

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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David Sykes Publisher  
Katie Foster Editor

**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 \$4.75 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$7 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$5.35 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**

- 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
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**Light up the town**


Heppner's Main Street looks festive during the winter months thanks to the great volunteers who put lights on the trees. These volunteers will soon be receiving calls to confirm their participation this year. The lights are to go up on Nov. 22 and 23.

The City will have the electricity on those two days for testing. All lights need to be up by Nov. 24, as they will be turned on the day after Thanksgiving.

Safety is most important, so lights should be put up as high as one can safely reach. Remember, there is an extension pole for loan at the Chamber office. For assistance with some of the larger trees, please make arrangements with the Chamber or City ahead of time. Additional volunteers are needed to assist with the tree lights.

Please call the Chamber, 676-5536, if you would be willing to adopt a tree this year and help create a bit of magic.

I would like to thank everyone who came to Gracie's one year party and showered her with love and gifts.



Lindsay Orem

**AARP Driver's Safety Class scheduled**

AARP and Blue Mountain Community College have scheduled a Driver's Safety class for Tuesday, Nov. 16 at the Morrow County Extension Office. The class will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a break for lunch.

Driver's Safety is classroom instruction for mature drivers age 55 and over, stressing laws and safety. Most insurance companies offer premium discounts to drivers age 55 and over who have completed the class. The cost of the class is \$10, payable to AARP on the day of the session.

Pre-register by contacting Anne Morter, BMCC Coordinator at 422-7040 or John and Judi Swanson, instructors, at 922-9568. Pre-registration is required as a minimum enrollment must be met for the instructors to travel to Heppner.

**Magnetic Door Signs**

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**Letters to the Editor**

*Editor's note: Letters to the Editor must be signed. The Gazette-Times will not publish unsigned letters. Please include your address and phone number on all letters for use by the G-T office. The G-T reserves the right to edit. The G-T 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 \$7.)*

**Rwanda Update - Over the Rainbow**

"It was the best of times. It was the worst of times." I guess a quote from Dickens best summarizes the past couple of months. It has been a time of trials, tribulations and stretching comfort zones. Wow, have we been stretched. It has also been a time of developing new friendships, experiencing God's creation up and close and learning what is truly important in life.

We returned to Rwanda on Sept. 6 after spending nearly two months in Kenya. It is great to be home. As one weary traveler once said, "There's no place like home." For most of our time in Kenya I often wondered if we too had been sucked up in a tornado funnel and blown over the rainbow. The only thing missing from this adventure was an appearance by the Wicked Witch of the West. No witch in this story, but we did develop lifelong friendships, experienced broken hearts when it came time to fly back over our rainbow, saw strange animals (no scarecrows or flying monkeys but a lot of baboons), and walked roads leading to people as different from us as the people Dorothy found living in the Land of Oz.

Most of our time in Kenya was spent camping in the bush near the Great Rift Valley learning to view life through the eyes of an East African. If you haven't surmised already, it was a challenge for a family of seven to sleep on the ground, wash clothes by hand, cook over an open fire and attempt to stay reasonably clean. Cleanliness for us is always a challenge living in Africa. But add in the variables of an abundance of dust, wind and five children under the age of eight, then the equation gets very messy.

As parents we enjoy clean children. I don't think that is too much to ask. Children on the other hand seem to enjoy dirt and grime. I am convinced they get up in the morning with one thought on their mind, "How dirty can we get?" In order to win a battle you need one important ingredient - lots of water. Fortunately, we had access to water but it was in the form of a stream. Each day we diligently and faithfully packed water in buckets for the sole purpose of bathing and laundry. We gave it our best shot but a child's nature is stronger than Mom and Dad's intentions of keeping everyone clean. I will never forget the day when Darby, Brick and Tegan came to the tent and proudly announced their participation in a "dirty feet contest." I think you can guess the rest of this story. Yuck. After awhile, we had to just shake our heads, march off to the river and gather another bucket of water to bathe the whole lot of them (in a dish pan). In spite of our valiant efforts, you have never seen a dirtier bunch of kids in your life. Chalk one up for the kids. There are some battles a parent is not going to win. Kids will be kids. Let them enjoy it. What is a little dirt going to hurt? At least that

is what we told ourselves.

