

~ 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.

Broken Immigration System

To the editor:
The issues of illegal immigration continue to plague our country. I have been employed in law enforcement for over 40 years, with much of that time spent in Umatilla and Morrow counties. I am currently the sheriff of Morrow County.

Since I have been sheriff, I have been invited several times to visit the southern US border to see first hand the crime issues along the border states. Issues of drug running, human trafficking, the extreme violence of the drug cartels and gangs. I've visited the ranches with little or no border security and spoke with the people that live there with the constant threat of armed violence. I've seen the evidence of rapes, robberies and murders of the people that are victimized as they make their way to the United States. I've attended the daily briefings of the multi-agency task forces which are very similar to our own major crime team and drug task force except theirs are much larger and are permanent. Border sheriffs have an expression, "What happens at the border doesn't stay at the border." All the issues of drug smuggling, violence, human trafficking, illegal immigration and cartel expansion is carried out throughout all the various parts of our country. Morrow County experiences the same type of issues other jurisdictions experience except at a smaller scale. The large marijuana grows in south Morrow County were known to be controlled by the Mexican cartels here too.

How did the sheriff of Oregon's seventh smallest county get involved with this issue? Because I have been fighting these issues for nearly as long as I have been in law enforcement. As I have mentioned in previous articles in this paper, I was here when the advent of circle pivot irrigation systems touched off the garden of Eden in farm production. It started what is best described as the beginning of the great southern migration. Who is responsible for most of the blame for all these years of our broken immigration

system? It's not simple, but the bottom line is that both political parties are responsible. It became apparent to me that it was about power and politics. When one party was in control, it was building, expanding, making money and finding labor. It was about businesses, larger plants and where do you find the labor force to fill those new fields and factories? Where do you find the labor you need to grow and process this new garden of Eden? Build it and they will come and they did. When the other party came to power, it was about political clout. The political party was viewed as the party of the little people; the disadvantaged and the new arrivals. The immigrants that were able to get legal status and then citizenship if they were lucky leaned toward this political party. Our political divide grew as our parties traded the lead back and forth. Some states were now becoming involved in the federal issue of immigration law.

The system has been allowed to go unfixed for so long that it appears to be unfixable. In the past, I participated in a program in DC called "Hold their feet to the fire," which was a program to try to encourage our elected leaders to come to an agreement on repairing our broken immigration system. It continues to be a difficult task.

Sept. 5 and 6, I have been invited back to DC to a meeting called "White House Nationwide Sheriff's Fly-in." The white house has invited sheriffs from each state to come and talk about their experiences on issues of immigration and how it has impacted their communities in their local jurisdictions. The President is expected to host the group and wants to hear from the sheriffs as he goes forward in finding solutions to our broken immigration system. Perhaps he may hear a few ideas on working to repair it.

The expenses for this trip are being paid by FAIR (Federation for American Immigration Reform) and not the taxpayers of Morrow County. Sheriff Kenneth W. Matlack Morrow County Sheriff

Mustang fall sports scheduled

Mustang Volleyball Varsity

Sept. 8, 7 p.m. at Griswold Tourney (Helix High School)
Sept. 13, 5 p.m. at Grant Union
Sept. 14, 9 a.m. at Baker Tournament (Baker High School)
Sept. 18, 4 p.m. at McLoughlin (McLoughlin High School)
Sept. 18, 6 p.m. at Irrigon (McLoughlin High School)
Sept. 20, 5 p.m. vs. Pilot Rock
Sept. 22, 2 p.m. at Union (Enterprise)
Sept. 22, 2 p.m. at Enterprise (Enterprise)
Sept. 25, 5 p.m. at Weston-McEwen
Sept. 27, 5 p.m. vs. Stanfield
Oct. 4, 5 p.m. vs. Grant Union
Oct. 6, 2 p.m. vs. Enterprise (Heppner)
Oct. 6, 4 p.m. vs. Union (Heppner)
Oct. 9, 5 p.m. vs. Weston-McEwen
Oct. 11, 5 p.m. at Pilot Rock
Oct. 16, 5 p.m. at Stanfield
Jr. Varsity
Sept. 20, 5 p.m. vs. Pilot Rock
Sept. 25, 5 p.m. at Weston-McEwen
Oct. 9, 5 p.m. vs. Weston-McEwen
Oct. 11, 5 p.m. at Pilot Rock

