

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
Betty MacTavish Editor

All 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.

For Letters to the Editor: Letters to the Editor MUST be signed by the author. The Heppner GT will not publish unsigned letters. All letters MUST include the author's address and phone number for use by the GT office. The GT reserves the right to edit letters. The GT 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.

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!

Letters to Editor

Holiday clean up

Letter to the Editor:

With the big game hunting seasons completed and the city water system upgrade finished, it is time to prepare for the holiday season.

There is very little litter along our highways through town. So, a small effort should get us ready for Thanksgiving, the Light Parade, and the Christmas New Year's celebrations.

All businesses and residents on the highways through town are encouraged to check their highway frontages and pick up and dispose of any litter they find.

The next "formal" litter pick-up will happen next spring prior to the annual St. Patrick's Celebration.

(s) John Edmundson, Coordinator Heppner Chamber of Commerce Litter Pick Up Program

5th Quarter event planned at Heppner Elks; proceeds to fund reader board

The Elks Club will soon have a new electric reader board on their building on Main Street in Heppner. The 5th Quarter, a special function to help fund the reader board, will be held at the Elks on Saturday, November 19, after the Heppner High School home playoff game. The evening will include a salmon bake and ham dinner available for \$15 each, beginning at 6:30 p.m., prize drawings and entertainment by Dan Burns 3-D Productions. The community is invited to attend.

The \$8,000 reader board project will provide up to six or seven announcements of special community events, including notices of high school sports events.

The fund raising effort is headed up by Josh

and Melissa Coiner. Raffle tickets will be sold at the Elks. Prizes include a \$675 Phoenix barbecue with non-flare stainless convection, donated by Kenny Turner, a Civil War replica black powder pistol, and a one-day pheasant hunt for two at the Todd Lindsay ranch. Raffle tickets are \$2 each and six for \$10.

The salmon was donated for the second year in a row by Keith Presky, a long-time hunter from the Portland area.

The reader board project received \$2,500 from the Tippage Fund.

Extension closed for the holiday

The OSU Extension Service will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 to observe the Thanksgiving holiday.

Lexington chooses lighting contest theme

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grant. Doherty asked for a decision by the council by the next meeting.

-approved posting bills and the town's financial report Monday evening or Tuesday morning prior to the monthly meeting.

-discussed pruning or cutting down dead and dying trees in town. The council sought more information, since some trees were on city property and some were on private property. The issue will be reviewed at the next meeting.

-approved spending \$500 to the Barnett & Moro accounting firm to complete a "management discussion and analysis plan" in addition to the annual audit.

-approved a proposal by the Anderson Perry engineering firm for a conservation water plan for the town.

School district receives excellence award

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and took home the prize. The board voted to match the \$500 award and turn it back to those two schools.

Also at the Monday meeting, the board viewed a presentation by Riverside High School teacher Mark Rouska and student Mike Martinez on the PLATO Web Learning Network, which is web based, can be used throughout the district and enables students in recovering credits towards graduation.

"It's an excellent use of technology that can be accessed throughout the district, uniting all schools in their credit recovery programs," said Rouska. "Students who transition from one school to another can take their PLATO work with them with a click of the mouse." Rouska said that the program is based on up-to-date curriculum, meets state and federal standards, can be individualized and enables students to work at their own pace. Students do not fail the program, but instead must go back and complete work until it is satisfactory before they can move on to the next level. Rouska said that the program has made it possible for many students to graduate from RHS who may have otherwise dropped out. Martinez demonstrated the program and said that it has made it much easier for him to learn.

In other business, the board:

-approved the second reading and adoption of policies on traffic safety; relations with home-schooled students; curriculum development; curriculum supervision; recognition of religious beliefs and customs; drug, alcohol and tobacco prevention, health education; students with disabilities; establishment of alternative education, distance and supplemental programs; certificate of initial mastery (CIM) proficiency standards; and senior trips/post graduation parties.

-approved the first reading of reporting of suspected child abuse to include the following additions/changes, "Child abuse by district employees will not be tolerated. As district employees are subject to this policy and the accompanying administrative regulation, if a district employee is a suspected abuse, reporting requirements remain the same"; and "Staff may receive information and assistance in identification of abuse and neglect."

Further policy revisions on reporting of suspected child abuse include the following additions, "The district employee should also immediately inform his/her supervisor, building principal or superintendent"; "The district will designate the Collective Risk Management Team to receive reports of

child abuse by school employees and operate under the procedures set forth by that team to be followed upon receipt of a child abuse report. The district will post in each school building the names and contact information of the Collective Risk Management Team designated to receive child abuse reports, as well as the procedures for filing a report on the Employee Protection Line. When the Collective Risk Management takes action on the report, the person who initiated the report must be notified. When the district receives a report of suspected child abuse by one of its (sic) employees, and the Collective Risk Management Team determines that there is reasonable cause to support the reports, the district shall place the school employee on paid administrative leave until the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency either:

1) determines that the report is unfounded or that the report will not be pursued; or 2) determines that the report is founded and the education provider takes the appropriate disciplinary action against the school employee. If the Department of Human Services or a law enforcement agency is unable to determine whether the child abuse occurred the district may either reinstate the employee or take disciplinary action at the district's discretion.

