

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

Published weekly and entered as periodical matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Periodical postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 188 W. Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: editor@rapidserve.net or david@heppner.net. Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$25 in Morrow County; \$19 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 62 years or older); \$31 elsewhere; \$26 student subscriptions.

David Sykes Publisher
Katie Foster 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!

Engagement

Lobell-Bates

Sheryll Lobell of Portland and Dale Bates of Heppner are pleased to announce their engagement.

The bride-elect is the daughter of Helen Black and the late Roy Black of Medford.

The groom-elect is the son of Edward and Lorraine Bates of Condon.

The couple plans for a Saturday, April 29, 2006, wedding in Portland.



Dale Bates and Sheryll Lobell

HHS cheerleaders to hold annual dessert auction

The Heppner cheerleaders will be holding their annual dessert auction Tuesday, Feb. 7 during halftime of the girls' and boys' varsity games. A delicious assortment of homemade specialties will be available from our area's finest bakers. All proceeds will go to fund uniforms and cheer clinics for the high school cheer program.

Those who cannot attend, but still wish to bid may do so by contacting Virginia Grant at 676-5257.

These desserts and others will be auctioned: Margaret Bennet's anniversary cake by Robinae Disque; Almond Coffee cheesecake by Barb Orwick; Chocolate Coconut Cheesecake by Barb Orwick; Grandma's Famous Sugar Cookies by Bev Sherman; Coconut/White Sheet cake by Garnet Huddleston; Chocolate Truffles by Joan

McDaniels; Caramel/Walnut Cinnamon rolls by Bernice Lott; Mustang Spirit Sheet Cake by Terina Healy; Oreo Cheesecake by Joyce Shephard; Churos with Gnoch by Virginia Grant; Chocolate Fudge Cake by Ann Jones; and Heart Shaped Cinnamon Swirl Cake by Celita Strouse.

HHS boys to hold fundraising dinner

The Heppner High School boys' basketball program is holding a fundraising dinner on Saturday, Jan. 28 during the game against Sherman County. The dinner, which includes spaghetti, rolls, salad and dessert, will begin at 3 p.m. Cost for the dinner is \$5.

Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy the game and good food.

We the family of **FRANK ANDERSON** want to thank our relatives, friends and our communities for the tremendous outpouring of love and sympathy in the loss of my husband and our father.

We would like to especially thank all those people who gave so caringly in the preparation of the church for the service, the interment at the cemetery, the Elks for the use of the Lodge for the fellowship and meal that followed the services.

And we especially want to thank all the women and men, and the Heppner Senior Class, who prepared and served the wonderful meal that made that time of the community so very special.

Family, friends and community was so very important to Frank and we know he was well pleased with the tremendous outpouring of love and support we have received.

Again, thank you one and all,
Kay, Eric, Steve and Charlie Anderson

~ 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.

Positive attitudes will make a difference at Irrigon Jr/Sr High

To the Editor:

At the Dec. 11 meeting of the Morrow County School Board a group of parents surprised the school board, school administration and community of Irrigon with complaints about Irrigon Jr. Sr. High School. These parents even invited the local newspapers to cover this meeting. The East Oregonian had stated a few months back that due to low staffing they would be unable to attend the MCSD meetings and that they would not be covering them anymore. So one would think that these parents really had some big time news if both local papers sent out reporters to cover this meeting. The parents were given plenty of the school board's time to air their complaints, most of which happened years before we were even a high school and some of which happened under a totally different administrator. In other words "old news."

On Dec. 12, both local newspapers ran front page coverage of this meeting, and when word started to spread about what had gone on, many of us were upset with these parents for rehashing old news, and the newspapers for not doing their homework before printing yet another sensationalized article about Irrigon. On Dec. 21 a group of concerned parents braved the icy conditions and met with reporter Kathy Aney from the East Oregonian about doing a follow up article on Irrigon Jr. Sr. High School that would represent our students in the positive manner they deserve. We were told that her editor would not commit to an article, but that he would like her to meet with us. As of today there has not been one word mentioned about that meeting in the E.O.

On Jan. 8, we opened our E.O. and what did we find but a wonderful article about how the town of Helix rallies around their school and students. To Helix we say "Way to Go!" If one was to replace the words Helix High School and put in Irrigon Jr. Sr. High School you would have a picture of what has been going on at the newly formed IJSHS for the year and a half since it has opened. Our gym is full every time there is a game, the Knight's Pride Booster Club serves a meal at every game and the Pep Band led by Jeff Searles is always rockin' the house. But, instead of getting encouragement from our local newspapers, we get more negativity written about IJSHS.

As for the complaints of these parents,

well that's another story all in itself. What school, school superintendent, school administrator, or school district doesn't have a handful of negative nellys that they have to deal with? Unfortunately as cliché as it sounds, the squeaky wheel is the one that gets oiled or in IJSHS case, splashed all over the front page of the newspaper. Wouldn't it be lovely if these negative nellys could understand the damage they do to themselves, their community and their children by always looking for the negative instead of the positive? No, our community and schools are not perfect, but what are these negative people doing to improve it? To these people we invite you to join your Booster Club, come to school events, be a part of the solution, not the problem. Can't we all work together to make this school the best it can be for the students? They deserve it. By always looking for the negative you are doing a disservice to the Morrow County School District, Irrigon Jr. Sr. High School's administration and staff, the community of Irrigon and sadly to your own children.

