

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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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](http://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!

**Cardinal Booster Club**

Cardinal Booster Club met Monday, Dec. 5, at the school library. Betty Gray reported on the progress made for the joint Ione-Heppner booster club dinner. The committees met to plan the menu and dinner times. Besides the \$1500 donation from Morrow County Grain Growers, the committee is guessing each club will have to provide \$500 toward dinner expenses. The salad will be donated by Collier's Market. The committee will meet again December 15 at 6 p.m. in Lexington.

The club is planning a community workday to paint the school cafeteria. Painting will begin at 9 a.m. on December 27 and continue the next few days as needed. Volunteers, who are asked to bring paint supplies, are needed for this school improvement project.

The Basketball Bonanza held in Ione was a success, according to sponsors. Arlynda Gates was recognized for her work organizing the concessions and the hospitality room, which was hosted by Wheatland Insurance and the Bank of Eastern Oregon. Doby's Pest Control made a donation toward pizza costs. Helen Heideman supplied numerous pies for the weekend. Collier's Market and Mike's Mobile Slaughter offered the club considerable discounts to keep food costs at a minimum. Club members voted to give \$20 gift certificates to school cook Kay Alldritt, and custodians Kelly Griffith and Adena Johnson to thank them for their support. It was suggested in the fixture the club feed the visiting boys' championship teams before they depart on Saturday night.

Superintendent Bryn Browning asked for money to help keep admission costs down for students attending "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe" in Hermiston Monday, December 12. The club agreed to provide up to \$2 each as needed for the 125 students.

It was reported the community band has started practice and will play at the first home game in January. Karen Padberg will be asked to organize sack meals to give the visiting teams as they depart from all Hone games.

The club discussed various ways to thank businesses for their support of Ione Community School. It was agreed the club could print programs with Ione girls and boys' teams printed inside and business ads on the back. Visiting team rosters could be inserted each week. Browning will talk to Cathy McCabe about making a program for this year.

Certificates of recognition will also be sent to businesses at the end of the school year. It was suggested Ione logo merchandise be sold at the Bank of Eastern Oregon as well as Sunflower Junction. The next meeting of the Cardinal Booster Club will be Monday, January 2, 7 p.m. at the school library.

**Ballroom dance lessons begin**

Ballroom dancing lessons for all ages will begin Jan. 5, at the Morrow County Fairgrounds Annex, 7 p.m. Thursdays and on Saturdays for \$10 a lesson or those interested may buy a package or couples pack for a discounted rate. Drop ins are welcome.

Instructor Jodi Chappa is offering a New Year's Special for those who register before the first lesson in January the fee will be 5 lessons for \$45 with the sixth lesson free.

Lessons begin Jan. 5 and are offered every Thursday and Saturday through Feb. 4. Students will learn the Rumba, Salsa, Waltz, Jitterbug, Rumba/Waltz Combo, and Salsa/Jitterbug Combo.

Call Chappa at 676-8161 to sign up for classes.



**Taylor's Restaurant, Ione  
will close at 4 p.m. on  
Christmas Eve.**

**Have a very Merry Christmas!**



**~ Letters to the Editor ~**

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. 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.

**Keep our community clean in 2006**

To the Editor:

Friends, relatives and travelers who come to our area frequently comment on how clean and nice looking our communities are.

This litter free appearance of our streets, roads, and highways is an asset, which serves to encourage people to return to our area and to consider moving here.

A good town appearance doesn't happen by itself. It takes a lot of people working together to keep our roadways and neighborhoods in good shape.

The Department of Transportation Litter Pick-up Programs are instrumental in collecting and disposing of roadside trash. The Youth Litter Patrol and the Adopt-a-Highway Litter Pick-up Program are activities, which accomplish a great deal in behalf of maintaining our good appearance.

Also, the Morrow County ordinance-requiring containment of solid waste delivered to the county transfer stations supports the effort to keep our roadways litter free. The penalty for not covering loads going to the transfer stations gives citizens a good reason for tarping loads of solid waste.

Recently I was in the Hillsboro-Forest Grove area of Washington County. The quantity of roadside trash along the Tualatin Valley Highway was appalling. We do not want to look like that.

So, I encourage us all to continue making an effort to keep our streets, roads and highways looking good in 2006.

(s) John Edmundson  
Heppner

**Tax advantage for charitable donation for needy companion pets**

To the Editor:

In this Season of Giving and year-end closing, there still is time to double the benefit of your gift to benefit our needy four-legged friends.

The positive fallout from Hurricane Katrina resulted in Congress passing a one-time only incentive to help prevent a drop-off in local charitable giving. As a result, cash gifts given through Dec. 31 of this year to your favorite non-profit humane organization qualify for a 100% deduction from adjusted gross income, up from 50% in past years.

For sure, not everyone is in the position with sufficient income to take full advantage of this special tax break; but, there still is the tax savings advantage potential of jumping down to a lower bracket with your donation before the end of the year. Whatever your taxing position, you can feel great about making that special donation, no matter how large or how small, for the benefit of our four-legged and feathered friends in need.

With rising costs, escalating utility rates, and increasing service demands, all local humane non-profit organizations are short on adequate funding. So, for the sake of the needy pets and their care, please consider a special donation yet this year to assist your local shelter and pet rescue groups. For more information on how you can help, just call: Pioneer Humane Society at 276-0181 or 1-866-486-2631, Eastern Oregon Humane Society/Pet Rescue of Hermiston at 564-6222, Animal Welfare Alliance League at 567-1868, PETS of Milton-Freewater at 938-4711, and Blue Mountain Wildlife at 377-8246.