Don't get me wrong, we were still concerned about their welfare, especially what they might bring home from all the rolling around in dirt. That is why before leaving Kenya we purchased worm medicine. Upon arriving in Rwanda the medicine was out of the package and in their mouths. I never thought I would live to see the day when we would gather around the dining room table to be wormed. Worming will be a family ritual for as long as we remain in Africa.

I could go on forever recounting our experiences in the bush. Instead of a blow-by-blow account let me share a few of the highlights: Hiking into camp with five kids and all the luggage we could manage to carry (or in this case - drag). A day spent in Nairobi riding matatus (public transportation) trying to communicate and avoid getting lost. Searching for an Internet Cafe and reading email from home. Visiting Hindu and Muslim temples. Walking five kilometers through the Rift Valley to attend a Maasai church. Learning greetings in Kiswahili and Maasai. Bathing in the river. Gathering wood for fire to warm our water. Doing laundry in a small basin. Gaggling down ugali more times than I could count. Eating wildebeest tacos and wildebeest chili. Butchering goats and chickens. The howling winds and screaming baboons. Monkeys in the acacia trees during "class-time" attempting to poop on us. Zebra, giraffe, warthogs, Maasai warriors, Maasai children, Maasai jewelry, Maasai dancing, Maasai singing and of course what Maasai do best - Maasai jumping.

Our time in Kenya concluded with a week-long village stay with a Kenyan family. During the week we shelled and sacked maize until we developed blisters on our fingers. We attended church where Brick played the drum and he and his sisters sang a song. The kids rode on a cart pulled by a donkey to fetch water everyday and went with their Dad to distribute maize and beans to those who were hungry and without means to provide for themselves.

The kids have thrived in Africa, having interacted with people from all over the world. During our village stay it was a humbling experience to see how joyful these people were in spite of how little they had and how hard they worked just to survive. At the end of the week we were convicted to examine our hearts and ask the question, "Would we be this happy if we had nothing but God, family and friends?"

Overall we are doing well. Adjusting to life in Africa and making progress. Please continue to pray for our family. Your emails are an encouragement. Brick and Tegan turn eight this week. I asked Laura today if she ever dreamed we would be celebrating birthdays in Africa. God often has more planned for us than we can ever dream or imagine. What is God doing in your life? We'd love

to hear about it.  
Until next month... same channel, same bat station,  
(s) Kelly, Laura, Darby, Brick, Tegan, Nyssa and Kooper Sager Kigali, Rwanda

**Garbage change bad for community growth**

To the Editor:

Does our city like to be known as the city that takes over businesses? Our city is trying to bring businesses to our area to make our community grow. Who in their right mind wants to start a business here when they would be concerned of a city take over?

Dave Green is a single person running a business that has been handed down over two generations and supporting his new family. He may be a day late in picking up your garbage, but doesn't everyone once in a while have problems; or are we all perfect?

Changing to the city for our garbage service would get rid of one more family in our community and be a costly increase. Also, you would have to be responsible to carry your garbage to the curb, which is too hard for elderly to do and simply I refuse to.

Dave, our family supports you and if you can't pick up our garbage then consider this our cancellation notice to the city.

(s) Mindy Davidson Heppner

**Obituaries**

**Virginia Frances Corey**

Virginia Frances Corey, 84, a 40-year resident of Hermiston, died Saturday, Oct. 30, 2004, at Rocking D Adult Foster Home in Hermiston.

A graveside service was held Nov. 2 at Desert Lawn Memorial Cemetery in Irrigon.

She was born Dec. 16, 1919, at Hutchinson, KS, to Arthur and Pearl Stout Force.

She came to Hermiston some 40 years ago from Idaho.

She was a homemaker who enjoyed her children and grandchildren.

She enjoyed crossword puzzles, gardening, playing Scrabble and canning.

