

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

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David Sykes Publisher
Katie Wall Editor

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Misty Creek to play in Heppner



Misty Creek members (Back Row L-R): Tim McKenzie, Chris Kokesh, Laura Quigley, Greg Clarke; and (Front): Carol Harley.

As part of the summer Music in the Park, the bluegrass band Misty Creek will be playing in Heppner on Thursday, July 1, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Heppner City Park.

The group will also be in Fossil on Friday and Saturday, July 2 and 3 for the Bluegrass Festival.

Misty Creek is a new collaboration of members of Portland's Acoustic Americana vocal group Misty River.

Misty Creek's repertoire is rooted firmly in American traditional music including bluegrass and old-time, but flows into country territory keeping the sound fresh and modern. This blending of the worlds of bluegrass and Americana

draws the strengths of each member to create a unique and lively bluegrass experience.

The group consists of Chris Kokesh (fiddle, vocals), Laura Quigley (bass, vocals), Carol Harley (clawhammer, banjo, guitar, vocals), Greg Clarke (mandolin, banjo, vocals) and Tim McKenzie (guitar, vocals).

This Northwest ensemble is bonded together by tradition, fun, a love of bluegrass and Americana roots-based acoustic music and the desire to provide delightful, toe-tapping entertainment. All these elements create a show that engages and rewards audience members of all ages.

For more information on Misty Creek contact Carol Harley at (360) 576-7676, mistyriverband.com or visit the website at www.mistyriverband.com/mistycreek.

Order Magnetic Door Signs HERE
Heppner Gazette-Times

**COMMUNITY FAREWELL
for
JUDY RICKERT**

Come and share memories with Judy!

**Saturday, June 19th
Heppner Elks Lodge, 2-5 p.m.
Salads, Desserts and Fun!**

Questions/ contact: Jean Ball, 676-9666 or Marlene Peterson, 676-9466

Public Notice:

Blue Mountain Community College is scheduled for its full-scale evaluation for reaccreditation by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities October 4-6, 2004. The College is accredited by the Northwest Commission and their most recent visit was in 1999. The public is invited to send comments regarding the College's qualifications for accreditation to the attention of the Executive Director of the Commission at 8060 165th Avenue, NE, Suite 100, Redmond, WA 98052, by September 1, 2004. All comments must be in writing and signed, and will be forwarded to the evaluation committee, as well as the College. To obtain a copy of the Commission Policy A-5, "Public Notification and Third Party Comments Regarding Full-Scale Evaluations" either via the Standards and Policies and then Operational Policies links on the Commission's website www.nwccu.org or telephone the Commission Office at 425-558-4224.

Crop tour and equipment demonstration

This year's Morrow County Dryland Crop Tour and Equipment Demonstration is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. on Friday, June 18. The program gets started with a demonstration of tractor guidance (auto-steer) technology by the Morrow County Grain Growers. The demonstration will take place near the grain bins at Jeff Cutsforth's.

In-the-field demonstrations by Oregon State University researchers (at various locations) will focus on wheat varieties and chemical fallow fertilization strategies. The Natural Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS) will provide a brief update of the Conservation Security Program (CSP).

The tour will conclude at Dana and Tanya Heidemann's with a potluck dinner and social, at 6 p.m., sponsored by the Morrow County Wheat League. Families are encouraged to attend. Those families whose name ends in A-M are asked to bring a salad and those whose name ends in N-Z are asked to bring a dessert.

Participants are asked to RSVP to the Morrow County Extension Office at 676-9642 as soon as possible.

Ione hosts Fourth of July poster contest

Artists of all ages are invited to enter the Fourth of July Poster Contest in conjunction with the annual patriotic celebration in Ione. This year's events will follow the theme "Cruisin' to the Blues," and poster entrants are encouraged to do the same.

Money earned at the annual TV Shoot will be used to pay for supplies and prizes for the contest, with every entrant a winner. There will be first, second and third in each age category of Preschool, K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5-8 and high school and above. First prize in each is \$25; second is \$20 and third is \$15. In addition, each artist who does not win a major prize will receive a \$5 gift certificate to be used at any business in Ione.

