

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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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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**Soup feed to be held Dec. 19**

The Heppner Mustangs girls' basketball team will sponsor a soup feed on Tuesday, Dec. 19, during the Grant Union basketball game. The soup feed will begin at a time to

be announced. A variety of soups, salad, a roll, dessert and drinks will be served. Cost will be \$5 per person. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Heppner City Council ponders bridge responsibility**

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Several council members said they had heard from worried residents of the center following an article in the Gazette last month reporting on council discussion of the problems. Councilmember Judy Buschke said residents had asked her if the center were closing down, and she assured them it was not. "The Sr. Center is not ready to shut down. The article made some people think it was going to shut down, but it is not."

The city is considering hiring Darlee Rex of Rex Development in Pendleton as a consultant to apply for grants and low interest loans to be used for financial relief of the Sr. Center debt. The Center has approximately \$350,000 in long term debt and at present no reserve fund. Rex told the council last month that she could probably obtain either grants or low interest loans that would lower those obligations and make the Center more financially sound.

Monday the council

reviewed a \$32,500 contract with Rex, but had reservation about signing. "This agreement needs massive cleanup," Baker said. Baker asked that the contract go out for competitive bidding, but the council disagreed because of the short time line. "This agreement says we will spend \$32,000 and maybe not end up with a grant or even a completed application," Baker said. "This is an excellent argument for competitive bidding. I would like to get another person who might do this. Find similar people in the valley who could do this."

A February deadline to apply for this year's round of grants pushed the deadline and the council authorized the city manager to sign an appropriate contract with input from the city attorney. Several council members said Rex had a good reputation for receiving these housing type grants and loans.

In other discussion the council talked about a proposal to close Stansbury

**O'Brien receives County Engineer of the Year award**



**Morrow County Public Works Director Burke O'Brien**

Morrow County Public Works Director Burke O'Brien recently was awarded the County Engineer of the Year award from the Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors (OACES).

The award, made at the Association of Oregon Counties annual conference, was in recognition of

Burke's professional ability and his service to Oregon counties. Darrin Lane, President of OACES, in presenting the award indicated that Burke's services through OACES represented the highest level of professionalism in representing his own county, while at the same time advocating services and policies that supported the needs of all counties in the state.

Burke is the counties' representative with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for several federal funding programs, most notably for bridge replacements and safety improvement projects. He also serves on OACES committees that establish policies for counties on road issues, including advocating the need for additional funding for gravel road maintenance.

Jon Oshel, County Road Manager for the Association of Oregon Counties, said, "Burke has been especially valuable in representing the interests of Eastern Oregon counties on road and bridge issues."

**Coal Mine Hill to close**

Morrow County Public Works will close Coal Mine Hill on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 12 noon for the winter.

Street in front of the grade school. The discussion has come up again recently with the proposed reconstruction of Court Street by the State of Oregon. The highway department is moving forward with a plan to straighten out Court Street which runs by the tennis courts and the grade school. Grade School Principal Jack Thompson has asked that Stansbury be closed off and extending Elder Street to make the area around the Elementary school safer for children. DeMayo said the Oregon department of Transportation has been open to the idea.

Several council members expressed opinion that the Stansbury has been where it is since 1958 and there has never been an

accident. The council heard that the city is advertising for another public works employee. The department has been short handed because director Bruce Nelson resigned and Chad Doherty has been off recovering from an appendectomy.

The council also talked about the city purchasing a repossessed Housing and Urban Development (HUD) home at 165 Linden Way for \$1. DeMayo HUD offers these homes for sale to the city for \$1 if the city uses the profit from the resale to "enhance housing in the community". The city made over \$40,000 on sale of a HUD house several years ago.

*~ 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.

**Proud of the efforts of HHS & staff**

To the Editor and the residents of the surrounding area:

We should all be proud of the Heppner High School and staff for the time and effort they put forth into the program and dinner honoring the veterans of all

wars. As usual, the presentations were superior, the music outstanding and the meal delicious. It was indeed an honor to be part of the occasion.

