

~ 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.

**Cutsforth would make a superb district attorney**

To the editor:

The good people of Morrow County will soon have the opportunity to vote for a new district attorney. Mr. Tom Cutsforth will be one of the candidates for this important office. I have known Mr. Cutsforth for 18 years and can testify to his abilities as an attorney and district attorney.

Mr. Cutsforth is extremely competent with extensive experience, integrity, and total commitment to justice for all. He is noted as the flag bearer for property rights, protecting our children and families, the elderly and the homeless. He has worked tirelessly for economic development programs to improve the economic health of local communities. Mr. Cutsforth has prosecuted criminals and defended victims in serious criminal cases including homicides. He has represented hundreds of families and individuals involved with the domestic relations and juvenile justice system. Mr. Cutsforth has represented businesses, land owners and government bodies in almost every aspect of civil litigation.

Tom is committed to his community and a devoted father. He is fair, impartial and has a great heart. He cares about people and volunteers much of his time to the less fortunate. Mr. Tom Cutsforth would be a great asset to the community and a devoted public servant. Tom Cutsforth would make a superb district attorney for Morrow County.

Lee H. Bouchard, Ltc.  
Fossil

**Representative Smith should be returned to Salem**

To the editor:

We are writing in support of Greg Smith for reelection as state representative from District 57.

Greg Smith has completed five terms of service for the citizens of District 57. In those 10 years he has demonstrated his ability to identify and solve problems in the Oregon legislature. He knows how to work with agency administrators and staff to get things done for his constituents.

Greg Smith works with his fellow legislators from both parties to enact laws that benefit the citizens of his district. An example is the personal property tax relief he accomplished for the loggers of eastern Oregon for their logging equipment when it is not being operated.

Representative Smith should be returned to Salem to continue his excellent service to District 57.  
John and Pat Edmundson  
Heppner

**Cutsforth for district attorney**

To the editor:

There is a man running for election in Morrow County for the district attorney's position that all of you should give serious consideration. His name is Thomas w. Cutsforth. I have known Tom and his family for over 37 years. We were roommates in college at Oregon State, joined the Navy together, went to graduate school and law school at University of Oregon at the same time, and both retired from the US Navy. We have been there for each other in good times and bad... And had many memorable trips to the family cabin near Cutsforth Park. Needless to say, I know this man. He is one of your own, having been born and raised in Morrow County, and is truly a dedicated public servant who cares about the people he represents. He is a true professional who brings many years of experience to the position, as well as a strong personal drive to go to the extra measure to ensure the safety, security, and well being of his constituents. Tom Cutsforth is a "Common Sense" man with a strong ethical foundation. He has never been one satisfied to "just get by" and has continually sought out advanced legal education to further hone his skills and improve his knowledge level. I am a retired military and civilian law enforcement officer and have a pretty good understanding of what the position of district attorney entails and requires. And I know Tom Cutsforth very well and know what he can do. Tom Cutsforth knows both the job and Morrow County. He will meet and exceed all you expectations and requirements. He is a man you can trust. In my opinion, there could be no better choice. In closing, please remember to vote in the upcoming election and consider this: A vote for Tom Cutsforth for District Attorney is a positive vote for the residents of Morrow County.

Leon A. Muller  
Wilsonville

**BMCC classes scheduled locally**

Blue Mountain Community College has a number of classes scheduled in the local area that should be of interest to residents.

English to Spanish to English is a collaborative learning experience that brings English speakers together with Spanish speakers to learn the other's language. The class is set for Wednesday evenings from 5-6:30 p.m. at the Spanish room at Lone High School.

It will start Wednesday, April 21 and run for six weeks. Karen Holland is the instructor. Cost of the class is \$27.

Handgun Proficiency will be offered at the Boardman Center of BMCC on Saturday, April 17. The classroom portion of the class will begin at 9 a.m. and will focus on safety and laws. After a lunch break, students will adjourn to the shooting range where

they will demonstrate proficiency. The class satisfies the proficiency requirements needed to obtain a concealed weapons permit. Students must supply their own handgun and ammunition for the afternoon range session. Register for the class by April 14 to ensure a seat in the class. Cost is \$52.

Container gardening will be held in the Lone Greenhouse with Janet Hol-

land. She will coach students into designing and planting their own planters with an array of annuals from the greenhouse. Class is set for Thursday, April 29, from 5-8 p.m. and the cost of the class is \$22.

For more information or for registration assistance, contact Anne Morter, Morrow County Coordinator at 541-422-7040 or by email amorter@bluecc.edu.

**The Rugger**

*Editor's Note: The following article ran in the March 2010 edition of the Portland Monthly Magazine. The article was written by Rachel Ritchie and the photo was by Daniel Root. San Juanita Moreno is the daughter of Mary Anne Elguezabal of Heppner and the late Juan Elguezabal. She is a 2001 graduate of Heppner High School.*

In the summer of 2016, for the first time in 92 years, men's and women's rugby will be included in the Olympic Games. San Juanita Moreno, the scrappy, high-scoring outside center on Portland's premier women's team and a member of the US national team, talks about what it takes to be a rugger—and what playing has taught her. As told to Rachel Ritchie.

Even though I grew up in a small town in Eastern Oregon, I always knew I was a competitor. But I spent my whole life feeling like I was doing things that I wasn't supposed to be doing. I go to the gym and people stare at me because they think my body's built funny: I take up just as much space as a dude my size, but people think it's too much. With rugby, all

these natural movements that my body does all of a sudden aren't weird.

In a rugby match, there's something that connects you psychologically and emotionally—the physical contact and blood and sweat, the whole deal. You're really looking at and touching the people you're playing with all the time—you're totally exposed. There aren't many other sports where women go 100 percent against each other like that.

