

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  
Andrea Di Salvo.....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 \$5 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 \$5.75 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 prepared 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.

**Obituaries**

**Louanne E. DeSpain**

Louanne E. DeSpain, 58, formerly of Heppner, passed away at St. Vincent's Hospital in Portland on February 7, 2012, with family present after a long battle of cancer.

A Celebration of Life will take place at the Scappoose Adventist Church, 54289 Columbia River Hwy., Scappoose, OR on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 1:30 p.m.



Louanne E. DeSpain

Louie was born July 7, 1953, in Aguilar, CO to Rose Marie Brozovich and Edward Pfeaning. Her youth was spent in the Idaho panhandle. She was a graduate of Wallace, ID high school in 1971.

She then worked in the food industry from 1971-1983. She went to work for Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner, where she stayed until 1989. She retired from St. Vincent's Hospital in Portland, OR after 20 years.

Always reaching for her next goal, some of her most proud achievements were becoming a volunteer firefighter, working as an EMT on the ambulance in Heppner, and winning the "Pride Award" while working in the cardiac unit at St. Vincent's Hos-

pital. Louie always chose a path of service, always putting others before herself and making the choice to help without ever asking for anything in return.

She was an avid crafter. She enjoyed crocheting and was a seamstress for many years. She also attended outings to hockey games, soccer games, Trail Blazer games, the opera and music concerts with her family. She had a passion for gardening and loved to be outside working with flowers and landscaping the yard.

Louie married Chris in 1985. They resided in Heppner until 1989, when they moved to the Willamette Valley with their family. She lived in Scappoose at the time of her passing.

She is survived by: her parents; her sisters, Audrey and DeeDee; her brother Eddie; her husband Chris of Scappoose; daughter Mickie (Cameron) Parker of Battleground, OR; son Jason Cameron of St. Helens, OR; and daughter Randie Cox of Scappoose, OR. She had five grandchildren.

**~ 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.

**More at issue than private property**

An article titled "Wind power protest airs in Morrow County," printed in the EO on Saturday, January 28, contains an item worthy of further discussion.

Specifically, a quote attributed to Jerry Reitmann, one of the primary organizers in the Ella Butte wind power project, "It's perfectly valid for people to not like the idea of having wind turbines in their neighborhood. But it's still a private property issue." While I agree wholeheartedly with that statement, it is important to note that private property rights are not unlimited. This seems to be a concept which escapes the notice of Mr. Reitmann. When the activities of Mr. Reitmann on his own property have a significant negative effect on the private property rights of his neighbors, well then, Mr. Reitmann's activities are an infringement on his neighbor's private property rights. While wind energy developers continue to deny it, there is ample experience to confirm there are real negative effects on property values and quality of life issues due to close proximity to modern industrial scale wind turbines. These negative effects are reduced as distance from the turbines increases—and there are real, measurable negative effects up to at least two miles from the turbines.

So the functional meaning of Mr. Reitmann's statement seems to be something like—I'll do whatever I want to do on my property to make money, and if that means your property value goes down, well, that's just too bad.

I find it extremely frustrating that wind project developers (and the attorneys who advise them) seem to be capable of only claiming to be good neighbors, rather than actually being good neighbors. Indeed, here in Umatilla County, wind developers, involved property owners and their attorneys are doing everything they can to strike down development codes approved in June of 2011 which would force wind developers to actually be good neighbors, rather than just claim or pretend to be good neighbors.

I have heard the Morrow County Planning Director describe their wind energy siting codes as "robust." My own review suggests that in this case, "robust" must mean something like—codes so loose they are easy to meet, hard to violate and with few enforcement mechanisms.

Don't let hot button phrases like "private property rights" cloud your ability to consider all the issues related to siting commercial wind energy projects.

Ed Chesnut  
Milton-Freewater, OR

**Wind farm 'red flags' in Morrow County**

The East Oregonian article of January 28, 2012 regarding the wind power situation in Morrow County contains more "red flags" for the people of Morrow County, recognizing the problems the previous Willow Creek Wind Project caused for adjacent landowners and the county's refusal to accept their responsibilities that went with issuing the permit is cause for serious concern.

The statement by Mr. Reitmann raised a huge "red flag" for the people of Morrow County. The statement regarding their future plans for wind development and its potential impact on affected landowners highlights several issues.

Morrow County Siting Standards and Requirements for future wind projects are dysfunctional and outdated. The total disregard for affected landowner rights needs to be corrected before proceeding with future wind project applications.

