

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 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 177 N Main St. Telephone (541) 676-9228. E-mail: editor@rapidsolve.net or sykeschris@hotmail.com Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: In Morrow County \$36/year. Outside Morrow County \$41/year. In County Senior Rate (65 years or older) \$31/year. 9 month Student student subscriptions \$36/year.

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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 \$16

Three on Three Basketball Tournament Draws Big Crowds



Elementary Boys' Champions "The Blazers" (L-R): Preston Milligan, Sonny Matheny, Lucas Matheny, Casyn Adams. -Contributed photo



Junior High Girls' Champions "Basketball Baddies" (L-R): Ella Mullins, Morgan Milligan, Hadlie Duncan, Andee Lathrop. -Contributed photo



Elementary Girls' Champions "Lucky Leprechauns" (L-R): Berkley Hanna, Emma Mullins, EllieGene Fennern. -Contributed photo



Junior High Boys' Champions "The Fine Guys" (L-R): Ketch Fennern, Brodie Ogden, Jasper Hanna, Matt Wilson. -Contributed photo



Women's Champions "Old Lady Ballers" (L-R): Shelly McCabe, Chelsea Matheny, Jennifer Wilson. -Contributed photo



Men's Champions "Wheatfield Academy" (L-R): Andre Rauch, Tanner Sweek, JJ Rosenberg, Shaw Broncheau. -Contributed photo

BOC Approves Contract

-Continued from PAGE ONE

will work hand in hand with our design team during final design and be able to offer input and directions to keep the project within our budgetary constraints."

The contract includes a set fee of \$100,000 for the design phase as well as 3.57 percent of the guaranteed maximum price for construction of the courthouse.

The BOC had previously approved Bouten Construction's bid as the CMGC and issued an intent to award. The commissioners voted 3-0 to approve the contract.

Also at the March 19 meeting, commissioners were presented with draft courthouse master funding agreements with the Oregon Judicial Department.

The first of the two documents was the overall agreement with the state and the second contained the agreement for Phase 1 reimbursements.

The current total project cost estimate is \$35 million, which the BOC approved at a meeting late last year.

Jensen told the commissioners that the current courthouse layout shows state usage of the building at approximately 76 percent. That includes space for the circuit court and public defenders.

The state will provide a 50 percent match on the cost for its share of the

building, which translates into about 38 percent of the total courthouse cost. That would relay into the state covering \$13.2 million of the project.

The county will be responsible for the remaining \$21.8 million.

The contracts had been reviewed and approved by county counsel pending some changes. Jensen said he was in the process of finalizing some questions with the state, including whether they would cover the cost of researching sites outside of Heppner.

"It was not something that we opened up," said Jensen. "It was something that the state and circuit court opened up as far as looking at places outside of Heppner."

Some of the wording is also geared to the Boardman site, which will need to be corrected before the contract is finalized.

Jensen said the state asked that the contract be approved by the county and sent in by March 31. He said the BOC could either hold a special meeting to approve the agreements once the changes are made, or could approve the contracts pending changes, with a special meeting only if the cap dollar amounts changed.

Because of the significance of the changes to be made, commissioners voiced a preference for a special meeting this week.

Holly Rebekah Dinner and Bingo in Lexington

Get ready for an afternoon of delicious food, exciting Bingo and plenty of fun as the Holly Rebekah Lodge invites the community to its monthly dinner and Bingo event in Lexington this Sunday, March 30.

For just \$5, attendees can enjoy a hearty meal featuring sausage and macaroni casserole, a fresh green salad and a sweet dessert. Dinner will be served starting at 3:00 p.m., making it the perfect way to gather with friends and family for a satisfying meal.

Following the meal, at approximately 3:30 p.m., the fun continues with Bingo. For only \$5, you can purchase a packet of 10 Bingo cards, and with that, you'll get the chance to play at least 15 regular games, plus three exciting blackout games. Prizes will be awarded, and there's plenty of time to socialize and enjoy the company of others in a welcoming and friendly atmosphere.

The event is open to all ages, so whether you're

looking to enjoy a delicious meal or try your luck at Bingo, this is an afternoon that promises fun for everyone.

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We're looking for dedicated individuals to join and serve on the School Bond Political Action Committee. This is a great opportunity to get involved, have your voice heard, and help shape the future of education in our area.

If you're interested in participating, please reach out to:

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