

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

Published weekly 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 147 W. Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: [gt@heppner.net](mailto:gt@heppner.net) or [gt@rapidserve.net](mailto:gt@rapidserve.net). Web site: [www.heppner.net](http://www.heppner.net). Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$22 in Morrow County; \$16 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 62 years or older); \$29 elsewhere.

David Sykes ..... Publisher  
April Hilton-Sykes ..... Editor

News deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

For Advertising: advertising deadline is Tuesday at noon. Cost for a display ad is \$4.50 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 40¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$5 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$5.10 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).

On the HEPPNER WEBSITE: [www.heppner.net](http://www.heppner.net)

- Start or Change a Subscription
- Place a Classified Ad • Submit a News Story
- View Real Estate for Sale • City Council & Planning Minutes
- Local Businesses • County Park • Willow Creek Park Reservations
- Free Digital Postcards • Senior Housing • and more!

**Volunteers give local senior access to her home**



Left to right: Rusty Estes, Betty Curnutt, Brian Harmon, Craig Canham, Randy Sample

Area in foreground was filled and graveled to create a driveway to access Betty Curnutt's home.

They look like a bunch of hard working guys, but to Betty Curnutt of Heppner, they're knights in shining armor. After all, they did fix the drawbridge to her moat.

Betty's problems started last September when the bridge that provided the only access to her home collapsed. This proved to be a big problem because without the bridge, Betty had to go down a creek channel and climb back up a steep embankment to reach her car. Besides making it very difficult for the 71-year-old woman to get groceries, she was afraid that fire and emergency vehicles would not be able to reach her. She had reason to be concerned because she had previously suffered a heart attack and had also hurt her back.

City officials, while sympathetic to Betty's plight, said that they could not help because the bridge was private property. But, in the end, many of those who helped create a new driveway for Betty were city workers. A work party was organized to fill and gravel an area so she could drive right up to her house. Betty doesn't need a bridge any more.

Numerous people and organizations donated labor, equipment and materials. The Port of Morrow donated the fill dirt and gravel; Morrow County Grain Growers moved a propane tank to clear the area for the driveway; Heppner TV gave up a pole which had to be moved and mounted their equipment on a Columbia Basin Electric pole; several men from Columbia Basin took out the TV pole and moved anchor wires; Jerry Healy spearheaded the work by the port and CBEC; Roger Britt hauled the dirt and gravel; Jay Coil, Heppner Fire Chief Rusty Estes and city employees, Randy Sample, Craig Canham and Brian Harmon, all worked on the project.

"I am so appreciative of what they have done," said Betty. "It's going to be so nice not to have to go through the creek and up through the mud. It's cut down the distance, especially for carrying groceries. It's been a big job and it's done and I am so thankful."

**Nazarene crusade planned this weekend**

A Nazarene Oregon Zone crusade, which includes five churches in the Oregon Zone-Heppner, Arlington, Hermiston, Pendleton and Pilot Rock-is planned for March 8-10.

On Friday, March 8, a fellowship is planned at 7 p.m. at the Arlington church with snacks following. Saturday the crusade will continue with fellowship and snacks at the Heppner Church of the Nazarene, also at 7 p.m. On Sunday, March 10, a men's breakfast will be held at 8 a.m. with a worship service planned at 10:30 a.m. at the Heppner church. Sunday evening, the crusade will continue at the Pendleton church.

Speaker is James Clifton, past of the Spokane Bethel Church of the Nazarene.

Everyone is invited to attend all three days of the crusade.

**Bagpipes, genealogy, milestone converge into unique hobby**



Mike Keown in full regalia

What do bagpipes, genealogy and turning 50 have in common? Absolutely nothing, unless you're Mike Keown and they converge into a unique hobby.

Keown of Heppner, Morrow County School District assistant superintendent, said that as he and his wife, Kari, turned 50 years old they talked about retiring or perhaps taking up a hobby. "I said I'd do something musical if she played golf with me," said Keown. So, he and Kari, who is an accomplished flautist and has played since she was three years old, decided to take up the bagpipes. They both started lessons, but, admitted

Kari, "I gave it up. It's really hard." Playing the bagpipes involves a complex process of coordinating the notes, pumping and blowing.