And, for all who have not yet done so, please commit to donating just a nickel a day (that is only \$18.25 for the year) to the Pioneer Humane Society Animal Shelter Building Fund to care for the needy companion pets of the region - donations can be made at any branch of Banner Bank or via PayPal at [www.pioneerhumane.org](http://www.pioneerhumane.org).

(s) Jerry  
Gildemeister  
LaGrande

**The Board of Directors of Morrow County Health District would like to thank the following employees and volunteers for their time and assistance in conducting our local Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Workshops:**

**Employees**

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Elizabeth Peterson      | Molly Rhea         |
| Diana Grant             | Debbie Peck        |
| Darla Vandever          | Delia Robinson     |
| Victor Vander Does      | Nicole Mahoney     |
| Kathy Skinner           | Tonia Adams        |
| Terry Anderson, PA-C    | Donna Schonbachler |
| Sheryl Angell           | Betty Hickerson    |
| Sheridan Tarnasky, PA-C | Janine Homan       |
| Robanai Disque          |                    |

The Board also thanks the District's remaining employees who covered for the above named co-workers so they could assist with the workshops.

**Volunteers**

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Becky Cherry     | Nancy Vander Does |
| John Murray, RPh | Ray Michael, RPh  |

For additional assistance with Medicare Part Prescription Plan information, contact our help desk (541) 676-9133 or 1-800-737-4113.

**Working Together?**

To the Editor:

Harney County has recently settled the passage of the school bond of Nov. 2005. The same issues of no funding for schools necessitated this bond issue as it has in most communities across Oregon. Now it is time to analyze where we, as communities and a state need to go from here. Whether I talk to one who typically supports or opposes school bonds, I do not know anyone who does not support our kids as the future of our communities.

During and before the bond issue campaign I was asked to sit down with a representative of the school board and discuss the bond issue and my position on it. I told that board member on both occasions, I support almost anything that is a lasting benefit to our kids. I also stated that this community has always stood behind its youth in many ways but the community as a whole is in deep financial strife. We discussed that we all remember when all of our schools and roads expenses were paid for by natural resource production, more specifically in the Harney area, timber production.

The private sector of our and many communities believes, rightly or wrongly, that our schools currently teach opposition to the redevelopment of the natural resource industries which fueled the high quality of Oregon schools of the past and also fueled the entire economy of rural America. Without question, some of this perception is true but I do not know the depth of this position among individual educators here or across the state. In this case, as in most, perception overrides the reality without honest and open communication of fact. In light of that, I suggested to the board member that a message from our local school teachers and the OEA stating their support for the

natural resource industries that supported their students and their paychecks should be done. In this way the educators could, in intent and philosophy, give back to the community from which it is asking support. A simple trade, support for support. That suggestion fell on deaf or incapacitated ears, as no letter or suggestion of understanding of the community's perception was presented by any education group.

Thanks to their huge capacity for supporting their kids, Harney County narrowly passed the school bond. The symptom is treated but the disease of a failing economy lives on. We did not lose our rural natural resource industries overnight and we can not gain them back overnight. However, unless we want to become a totally socialized economy, we must strengthen the private sector economic base job by job. In rural Oregon, unequivocally, this means natural resource redevelopment. A step toward helping this redevelopment would be for each of you, and, doubly important, each teacher, teacher's group and education administrator to write and call our Federal Congressmen and Congresswomen and tell them and your community that you support Congressman Walden's Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act (HR 4200). This bill is a step toward smart utilization of our forests, after fire, which will help our timber industry sustain itself and our communities.

Educators sending this message would help bind the education system to the payers of private sector tax dollars which support education until we can regain sensible multiple use of our forests and add to the tax coffers instead of taking from them.

(s) Tim Smith  
Harney County

**Keep the faith**

To the Editor:

The editor of the Weekly Gazette has asked for the local church clergy to write something about the Christmas season. Although I am not a local clergy nor is this specific to Christmas I would like to write about Faith and Success.

You see it is easier to write about success than it is to have faith that God succeeds in my failures, perhaps because of my faithfulness. That's a paradox of the Gospel - success is not in the product but in the process, faith. If I knew I had to succeed at everything, I would never begin.

I fail everyday. There is always more to do than time or my abilities allow, and there are always those who are disappointed in what I do. But, I sleep nights and get up to do it again tomorrow. I call that Faith.

It isn't faith to believe in good when success abounds. Faith, you see, is belief in good when good efforts appear to have failed. To have that may be the only true success there is.

As you hustle and bustle this Christmas season and are feeling low because you can't seem to do it all, remember your faith.

Wishing You and Yours - Faith this Holiday Season

(s) Dr. Diann Nagel  
Heppner

**Cardinal Booster club schedules meeting**

The next meeting of Cardinal Booster club will be Monday, Jan. 2, 7 p.m. at the Ione Community School library.

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to all of our Customers, Clients, Friends and Family for helping us survive this last year.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Enjoy your Families and Friends through the Holidays.

*Willow Creek Realty  
Jerry's Barbershop - Talk-N-Tops  
Jerry and JoyceKay Hollomon*