

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.

David Sykes.....Publisher
Bobbi Gordon.....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 \$5.25 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.

~ 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.

Missed opportunity if Oregon falls behind on clean energy

Two qualities which make our communities strong are personal responsibility and neighborly cooperation. We do what we can to contribute. We take responsibility for our piece of what needs to be done. We clean up our own mess. Some problems are too big or we hit a rough patch. Our neighbors step in to help. We're stronger for working together.

I was born and raised in Gilliam County, where I'm proud to serve my community as road master and as a commissioner at the Port of Arlington. In my lifetime, I've seen a lot of changes. Only one winter in the last twelve have we had enough water. People have to drill deeper wells. Our aquifers are drying up. The winters are too warm. There's not enough snow in the mountains to feed our water sources.

My wife's family had a ranch, 26,000 acres where they grazed cattle. The wildfires, which have gotten worse, damaged so much rangeland. Every blade of grass burned means less acreage for the cattle. You're forced to overgraze in other areas to keep up the herd. Wildfires are making things worse for our economy, land and health. Scientists predicted this would happen and now it's coming true.

We're facing a once-in-a-generation challenge and it's going to take responsibility and cooperation to solve. For previous generations it was fighting dictators in Europe. For us, it's combatting a warming climate. I believe this is a global problem. I'm pleased to hear things about China and Europe starting to pull some of the weight. But if the U.S.A. really kicks in with renewable energy, no country in the world can

beat us. We have economic freedom here. The world would see us as an example.

Oregon is a prime place to show others how it's done, while boosting our homegrown economy. I've seen Gilliam County and our neighbors lifted up thanks to the wind farms, creating jobs and bringing in revenue for counties and towns. When I'm building roads, I'm making them as straight as I can so the trucks carrying new wind turbines have an easy time coming in.

Now's the time for more investment in renewable power, in making buildings and homes use less energy, and to think about how we can use better fuels, made here at home. I'm following this cap-and-invest legislation in Salem called "Clean Energy Jobs."

The idea is Oregon will put a "cap" on climate pollution from the largest sources in our state, about 100 of them. We'll ask those industrial polluters to take responsibility for what they're putting into our air by paying a fair price for it. Those funds will be invested in communities all around the state -- in clean energy like solar, upgrades to homes and businesses to save on energy bills and projects to battle against drought and prevent wild-

fires.

Like with the wind farms, all this new work requires people to do it. It's the kind of work that can't be outsourced -- construction workers, electricians, engineers and more. A project means hiring local truckers, more business for the hardware stores and restaurants. This legislation could mean more funding to jumpstart those projects.

Up at the Port of Arlington, we're developing a building to attract businesses. We'd like to put solar panels up because the electricity bill will be much lower. It's not in the budget right now, but with Clean Energy Jobs we could fund those improvements. At the landfill in Arlington, as things decompose, we're pulling methane gas off and making electricity from it, more power than the whole county needs. These clean energy funds can help turn landfills, dairy operations and water treatment plants into energy generators. Irrigation equipment upgrades for farmers can help save water and energy, protecting us from drought.

Long term, if we're using energy made closer to home, it's going to be cheaper and more reliable. I hear the other side of this debate too. Folks worried about 'will this be a burden

on the economy?' and the like. I plan a budget at the road department. I know prices for energy go up and down, mostly out of our control. You plan for those as best you can. We need to set ourselves up for the future.

I'll be watching closely. This bill needs to invest in all communities, not just the Portland area. I hope to see guarantees that rural counties will get our fair share and some help because we don't always have the staff to do the paperwork. I need to see protections for large businesses under the cap to stay competitive. And we should join up with other states, so it doesn't create a new bureaucracy.

Oregon needs to do its part. We might not grow enough wheat to feed the whole world, but we grow wheat in Oregon anyway because we contribute to the market. The Clean Energy Jobs bill is an economically smart way to create jobs, reduce pollution and save money on energy while we become more independent. For our community to thrive, we need new industries and protection against the changing climate. This is a balanced solution.

Dewey Kennedy, Gilliam County Road Master
Port of Arlington Commissioner

We may all fail at taxes and bookkeeping

To the editor:
This letter regards Doctor Wenberg and your recent article about his legal troubles with the Internal Revenue Service. Always, there are things that we may fail at and most certainly taxes and bookkeeping are something, by any standard, that Doctor Wenberg is not qualified to handle. But it is important to note that he is qualified to be a physician. He literally has, for years, saved lives, helping us through stressful times and making sacrifices to remain in Heppner.

