

~ 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.

Write in Jean M. Brazell for mayor

Dear Lexington Voters:

Our town is in desperate need of leadership and experience. We need someone who will gather the facts and listen to all sides of an issue so that council members can make an informed decision for all of us. Jean Brazell has worked eight years for this town. Please write in Jean M. Brazell for mayor.

**Beverly J. Steagall
Lexington**

MURDER INDICTMENT

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vated Theft in the First Degree: The defendant, on or between October 1, 2010 and October 4, 2010, in Morrow County, Oregon, did unlawfully and knowingly commit the theft of United States Currency, of the value of \$10,000 or more, the property of The Pheasant Café and Lounge. The state further alleges that the defendant exerted control of the United States Currency that is the subject of this theft in Morrow County, Oregon.

A warrant was issued for Crum's arrest on October 7 for the murder of Jessica Rae Killian, whose body was discovered on October 4 on a farm near Ione. She was believed to have been killed sometime between October 1 and 4. Crum, a Morrow County

Sheriff's reserve deputy, was arrested on October 8 without incident during a traffic stop in Harney County.

Crum was arraigned Monday, October 11 and will enter a plea at a hearing on Friday. A bail hearing will also be held at that time.

Killian also had another child who did not live with her.

The Oregon Department of Justice is prosecuting the case at the request of Morrow County District Attorney Justin W. Nelson in order to ensure the integrity of the process because of the defendant's involvement in law enforcement.

Anyone with any information should call the Morrow County Sheriff's Office at 541-676-9061.

IONE AYP

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state news release, the district had \$6,927 per student in direct classroom expenditures for the 2008-09 school year, compared to an average of \$4,670 per student statewide. The district spent \$1,296 in classroom support per student, compared to \$1,444 per student statewide; \$3,801 in building support per student, compared to \$1,430 per student statewide; and \$360 per student for central support, compared to \$366 statewide.

According to the state report, for the 2009-10 school year the Ione district had: 12 teachers with an average of 14.8 years of experience; 41.7 percent of

the teachers had a master's degree or higher; 7.7 percent had an emergency or provisional credential as of January 15. The report lists two educational assistants for the Ione district and 3.8 other staff. One hundred percent of the classes at Ione were taught by "highly qualified teachers," compared to 96 percent statewide.

According to state figures, the district has no special education students, compared to an average of 14.6 percent state-wide and 3.7 percent of their students were enrolled in English as a Second Language programs, compared to 9.9 percent statewide.

CLEAN UP

-Continued from Page ONE

Pettibone held up several sheets of paper. "I have four pages of comments from Facebook (of people who have heard about this). All of them are behind us," she said.

Others in the audience also were in support. "I'm here to support our rural lifestyle," said Jerry Gentry, Heppner. "How far do you want to carry this?" asked Nancy Gochbauer, also of Heppner.

Pettibone's daughter, Sibbea Browning, was also at the meeting. "If someone else rides in town is my sister being targeted?" she asked. "We see sheep in town all the time, and we still see dog poop all the time downtown. My sister has been targeted," she told the council.

"She (Pettibone's daughter) is the only one being observed, so she is being targeted," Mayor Les Paustian said. "Clean up your own poop the same as dog owners." Paustian said the city has received numerous complaints besides Edmundson's asking why dog owners are required to clean up after their animals, and horse owners are not.

The city also called into questions if Pettibone was violating her permit to keep animals within the city limits. City manager Dave DeMayo was instructed by the mayor to read the permit out loud to the council. Anyone who keeps animals on their property is supposed to obtain a permit from the city, and the council was told Pettibone's permit allows her to keep 10 horses and she has 13 on her property.

In the end Pettibone and the council agreed that an adult would clean up within about a day after animals went through town. "We can live with that," Pettibone said. "We do not want to take away their (daughters') rights to ride out to the fairgrounds," the mayor said. **Request to revisit apartment purchase**

In other business, the council heard requests to reconsider their "no" vote last month on purchasing a run-down apartment complex on Chase Street and turning the area into parking.

At its September meeting the council voted not to spend \$15,000 to purchase the property which is along Willow Creek next to the bridge in front of the Morrow County Court-

house.

Heppner resident Larry Mills said he would encourage the council to re-think the decision not to purchase the property. "Once you get people to stop in our community they will spend money here," Mills said. "Our school is down 20 kids (actually 29, see school board story this week) again this year." Mills also said the extra parking would help when there is a trial at the Morrow County Courthouse just across the street. Beverly Howe, owner of Howe's About Pizza, says they have seen people park in her business parking lot when going to the courthouse across the street. "We would be willing to expand our business if we could get some more parking," Howe said.

Jerry Hollomon, who lives next door to the apartment complex, wrote a letter to the council in which he said: "I was surprised at your decision last month regarding the old apartments at 120 N. Chase St. I understand the main purpose for purchasing this property is to develop a space for large rigs pulling ATVs or fifth wheel trailers, or camp trailers, motor homes etc., to have a place to park (daytime only) so they may shop a little in Heppner, or just stop and take a look around our community. They may want to get a bite to eat or buy a few groceries that they need for their trip.

