

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
Autumn Morgan.....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!

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney Elizabeth Ballard has released the following report:

-Ruben Villa-Arias, 38, was convicted of Criminal Trespass in the First Degree, a class A misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 90 days in jail with 45 days suspended, two year bench probation, comply with other numerous conditions, and pay \$413 in fines, fees and assessments.

-Joshua Kent, 20, was convicted of Criminal Mischief in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 180 days suspended, one year bench probation, complete 40 hours of community service, comply with numerous other conditions, and pay \$793 in fines, fees, and assessments.

-David Lee Bowles, 29, was convicted of Burglary in the Second Degree, a class C felony, and was sentenced to 18 months supervised probation, subject to 90 sanction units with 30 jail units, comply with other numerous conditions, and pay \$528 in fines, fees, and assessments. Bowles was also convicted of Assault in the Fourth Degree, a class A misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 180 days suspended, 24 months bench probation, comply with other numerous conditions, and pay \$958 in fines, fees, and assessments.

-Marlen Andrea Spaulding, 27, was convicted of Menacing, a class A misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 173 days suspended, 24 months bench probation, complete 40 hours of community service, comply with other numerous conditions, and pay \$913 in fines, fees, and assessments.

-Jody Lynn Lemon, 29, was convicted of Harassment, a class B misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 90 days in jail with 45 days suspended, one year bench probation, complete 20 hours of community service, comply with other numerous conditions, and pay \$888 in fines, fees and assessments.

-David Escareno-Ramirez, 24, was convicted of Criminal Mischief in the Second Degree, a class A misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 180 days in jail with 170 days suspended, two years bench probation, complete 40 hours of community service, comply with numerous other conditions, and pay \$363 in fines, fees, and assessments.

-Gustavo Lopez-Dominguez was convicted of Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine, a class C misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 80 hours of community service, 18 months formal probation, 90/30 sanction units, complete a drug package, comply with other numerous conditions, and pay \$1533 in fines, fees, and assessments.

Senior Center Menu and News

Nazarene Church and Seventh Day Adventist Church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, September 19. The menu includes roast pork, whipped potatoes with gravy, buttered peas, coleslaw, whole wheat rolls, and ice cream.

Also, as of September 1, all St. Patrick's Senior Center Apartments have been rented.



BURNING BAN

The Burn Ban for the City of Heppner will no longer be in effect beginning

Tuesday, September 4, 2007.

A 5-day burning permit is required for all open (out of container) fires and may be purchased for \$1.00

at Heppner City Hall, 111 N. Main St.

Rusty Estes, Fire Chief

~ 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.

Find common ground and a solution that will benefit all

To the editor:

I have watched, with interest, the debate on the tippage fee subject. After meeting several times in 2006, in November, with virtually no public input, the Cities group proposed basically a 90/10 city/county split of the revenue.

At a meeting in the spring of 2007, I believe, the court and cities had a public meeting with some public input. The results of the meeting were an indication from the county court that the proposal wasn't workable but they weren't averse to discussing the tippage fee disbursement process "some time in the future".

Since the "some time in the future" didn't come, the Cities group has moved forward and is attempting to get a 75/25 city/county split on the ballot in 2008.

My personal opinion is that the ballot measure may not pass and the Cities will be the big losers. If the ballot measure passes, the county will be the big loser. In either case, animosity grows and some segment of our county is irreparably harmed.

Wouldn't a better approach be for the two groups to have a series of work sessions to hammer out a compromise that doesn't give almost everything to one group or the other but develops a strategy or system that fairly distributes the funds and has a long enough implementation phase in period to allow governments to adjust to the changes.

Please consider getting together immediately to find common ground and a solution that benefits all the citizens of the county.

George Koffler
Heppner

A wonderful trip to the OHV park

To the editor:

I just wanted to say we had a wonderful trip to the Morrow County Parks OHV Parks. We planned a family reunion up there for the end of July and had such an amazing time. The park is amazing. Even after what seemed like endless days of riding, we never saw all the different trails. Our group ranged from 1-90 year old and we all enjoyed ourselves entirely too much. We spent the days either playing in the camp riding area or crawling your black mountain rides. It was awesome.

Compliments to your staff, from the camp hosts to the wonderful snack shack. We loved all the extra attention to detail whether it was just late night help with trying to use the cell booster, the UPS drop off for broken quad parts or the education in different rocks. Anything that was needed, they were there in an instant with smiling faces and ready to face anything we threw their way. The trip was an experience we will never forget and it is such a neat part of Oregon that you have not chosen to shut down all the OHV parks. We find it so hard to enjoy California because they have either shut down or are shutting down nearly every place to ride. We loved being able to come up there and enjoy your park. The evenings watching stars yet the days having fun. From the Montana family crew and the California family crew, it was 100 percent vote that we would and we will be back.

Laurie Plummer
California

The reward for good works is the opportunity to do more

To the editor:

As I drove into town recently I saw Eve Ironhawk from the Heppner Garden Club tending the plantings at the landscaped island next to the 1903 Flood Memorial Park.

On in town at the mini-park next to the post office and all through Heppner I was impressed with how nice our community looks, thanks to the Garden Club and many other community members.