All posters need to be on white paper, no larger than 12x18 inches. Creators may use crayons, colored pencils, markers, or anything needed to make their posters. Construction paper may be picked up at the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner or Ione. Posters are also turned in at one of the branches of the bank. On the back of the poster, each entrant needs to put their name, phone number and the grade just completed in school. The due date for posters is Friday, July 2.

Posters will be on display July 4 in Ione businesses.

CUSTOM BANNERS
Gazette-Times
676-9228

School district audit called for

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Miles, Heppner, voted in favor of granting the variances, while Renfro, Lexington, Bill Kuhn, Heppner, Barney Lindsay, Lexington area, and Ken Matlack, Irrigon, voted against granting the variances. Renfro said that the board had revisited the issue several times and said he would not put it on the agenda again unless a majority of the board decided to override him. This fall Irrigon juniors and seniors will attend school at Riverside, while Irrigon freshmen and sophomores will attend school at the new Irrigon High School; next year Irrigon seniors only will attend school at Riverside, with Irrigon freshmen, sophomores and juniors attending Irrigon High School. The following year, all Irrigon students will attend school in Irrigon and all Boardman students will attend school in Boardman.

The board also heard a presentation from the Gail A. Sargent architectural firm concerning the proposed roofing project for Riverside High School, Boardman, A.C. Houghton Elementary School, Irrigon, Heppner Elementary School and Heppner High School. The project entails installment of slightly sloped metal roofs.

The board also approved several resolutions to amend the 2004-05 budget. Lorenz explained that several projects will not be completed by the end of the 03-04 fiscal year and monies for those projects must be continued over to next year's budget.

In other business, the board: -announced that they had come to a contract agreement with the teachers' union, Morrow County Education Association.

-approved a modification of new superintendent Mark Burrows' contract to June 14 to be paid on a per diem basis. Burrows told the Gazette-Times after the meeting that he has not yet decided where he will reside. He said that while the district office is in Lexington, the majority of students are in the north end and mentioned the possibility of building on the river in the Irrigon area. He said he plans to rent for the time being, but did not specify in which town.

-approved reinstatement of additional days for the Riverside High School "Credit Retrieval Summer Program." The summer school program has been reinstated after cancellation last year because of funding. The elementary summer school program was previously approved.

-announced that interviews of those interested in filling the board vacancy will be held on June 30 and candidates should submit a letter of interest to the district office.

-directed the administration to draft a policy on rehiring retirees and on participation in commencement exercises. In the previous meeting, the

board heard an appeal from Katie Dawson, a Sam Boardman Elementary teacher who had retired, was rehired for the 03-04 year, but was turned down for employment for the 04-05 year when another teacher was hired for the position. At Monday night's meeting, the board took no action on her request to be reconsidered for that position, but told Dawson that she was welcome to apply for another open position at SBE and wished her well. Several Latino families had earlier testified on Dawson's behalf through Chavez, who translated for them.

-accepted resignations for: Ramona Murtha, Sam Boardman Elementary School secretary; Angie Counsell, Columbia Middle School special education teacher; Megan Reeves, Riverside High School assistant girls' basketball coach; Paula Post, CMS Title I ed assistant; Dawn Johnston, SBE first grade teacher; Kevin Mossman, district office computer tech; Molly Rhea, Heppner Junior High volleyball coach; Lonnie Rill, CMS aide; and Maria Rivera, SBE one-on-one aide; David Boor, RHS assistant tennis coach; Maureen McElligott, RHS head tennis coach; and Kelly Phillips, ACH one-on-one aide.

-approved transfers for: Wendy Appleton, from Heppner Elementary/Heppner High School music teacher to SBE/Windy River Elementary music teacher; Teresa Parret, from half-time HES custodian to full-time Irrigon Elementary School custodian, replacing Audrey Amaral; Debra Campbell from A.C. Houghton Elementary School 3.5 hour instructional assistant to HES four-hour library tech and two-hour food service clerical assistant.

-approved food service time changes: assistant cooks, Shirley Donovan from three to five hours per day, Julie Steinbruck from five to four hours; food service clerical, Steinbruck from two to three hours, and Kay Thomas, two-hour assistant cook.