Morrow County  
VFW Post No. 4184  
Bob Taylor,  
Adjutant

**Obituaries**

**Evelyn K. Broun**

Funeral services for Evelyn Kirk Broun will be held Friday, December 15, 2006, at 1 p.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church in Heppner. Concluding service and interment will follow at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Broun, 86, died Friday, December 8, 2006, at Good Samaritan Center in Hermiston.

She was born July 25, 1920 at Heppner, the daughter of Merle and Altha Devin Kirk, long-time local ranchers. During her years growing up, they lived on what was known as the Hunt place in Clarks Canyon (now called Fuller Canyon). Her father later built a house on adjoining property owned by the Kirks. She attended grades one through eight at the former Lexington School. She then attended Heppner High School where she graduated in 1938.

She was an avid horse enthusiast, having trained many horses. Evelyn was sponsored by the Lexington Grange as one of five girls chosen for the 1938 Heppner Rodeo Court.

In the fall of 1938, Evelyn entered nurse's training at The Dalles Hospital, residing in nurses' resident quarters. Evelyn graduated as a registered nurse in 1941. She moved to Roseburg for her first employment at a hospital. It was there that she met and married Ray Bosworth in 1941. He was a supply sergeant in the Army during WWII. During the occupation of Germany by U.S. troops, Ray was killed in Germany in 1944.

While working at the Veterans Hospital in Portland she met Dr. James R. Broun. They were married in 1945. The couple

then moved to Pendleton where Dr. Broun at first partnered with local physician, Dr. McBee. Dr. Broun became a noted surgeon in the area. Evelyn continued to work as a nurse in Pendleton and later in Hermiston. She often spent long hours in critical care units besides serving as a registered anesthiologist for local surgeons. Before her retirement she also traveled extensively doing medical examinations for insurance companies.

Along with continuing her nursing career and many volunteer hours spent helping others, Evelyn pursued her love of horses at a ranch near Hermiston where she raised Appaloosas and Thoroughbreds. Many of her foals went on to become winners and were well-known in race track circles. She also garnered trophies and awards in the horse show world. In addition to belonging to breed associations, she was an active member in the Umatilla Sage Riders Riding Club. She rode in the club's play days and also provided horses used in the relay races at the Pendleton Round-Up.

Survivors include her three children, Michael Broun of Port Orchard, Washington, Jacklyn Alington of Odessa Washington, and Nicholas Broun of Prosser, Washington; seven grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren; a sister, Merlyn Robinson of Heppner and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions, for those who wish, may be made to Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living, 400 Frank Gilliam Drive, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

**Valby Christmas program date changed**

The Valby Youth Christmas program, "John Peters' Christmas Pox", has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m. due to community conflicting activities. "Traditional wrapped gifts destined for the Neighborhood Center and children in need, are asked to be delivered directly to the Center prior to Dec. 14 in order that they might meet the Center's deadline," a spokesman said.

"John Peters' Christmas Pox" puts a strange twist on the real meaning of Christmas according to Sarah Carlson, Director of the Valby Youth Christmas program.

Poor John Peters, played by Alex Carlson, finds himself looking forward to a wild and wooly Christmas. Surrounded by his family and friends when low and behold he finds himself in bed with the chicken pox. To add to the dilemma, a rough gangster played by Corey Peterson finds his attitude very similar to Poor John Peters both whom are traveling down life's wrong road.

Adam Neiffer, who plays the local cop, finds himself with the charge of getting both these "modern day Scrooges" to re-think their lives and get the true meaning of Christmas in the proper focus. A cast including Stacey Halverson, Christine Raible, Julianne Carlson, Duayne and Linda Neiffer, Thomas Holland and Stephanie Holland supports "Mr. Cop's" duty.

The play written by Dean Nadasdy, finally makes sense when Poor John Peters finally realizes that Christmas means more than the tinsel, toys and the topsy turvey Christmas that he envisioned.

The public is invited to this presentation and will find themselves woven into the scene as participants. Christmas refreshments will follow the production.

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