"The way our streets are designed, there is no place for these large outfits to park. We should discourage them staying all night in this spot, as we have two overnight areas for that purpose now, and we don't want to interfere with their business. The lot could also allow extra parking for special occasions, such as St. Patrick's Day, etc.

Council member Cody High, who was the most vocal against the purchase last month, said he has heard from constituents around town who want to know why, if the county is going to benefit from the parking with overflow from the courthouse, they are not purchasing the property?

Mayor Paustian said the whole purchase may not be viable because, if there is asbestos on the property, the city will probably back away from the deal. "The county does not want to get involved if there is asbestos in those buildings,"

he said.

Fire Chief Rusty Estes told the council that an inspector was coming in the next few days to determine if there was asbestos in the structures.

Paustian said the city would be "partnering" with the county if the sale does go through, but they are now just waiting for the inspection report. "We have had a lot of input on this," he said.

City Manager DeMayo said that the property is in the flood plain so that makes it more difficult to rehabilitate the structures. DeMayo said he had talked to a developer who wanted to take the building "down to the studs", but the developer was informed that under the flood plain rules he could not do this.

"The said property is located in the flood plain," Hollomon wrote in his letter, "so it would be difficult to ever build anything on the property now or in the future. I have lived next to these apartments for 38 years and have watched the deterioration of this property, I have had occasion to cover holes to keep starlings out of ceiling space and I can tell you the wood is rotten, the metal roof (put on several owners ago) leaks and has (in one spot) been covered with a plastic tarp held down with bricks removed from old chimneys on the property.

"As for dislocating present tenants, there are several other low income properties in town that from time to time advertise vacancies.

"We have a very nice looking town and a very photographic courthouse, however in their present condition, these apartments are very distracting.

"I would like to see you reconsider the opportunity to purchase this property and make our town a more attractive and inviting community. Please don't pass up this opportunity," Hollomon concluded in his letter.

Councilmember Cindy Doherty said if the city did buy the property that there be more than just "an all asphalt or gravel lot".

The council did not take action, waiting instead to hear the asbestos report before making any further decisions.

Police report
The Morrow County Sheriff's Department made the following monthly report to the city council:

-Deputies investigated a fight between two females over \$3.00. An adult female was arrested for Assault in the 4th Degree.

-A deputy responded to a verbal fight between a male and female. Everything was fine, just a verbal argument.

-MCSO received two 911 hang up calls within town.

-A patient from Lakeview Heights was transported from Bend to Heppner for court.

-Deputies investigated a complaint from a citizen regarding someone who was trying to hack into the new computer she just purchased. It was determined there was no crime; the citizen was inexperienced with computers.

-A person called MCSO and reported hearing explosions in the past. A deputy responded, and was told the person believed the explosions were coming from under the eaves, near the satellite dish.

-A deputy investigated a complaint from a caller who was concerned for his 17-year-old girlfriend, whom he just asked to marry him; her parents were not allowing her to speak to him.

-A deputy responded to a complaint where a person moved out of a room they were renting, and were having difficulty retrieving their belongings.

-Deputies handled a complaint where a juvenile was living with a relative, and needed to obtain his property from his room.

-Graffiti was reported at the city park.

-A person reported another person got their daughter's cell phone wet, causing damage. It was determined to be accidental.

-MCSO received a call regarding people smoking marijuana.

-A deputy investigated an incident of telephone harassment coming from Jamaica.

-MCSO investigated a possible sex crime. It was determined to be unfounded.

-MCSO was contacted by a juvenile's parents who reported their child entered another person's residence and used a computer.

-A school employee reported a student walked out of Friday school.

-A parent called MCSO regarding their child, who was refusing to go to school. A deputy responded and spoke with the juvenile.

-A parent called MCSO to report their teenager left the residence without permission, and the parent was watching the juvenile walking in a field.

-MCSO received a 911 call regarding an out of control juvenile. A deputy responded and made contact with the parties involved.

-Deputies received a report of an underage drinking party. All the people were of legal drinking age.

-MCSO received a call regarding juveniles being threatened.

-MCSO received three separate requests for welfare checks. Concerning one of the requests, a deputy found an adult inside the residence who required medical treatment.

Halloween
*Costumes
*Candy
*Decor
FALL FLOWERS

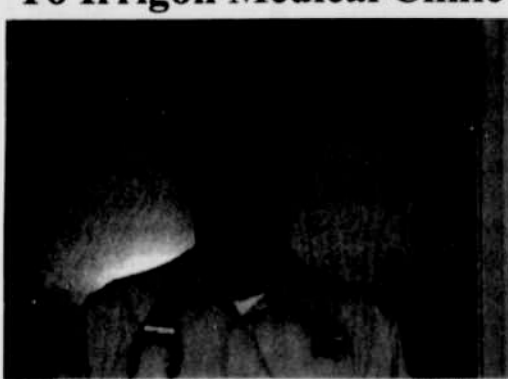
DRINK SPECIALS!
Kahlua Mudslide Mocha \$3.25
Eggnog Frappe \$3.25

Baby Registry
Katie Olsen (Riney)
Shower- October 23rd
Due Date- February 17th

Wedding Tables
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Robert Johlke
Shower- October 23rd
Wedding- December 25th

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