-approved employment for 04-05 for: Barb Harrison, SBE first grade; Josh Browning, Heppner High School half-time language arts; Kevin Harper, RHS technology teacher, Daye Stone, half-time counselor and half-time vice-principal at Heppner schools; Sylvia Barrera, SBE school secretary; Cecelia Drake, RHS reading teacher; Phyllis Shaver, IHS special ed teacher; David Neese, IHS, RHS and HHS vo-ag teacher; Jeffrey Searles, IHS music teacher; Scott Nelson, HES/HHS music teacher; Runnisha McNamee, RHS department secretary (attendance records); Tyson Pratt, RHS assistant junior high basketball coach; David Boor, RHS head track coach; and Mark Rouska, RHS assistant junior high football coach.

-approved extra duty contracts for 04-05.

-accepted a resignation from the Boardman CEC from Angela Gutierrez. -accepted the resignation of board attorney John Witty, who was on retainer for the district, and designated Corey, Byler, Rew, Lorenzen and Hojem as attorneys for the district on an hourly basis.

-received monthly enrollment figures as of June 1, 2004, as follows: ACH K-4, 332 students; CMS grades 7-8, 260 students; HES K-6, 207; HHS grades 7-12, 212; IES grades 5-6, 118; RHS grades 9-12, 412; SBE K-4, 431; WRE grades 5-6, 152; Total-2236. Monthly enrollment as of June 2, 2003, was: ACH K-5, 397; CMS grades 6-8, 353; HES grades K-6, 206; HHS grades 7-12, 200; RHS grades 9-12, 398; SBE grades K-5, 476; Total-2150.

-set the next board meeting for Monday, July 12, at A.C. Houghton Elementary School.

City council meeting

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the current asking price of \$325,000. "I think we should talk to the bank," councilmember Tom Wolff said.

The council passed a motion to re-negotiate the purchase price with the bank.

In other business the council voted to raise sewer charges by \$1 per month for most residential users. Some higher volume (over 7200 gallons per month) users will pay more. The increase will raise the rate to \$23.10 per month.

The council also learned that the DEQ would probably fine the city for release of sewage. A valve was left open and it "will be costly," said public works director Bruce Nelson.

Fire Chief Rusty Estes said a burning ban would go into effect in Heppner on June 26. He also warned that we could be coming up on a bad fire year. Because of the good rains there is more grass growing and "there is a lot of fuel out there," he said.

The council also accepted an offer of \$30,000 cash for a city-owned home at 520 S. Main St. The home was reposed by HUD and turned over to the city. The home was purchased by Walter Curry of Stanfield.

Breazeale said a bill would be submitted to Miller and Sons Excavation's insurance agent for repairs to a damaged city bridge. A cement truck drove over and collapsed a bridge at Main and Campbell on April 23. The cost of the repairs was about \$25,000.

The council also appointed Billie Lacey to the Heppner Housing Authority board of directors. The board oversees the St. Patrick's Center apartments.

Over the Tee Cup

Ladies gathered June 8 at Willow Creek Country Club for their weekly Over the Tee Cup play.

Pat Edmundson took low gross of the field. Low net of the field went to Luvilla Sonstegard and Loa Henderson took least putts of the field.

In flight A, Virginia Grant took low gross.

In flight B, Betty Christman took low gross; Lorrene Montgomery took low net; and Carol Mitchell took least putts.

In flight C, Donna Crawford took low gross and Joanie Maasdam took low net.

Maasdam had a KP on hole #11 and Grant had a KP on #13.

Softball tourney to be held in Boardman

A co-ed softball tournament will be held in Boardman on July 3 at the Boardman Marina Park. There is a \$75 sponsorship fee, plus a fee of \$5 per player on the team roster.

For more information contact Gigi Lemmon at 481-3338.

Cornerstone Gallery & Gift Shop is OPENING

Friday, June 18th
Come in & enjoy a delicious Espresso or a refreshing Peach Tea with real peach slices!
Find a unique gift for a birthday or Father's Day.
Many items are handmade by local artists!
Hours: Monday and Tuesday, 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Friday and Saturday, 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1 - 5 p.m.
Sunday, 7 - 10 a.m. (Closed Wednesday & Thursday)

Cornerstone Gallery & Gift Shop
Main Street, Heppner
(across from the motel)