

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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Published weekly by Sykes Publishing, LLC and entered as periodical matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Periodical postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 188 W. Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: editor@rapidsolve.net or david@rapidsolve.net. Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$31 in Morrow County; \$25 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 65 years or older); \$37 elsewhere; \$31 student subscriptions.  
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For Advertising: advertising deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Cost for a display ad is \$5.25 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 \$6.05 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.

## McLane steps down as Enterprise manager

By David Sykes

Carla McLane announced her resignation as Columbia River Enterprise Zone, CREZ, manager last week, saying time necessary on her job as Morrow County Planner does not allow "enough time to be responsible for both and do them well."

McLane has been the manager of the CREZ since its inception, helping in its original organization and handling day to day duties and operations since. Saying she has enjoyed the position and working on economic development in Morrow County, McLane told the board "over the next several years, I want to commit my time and energy to Morrow County, Morrow County Board of Commissioners, Planning Commission and Planning Department staff to accomplish a variety of tasks and projects."

The CREZ was formed several years ago as an intergovernmental agreement between Morrow County, City of Boardman and the Port of Morrow to negotiate agreements with and handle funds from business locating and expanding within the enterprise zone located near Boardman. The zone is one of many around Oregon set up to offer incentives for business wishing to locate or expand and create jobs within the zones. The businesses make payments to the CREZ in lieu of, and less than regular property taxes. The economic zone in Morrow County has been very successful over the years and provides funds for distribution around the county. The CREZ originally decided, and continues to fund, four broad areas in the county including education, community enhancement, housing and public safety.

Following her resigna-



Carla McLane

tion McLane proposed the board consider hiring retired county assessor Greg Sweek as the new zone manager. Sweek has also been involved with the CREZ since its inception and is very familiar with its rules and operations. Sweek has also been part of the CREZ board of directors representing Morrow County since its inception.

In other business at the meeting, the board discussed and approved a tax abatement agreement with Three Mile Farms. Three Mile owns a company called Threemile Project LLC which intends to invest \$27 million in a methane gas conditioning facility and associated pipeline. The gas is produced from the farm's large dairy operation located in the enterprise zone near Boardman. The company will receive tax reduction on the project but agrees to pay on any future bonded levies. It may be able to offset some of its tax payments when money is donated to certain community groups within the county.

The CREZ board also approved an agreement with the Morrow County Grain Growers providing tax relief for a grain transfer facility planned in the enterprise zone. The facility is expected to cost around \$8.8 million. Payments to community organizations will be also be offset against their tax payments and they also are expected to pay future bonded debt.

## Obituaries

### Donald Wilson Jones

Donald Wilson Jones was born Dec. 11, 1922 and passed away Apr. 29 at the age of 95.

He was buried at National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona.

Jones grew up in Heppner and graduated from Heppner High school and then the University of Oregon. He was in the US Army Air Force and stationed in Arizona during the second world war. He worked as a photographer for many years.

Jones has three chil-

dren, Randy, Jeff and Kristen. Randy and Don were sharing an apartment in Scottsdale, AZ at the time of his death. He also has one brother, Robert A. Jones, Heppner.

Don's mother, Hanna Wilson, came to Oregon when she was thirteen from Ireland and attended school in Heppner, marrying Alva Walter Jones in 1920. Hanna passed away at the age of 54, but Alva lived to be 102.

Alva's mother used to say she came across the plains when she was a little girl and her father was captain of the wagon train. She passed away at the age of 99. Alva's father, Jeff Jones was mayor of Heppner at one time.

### Helen M. Heideman

As members of her family circled her bed and prayed with the Hospice Chaplain, Helen Heideman passed away on Friday, May 11 at her home in Hermiston. They shared the moment of her death and rejoiced in her release from earthly pain and suffering knowing she would be joining her beloved husband and family members who had passed before her.

