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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner

GAZETTE-TIMES

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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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.

WENHOLZ

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operate and budgeting for a large organization. All of which will allow me to be able to effectively lead all of Morrow County in the future.

Any other comments or notes you would like to pass on to the voters? I would like to ask for your vote so

PETERSON

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and focusing on what we agree upon. This can be done but requires foresight, patience and a willingness to compromise so that all parts of our county really do have a say.

Why do you feel you are the best candidate for the job? I am honored to be running against two gentlemen whom I genuinely like, and think would do a good job. Too often political opponents bash

BMCC GIFT

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the payment stoppage. "Over the last week I heard some news BMCC has transitioned somewhat away from work force development (in Morrow County). I understand they have budget issues," she told the other commissioners. "But I grew ever more uncomfortable and want to again talk about those dollars. I would like to see us hold on to the BMCC dollars," she said in requesting the freeze. Lindsay said she had talked to BMCC officials who apparently told her the money would be spent in Morrow County, but she wasn't convinced. "I reached out to Kalie Davis (director of work-force development at the Port of Morrow) about the issue, and she has emailed me about putting together a meeting potentially with other people at the Port as well as some industry people to see where this is headed," Lindsay said in making the case to withhold the money. "I would like to see us hold on to those Blue Mountain dollars until we know where Blue Mountain in headed in Morrow County." Lindsay said she also wanted to talk about how the money would be spent.

Commissioner Don Russell argued against withholding the funds, saying it was "overreach" by the county. "I think its overreach on our part. Had not the state of Oregon errored BMCC would have gotten more than we allocated to them because they are

I can work for responsible economic growth and development, promote fiscal responsibility, foster a positive working relationship with all county stakeholders and fairly represent the interests of all of Morrow County.

one another because it is the right "political" thing to do. I will not do that because I am not interested in the right political action, but what is in fact, right. If that intrigues you, if you want a leader who makes decisions not based on how it will affect them, but rather based upon right action, I hope to have your vote. If you give me the opportunity, I will prove you right.

a taxing district in the tax code area," he said of the Amazon payment. Russell said the college "has a board of directors elected by the public to oversee their budget. They decide where to spend those dollars and where they think it benefits the most people. Now it is the three county commissioners to weigh in and say we don't like how your elected officials are running your budget, so we are going to withhold tax dollars that probably were rightfully yours. I think it's wrong and overreach on our part," Russell said. "There are a lot of people concerned about where BMCC is headed in Morrow County," Lindsay responded. "And I don't want to send money to Pendleton without knowing exactly how it is going to be spent."

Lindsay had originally also been against sending the approved allocation of \$437,566 to the Inter-mountain Education Service District, also located in Pendleton, saying she did not know exactly what services they did in Morrow County. At the April meeting she backed off freezing their payment, saying she recently heard of "multiple places they represent here in the county."

The commissioners ended up with a split vote 2-1 to withhold the BMCC funds, with Lindsay and Commissioner Jim Doherty voting yes, and Russell voting no.

LINDSAY

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County voice issues to the larger state platform.

As Morrow County commissioner, I will continue to be at the table to represent issues from behavioral health, public health, public safety, water and natural resources, military relationships and Veterans services, road funding and all things community development. I know that I am engaged working for all corners of our county. I want to bring my experience and passion for the work back for another four years to serve this great county, without an agenda of personal gain.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the office you are running for in Morrow County? I believe our biggest asset could be the same as our challenge. We have seen a lot of great growth, much attributed to the good work of the Port of Morrow teams. With growth comes needs; housing, diversity in representation, public health, workforce, water quantity and quality to name a few. With so much growth, even with the very best of intentions, it can be difficult for entities, along with the public that we serve to keep pace. We have a responsibility to be stewards of our amazing resources and more important than ever is the need for collaboration and open communication. Covid brought even more challenges to communication, but we are now back on track.

Recently I brought together a Bi-County team that worked with our POM partners to apply for grants, brought grant writers to help with housing, county water quality and floodplain regulatory issues. I have worked with Boardman leaders in mental health collaborations and keeping Boardman industry oper-

ational during Covid as well as addressed housing. I worked with Ione in the sewer project and Heppner on housing and water. In Irrigon, I pushed to keep the county services building in Irrigon. I voted to distribute dollars to cities and for Irrigon Chamber outreach funds. In Lexington, I have supported their water project, grants to cities and grants for housing planning efforts.

