

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

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Ione Site Council hold meeting and hears reports

The Ione Site Council met Tuesday, Feb. 17, at the school staff room. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Chair Dean Robinson read the proposed changes to the by-laws which were approved by council members.

Principal Dick Allen provided test results of Ione students in grades 3, 5, 8 and 10 over the past three years. The results included the proportion of students at each level who did not meet, met and exceeded benchmarks. The results were then compared to district and state results. Council members agreed to look over the scores and make recommendations for school improvement at the next meeting.

Allen explained in detail the State Report Card results from the Oregon Department of Education. Ione Schools received a "Strong" rating. More students are meeting, but fewer are exceeding, the standards. The Improvement Formulae goes back four years. The scores have improved from last year.

Ione School will be considered a Title I school next year, based on the number

of students who qualify for free and reduced lunch.

The council received an elementary staff request to attend an inservice. Teachers have a contractual agreement to attend one paid inservice per year. Site Council recommends to the superintendent any subsequent requests by teachers. The request was approved based on funding in the budget.

Parents who provided snacks for the students on test days were thanks. Paul Neiffer and Natalie McElligott were recognized for placing first and Billy Gates third in the Elks scholarship competition. The boys and girls basketball teams both made it to district playoffs. Brittnee DesBouillons made the all-star bowling team at the district competition in Hermiston and will advance to compete at state. Ione High 2000 graduate Nikki McElligott is having an outstanding season playing basketball at Oregon Institute of Technology.

The next meeting of the Ione Site Council will be Monday, March 15 at 5 p.m., at the staff room.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Exec. Dir.

Your Chamber of Commerce receives many calls for information about events, activities in the area, history and opportunities. It's always nice to hear great things about Heppner and to pass them on to those who make the difference. One such comment came from a Kennewick visitor who plans to return for the 22nd annual St. Pat's Celebration. She said, "We love to come to Heppner. Last year during your celebration we were so amazed at the people in all the stores who were so friendly and kind, in spite of being so busy. Heppner is great. We're coming back."

Way to go. We never know when a visitor will return to live, or start a business, or bring friends and relatives. Every resident and employee here makes a difference over and over and over. As our busy time of the year draws near, the Heppner Chamber would like to share this message with all the wonderful employees and volunteers who put Heppner on the map in a positive way.

"We appreciate you for your 'always' attitude... Always willing to lend a hand,

Always there to understand. Please remember, as you say 'hello',

Heppner appreciates and admires you so."

Michael Heppner and his wife Ursula Heppner visited in 1993, along with Kim and Helen Heppner from New Zealand. He writes to let us know that Heppner will mark the anniversary of Henry Heppner in 2005 and suggested that if something is happening they would consider making another trip to Heppner. Would this be an opportunity for a Heppner/Heppner family reunion? The Chamber office would be interested in hearing ideas along these lines. Opportunities are always there for new experiences.

But for now we're all Irish and 'tis a green focus we have. One week away is Heppner's St. Paddy's Day, so the smell of corned beef and cabbage, preparation by the Kilkenny clan, entries for the Great Green Parade, fiddle music, float building, sheep dogs, cars being polished, painted windows, and auction items are the focus of the day. Remember those auction items and contact Kay Fowler or John Murray for pick-up. The auction is important to the ongoing celebration, the Parents Club and the Heppner Chamber. 'Tis appreciative they be.

Magnetic Door Signs

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Obituaries

Arthur C. Warren

Arthur C. Warren, a lifelong resident of Morrow County passed away Monday, Feb. 9, 2004, at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston.

A private family service will be held later.

He was born March 13, 1930 on the family ranch at Gooseberry to Clarence and Evelyn McDowell Warren. He started grade school at Gooseberry and graduated from Ione High School in 1949.

In 1951, he married Joanne Bothwell of Heppner. Together they had five children, divorcing later.

He farmed and ranched in the Gooseberry, Hardman and Bombing Range area until the mid-60s when he expanded his grain hauling to form Warren Trucking. He retired in 1982, but continued working cattle, driving log truck and working for Columbia Improvement District.

Warren spent his life active and outdoors enjoying his flying, hunting and fishing, but his priority was raising his five children and enjoying his nine grandchildren and many extra children who were part of his family.

He was a member of the Oregon Wheat League, Oregon Cattleman's Association, BPOE #358, Willow Grange and Valby Lutheran Church.

Warren is survived by his son, David and his wife Barbara Warren, and their sons Ryan and Cory, of Salem; son, Michael and his wife Mary Warren, and their children Michala and Sean, of Astoria; daughter, Darlene and her husband Dick Clevenger, of Tinnie, NM, and her children Sheridan Klinger, of Aztec, NM and Shane Klinger, of Ketchikan, AK; daughter, Marilyn and her husband Bob Fuller, of Olympia, WA and her sons Kris and his wife Breanna Mies, of Vancouver, WA, Eric Mies, of San Antonio, TX and Daniel and his wife Sara Mies, of Olympia, WA; daughter, Debby Warren of Heppner; and two great-granddaughters, Jordyn Mies, daughter of Kris, and Lucy Mies, daughter of Daniel who is presently serving in Iraq.

Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the American Cancer Society.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

Riverside High to host opera company

Portland Opera Works has rescheduled the performance of La Bohème at Riverside High School to Thursday, March 11 at 7 p.m., in the R.L. Bateman Auditorium. The event is sponsored by the RHS music department.