Helen was born Feb. 3, 1929 in Cheney, WA to parents LeRoy and Vera Woody, joining siblings Lyle, Loren and Letha. She was brought home to the family farm outside of Connell, WA where she was raised, went to school and met her high school sweetheart and the love of her life, Robert 'Butch' Heideman. Helen played saxophone in the school band and sang in the glee club, graduating from CHS in June 1946.

Helen and Butch were married on Feb. 22, 1948 and celebrated their life through love and faith and community involvement. Together they raised their four children, Loren, Loa, Dana and Debbie in Connell where Helen worked as a bookkeeper, a librarian and school secretary.

Helen continued playing saxophone for dances and community functions, gardened, taught swimming lessons and served as a Girl Scout leader. She was active for years in the Connell Grange, Jayceettes and Gideon Lutheran church.

Along with their sons, Helen and Butch purchased farm land near Ione in 1976 and began a life of farming for generations to come. As years passed, their daughters moved to the area and

established their families near Helen and Butch. Along with farming and working for Battelle at the coal fire plant near Boardman, they owned Ione Hardware store for five years.

She was active in the Ione Community church, the Ione Cardinal Booster Club and all things sports. She and Butch were always in attendance at Ione school sports and Helen kept books for the school basketball games. Helen supported the annual church auction through her exquisite quilt making, and became known throughout the Ione community as the "go-to" grandma for making dozens of pies each week to be sold at the concession stand and for local fundraisers.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, husband, her three siblings and one great-granddaughter. She is survived by her four children Loren Heideman (Della), Loa Heideman, Dana Heideman and Debbie Morgan (Virgil), nine grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held at Thursday, May 17 at 10:30 a.m. at the Ione Community church followed by interment at the High View Cemetery in Ione. A luncheon will be provided by the Good Neighbor Club at the Ione Community church afterwards.

Donations can be made in her memory to the Ione Cardinal Booster Club, PO Box 4, Ione, OR 97843 or to the Ione Community Church, PO Box 346, Ione, OR 97843.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in care of arrangements.

### Community lunch menu

Willow Creek Baptist volunteers will serve lunch on Wednesday, May 23 at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Lunch will be beef and broccoli, stir fried rice, carrot salad, sliced tomatoes, spring rolls and ice cream and fortune cookies for dessert.

Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.

*please join us*

Please Join Us for a  
Meet & Greet Open House welcoming  
Caroline Jackson, New Director of Pioneer  
Memorial Home Health & Hospice  
Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 4 to 6 p.m.  
Main St. Office, Heppner

## No pay to play fees scheduled for next year

The Morrow County School Board Monday night heard a presentation from nine graduating seniors at Riverside Jr./Sr. High School. All nine of the seniors will not only graduate with honors from RJSHS, but at the same time will earn their Associate of Arts Transfer degrees from Blue Mountain Community College.

School Superintendent Dirk Dirksen expressed his pride of the students and commented that he had said that if a student were able to achieve this goal while he was superintendent, it was time for him to retire, which, he added, is expected to come sometime in the near future.

Dirksen also said that the district, which budgeted for 2,200 students last year, is seeing an 80-student increase, which, he added, "makes budgeting a lot easier." He said that the district is anticipating adding an additional classroom for kindergarten through grade six children struggling with behavior problems in the north end of the district, in partnership with Community Counseling Solutions. The district is also adding a teacher at Sam Boardman Elementary and Windy River Elementary, a half-time teacher at Riverside High School, all in Boardman, where the majority of the student increase is expected, a teacher at Heppner Elementary for a "pull-out" class for students struggling with reading, and an on-line secondary teacher.

Dirksen commented that he was pleased to announce that, thanks to Morrow County Unified Recreation District taxpayers, there will be no pay-to-play fees for students next year. Students will be able to play sports without contributing a fee. This year, according to a district school employee, the pay-to-play fee was \$50 per sport for a high school student and \$25 for a junior-high student with the fees maxing out at \$100 for a family.