As the saying goes, "The reward for good works is the opportunity to do more." So, I would like to encourage everyone to continue pitching in and helping Heppner to keep looking good.

John Edmundson
Heppner

School district ratifies MCEA, OSEA contracts

-Continued from page one
nated Rita VanSchoiack.

-heard the following enrollment report as of September 10: A.C. Houghton Elementary in Irrigon has 356 students in grades pre-kindergarten through fourth grade; Irrigon Elementary School has 129 students in grades five-six; Sam Boardman Elementary has 352 students in grades kindergarten through third grade; Windy River Elementary in Boardman has 232 students in grades four through six; Heppner Elementary School has 189 students in kindergarten through sixth grade; Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School has 330 students in sixth through 12th grades; Heppner Jr./Sr. High School has 232 students in seventh through 12th grades; and Riverside Jr./Sr. High School in Boardman has 413 students in seventh through 12th grades; total district enrollment is 2272. Burrows said he expects a gain of around 10-20 students district-wide over last year.

Burrows said that the opening of school was one of the smoothest experienced, especially considering the rapid recovery

efforts made after the fire at Sam Boardman Elementary this summer. He said SBE opened on time with only a few minor problems and congratulated the SBE staff for their efforts.

-viewed a presentation by Heppner High School teacher Larry Palmer, who demonstrated technical advances, the document camera and test recognition software in particular, which will facilitate teaching. Burrows said that not all teachers will receive the equipment, but rather must apply to the district through a grant-like procedure to have the new technology in their classrooms.

-approved a two-percent raise for elementary administrators and a two-and-a-half percent raise for secondary administrators in lieu of a proposed plan to implement performance pay for administrators. Performance pay compensation, to be determined by testing results which were not available, will be implemented next year, said Burrows.

-accepted the following resignations: Elvia Ayala, SBE English language learner assistant/food

service clerical assistant; Jaci Hughes, Heppner Junior High volleyball coach; Dawn Dyer, Irrigon High School tennis coach/Irrigon Junior High volleyball coach.

-approved the following employment: Cody Booth, IHS Spanish teacher; Rick Bruhn, Boardman schools facilities coordinator, replacing Gary Gosvener; Mavis Edwards, IES assistant cook, replacing Leah Wagg; Faye Zimmerman, ACH assistant cook, replacing Ruth Sullivan; Bonnie Matlack, SBE assistant cook, replacing Shirley Donovan; Patricia Brown, RHS assistant cook, replacing Gloria Cornwell; Dawn Mills, ACH half time special ed one-on-one assistant; Amy Butkis, IHS Title I migrant ed assistant.

-approved the following extra duty contracts: Betsy Shane, RHS DART coordinator; Lea Mathieu, RHS Talented and Gifted program coordinator; Paula Cavaness, IHS TAG coordinator; Clair Costello, RJH head football coach; Wendy Cannin, HJH head volleyball coach.

-heard the following

MC Health Department confirms Norovirus outbreak

The Morrow County Health Department has confirmed that Norovirus was the cause of an outbreak of gastrointestinal illness that swept through the Willow Creek Valley Assisted Living Facility last month.

The outbreak that affected a large percentage of staff as well as residents appears to have been isolated to the facility, thanks to decisions to temporarily ban outside visitors and restrict residents travel from the facility until risk of further transmission of the illness had passed.

According to public health department Director Sheree Smith, WCVL and Pioneer Memorial Hospital staff which assisted with care of residents at one point due to the number of ill assisted living staff, did an excellent job of taking strict isolation precautions. This prevented spread of the Norovirus to PMH staff and hospital.

According to the CDC, alcohol based hand sanitizer appears to be the best agent to use in regard to bacteria, fungi and viruses.

For more information about Norovirus visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov or call Morrow County Health Department at 676-5421.

Heppner Booster Club to meet

The Heppner Booster Club will meet September 12 at 7 p.m. in the Home Ec Room at the high school.

HES September calendar

Saturday, Sept. 22
- Colt football gymboree at 9 a.m.

Monday, Sept. 24 -
Open House from 6-7 p.m.

announcements: Oregon School Boards Association regional meeting, Oct. 4, Blue Mountain Community College; next board meeting, Monday, October 8, SBE, 7 p.m.; OSBA state conventions, November 8-11.

Citizen warns of fraudulent calls

The Heppner Gazette-Times received a phone call from a citizen who wanted to inform the public of fraudulent calls that she had received. The citizen stated that the caller ID read Madriz and when answered, the call was a recording stating that a warranty was almost up and that the call needed to be returned to a warranty specialist immediately. The citizen informed the Heppner Gazette-Times that she had checked with authorities and they informed her to call her newspaper to spread the word of the fraudulent calls.

Christian Men's Breakfast to be held

The Christian Men's Breakfast will be held at the Church of the Nazarene at 8 a.m. on Sunday, September 16. All men and their children are welcome to attend.

At the MCGG GREEN FEED STORE in Heppner:

We have lots of gorgeous Fall colors to choose from!

On Sale: Pansies \$1.19 • Asters \$3.99
Mums \$3.99 • Kale & Cabbage \$3.99

Morrow County Grain Growers Green Feed & Seed

242 W. Linden Way, Heppner • 676-9422 • 989-8221 (MCGG main office)