"Documents, reports and records compiled by district employees pursuant to the provisions of the Child Abuse Act are confidential and are not accessible for public inspection. However, the superintendent or designee, or the Collective Risk Management Team shall make such records available to any law enforcement agency, the Department of Human Services, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission or a child abuse registry in any other state for the purpose of subsequent investigation of child abuse, and to any physician, at the request of the physician, regarding any child brought to the physician or coming before the physician for examination, care or treatment. However, prior to the disclosure of a disciplinary record, the principal or designee shall remove any personally identifiable information from the record that would disclose the identity of a child, a crime victim or a school employee who is not the subject of the disciplinary record.

"Further, the initiation of a report in good faith about suspected child abuse may not adversely affect any terms or conditions of employment or the work environment of the complainant. If a student initiates a report of suspected child abuse by a district employee in good faith, the student will not be

disciplined by the Board or any district employee."

-approved the first reading on additions to policies concerning: tobacco free environment; field trips; alternative education programs; evaluation of alternative education programs; and referral notification for alternative education programs.

-approved appointment of Dan Young, Irrigon, to the budget committee.

-approved the following resignations: Heather Shaner, Riverside High School and Windy River Elementary one-on-one special ed assistant; and Diana Orr, Irrigon Elementary special ed one-on-one ed assistant.

-approved the following employment: Alma Rodriguez, Irrigon school-family liaison; Ana Rosa Mendoza, special ed one-on-one assistant, replacing Maria Gomez; and Theresa Rushing, Heppner Elementary, additional 1-1/2 hour ed assistant.

-approved the following transfer: Maria Gomez, Irrigon Elementary, English as a Second Language ed assistant, replacing Virginia Garcia.

-approved the following extra duty contracts: Paul Keefer, Riverside Junior High boys' basketball coach; Marianne Smith, Heppner High School head track coach; Abel Burnett, Irrigon High assistant boys' basketball coach; Noe Melendez, Irrigon Junior High assistant boys' basketball coach; and Michelle Kinley, Irrigon High School assistant girls' basketball coach.

-approved the following budget calendar: April 3-budgets due from buildings and departments; April 26-publication of notice of budget meeting; May 1-release of budget information; May 3-second notice budget meeting; May 8-regular board meeting, distribute budget document; May 15-first budget meeting, budget message; additional meeting dates to be set by committee if needed; May 24-deadline for budget approval; May 31-publication notice of budget hearing; June 12-budget hearing, adopt budget and make appropriations; June 12-regular board meeting, July 1-beginning of 2006-07 fiscal year; July 15-deadline to certify levy to assessor.

-heard the following announcements: Boardman Community Education Committee meeting, RHS, 7 p.m., November 15; Irrigon CEC meeting, IHS, 7 p.m., November 16; Heppner CEC meeting, HES, 7 p.m., November 21; Thanksgiving holiday, November 24 and 25; next board meeting, Irrigon Elementary, 7 p.m., December 12.

Justice Court

John LeDoux, 52, Driving while suspended-violation, fine \$423.

Artifactory

Holiday Bazaar nears

Plan to attend the holiday bazaar at the fairgrounds on Saturday, Nov. 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

All types of craft and baked items will be for sale. There will be activities for the children to do while the parents look for those special Christmas items. Santa will be stopping by during the day to listen to Christmas wishes.

This year the Heppner Elementary School Parent Teacher Club will be responsible for the kitchen in the annex. Baked potatoes, chili, pie, brownies and drinks will be on the menu. The Parent Teacher Club will use the money to finance several projects planned for the coming year at the elementary school.

Admission is \$2. The money will be used for various local community projects.

ABS/GED preparation classes offered

Blue Mountain Community College will offer an Adult Basic Skills/GED preparation class each week in Heppner, beginning Wednesday, Nov. 16. The class will be held from 5-8 p.m. at Heppner High School, Room One and Darlene Marquardt will be the instructor. The registration fee is \$20 per quarter. A book fee is charged for some subjects. For further information, contact Darlene Marquardt at 676-9138 Ext. 2528 or by email at dmarquardt@bluecc.edu. Interested students may also contact Anne Morter, BMCC Coordinator at 422-7040.

THANK YOU!

To all our customers:

We have sold our business effective at the end of November, 2005.

Thank you for all your support over the years.

Please use any gift certificates by Wednesday, November 23rd.

Thank you, Jamie and Ronda Helfrecht Green Feed and Seed, Heppner

BUY TOKENS IN ADVANCE!

With the cold weather here, please remember that the Wilkinson Arena is now on a token machine. So please think ahead and pre-purchase the tokens at the Fair Office.

Tokens are \$10 each: this will cover the rental and lights for one hour. If you put two tokens in, you will get two hours; three tokens, three hours; and so on.

For more information, call 676-9474 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., Monday through Friday.
Renee Yocom, MC Fair Secretary

TAYLOR'S RESTAURANT
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Saturday, November 19th
Karaoke from 9 p.m. to closing
Blackjack table from 8 p.m. to closing

The restaurant will be closed
November 24-25 for Thanksgiving
The lounge will open on Nov. 25 at 4 p.m.