

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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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 \$4.90 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$10 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$5.50 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 return date must be specified if required).

For Obituaries: Obituaries are published in the Heppner GT at no charge and are edited to meet news guidelines. Families wishing to include information not included in the guidelines or who wish to have the obituary written in a certain way must purchase advertising space for the obituary.

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• Local Businesses • County Park • Willow Creek Park Reservations

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**Obituaries**

**Melba E. Quackenbush**

Memorial Service for Melba E. Quackenbush will be held 1 p.m. Friday, October 21, at the Christian Life Center in Heppner.

Mrs. Quackenbush, 95, of Heppner died Monday, October 17, 2005 at Ashley Manor in Hermiston.

She was born February 28, 1910 at Portland, Oregon the daughter of Matt and Grace McFerrin Hughes. She attended the Madison School House at the base of Madison Butte and then later attended Heppner High School.

On June 30, 1930 she married Robert Roy Quackenbush at Heppner. The couple owned and operated the Red and White Grocery Store in Heppner for many years. She also worked at Humphreys Drug Store, Murray's Drug Store, and LeBush Dress Shop.

Mrs. Quackenbush was a member of the Eastern Star and Holly Rebecca Lodge. She enjoyed bowling, tole painting, oil painting, and baking for her family.

Survivors include her daughter Phyllis Piper and son in law Del of Lexington; grandchildren, Mark Piper, Janette Skow, and Sheri Peck; six great grandchildren; sisters, Edna Kohlman of Portland, Betty Pettyjohn and June Bellenbrock both of Heppner.

She was preceded in death by her husband Roy Quackenbush; brothers, Elwyn Hughes, Marvin Hughes, Homer Hughes, Matt Hughes, and Bob

Hughes; sisters, Lena Kelly, Ethyl Gaarde, and Edith Pfief.

Memorial contributions may be made to Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living, PO Box 610, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner in charge of arrangements.

**Thomas F. Sumner**

A graveside service for Thomas F. Sumner, Arlington, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 22, at Arlington Cemetery. Mr. Sumner died October 15, 2005, at age 78.

Tom Sumner was born May 15, 1927, in Prineville, Oregon. He graduated from Mitchell High School, and served in the U.S. Marines. He married Phyllis Wickland in 1947 and soon after began ranching south of Arlington.

Survivors include his wife, Phyllis; daughter, Rita Kruse; sons, Craig and Mark; sister, Laura Krenk; brothers, Jim and Jay; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his parents, Cal and Jerry, sister Jeanne Hansen and brother Jack.

Remembrances may be made to the Arlington Nazarene Church building fund.

**Justice Court**

Justice court at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner has released the following report:

Cody Busch, 19, Neotsu, No valid license, Failure to obey traffic control device, Defective lighting, \$562 fine.

Ted Britt, 44, Heppner, Violation of basic rule, 75/55, \$143 fine.

**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 \$10.)

**Petition signers appreciated**

**To the Editor:**

This letter is being written to show appreciation to the people in Lexington that signed the petition to recall

Jean Brazell. They are some of the people in the town that know the truth and are concerned enough to do something about it.

(s) Morris McCarl  
Lexington

**We've heard it all**

**To the Editor:**

What's up Lexington? OK already. Taylors, the rest of us readers concede. You get the "Baddest Letters"

award. You win, move on, drop it, now's the time for something else. We've heard it all and then some.

A Gazette reader,  
(s) Nate Otto  
Ione

**Museum volunteer appreciated**

**To the Editor:**

We visited your town on August 13. We mainly came because of the special that had aired on PBS about the 1903 flood. We went to the Morrow County Historical Museum and found it closed although it was scheduled to be open. There were three phone numbers to call for questions about the museum. Barbara Bloodsworth was one of the contacts. She offered to come and open the

museum for us to look around. She came very promptly and waited patiently while we looked around. She even offered her own information of stories she had heard and people she had known who had survived the flood. Anyway, I really appreciated her doing this and it shows her devotion to history, your town and your county.

(s) Mary Holm and Bill Robertson  
Florence

**Asbestos concerns voiced**

**To the Editor:**

Thousands of more potential victims from asbestos poisoning (are) not being informed by proper authorities. The government is protecting the manufacturers and not the victims.

Water does somewhat "deactivate" asbestos to an extent. Many experts deem it much safer to remove asbestos when wet. (Precautions and proper equipment are still required.) Wetting it down helps keep asbestos from becoming airborne similar to what happens when you wet down dirt to keep down dust. However, wet asbestos can still be breathed into the lungs. Once dry, asbestos is again hazardous.

The hurricane destroyed many buildings that could have contained asbestos. There is a good likelihood that asbestos became airborne due to the hurricane. What is a bigger concern is the repairs that must be done to the damaged buildings. Demolishing buildings and repairing construction will release

asbestos if not properly contained during removal. With the extent of the repairs needed and the push to get lives back to normal, proper measures may not be taken. Additionally, homeowners will be making their own repairs due to shortage of funds, not realizing the danger. Who is doing the laundry of these families that are doing their own repairs? Those garments need to be contained. Where are the government restrictions requiring respiratory equipment and proper clothing? Is this going to be another tragic situation like Libby, Montana, only on a much more massive scale? If the Senate Bill S852- The Bailout bill for the Asbestos Manufacturers passes, the flood and hurricane victims will be even more devastated and victimized then they are now. Please call your U.S. Senators and tell them to vote "NO" on this biased prejudicial bill designed specifically for the "special interests groups".

(s) Anita Dorn  
Echo

**Church to show film**

The Heppner Christian Life Center, 535 W. Morgan St., will show the film "Left Behind - World at War" Friday, Oct. 21, and Saturday, Oct. 22, at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, Oct. 23, at 6 p.m.