For the past two years, we have worked closely with the administration of IJSHS trying to get for our students what they are lacking due to the opening of a new school. We have found Ron Anthony and Chris Davis easy to talk to and work with. They don't always give us the answer we are wanting, but they have always been fair. If these negative nellys worked as hard as Ron Anthony does at getting us what we need, our school's wish list would be a very short one.

In closing, we would like to acknowledge the Morrow County School Board members and Superintendent Mark Burrows, for their open door policy and their readiness to listen to any concerns from anyone, at any time. We appreciate Ron Anthony for the countless hours he has put into making our school a safe, and inviting environment for our children to learn in. The vast majority of your community supports and appreciates your hard work and commitment to Irrigon Jr. Sr. High School.

- (s) Danny and Meredith Young, Irrigon
Richard and Becky Sewer, Irrigon
Richard and Kelly Wright, Irrigon
Billy and Samie Griffin, Irrigon
Gregory and Carma Barron, Irrigon
Nancy Burnett, Irrigon
Gail Horning, Irrigon
Judy Brown, Irrigon
Barbara Huwe, Irrigon

Support Our Troops Group, community supports soldiers

To the Editor:

The soldiers of the 3-116th returned home in mid-November from Iraq, but not without their losses. To the families that lost their soldiers, our thoughts and prayers went to them in their sorrow. This reminds us all that "Freedom isn't Free."

The Support Our Troop Group recognizes the many individuals, organizations and businesses in our community which have supported the soldiers and their families here at home. Ladies made yellow ribbon bows and tied them on all the trees through town and maintained them through the 18-month deployment. They looked great. Many people donated care items, snack food, money and helped get boxes ready for mailing. Two hundred-plus were sent during the year. The Methodist Church let the group assemble our boxes in the kitchen area. Businesses helped with postage and organizations donated money to purchase needed items. CenturyTel arranged phone calls from soldiers in Afghanistan at our Memorial Day celebration and set up the PA system and slide display.

The Support Our Troops Group received

several thank you notes and a phone call telling us how they appreciated our concern and our support. Receiving items and letters made their stay a little easier. Our troops said they received more packages and mail from Heppner than any other soldiers. They shared their goodies with fellow soldiers and the children. The kids loved them and watched for them to come to their villages, knowing they would get treats.

Everything helped to make this project the success it was. For all the prayers that were said for the soldiers as well as their families, our group thinks Heppner is truly great.

The money that was left is being donated to help purchase custom-made computer carts and computers for the severely wounded receiving treatment and therapy at the VA Palo Alto Health Care Center System at Palo Alto, California. These are big hits with the vets and enable them to keep in touch with buddies in Iraq and their families.

Remember to thank our vets.

(s) Evelyn Sweek
Support Our Troops Group
Heppner

Tell Senators to vote no on asbestos bill

To the Editor:

It is very difficult to believe that there actually people out there that strongly believe asbestos products are no longer being manufactured. Research shows that there are more than 1700 asbestos products being manufactured at the present time, here in the United States.

Congress plans on passing a bailout bill, for the manufacturers of asbestos, the third week in January. If

this bill passes, the victims of this horrible disease and their families will lose their right to a jury trial. Once a right is taken away, it is almost impossible to get it back. The less informed the public is, the easier it is to pass this bill.

Please call your U.S. senators and ask them to vote "no" on S.852, the so-called "Fair Bill." Environmental matters should be the concern of everyone.

(s) Anita Dorn
Echo

Obituaries

James H. Rogers, Sr.

James H. Rogers, Sr., 60, of Heppner, died Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2006, at his home.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, Jan. 28 at 11 a.m., at Christian Life Center in Heppner.

He was born Nov. 29, 1945 at Syracuse, NY. He was raised and attended school in New York state before moving to California. He served in Vietnam with the U.S. Army and also boxed and learned the mechanic trade while enlisted. He later was a recruiting officer for the Army.

On March 26, 1987, he married Nora J. Hollowell at Ripley, NY. He worked at several jobs, the last for Columbia Trailer in Hermiston. The couple moved to Heppner in 2004.

He enjoyed TV, reading, westerns, country music, fishing and being with his family.

Survivors include his wife, Nora Rogers;

daughters, Tammy Conklin,

Susan Milliman, Jamie Rogers and Sherrie Rogers; sons, Dan Rogers and James Rogers, Jr.;

brothers, Herman, Ronny, Ben and Chuck; and sisters, Jenny and Billie. He was preceded in death by brothers, Fredrick, Duane and Bobby.

Memorial contributions may be made to the donors' favorite charity of choice.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

Krispy Kremes for sale

Creative Care Preschool in Ione once again sold Krispy Kreme doughnuts as a fundraising project. The doughnuts will be delivered to Ione on Friday, Jan. 27, 2006. They can be picked up that day after 3 p.m., during the Ione basketball game.

MCGG GREEN FEED STORE in Heppner
POULTRY FEED ON SALE!
Poultry Layers, Crumbles & Pellets
\$1 off 50 lb. bag
~ Morrow County Grain Growers ~
Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mcgg.net