A contact sport is awkward for lots of girls. Not only do girls not grow up playing a contact sport, but how many girls grow up even watching it all the time? They don't even know what contact is supposed to look like, so how are they going to mimic it?

Women don't train right. Your knee gets injured when you don't keep yourself centered—anytime your knee isn't directly above your ankle, it's vulnerable to get torn. And because rugby's so intense, if you don't have that perfect muscle memory, your knees are very vulnerable.

I got [a red card] for a dangerous tackle before. But once you've picked someone up, it seems logical—where else do I put them but on their head?

You can't leave the field and come back unless you're bleeding. When you get off the field, you have moments to stop the bleeding. We don't really care about skin or antibacterial, none of that jones—you just stop it from bleeding as quickly as possible.

The Premier League is supposed to highlight the sport and attract more people. I mean, yeah, we lost all of our games, but they were good, exciting games, and people wanted to come watch them. Because in the years before, what, we creamed Seattle three times? Who wants to see that again? You've got to get people excited about rugby—before you can ask them to support it, they have to like it.

I've got all the tricks for getting to the front of the airport security line. I can get to PDX 15 minutes before my flight leaves. You act like you know someone ahead of you. And I've lost my ID a million times, and I tell the team, "Just leave without me—I'll be there in 20 minutes."

You can't really



San Juanita Moreno

afford to do anything else during the season when you have to pay an average of a couple hundred dollars a week to play. It's always a relief when we just have to pay for our flight.

Playing at the US level, we're not professional athletes, yet in so many ways we're struggling toward that lifestyle. It forces you to have a split life, and keep a career, but whenever you can, you get to be this different person. That's why I think so many women find that rugby is their calling—because it's the real you on the field.

**Pheasants Forever banquet to be held Saturday**

The Fifth Annual Columbia Plateau Pheasants Forever banquet will be held April 10 at the Heppner Elks Club starting with a hosted beer and wine social hour at 5 and prime rib dinner at 5:30.

"This has been a real fun event for the community the last few years," said Skip Matthews, PF chapter president. "We have raised over \$30,000 the last two years at these banquets. We have used those funds here locally to purchase equipment, labor, guzzlers, seed and plants for upland bird habitat. It also goes to support our youth hunters with events just for them."

Tickets are \$55 for



Columbia Plateau Chapter Pheasants Forever Board members Misty Bennett and Chet Hadley show off a couple of the many guns to be raffled off April 10 at the PF banquet at the Elks Club. —Contributed Photo

a single dinner which includes a PF membership. A couple is \$85. Young people 15 and under costs \$30 which includes a Ring-

neck Membership, a PF Ringneck Hat, oen Banquet Youth gun raffle ticket and 10 youth raffle tickets. Other sponsor packages

can be purchased for \$125, \$250, \$500 or \$1,000 that includes many bonus items. Tickets are available at the door.

There are lots of quality items in this years auction for both a silent auction and a live auction including artwork, hunting and fishing trips, and of course several firearms to be raffled and auctioned off. The banquet gun this year is a Franchi Renaissance 12 gauge O/U, and the youth banquet gun is a Stoeger 20 gauge O/U.

For a complete list of guns and a banquet flyer visit the website at <http://www.rapidserve.net/columbia-plateau>.

**NEOAHEC offers funding for "Health Career Days"**

Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center (NEOAHEC) is currently offering funding to nonprofit, school, and government youth-based organizations for "Health Career Days."

Health Career Days are designed to provide elementary students and their communities with informa-

tion about health career options, and promote the idea of retaining health care professionals in rural areas. Any nonprofit, school, or government youth-based organization located in the following counties may apply: Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Hood River, Malheur, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wasco,

and Wheeler. The organization must be willing to take the primary responsibility for planning and offering a day long elementary "Health Career Day" experience during the 2009-2010 school year.

NEOAHEC will grant up to \$1,000 for approved plans, and will also provide additional resour-

ces to facilitate the implementation of your event. Deadline for applications is May 3.

To apply for funds, or for more information, please contact Brenna Dunlap, Education Coordinator at 541-962-3801 or bhines@eou.edu. The website is [www.eou.edu/neoahcec/news.html](http://www.eou.edu/neoahcec/news.html).

**Happy 80th Birthday Uncle Bob!**

**Wrangler's will start April 11th**

...and run every Sunday thru May 2nd!

The play days will be held at the Rodeo grounds

Family cost-\$40 Potluck@12:00  
Individual cost -\$25 Games@1:00

Participant must attend 3 out of 4 play days to be eligible for awards.

**FREE Household Hazardous Waste Event**

Accepted during the event:

- Used oil (containers less than 25 gallons), Oil filters, Spent Antifreeze, Automotive batteries, Alkaline & rechargeable batteries, Propane Tanks (smaller than 25 gal.) Oil based paint, Paint thinners and solvents, Roof and asphalt patch, Adhesives, glues and contact cement, Caulks sealers and joint compounds, Lawn and garden chemicals and fertilizers, Pool chemicals, Household cleaners (including bleach, ammonia, furniture polish, toilet bowl cleaners, carpet deodorizers), Sludge (soil contaminated with oil smaller than 25 gal. containers) Mercury thermometers, Fluorescent lamps, All types of aerosol cans, Used cooking oil, Road flares, PCB ballasts, Organic peroxides (hardening agents)

Items not accepted: Empty containers, ammunition, explosives, biological waste, radioactive waste.

Morrow County Public Works  
P.O. Box 428  
Leppner, OR 97609  
541-676-9228

Morrow County will be hosting another Household Hazardous Waste event FREE of charge to County residents held on April 24, 2010 at the North end transfer station, 6990 Prostrage Ln., Boardman. Hours of operation 11:00 to 2:00.

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