"It's been a neat little hobby," said Mike, who started out practicing on a "chanter" for around a year, then graduated to "little pipes" for about two months and finally moved on to the "big pipes". Last summer he attended a weeklong bagpipe camp at Mt. Vernon. He got a beautiful set of bagpipes, made from a rare African hardwood, in November and received a complete outfit for Christmas. The resplendent dress includes a kilt, tam, jacket, bowtie and the traditional knife tucked in his knee socks. He is quick to point out that he removes the knife before going onto school district property.

The rich plaid of Mike's kilt is believed to be the tartan of his Scot-Irish ancestry. In the process of researching his genealogy, Mike traced his ancestry back to two brothers, Thomas Keown, his direct ancestor, and Robert Alexander Keown, who came to Charleston, South Carolina, from Ulster Down, Ireland, before the Revolutionary War and fought in that war. Mike believes that they had earlier traveled from Scotland to Ireland and, as was common, dropped the "Mac" from their last name. The MacKeowns are thought to be a sept of the MacLaughlin clan and thus the plaid is a MacLaughlin tartan.

Regrettably, Mike won't be able to play his bagpipes during the St. Patrick's festivities in Heppner next Friday and Saturday, but he is looking forward to playing at the men's breakfast at the Church of the Nazarene on Sunday, March 1, beginning at 8 a.m.

**Local AWANA members attend Bible Quiz**



Lexington AWANA Bible Quiz teams (left to right): back-Nathan Van Cleave, Kristen Van Cleave, Anna Unruh, Sarah Johnson; front-Eric Jepsen, Lane Wright, Jordan Hatfield, Drew Johnson.

The Lexington AWANA club sent five teams to the regional AWANA Bible Quiz held in Richland, Washington, on February 9. They competed against six other churches from Othello, Walla Walla, Kennewick and Richland to answer multiple choice and speed questions.

The Pals Brave Team of Lane Wright and Jordan Hatfield received third place. The Pals Warrior Team, Drew Johnson and Eric Jepsen, placed second. Kristen Van Cleave competed by herself as a Chums Princess Team to win third place. The Guards Anchor Team, consisting of Sarah Johnson and Anna Unruh, won first place. Kristen Van Cleave and Anna Unruh both answered three speed questions correctly, earning bonus points for their teams. In addition, Kristen earned a perfect score and was the Chums Individual Champion. Anna Unruh also earned a perfect score and was the Guards Individual Champion.

AWANA is a non-denominational Bible club for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. It meets from 6:30-8 p.m. on Wednesdays at Lexington Baptist Church. For more information, call 989-8555 or 676-9873.

**Computer glitch delays honor roll release**

A computer glitch at Heppner High School has delayed release of the school's honor roll for publication in the newspaper, according to HHS counselor Mona Hardman. Hardman said that she hopes the problems can be corrected this week so that the honor roll can be published in next week's Gazette-Times.

**Grants to upgrade workers' skills**

The Region 12 Workforce Investment Board, in support of Oregon Workforce Investment Board round two grant applicants from Umatilla and Morrow County regions, will be hosting two post-bidder's conference informal gathering in early March.

The OWIB is making available \$1 million for grants to help Oregon employers upgrade the skills of current workers.

In support of those applying for round two monies, the OWIB is hosting a series of bidder's conferences statewide to provide grant requirement information and assist with the technical writing aspects of the grant. An important component of grants written by applicants in Umatilla and Morrow counties will be endorsement by the Region 12 (Umatilla and Morrow county) Workforce Investment Board.

The board invites those attending the Thursday, March 7, bidder's conference in Pendleton at the Red Lion Hotel from 8:30-11:30 a.m. to meet following the conference at 1 p.m. at the Pendleton Oregon Employment Office, 408 SE 7th, Pendleton.

For those unable to meet on March 7, a second bidder's conference will be held in Baker City at the Oregon Trail Electric Consumers Cooperative Headquarters, 4005 23<sup>rd</sup>, on Monday, March 15, from 8:30-11:30 a.m. The post-conference gathering will take place at 2 p.m. at the Wildhorse Casino. Those interested in the post-conference gathering on March 15 may meet in front of the casino at 2 p.m. for a brief tour given by Wildhorse training manager Suzanne Clem. The post-conference discussion will follow the tour.

For more information on grants, bidder's conferences or the post conference gatherings, contact Debbie with the Region 12 Workforce Investment Board at 541-276-9050, extension 230 or [dschneck@umesd.kl2.or.us](mailto:dschneck@umesd.kl2.or.us).