Mustang Football

Game times are at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Friday, Sept. 7 vs. Santiam
Friday, Sept. 15 at Lost River (Bend)
Friday, Sept. 21 at Colfax, WA
Friday, Sept. 28 at Riverside
Friday, Oct. 5 vs. Irrigon
Friday, Oct. 12 vs. Weston-McEwen
Friday, Oct. 19 vs. Grant Union
Friday, Oct. 26 at Stanfield

AWANA Bible Club to hold registration Sept. 9



AWANA leader Nancy Jepsen presents an object lesson for club members during a meeting last year. Jepsen switched the labels on cans of cat food and peaches to surprise the kids and teach the importance of not judging by outward appearance. -Contributed photo.

The AWANA Bible Club program is starting up for the school year with registration this Sunday, Sept. 9, beginning at 3 p.m. at Willow Creek Baptist in Heppner. The group, which offers activities for kindergarten through sixth grade, will meet on Sunday afternoons from 3-5 p.m. throughout the school year.

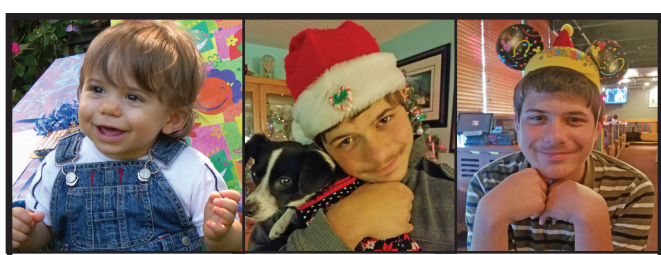
The AWANA program is the combined effort of five local churches to teach children what the Bible is all about. Games, songs, a Bible lesson and prizes are included during a typical club meeting.

The club year will kick off with registration, games and an ice cream social at Willow Creek Baptist Church, 560 Minor Street in Heppner, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. this Sunday. Parents or guardians must be present with their children to complete the necessary paperwork and pay dues. Dues are \$10 per year per student.

For more information, contact AWANA Commander Dale Bates at 541-676-5773 or go to the Heppner AWANA Club Facebook group page.

Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice of the Peace, Ann Spicer, has released the following Justice Court report:
-Avery Lemmon, 33, Fayetteville, NC was convicted of violation of basic rule, 65/55 mph, fine \$115.