The opera will be user-friendly, meaning it will be performed in English.

Advanced tickets may be purchased in Heppner at Murray Drugs. Tickets purchased for the cancelled show may be used for the rescheduled performance. Prices are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for students.

For more information, contact Rick Drake at 676-8772.

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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.)

Nationalism and freedom in America

To the Editor:

I was asked recently, "Where are the letters to the editor?" I can only hope this question is not edited.

As much as I appreciate the question as a whole, I also appreciate the abrupt honesty. So into the breach once more, dear editor.

Nationalism and freedom. When Mr. Dean and others say, "We have the power to take back our country," I suspect they mean it quite literally.

There has been, since the writing of the constitution, a state's right to govern its own. More precisely, the people of a state to govern themselves. The "Death with Dignity Act" in Oregon for example. It had to be voted on twice due to some religious intervention, but passed none the less. A friend took advantage of the law shortly after it was ratified. His last words to me were, "I'm going to meet my God." He meant that quite literally as well, although he didn't attend any formal church. With all the differing beliefs, I'm sure some would say he's in hell, some would say he's in limbo and others would say he was forgiven of his sin of suicide and went to heaven. Ultimately he insisted on his freedom to choose.

A second, more precise example- California lost its right to choose when the federal government sentenced a state-authorized cannabis grower to 87 years in prison. Hopefully the state commuted the sentence, after all, the state authorized the production.

Nationalism is defined by Webster's as follows: 1) A. devotion to one's country; patriotism; B. excessive, narrow or jingoist patriotism; chauvinism; 2) the doctrine that national interest, security, etc., are more important than international considerations; 3) the desire for or advocacy of national independence.

First, there's nothing with devotion, the USA is "home." I'm not going anywhere.

Patriotism is a two-sided coin. One side that says, "Kill anything that gets in the way" and the other that says, "We'll talk about it and come up with a tolerable solution."

Since the four deaths on the Kent State campus there hasn't been talk from either side, which fits with sense "B" above.

Finally, national independence, it has been suggested the U.S. offer the oil producing countries only what is an affordable amount. If not accepted, go elsewhere and watch their storage tanks fill up in about a week. Reopen the Alaskan pipeline temporarily. Stop all educational visas to those over 21 years old, the terrorists are the older ones. Stop all illegal immigrant workers and levy a fine to those cheap wage payers who hire them. Absolutely no asylum given to anyone.

Well, we all know what a neutral country is and we know what self-sufficient is. That's another option that hasn't been mentioned since 1970.

A couple questions, "How many people do your readers know that have bothered to compare the TV news media with the Internet?" and "How many are too busy trying to make a living to bother watching the TV news?"

We all know what kind of format CNN uses. They try not to be biased, but they are. Try this, if you happen to be connected to the Internet and have at least half a day to pick and choose titles, type into your search mode "Bush driving record" then click on number six, "Special Reports." You'll find a list of 190,000 email entries.

Here's a few examples from other people across the country:

-The American Patriot Act or The Un-American Law by A.H. Krieg. (A five-page narrative.) He quotes George Washington, "Government like fire is a useful servant, but a fearful master."

-Ellen Mariani, a widow from 9/11. (A seven-page narrative.) "Bush knew and let it happen."

-"Bush hides a terrorist," by Jack Balkwill. (A three-page narrative.)

-Questions mount over New Hampshire Primary. (A three-page narrative about ballot voting versus scanner voting.) Martin Bento did an analysis of the systems, his results: Hand counted- Dean lost by 9.7 percent; Diebold scanner- Dean lost by 14.7 percent. Does someone want Dean to lose the nomination?

-"What did oil companies know and when did they know it?" by Margie Burns. U.S. oil companies imported 22.9 million barrels of Iraqi oil during the month the war started, 25.78 million the month before, February and March 2003. This was about triple the normal amount.

-"Cluster bombs: War crimes of the Bush administration," by Paul Rockwell.

-"At year's end, signs of dictatorship abound in Washington," by Wayne Madsen. A short description: Walls have been erected around monuments and the White House, armed guards and black SUV's in the yard to the point there's very little grass left.

Madsen sees from his perspective, the Berlin Wall all over again. Mariani sees an endless supply of greed. In either case, there's certainly an abundance of paranoia. To me it brings this thought back, "He who lives by the sword, dies by the sword."

A last thought for this time around, what people don't know, certainly can and does hurt. You figure it out.

(s) Phillip Kight Heppner
MCCCF to hold meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Morrow County Commission on Children & Families will be held on Tuesday, March 9, in the conference room of Department of Human Services Building, which is located at 103 S.W. Kinkade, in Boardman, at 7 p.m.

Agenda presentation to include: RFP's/Letters of Intent, program reviews, set site reviews and other business as necessary.

The public is encouraged to attend and participate in the discussions. For further information or if you need special accommodations call 676-9675.

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SPRING CROP INSURANCE MEETING

Wednesday, March 10th Ione Grange Hall at 7 p.m.

Pie and Coffee will be served

This is an important insurance meeting and all interested persons are invited to attend



St. Bob's Day, St. Bob's Day; Join the Kilkenny Clan while you may; Celebrating Bobby K's magical day!

Friends & Family all included; Hosted dinner & drinks begin at 6 p.m.; The toasts for Bobby will not be muted!

Saturday, March 13th John's Place, Main Street 6 p.m. - ?