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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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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.

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~ 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.

Signatures needed for parent notification initiative

To the Editor:

Signatures are currently being collected for an Oregon Ballot initiative to require parent notification before a minor can obtain an abortion.

In 1999, the Oregon legislature passed a parental notification bill, but it was vetoed by then-Governor Kitzhaber. Such things as getting their ears pierced, going on field trips, receiving Tylenol and playing sports all require parental notification. Yet a girl can undergo this serious medical procedure that can have long-lasting physical and emotional impact without her parents' knowledge.

This initiative would not require parental consent, only parental notification. It would prohibit providing an abortion to "an unemancipated minor or ward" until 48 hours after the parent receives written

notice of the proposed abortion by certified mail. The proposal includes an exception for a medical emergency and for girls who may be at risk of abuse. Currently, 35 states have functioning parental notification laws. This initiative is sponsored by "Protect our Teen Daughters Committee," PO Box 13249, Salem, OR and is supported by Oregon Right to Life, Oregon Family Council, Democrats for Life, Oregon Catholic Conference and Oregon Republican Party. A minimum of 75,630 signatures is required to qualify for the November ballot. If you are a registered voter and would like to sign one of the petitions please contact me (676-9158 days or 676-9631 evenings) or visit www.protectourteendaughters.com for more information.

(s) Ann Murray
Heppner

Stakeholder Committee to be formed for Highway 74 project

Recently, the Oregon Department of Transportation approved the renovation of Highway 74, from the Morrow County Courthouse (Court Street) North to the Heppner Elementary School and thence East to the Morrow County Fairgrounds. As part of the process, ODOT has asked the city to contact the residents, businesses and other affected by this project

and to form a "stakeholders committee." ODOT would work with this committee to address issues and concerns of those affected by the project. Residents along this route are invited to participate in this committee.

Please call City Hall at 67609618 and let them know if you are interested in serving on this committee. Interested parties should respond by May 30, 2006.

Ione School Board discusses foundation grants

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which are aging and ineffective, rebuilding a classroom floor to cover a crack, which cannot be torn up because of asbestos issues, replacing windows in the high school, remodeling high school walls and installing a new heating/cooling system.

-learned from Browning that the district has been "working with the Oregon Department of Education to clarify the funding situation for students who are non-residents of the Ione School District." Browning said that they had discussed funding problems concerning special education students who attend Ione Schools and receive services from ISD, but who live outside the district. Browning said that the funding has not followed such students to the Ione district, but rather has gone to the district of the student's origin. Browning said she expects to have a proposal and a final answer by the end of the month.

-learned from Browning that the district has completed and submitted its updated technology plan. Because of the low number of district students in poverty, Ione will not qualify for additional or larger ed tech grants. Changes to the plan include the purchase of software for keyboarding programs, training for teachers using technology, updating student computer stations in each classroom and the acquisition of a mobile wireless lab through grants or the budget process.

-learned that openings for the 2006-07 year include a half-time special education assistant, half-time music teacher and half-time Spanish teacher, all of which are being advertised.

-learned that Amy Jepsen was selected valedictorian for the class of 2006. Ashly Grams and Kristal Temple were selected co-salutatorians. Jepsen also placed second place in the OSAA state music piano competition.

-learned that 16 of

23 Ione track athletes will go to the state track competition this Saturday, May 20, at Monmouth. The girls' track team took first place at districts and the boys placed second.

-learned that Blue Mountain Community College will visit the Ione Schools to walk next year's juniors and seniors through the college application process including placement testing and financial aid. Students will be given the opportunity to take BMCC courses while they are still students at Ione.

-learned that the National Honor Society will host a track meet for preschool children and school age children up to grade five, on Sunday, May 21, beginning at 1 p.m. at the school track. Entry fees for older students and donations will go toward the Creative Care Preschool.

-learned that an in-service day for all staff will be held on May 19. The presenter will speak on "Response to Intervention," which involves progress monitoring and data keeping for all students. The district received a "mini" grant for \$5,000 for the development of RTI, which will be spent on staffing, since the day is a non-work day.

-heard from Browning of a possible benefit dinner for a family who was involved in a rollover accident. The benefit may be scheduled June 7.