Dirksen announced that the InterMountain Education Service District awarded 2018 Crystal Apple Excellence in Education awards to Tracie Bunch, Heppner Jr./Sr. High School department secretary, who is retiring this year; Sarah Christy, SBE first grade teacher, Betsy Shane, RJSHS math teacher and Amy Stringer, ACH/Irrigon Elementary school counselor.

Also receiving Crystal Apple awards in Morrow County were Tom Gates, Ione Community School custodian, and Chelsea Matheny, Ione Community School third-grade teacher.

In other business, the board:

-approved moving forward on setting a policy for medical examinations and drug testing for new district employees.

-adopted rescinded, new or revised policies on

compliance and reporting on standards; staff-student-parent relations; prohibited use, distribution or sale of tobacco products and inhalant delivery systems; relations with home-schooled students; teaching about religion; religion and schools; recognition of religious beliefs and customs; interscholastic and co-curricular activities program; interscholastic activities; instructional resources-instructional materials; instructional media selection; graduation requirements; and trauma informed schools.

-adopted new, revised or rescinded administrative rules on public comment at board meetings; recognition of religious beliefs and customs; interscholastic activities program structures and emphasis; instructional materials-programs adoption procedure; challenge of instruction materials; challenge request for instructional materials; handling of questioned or challenged materials; and graduation requirements.

-adopted resolutions accepting and appropriating unanticipated revenues: \$10,000 to Heppner Jr./Sr. High School from Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group, \$1,000 from ASB Athletics to Heppner Jr./Sr. High School for Camps for Kids; \$1,000 to Sam Boardman Elementary from Kiwanis Club of Boardman; \$1,000 to Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School ASB Football from Morrow County Health Department.

-received the following enrollment report for May: A.C. Houghton Elementary, Irrigon-282; Sam Boardman Elementary, Boardman-353; Heppner Elementary-169; Irrigon Elementary-209; Windy River Elementary, Boardman-259; Heppner Jr./Sr. High School-171; Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School-340; Riverside Jr./Sr. High School, Boardman-414; Morrow Education Center-83; Total-2,280.

-approved the following employment action for May: resignations/non-renewals-Brooke Anderson, WRE special ed teacher, Craig Bensen, MEC principal, Jessa Bigsby, WRE sixth-grade teacher, Franca Drake, ACH first grade teacher, Julia Finch, SBE third grade teacher, Robert Jody Saunders, IJSHS PE/Health and all coaching positions, Jeff Searles, IJSHS band/computer teacher (all end of school year); Paul Keefer, IJSHS boys' soccer coach, Dolores Nunnery, IJSHS assistant cheerleading coach, Gina Patterson, RJSHS ed assistant, Cheri Snodgrass, IJSHS ed assistant, Brandi Verley, IJSHS head cheerleading coach, Dieter Waite, HJSHS junior high head wrestling coach.

-approved the following non-renewal/terminations-PJ Keefer, RJSHS junior high assistant football

-See NO PAY TO PLAY/  
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**Community Clean-up Day**

Organized by the City of Heppner

**FREE DUMPSTER for garbage collection available at the City yard on Riverside Ave. Thursday May 17th through Monday May 28th.**

**There will also be a spot to leave yard debris and burnable material.**

**The City will not accept tires, hazardous waste or household chemicals.**

**City of Heppner residents only**

**Please contact the City of Heppner for more information 541-676-9618.**

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**



63808 CLARKS CANYON RD, LEXINGTON OR RMLS# 18032875

Custom built home with vaulted ceilings, wrap around porch, oak cabinets, surround sound, lighted brick pillars, vinyl fencing, 36X72 barn, 12x24 loft, 30x72 shop, hot walker, security lights, LOP tags, airport w/in 2 miles. 260.57 Total acres. Property is 187.09 CRP until 9/2020, 63.5 irrigated acres. Additional water rights available.

Debora Wood Ph: 541-567-8303  
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