Umatilla County made a stellar effort to deal with these issues. Unfortunately, implementation of the "Umatilla County New Rules" is on hold due to legal blocks being attempted by the Wind Energy attorneys. The Umatilla County intent with the

New Rules was to bring a balance to the property rights for affected as well as participating landowners; it is to provide a tool that would allow the flexibility of compromise. This is certainly lacking in Morrow County.

Respectfully,  
Dave Price  
Athena, OR

**'Birth to college' bad news for kids, parents**

To the Editor:

Congratulations on a superb job of reporting the education goals of our governor, his panel of "experts," and fellow travelers. (See February 1, 2012 State education to stress "birth to college" says superintendent.) It is true that when they enter public school, children whose social interaction primarily consists of day care and television are both socially and scholastically behind those children who interact with loving parents. It is also true that most of them never catch up.

The governor's solution is to deprive all students of a wholesome family life. The "disadvantaged" children will no longer be behind, because there will be no one for them to be behind. In the last century, every time the age for compulsory education was lowered, the student's performance was lowered.

When the liberals took over Russia in 1917, they took the young children away from their parents and put them in nurseries run by trained and accredited teachers and nurses. The death rate was so high that the Russians closed down the nurseries and let the parents raise their children. The governor's plan may be closer to Hitler's than Lenin's, but the results will be the same in all three cases.

Stupidity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result.

I think parents would do well to read your article again and consider the implications of what the "experts" had to say.

Dick Temple, DVM  
Lexington

**Nordic group meets**



On Feb. 18, the ski conditions were the best the Arbuckle Nordic Ski Club had seen this year. There was a good inch of fresh powder on top of the base, and the group followed Ditch Creek south of where it flows under the 53 road...a great route for skiers who want to practice gentle ups and downs. (L-R) Sherry Ewing; Dan, Sandy and Sam Van Liew; Bill Ewing, Jonathan and Doreen Enz; and John Edmundson. -Contributed photo

**Ione youth baseball holds registration**

Ione Youth Baseball is holding registrations on Thursday, Feb. 23 from 5-6:30 p.m. at Wheatland Insurance Center. The cost is \$35 per player with a \$70 cap per family.

Registration forms were sent home with students on Tuesday. Proof of residency and birth certificates are required to register. Please call Karen Padberg with any questions.

**Ione Library District to meet**

The Ione Library District will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, Feb. 23 at 2 p.m. at the Ione Public Library, 255 W. Main Street in Ione.

Agenda topics include agreement for representation, interim financing, consideration of establishing a permanent tax rate and follow-up items from the January meeting. The public is invited to attend.

**If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, help is available and that help is FREE of charge.**

If YOU have a family member who suffers from gambling addiction, YOU can also receive FREE treatment even if the gambler is not receiving treatment.

If you are a resident of Morrow County and you wish to take advantage of the services above or desire more information, Please call any of the following numbers to set up a LOCAL appointment or just to talk:  
Bobby Harris @ 541-676-9925 or 541-256-0175  
Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) @ 541-676-9161  
OR 1-877-695-4648 (1-888-MYLIMIT)

**Magnetic Door Signs!**  
The Heppner Gazette Times  
(541) 676-9228

**A special kind of Valentine**



Manuel Cegueda (left) and Adan Guerra (right) wanted to show their principal, Mr. Matt Combe (center), their very special Valentine's Day cards. The boys made the cards using sign language. Manuel's first language is sign language, his second language is Spanish and his third language is English. Manuel and Adan are in Mrs. Elguézabal's English Language Learner class at Heppner Elementary School. Both boys were very excited to take home their huge Valentine wishes. -Contributed photo

**Chamber lunch meeting**

The next meeting of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be Thursday, Feb. 23, at 11:30 a.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church in Heppner. The Port of Morrow commissioners will be the guest speakers. The commissioners will report on what is going on at the port and will allow time for questions and discussion.

Cost of the lunch is \$9; Sweet Productions will cater. Those planning on attending are asked to RSVP by the Tuesday before.

**NEW ST. PAT'S GEAR**

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- Sweatshirts
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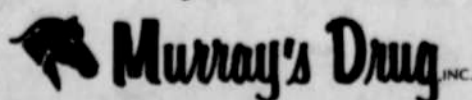
**DRINK SPECIALS**

- WERTHERS LATTE \$3.25
- TOASTED MARSHMALLOW
- HOT CHOCOLATE \$2.50

*Wedding Table*

Travis Winters &  
Laura Brown

Saturday, March 3rd



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