all of whom graduated from Ione High School and proceeded to graduate from various universities. The memorial fund was established to provide students the opportunity to attend college and carry on the values she cared for most. The family set-up the fund in 1994 and by 1996 it had reached the target endowment of \$20,000 and began to award annual scholarships. Only the income from the endowment fund is used to make the annual awards, thus leaving the principle intact and creating a perpetual source of scholarships for Ione scholars. To date 15 scholarships have been awarded and more than \$8700 distributed.

Requirements include: Ione High Schools graduates that are enrolled or will be enrolled as sophomores or above with full-time status at an accredited post-secondary

institution of higher learning, in the federal Title IV student financial program. Applicants can attend either an in or out of state institution. Previous scholarship award winners are eligible to reapply for additional assistance.

The recipients for the 2003-2004 academic year included Kristina Powell who attends Eastern Oregon University, Adam McCabe who attends University of Idaho, Rhonda Wilhelm who attends Mount Hood Community College, Jennifer Thompson who attends Blue Mountain Community College and Collin McElligott who attends St. Louis University.

Ione High School graduates interested in the Maryan L. McElligott Memorial Fund can access the application online at www.getcollegefunds.org. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2004 and can be mailed to: Oregon Student Assistance Commission, Grants and Scholarships Division, P.O. Box 40370, Eugene, OR 97404-0062. They can also be delivered to: Oregon Student Assistance Commission, 1500 Valley River Drive Suite 100, Eugene, OR 97401.

Applications are also available to those with disabilities in an alternate format by calling (541) 687-7395 or (800) 452-8807 ext. 7395.

Obituaries

Leslie Kay Hams

Leslie Kay Hams, 37, formerly of Ione, died Friday, Feb. 13, 2004 at Dungarvin's Taylor Street House in Portland.

A funeral was held Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 2 p.m., at the Ione United Church of Christ. Concluding service and burial will follow at High View Cemetery in Ione.

She was born June 16, 1966, at Pendleton, to Wayne and Dianna Pettyjohn Hams. At 3 months old, she suffered seizures that caused severe retardation. In 1971, she was admitted to Fairview State Hospital in Salem. She resided at Fairview until 1999 when she was transferred to

Taylor House, a group home where she lived until her death.

Survivors include her parents, Wayne and Dianna Hams of Ione; brothers, Jeffrey of Heppner, Craig of Ione and Shawn of Pendleton; sister, Deena Hanson of Sitka, AK; grandmother, Helen Pettyjohn of Ione; and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by grandparents, Paul Pettyjohn and Stub and Lorraine Hams.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Oregon Trail Special Olympics, c/o U.S. Bank, P.O. Box 28, Hermiston, OR 97838.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

POOL CALCUTTA BENEFIT for RON SCHWARTZ

Saturday, February 28th
at GD's Restaurant in Heppner
Starting with an Auction at 4 p.m. at GD's
(The Calcutta will begin after the Auction)



Sign up for the Calcutta
at GD's Restaurant

For more information
call Pat at 676-9048

Proceeds to go towards
medical and travel expenses

SELF EMPLOYED? SMALL BUSINESS

AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE*

Dental and Life Insurance also Available**
Individuals and Families
503-201-4669 1-800-593-1836
Scotty Scott Licensed Insurance Agent

*Underwritten by MEGA Life & Health Insurance Company.
Home Office: Oklahoma City, OK
**Premiums will vary with plan selected.
M/COMB918



HEPPNER ELKS 358

676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

Saturday, February 21st 107th ANNUAL

"Pirates of the Caribbean"

Registration at 10:00 a.m.

Ladies Tea at 1:30 p.m.

Lodge at 2:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:00 p.m. with Roast Pork

Live Music at 9:00 p.m. with 3 Quarters Short

For current Elks members and out-of-town guests only.