Survivors include her sons, Ronald Matlack of Bay City, James Matlack of Hermiston and Kenneth Matlack of Irrigon; a daughter, Sharon Alexanian of Depot Bay; 37 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her parents, eight brothers and sisters, her first husband, Denton Matlack, her second husband, Norman Corey, and an infant daughter.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

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**Good Luck at District, Ione Lady Cardinals!**



Ione High School Varsity Volleyball Team: back row (l-r) - Coach Cathy McCabe, Kim Morris, Stephanie Holland, Head Coach Charity McElligott, Barbara Holland, Brittnice DesBoullions, Coach Melissa LaRue, middle row - Kylee Svetich, Sara Peck, Abby Key, Manager Marly Pfingsten, Ashly Grams, Jenny Griffith, Emily Rietmann; front row - Ball girl MaKenna Ramos, Alyssa Rietmann, Kaylee Palmateer, Kayla LaRue, Ball girl Mary Rietmann.

**These businesses and individuals say Congratulations on a Winning Season, and Good Luck at District, Ione!**

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| Ramos Brothers Ranch<br>BPOE No. 358<br>Bank of Eastern Oregon<br>Wright Chevrolet<br>Sherrill Chevrolet<br>Allstott Construction<br>Les Schwab<br>Dobyns Pest Control<br>Boardman Foods<br>Gar Aviation<br>Heppner Gazette Times<br>Murray Drugs<br>Columbia Basin Electric<br>Eastern Oregon Orthopaedic<br>Sweeney Mortuary<br>K & L Farms, L.L.C.<br>Sunflower Junction<br>Wheatland Insurance<br>Lott's Electric<br>Heppner Auto Parts<br>Peterson's Jewelers<br>Central Red Apple<br>IRT, LLC<br>Windmill Cafe<br>Pea Ridge Embroidery<br>Mike's Mobile Slaughter<br>Pettijohn's Builders Supply<br>Sage Canyon<br>Heideman's Farm<br>MCGG<br>Vandever Brothers<br>Collier's Market<br>Dick and Jannie Allen<br>Bob and Bonni Ball | Rudy and Jackie Bergstrom<br>Loyal and Betty Burns<br>Louis and Betty Carlson<br>John and Barb Collin Family<br>Helen Crawford<br>Gene and Kristy Crowell<br>June Crowell<br>Brian and Peggy Doherty Family<br>Richard and Rosie Graham<br>Betty Gray<br>Butch and Helen Heideman<br>Dale and Karen Holland Family<br>Bob Hubbard<br>Bill and Nancy Jepsen Family<br>Jim and Gina Jepsen<br>John and Jean Jepsen<br>Joe and Marie Key<br>Tim and Shelly Key Family<br>Skye and Penny Krebs Family<br>Del and Linda LaRue<br>Katherine Lindstrom<br>Ruth McCabe<br>Joe and Jeri McElligott Family<br>Virgil and Debbie Morgan Family<br>Bill and Sharon Morris Family<br>Perry and Kathy Morter<br>Ralph and Anne Morter Family<br>Howard and Dianne Mullins<br>Duane and Linda Neiffer Family<br>Jarrod and Alison Ogden and Grace<br>Joe and Anita Orem Family<br>Darrin Padberg and Henry Marvin and Tanna Padberg | Allen Peck<br>Lyle and Virginia Peck<br>Steven, Camille, Sara and Amellia Peck<br>Daily Bread Farms: Joel, Lea, Gus, Oskar and Babali<br>Helen Pettijohn<br>Jason and Tara Proudfoot<br>Dave and Debbie Radie Family<br>Bink and Lynn Dee Ramos Family<br>Keith and Judy Rea<br>Betty Rietmann<br>Bill Rietmann<br>Jerry, Lisa, Ann and Emma Rietmann<br>Joe and Donna Rietmann Family<br>John and Kerry Rietmann Family<br>Ritz Ag Enterprises<br>Dean and Florene Robinson<br>Ryan and Allison Rudolf Family<br>Brian, Lorie, Jenny and Niki Sullivan<br>Jim, Monica and Adrienne Swanson<br>Leslie, Kim, Olivia, Kelly, Lacey, Seth, and Katelyn Thompson<br>Ken and Jean Ann Turner<br>Steve and Teri Schaber and Kyle and Kaylee John, Lisa, Jonathan, Joel, Jamie, and Juli Vandenberg<br>Joe, Darla and Teonna Vandever<br>Willow Creek Storage: Rick, Sylvia, Lilly and Ivy Sanford |
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