How would you address that challenge if you win? I will continue to make Morrow County a thriving place to live, work and play for families and individuals. My goals include continuing to make Morrow County government open, transparent and accessible to all residents. I will continue to represent all areas of the county and respect cultural and diverse perspectives. I will continue to ask the hard questions and listen to the answers, to educate myself no matter how difficult the conversation.

Why do you feel you are the best candidate for the job? I believe I am unique in my focus; I give 100 percent effort in whatever I do. I was born with an inherent commitment to community. I bring to the county passion and energy for outcomes. I have always gone above and beyond in the things that I do including serving Morrow County over the last six years. I never avoid a phone call, a tough conversation, an issue or a task. I serve with a focus toward transparency without the clouded decision making of other loyalties or gains.

Any other comments or notes you would like to pass on to the voters: Your vote is important, please vote for me by May 17th to re-elect transparency, energy and commitment to all of Morrow County.

Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice of the Peace, Glen Diehl, has released the following Justice Court report:

- Kori J. Jordan, 21, Heppner, was convicted of no operator's license, fine \$265 and driving uninsured, fine \$265.
- Jacklyn I Robinson, 53, Heppner, was convicted

of violation of basic rule, fine \$165.

-Chet A. Dubry, 48, Heppner, was convicted of passing in a no passing zone, fine \$265.

-Marion Robinson, 71, Heppner, was convicted of violation of basic rule, fine \$100.

Heideman named to honor roll

Mackenzie Heideman was recently named to the President's Honor Roll at Mt. Hood Community College for the 2022 winter term. The President's Hon-

or Roll consists of students who have achieved a 3.85 or higher GPA for 12 or more credits during the quarter.

A View from the Green

WCCC Sunday Men's Play

Sunday Men's Play at Willow Creek Country Club on April 24 hosted 22 players. Special event winners were Dave Creswick and Dave Pranger with KP, Kelly Fox with the long putt and Jared Huddleston with the least putts.

First place in net went to Tom Shear with 56 and Greg Greenup came in second with 58. Gene Orwick, Dennis Peck and Tim Wright tied for third with a score of 59.

Jared Huddleston took first place in gross with a score of 61. Charlie Ferguson was second with 64 and Duane Disque came in third with 67.

A shootout, which is a two-man event playing nine holes, will be held on May 1. Each of the nine holes will consist of a scramble, modified chapman and alternate shot. The event will be hosted by Dave Gundersen, Dave Allstott and Gary Watkins.

and Karen Thompson and Kris Lindner tied for first place.

Prize egg winners were Karen Thompson and Pat Dougherty. Pat Edmundson had a chip-in on hole 15.

Over the tee cup

Last Tuesday, April 19, 10 Willow Creek Country Club ladies braved the cold and windy day to play a post Easter scramble. Teams consisting of Virginia Grant and Betty Carter

Boardman to host low-cost rabies clinic

The City of Boardman is reminding pet owners of the need to keep their dogs and cats current on their rabies vaccinations. This year the city will host a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic given by Dr. Burgess of Country Animal Hospital. Rabies is a fatal disease of the brain and spinal cord, caused by a virus carried by mammals. Vaccinating dogs and cats against rabies is essential in protecting loved ones and halting the spread of the disease.

This low-cost rabies vaccination event kicks off

on Saturday, June 11, 2022, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon at the Boardman City Park. The cost of the rabies vaccination is \$25 per pet. Along with the vaccinations, the City of Boardman will offer free dog licensing. All dog owners who reside in the city limits of Boardman are required to have their dog licensed for identification purposes.

For more information, please call Boardman Animal Control Officer Jose Fernandez at 541-481-9252.

RE-ELECT

Melissa Lindsay

for MORROW COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Born and raised in Morrow County from a 5th generation agriculture family, I am a strong promoter of Eastern Oregon and its values. I have more than 25 years of successful finance, banking and private sector business experience and volunteerism.

As your Morrow County Commissioner for the last 6 years, I have focused on *practical, fiscally responsible management*, the *economic health of all our communities*, and *government transparency*. If re-elected, I will continue to work tirelessly for every citizen.

There is work to be done. I plan to finish what we have started, with transparency and responsibility to our communities, north and south.

Learn more on Facebook at:
[Melissa Lindsay for Morrow County Commissioner](#)

VOTING DAY
MAY 17TH TUESDAY