-heard the following announcements: Wednesday, May 17-junior/senior banquet, 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday, May 23-kindergarten visitation, 10:30 a.m. to noon, eighth-grade barbecue dinner, 5 p.m., middle school awards, 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday, May 24-high school sports and academic awards, 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, May 25-middle school semi-formal dance, 8-11 p.m.; Tuesday, May 30-Ione High School baccalaureate, Ione Community Church, 7 p.m.; Friday, June 2-IHS graduation, 7 p.m.; Tuesday, June 6-last day of school for students and all-school barbecue.

Lexington hears cable TV proposal

continued from page one

try to make it work" and was "comfortable in moving forward without a franchise." Rawlins said that implementing the system would take very little time. He said that they would expand their service area to include Lexington.

The presentation comes at an opportune time for the town's television service, which faces increasing charges from cable companies and deteriorating equipment. According to the council, the town's cable television system was losing money.

"This is a win-win situation," commented Lexington Mayor Val Doherty.

The council will review a proposed contract at their next meeting.

Also at the meeting, Doherty suggested several ideas for a town harvest festival, with a possible date of Sept. 23. Doherty said the celebration, intended to boost town pride and a feeling of community, could possibly incorporate music, a flea market, activities for kids, vendors, crafts, a chili cook-off, food concessions, a beer garden, fund raisers for community groups and numerous other activities. "There are people right now committed to making it happen," said Doherty.

In other business, the council:

-heard a presentation from Morrow County Sheriff's Sergeant Randy Rayburn concerning the costs and other details of code enforcement if the town were to enter into an agreement with MCSO to enact and enforce town nuisance codes, such as clean-up of automobiles, excessive weeds or other debris on private property within the city limits.

Rayburn told the council that so far 60 cars and "a bunch of washers and

dryers" were brought to the free "scrap metal and broken-down vehicle cleanup" drive. The Morrow County Grain Growers has loaned the sheriff's office the space next to the grain elevator to store the vehicles and metal. Collection times are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Call Sergeant Rayburn or Deputy Lehman to make arrangements. No household garbage, batteries or tires will be accepted. The drive ends May 21.

-accepted Mike Orwick's resignation from the council. The council received three letters of interest in the position.

-received a letter of appreciation from Andre and Kathy Meyer and a \$600 check from them to the fire department.

-discussed a request concerning having Lexington take over the maintenance of the Ione-Lexington Cemetery.

-discussed and rejected the idea of remunerations for the people who take care of town property surrounding their private property. "It's just part of living in a small town," said council member Jean Brazell.

-heard a well report, including a report on a reservoir shut down, caused when a circuit was tripped. The reservoir had gone dry before it was discovered by the town maintenance man. The council directed him to look into the cost of getting an alarm system.

-discussed employee job descriptions, vacation time, etc.

-discussed again the removal of logs in the creek which, if are not moved, could create a flooding hazard.

-heard a suggestion from former Mayor John Edwards concerning petitioning to join the Heppner or Ione fire districts.

Girls make state golf tournament



(Back Row): Jenna Bowman and Baillie Keithley and (Front Row): Kylie Doherty and Maggie Armato.

Jenna Bowman, Maggie Armato, Baillie Keithley and Kylie Doherty participated in the state golf tournament, Monday and Tuesday, May 15 and 16 in Redmond. They competed

against 3A, 2A and 1A schools. There were 18 teams and 170 golfers.

After Round 1, held on Monday, they placed 16th as a team out of 18 teams. The team score was 443, +155.

Individual scores for the girls after Round 1 were: Armato (59th) 52-55, 107, +35; Bowman (67th) 59-50, 109, +37; Doherty (79th) 60-52, 112, +40; and Keithley (84th) 59-56, 115, +43.

Round 2 scores were not out as of publication.

Joe Schmidt with Smokey the bear



Heppner third-grader's poster to be on Oregon billboards

Joe Schmidt's Smokey Bear poster was chosen to be on three Smokey Bear billboards in Oregon. They will be on I-84 Troutdale facing east; I-5 Roseburg facing south and I-5 Albany facing north.

The CEO of Keep Oregon Green, along with a state Garden Club board member and Heppner Garden Club president JoAnne Burleson met with Schmidt and parented him with a special award.

Schmidt, the son of Richard and Pam Schmidt of Heppner, is a third grader at Heppner Elementary School.

Graduation is right around the corner!

~ Ione High School ~
Friday, June 2nd

~ Heppner High School ~
Saturday, June 3rd

We have graduation presents,
flowers, cards and more!

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