**ENT arrests Stanfield woman in drug bust**

The Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team arrested a Stanfield woman on March 4 as a result of a drug investigation and search warrant which turned up a quantity of methamphetamine and hashish. De Etta Ruth Gaede, aka Debbie Gaede, 48, 510 East Furnish Ave., Stanfield, was charged with possession of a controlled substance-methamphetamine and hashish, maintaining a place where drugs are used/sold and endangering the welfare of a minor.

Members of the Stanfield Police Department and their new K-9 "DAX" assisted in execution of the warrant. BENT consists of narcotic detectives from area law enforcement agencies, including the Pendleton Police Department, Milton-Freewater Police Department, Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Umatilla County Sheriff's Office and the Oregon State Police.

Order Magnetic Door Signs  
HERE  
Heppner Gazette-Times

**DA's Report**

The Morrow County District Attorney David C. Allen has released the following report:

-Scott Ray Bass plead guilty to Possession of a Controlled Substance Methamphetamine, a Class C felony, and was sentenced to 18 months formal probation and 80 hours community service. He was also ordered to complete a drug treatment program and pay \$474 in fines, fees and assessments.

-Jeff K. Key plead guilty to Harassment, a Class B misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 90 days in jail, suspended on the condition that he successfully complete probation conditions and 18 months bench probation. He was also ordered to complete an anger management program, write a letter of apology to the victim and pay \$124 in fines, fees and assessments.

-Gary Lee Kroske plead no contest to Harassment, a Class B misdemeanor, and was sentenced to 12 months bench probation. He was also ordered not to initiate contact with the victim, continue a treatment program and pay \$874 in fines, fees and assessments.

**Obituaries**

**Dona M. Orwick**

Dona M. Orwick, 68, of Lexington, died Monday, February 25, 2002, at St. Mary Medical Center in Walla Walla, Washington.

Graveside service was held Thursday, February 28, 2002, at the Lexington Cemetery. A memorial service followed at the Heppner Elks Lodge.

She was born August 13, 1933, at Pocatello, Idaho, to Afton Gayhart and Mary Hays. She moved with her family to Sumpter and later to Heppner, where she attended school.

On September 23, 1950, she married Gene Orwick at Heppner. The couple lived in Heppner for 12 years before moving to Lexington, where they owned and operated the Lexington Chevron, Pendleton-Heppner Freight and the Lexington Lumber and Polaris shop.

Mrs. Orwick was a member of Morrow County Arts and Crafts and Eastern Star.

She enjoyed animals and was an accomplished painter.

Survivors include her husband, Gene Orwick of Lexington; daughter, Lynda Firth of Eugene; son, Mike Orwick of Lexington; stepfather, Max Harris of Heppner; stepbrothers, Bob Harris of Kennewick, Washington, and Roger Harris of Pocatello, Idaho; stepsister, Helen Gayhart of Hillsboro, Texas; and three grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her mother, Mary Harris, and her father, Afton Gayhart.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heppner Elks 358 Foundation, P.O. Box 494, Heppner, Oregon 97836, or to St. Mary Center Cancer Center, 401 W. Poplar, Walla Walla, Washington 99662.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

**5.50% \*guaranteed for 7 years**

Worried about falling interest rates on your investments? Check out a SelecTrack annuity from Kansas City Life Insurance Company.

SelecTrack is a fixed annuity with rates guaranteed for five or seven years. Interest accumulates tax-deferred and you pay NO annual fees.

CALL OR STOP BY TODAY!



Jay Wheelhouse, LUTCF  
702 E. Main / PO Box 808  
Hermiston, OR 97838



541-567-6367  
800-244-0327

\*Rate as of 2-21-02  
Subject to change  
\$10,000 Minimum

KANSAS CITY LIFE  
INSURANCE COMPANY

From Oregon to Minnesota...  
**HAPPY 42nd!**  
(on March 13th)  
We Love You! Dad & Mom

The Morrow County Transfer Station  
will be CLOSED  
Saturday, March 16th  
for St. Patrick's Day  
& will be OPEN Sunday, March 17th

**St. Pat's Auction Committee**  
is seeking donations to help  
purchase items to be auctioned off

We would like to have sponsors for such things as...  
Swimming Pool Passes / Memberships / Parties  
Bowling Alley Birthday Party Packages

If you could donate money towards  
or sponsor any of these items,  
please contact Kay Fowler at 676-9109  
or John and Ann Murray at 676-9158  
THANK YOU!

**St. Pat's Auction is**  
Friday, March 15, 7 p.m.  
at the Heppner Elks