The film continues the story from the best selling books "Left Behind" and "Tribulation Force." In the story line, U.S. President Gerald Fitzhugh (Academy Award winner Lou Gossett Jr.) willingly turns over power to Nicolae Carpathia. But now Nicolae launches an all-out attack on America. Buck, Rayford, Chloe, Amanda, and Bruce are caught in the eye of the storm as they seek to help the embattled president.

The film is free, and the public is invited to attend. A children's film will be shown at the same time for children ages 12 and under.

**Disputes with rebuttal**

**To the Editor:**

To the Residents of Lexington,

After reading the letters to the editor and Jean Brazell's rebuttal in last week's paper, as to why she should not be recalled, I thought the town people should be informed of some of the real issues and truth. Jean's rebuttal did not address the reason for recall, so I will make them a little more clear.

Jean stated that in 1999, she was asked to go through five years of accounting, but in fact it was Sharon Woodside and Marcia Kemp, that put the town's book keeping and accounts in order. She stated that she resigned because of a few bullies, when it was because she was unable to do her work in a timely manner, and had been approached by the council about this.

Re. The Water Project.

On January 27, 2003, (after Jean became a council member) Jim Nelson motioned to assign Jean in charge of the water project, Chirella Wallace seconded the motion and Luella Taylor asked that the rest of the council be kept informed as to what was going on.

This was not done; the rest of the council was not kept informed. When information was needed as to water lines, valves, communication etc, it was impossible for anyone (other than Jean) to know because the maps were not at town hall, where they belong. But, she always just happened to have that information available to herself, at home. Communications were withheld from engineers, state engineers, state agencies and etc

Re. The Storage Building

There was a cost overrun on the storage building because of it being put together wrong and had to be partially torn down due to the inability of Jean and Al Brazell to properly read the blue prints. Some of the town members did volunteer to put it up again the second time and a contractor was hired to straighten out the building. This resulted in a cost of \$5468.22 to the city. The contractor was fined \$500 by OSHA, of which Jim Nelson paid \$255.41. The contractor would not guarantee his work because of the way in which it had been put up. The final cost to the city was \$5,319.29, over and above what was paid by grant moneys. These excess expenses were paid out of General Fund Contingency. This is public information and can be read at town hall, per the June 10th, 2003 minutes.

It is true that Jean writes reports for the town's citizens, which could be good thing if it was approved by the council, but she only voices her opinion, and wants things done only her way. She makes contacts with lawyers, engineers and agencies without the consent or knowledge of the council and withholds that information to herself. She also makes major agreements and decisions without the council knowledge. According to law, Council members, against whom a recall is initiated, are considered full active members until the votes are certified.

There was a letter, dated Sept 5, 2005, addressed to the Mayor and

Council, from Bill Kuhn, regarding actions that could be taken in the event of a successful recall. This letter was sent to town hall. The two councilors being recalled were not given this letter of information. There had been no prior discussion in council regarding this. Again, Jean acted without authority to contact the lawyer, and then instructed the recorder not to divulge the contents of the letter to those concerned. This is just one example, and one of the latest, of her withholding information.

Re: Well Property

Two years ago, the town was awarded \$27,000 to search for a new water source from Morrow County Tippage fees. This money was not spent in accordance with the award specifications. When it was decided to fence the town well property, Jean took it upon herself, with the help of a former employee, to clear the property of farm equipment. She had been informed by several individuals that there was a problem with the deed and that the town did not have a clear title. This was discussed numerous times in council meetings. She chose to ignore this and confronted a farmer, when he discovered them in the process of removing his equipment. They had quite a few words and she told him that he had better get a lawyer, because he was on town property.

Consequently, he charged the town \$10,000 for property that he would have given the town, had he been asked in a polite manner. All it would have taken to solve the problem was a trip to the Assessor's office, if she had taken the time and made the effort to do so. To pay for this indiscretion, tippage fees had to be used. The money, in return, was donated by the farmer to the Heppner track field. This information can be verified by talking with the farmer in question, as he has told numerous people about this, myself included.

The well fence cost \$6163.37 and, according to several fencing contractors, should have been let out to bid (which it was not) because it exceeded \$5,000. Addendum: The mistake referred to by Jean in her rebuttal was made when a former mayor did not inform the council of expenditures and chose not to share financial information. Jean did not institute the two check signature protocol, as she has indicated. It has been in effect for many years.

(s) Bob Taylor  
Lexington

**One-day dance/cheer clinic nears**

The Shamrockettes are taking a group of girls to Portland to participate in a one-day dance/cheer clinic sponsored by the United Spirit Association, Sunday, December 11. Participants do not need to be members of the Shamrockettes or have dance experience.

Participants will attend the clinic and participate in the pre-game show for the Portland Trailblazers. The girls will stay for the Houston Rocket/Trailblazer game before returning to Heppner.

Registration deadline is November 1. There is a fee for this event. For more information please call Jodi Chapa at 676-8161.

*We want to thank you!*

*November 1 marks the*

**5th Anniversary**

*of our association with*

**Wheatland Insurance Center.**

*We truly have the residents and business owners of Heppner and the surrounding area to thank for our success. Your faith in our judgment and your confidence in our ability to protect your interests are truly appreciated.*

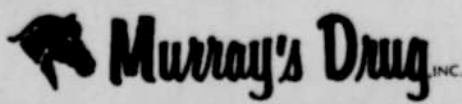
*Please stop in for Refreshments and help us Celebrate!*  
*November 1, 2005*



HEPPNER BRANCH  
Nancy, Steve, Janet, Kim & Terri



Get your Halloween supplies here!  
Party items, candy, cards, costumes, and much more!



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