

The Official Newspaper  
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner**  
**GAZETTE-TIMES**

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David Sykes Publisher  
Katie Wall Editor

**News and Advertising Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.**  
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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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**Health district looks at levy option for November**

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who is in charge of communications at the sheriff's department, spoke to the board about the proposed charges to MCHD for 911 services.

Denton explained to the board that Gilliam, Wheeler and Sherman counties have formed their own 911 service and no longer contract with Morrow County for 911 services, which will be a huge negative financial impact to MCSO - a loss of around \$56,500 each. In addition, 911 services will be under-funded by the state of Oregon because of loss of business and private phone lines statewide, with businesses and people leaving the state. The 911 program is funded by the number of ground and cell phone lines at a rate of 75 cents each. "The legislators didn't help a couple of years ago when they robbed the fund," said Denton.

The combination of the loss of the contract and the reduction in state 911 fees could result in a shortfall of \$175,000 to MCSO.

Denton estimated that MCSO will charge MCHD \$14,420 for 911 ambulance service, based on call volume, beginning with 2005, unless the state legislature gives the 911 program more monies. Those charges (based on calls for service from January through December 2003) include \$3,425 for the Heppner Ambulance with 120 calls; \$316.17 for Lexington EMT-11 calls; \$333 for Ione EMT-12 calls;

\$6,217 for the Boardman Ambulance-218 calls; and \$4,127 for the Irrigon Ambulance-145 calls. Denton and Dilley said that MCSO was one of only a few 911 dispatches in the state that did not already charge for their services.

Other agencies to be charged include: MCSO-\$92,039-3231 calls; Sheriff's Office Heppner Patrol contract-\$21,885-768 calls; Boardman Police Department-\$39,819-1398 calls; Heppner Fire Department-\$2,160-76 calls; Lexington Fire Department-\$193-7 calls; Ione Fire Department-\$509-18 calls; Boardman Fire Department-\$2,880-101 calls; and Irrigon Fire Department-\$1,738-61 calls.

Denton said that there is a limit of employees that his department can cut and still run a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week dispatch service. "We can't operate the center with only four or five people," said Denton. "We want to maintain what we've got." Denton said MCSO would "try to hold the line" as long as possible before implementing the charges.

In other business, the board discussed the migrant health clinic proposed for Boardman. Vander Does said that he doubted that the clinic project would be approved by the federal government, but if it is not approved, he believed that MCHD should establish a clinic there and it could be a money maker for the district.

**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 C-T office. The C-T reserves the right to edit. The C-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.)*

**Big City boy has worked the farm**

To the Editor:

In the Wednesday, May 12, 2004 edition of this newspaper I was accused of being from the "big city," which isn't all that bad. Big city boys deserve a little recognition too, no monuments please.

I was one of the 12 to 17 year olds from the towns and cities across this great country of ours who assisted the farmers in harvesting the nation's crops, plus tended to our own family cow, chickens

and "victory" garden, during the Second World War, from '42 through '45. We do know where milk and bread comes from.

During those years participating in such things was considered to be our patriotic duty, which I think we performed rather well. The farmers of that era appreciated our help, and never referred to us as "big city" boys, but just called us "hands."

After graduating from high school, this "big city" boy enlisted in the military, proudly serving in the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Air Force, for a total of 20 years, two months, and fourteen days. Not brag, just fact.

This is just to clear up any misconception about where I may have come from.

(s) Gene Sonstegard Heppner

**Appeasement will not stop terrorism**

To the Editor:

Do I hear an echo? Does that echo have a Spanish accent?

Trains in Madrid were exploded, people were killed.

Many Spanish, afraid, voted for a change in their government. That new government, in an attempt at appeasement pulled their troops from Iraq.

Since then, more atrocities have surfaced. Bodies of aid workers burned and hung from bridges. Malcontents explode bombs, and shoot from ambush. Thugs, paid for by outsiders, take over neighborhoods Mafia-style. A self-proclaimed religious leader, outlawed by his own people, hides inside the most holy of places in Iraq to launch attacks on our soldiers.

In spite of the proven ability our soldiers to routinely squash such incidents, certain opportunistic entertainment stars, media personalities and politicians write editorials or appear on newscasts, calling for a change in our government, and in an attempt at appeasement, call for the pulling of our troops from Iraq.