Happy Sweet Sixteen To My Precious Boy. Love, Grandma Marilyn



Ione Cardinals fall sports scheduled

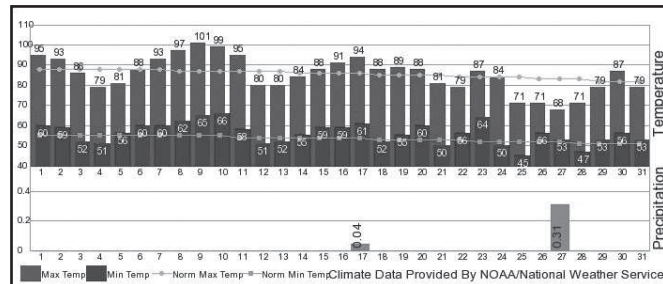
Cardinals Volleyball Varsity

Sept. 6, 5 p.m. @ South Wasco County
Sept. 8, 9 a.m. @ Condon / Wheeler (Summit Springs - Condon High School)
Sept. 8, 11 a.m. vs. Union (Summit Springs - Condon High School)
Sept. 8, 2 p.m. vs. Prairie City (Summit Springs - Condon High School)
Sept. 8, 4 p.m. @ Stanfield (Summit Springs - Condon High School)
Sept. 11, 5 p.m. vs. Sherman
Sept. 13, 5 p.m. @ Dufur
Sept. 18, 5 p.m. @ Mitchell / Spray (Spray)
Sept. 25, 5 p.m. vs. Condon / Wheeler
Sept. 27, 5 p.m. @ Echo
Oct. 2, 5 p.m. vs. South Wasco County
Oct. 4, 5 p.m. @ Sherman
Oct. 9, 5 p.m. vs. Dufur
Oct. 11, 5 p.m. vs. Mitchell / Spray
Oct. 16, 5 p.m. @ Condon / Wheeler (Wheeler High School - Fossil)
Oct. 20, 10 a.m. vs. TBD (Big Sky District Tournament - Echo High School)
Jr Varsity
Sept. 27, 5 p.m. @ Echo
Oct. 2, 6:30 p.m. vs. South Wasco County

Cardinals Football

Thursday, Sept. 6, 6 p.m. @ Enterprise
Friday, Sept. 14, 7 p.m. vs. Pilot Rock/Nixyaawii
Friday, Sept. 21, 2 p.m. @ Imbler
Friday, Sept. 28, 7 p.m. @ Dufur
Friday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m. vs. Sherman
Friday, Oct. 12, 7 p.m. vs. Arlington/Condon
Thursday, Oct. 18, 7 p.m. vs. Union
Friday, Oct. 26, TBD vs. TBD

Heppner August warmer than usual



According to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton, temperatures at Heppner averaged slightly warmer than normal during the month of August.

The average temperature was 70.7 degrees which was 1.2 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 85.4 degrees, which was 0.1 degrees below normal. The highest was 101 degrees on the 9th. Low temperatures averaged 56.0 degrees, which was 2.6 degrees above normal. The lowest was 45 degrees, on the 25th.

On nine days, the temperature exceeded 90 degrees. It was at least 100 degrees on one day.

Precipitation totaled 0.35 inches during August, which was 0.04 inches below normal. Measurable

precipitation, at least .01 inch, was received on two days with the heaviest, 0.31 inches reported on the 27th.

Precipitation this year has reached 6.86 inches, which is 2.52 inches below normal. Since October, the water year precipitation at Heppner has been 10.62 inches, which is 2.82 inches below normal.

The highest wind gust was 34 mph which occurred on the 16th.

The outlook for September from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for near normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. Normal highs for Heppner fall from 82 degrees at the start of September to 71 degrees at the end of September. Normal lows fall from 50 degrees to 43 degrees. The 30 year normal precipitation is 0.56 inches.

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office has released the following report of marriage licenses:

- August 2, 2018:** - Erendira E Robles Escoto, 23, Boardman and Salvador Cortes Gonzalez, 24, Boardman.
- August 10:** - Johnathan Scott Hendricks, 26, Heppner and Raina Leilana Ann Robello, 18, Heppner.
- August 13:** - John Paul Osburn, 36, Heppner and Shawna Marie Barrett, 37, Heppner.
- August 15:** - Brandon Keith Aldrich, 29, Boardman and Samantha Mae Tegner, 24, Boardman.
- August 20:** - Garry Christopher Langevin, 59, Ione and Kimber Lee Thompson, 57, Ione.
- August 24:** - Jason Lee Hanna, 43, Heppner and Linsey Marlene Mitchell, 31, Heppner.
- August 24:** - Coady Kalani James Hepton, 28, Irrigon and Portia Lynette Brown, 37, Irrigon.

Heppner Library lists new August books

New books now available at the Heppner Library for August are:
Fiction: Fruit of the Drunken Tree – Ingrid Rojas Contreras, The Patchwork Bride – Sandra Dallas and The Tuscan Child – Rhys Bowen.

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:
MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.

Reach More Customers in Morrow County!

Advertise in The Heppner Gazette-Times "Morrow County's Newspaper"

See how affordable it is to advertise with us!
Visit: <http://rapidserve.net/rate-card/>

Contact Megan about advertizing in the Gazette today!

188 Willow St. • PO Box 337 • Heppner, OR 97836
541-676-9228 • FAX 541-676-9211
megan@rapidserve.net or david@rapidserve.net