Granted, I would never want Doctor Wenberg to do my taxes but if I had a medical emergency, he would be the first one I would seek help from. Therefore, I am asking those who he has so diligently taken care of, that they support him by letting the powers that be know we want him to be retained as our physician.

If someone stumbles, and it does appear that he did, then we need to offer a helping hand so he can stand again and correct his mistakes. And there are

many ways we can achieve this, such as advocating for Doctor Wenberg to be retained as our ER physician. There is a petition asking for this and furthermore stating our community wants it to be known that we want the most lenient approach in settling all his legal issues, emphasizing these are not in any manner related to his performance as a physician. Example: if I am being stitched up in an emergency room, clearly, the quality of my care should not be dependent upon whether I paid my taxes. Conversely, these criteria should be equally applied to Doctor Wenberg.

At some time or another, all of us have made errors in judgement, possibly there were misdeeds, but be they small or large, what we would want is that chance to make things right. Please give Doctor Wenberg that chance. He is a caring, decent man. I am signing the petition and urge all of you to do the same thing.

Thank you,
Pat Walker, Heppner

Cap and Trade opposed

To the editor:
Cap and trade. What does it really mean for America? I believe it means the death of America as the greatest producer of food and the wisest user of conservation of natural resources upon earth. America will not be able to come out to help others in times of disaster if we stop using our heavy equipment and ground our air service, as the new green deal promotes and eliminates all our livestock as they propose. We'll just become a large third world nation and greatest killer of kids the world over with abortion (population control).

Thank you, farmers and ranchers for your stewardship of the land and all agriculture outside of the Portland to Eugene area who support Oregon's real economy.

The governors and legislators of California, Oregon and Washington are mocking God with their social engineering and slaughter of babies. The greatest holocaust in human history, spread by the greatest lie, just like Adolf Hitler said, "Tell a lie and a big lie and tell it often and the people will believe it." That's what young people are believing, the biggest lie.

Is wind power really green? It takes 80,000 pounds of copper per gen-

erator, tons of steel for the towers, many pounds of other metals to finish the complete set up. Then there are the massive holes dug for the towers' supports and all the steel, aggregate and cement to hold all those tons in the air without falling over, massive 60-foot wide roads to haul all of this material in, then all of the heavy equipment to erect these behemoth wind machines. All of this work from start to finish needs thousands of gallons of diesel ("fossil fuel"). Then there is the impact upon wildlife of the area, many dead birds, bats, displaced deer, pronghorn and many in winter wildlife areas. How long do these last, then whose problem? Nowhere enough energy for their cost and not really green at all.

This all costs millions of dollars. I've heard the cost is around 1.2 million per tower. Wind, solar and battery storage truly are biased science promoted by people only interested in their own interests. Real scientists speak about the fallacy of climate change promoted by globalists telling of flooding areas, which now for over 20 years are still not flooded or under water as told by Al Gore, selling fear to little school children and promoting hysteria.

In the 60s and 70s they were talking of going into

another ice age, remember that if you are that old? The young have no real-life experience concerning any of this they are being propagandized with.

Real science and truth are withheld by what's being called fake news by those far-left liberals controlling free speech, promoting fear among the young.

These people hate God or his word: Genesis 8:22: "While the earth remaineth, seed time and harvest, and cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." 9:13: "I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and earth." 15: "And I will remember my covenant, which is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh."

I put my trust in God, before man or science; for God says, Jeremiah 17:5, "Thus saith the Lord; cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord."

Young people, seek God, Jesus Christ for hope and your future. His word is truth and absolute, John 17:17.

(s) Beryl Stillman
Lexington, OR



Working Together to be a
Healthier Community
Today and
TOMORROW

MARCH is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

With an emphasis on screening and prevention, the colorectal cancer survival rate has increased in the last 20 years. It's also important that you be aware of the symptoms of the disease and share what you're experiencing with a healthcare professional. Don't feel embarrassed. Your life may depend on it and your loved ones will be so happy you spoke up!

Join us at these locations for refreshments and an informative discussion about colorectal cancer, plus instruction on how to use an at-home screening kit

Irrigon Medical Clinic

March 14 / 4p - 6p

Pioneer Memorial Clinic, Heppner

March 14 / 2p - 4p

Ione Community Clinic, Ione

March 14 / 11a - 1p



Have Questions?
Please call: 541-922-2623

HealthyMC.org

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