This is fool-hearted. Those who saw and hack the heads off of innocent young men, or fly aircraft into buildings will never be appeased.

Their obsession is to control the world.  
(s) F. Green White Heppner

**McCabe apologizes to organizations and community**

To the Editor:

Dear Heppner Booster Club Members, Willow Creek Country Club Board of Directors and Members, Heppner Cemetery District Board Members, Heppner Rural Fire District Board Members and the Community of Heppner,

Finding the words that adequately express my sincere apology and remorse is difficult. I deeply regret my actions because what I did was wrong. I am truly sorry. I write these words with such heart-felt emotion that it seems impossible to express how deep in my soul I carry this burden. I have wounded many and the scars will remain for years to come. An entire community has been shaken to its very core. I am filled with overwhelming remorse, guilt and shame. I not only betrayed each organization and the community but my family. I will never forget the look in my children's eyes when I told them what I had done. Nor will I forget seeing the pain on the faces of my husband, parents and family. I have caused so many people countless hours of anger, frustration, disappointment and betrayal. You had placed your trust in me and I betrayed you. There is nothing that I can say or do that will ease the pain.

Please know that in my heart I feel such anguish for what my actions have done to a community and a family. I will carry this burden forever. I know that there will be consequences for my actions and I fully accept them. I pray daily that in time the Board members, community and my family may all be able to find forgiveness in their hearts and healing may begin. Through God, I will continue to endeavor to make amends for my mistakes.

Respectfully,  
(s) Sonja McCabe Heppner

**Heritage Plaza, a good addition**

To the Editor:

The new Heritage Plaza is a beautiful addition to our city. It adds to and compliments our downtown and can't help but have a very positive affect on visitors as they drive into Heppner.

Not only that, but it signifies our heritage, homage to its citizens and an inspiration to its future.

To all those who dedicated themselves to its completion, "Job well done."

(s) Dick and Lynnea Sargent Heppner

**St. Patrick's Senior Center**

On June 2, Willow Creek Baptist Church members are hosts for the noon meal at St. Patrick's Senior Center. The menu includes fish and chips, tater tots, mixed vegetables, fresh fruit, cheesy biscuits and lemon cake.

The Memorial Day dinner is ready to go. The Center doors will be open at 12:30 for people to socialize. Food service will begin at 1 p.m. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for school age children and there is no charge for pre-school age children.

Mayor Bob Jepsen is the M.C. for a short program.

The Christian Life Center, Heppner Christian, Hope-Valby-All Saints Parish, Nazarene and United Methodist churches are each providing a part of the menu. The Senior Center is furnishing the entrée, which is a choice between turkey or roast beef. Carol Mitchell and Jo Anne Burleson are providing rolls and dessert. Burleson is chair of the event. High school students are assisting with the meal service.

A reception for family and friends of Ellen "Doll" Campbell will be held Monday, May 31 at 2 p.m., at the Center. Campbell, 93, a former resident of the Senior Center, died March 27 in Portland after a long illness. Inurnment is at 1 p.m. at Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

**Gift Suggestions For The Graduate**




**WE WILL BE CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY Monday, May 31st**

Member Jewelers of America, Inc.

**Peterson's Jewelers**  
Heppner 676-9200

Order Magnetic Door Signs HERE Heppner Gazette-Times

**Everyone is Invited to Attend a Multi-Family Sponsored COMMUNITY GRADUATION RECEPTION**

**Saturday, June 5 from 3:30-5 p.m. Morrow County Fairgrounds**

For more information, contact  
Bobbette Lovgren • Mary Haquewood  
Shannon Rust • Ann Murray • Shelley Wight

**CONGRATULATIONS HEPPNER CLASS OF 2004!**

**Memorial Day Cemetery Containers are now available.**

Containers start at \$20 and up.

**See us for your Memorial Day flowers!**

Delivery is available until Saturday, May 29 at 2 p.m.

**June is National Rose Month**

Growers have given us a deal and we are passing the savings on to you.

**1 Doz. Roses with vase only \$25**

cash and carry only

Starting June 19 Florist on duty Mon-Fri only. Arrangements available in Floral cooler. Balloons available on request.

**Murray's Country Rose**  
233 N. Main • Heppner • 676-9426