

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  
Andrea Di Salvo ..... 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 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 \$5.75 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.

**Obituaries**

**Charlotte Dora Howell**

Charlotte Howell, long-time Monument resident, died September 25, 2011 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Prineville, OR. She was 85 years of age.

Charlotte was born April 3, 1926 at Sour Dough Ridge near Winlock, to Henry and Fannie Wilhelm. She married Clifford Howell in 1943. They made their home on Wall Creek, north of Monument, OR. There, they raised three sons—Sam, Bill, and Paddy—on their ranch. Clifford died in 1992, just shy of their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Charlotte moved into Monument in 1997. Due to health issues, she then moved to Prineville's Ochoco Care Center in 2008.

Charlotte loved ranch life and worked on the ranch most of her life. She also cooked at the Monument School for a time. She enjoyed crafts, cooking

and gardening.

In addition to her husband, Charlotte was preceded in death by: one son, one grandson, and 11 siblings.

She is survived by: daughter-in-law, Kathy Howell of Monument; sons, Sam (Joanie) Howell of Monument and Paddy (Julie) Howell of Canyon City, OR; sister, Ollie Howell of Spray, OR; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; four great, great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

All are welcome to a potluck memorial at Monument Senior Center on Saturday, October 15 at 11 a.m. Photos and stories are invited.

Memorial donations may be made to Pioneer Memorial Hospice, 1201 NE Elm St., Prineville, OR 97754.

**Local man in critical condition**

Darrin Skaggs, 26, is in critical care at OHSU in Portland.

The grandson of Frank and Janice Skaggs of Heppner was transported by LifeFlight from Kadlec Medical Center to OHSU in Portland last Saturday evening. He is currently on life support, undergoing treatment for liver failure and blood clots. Skaggs has battled ulcerated colitis—a disease similar to Crohn's Disease—for several years.

According to his grandmother, Janice Skaggs, the young man has had several battles with the disease, each worse than the last, with the current episode being the worst yet.

A medical fund has been opened at the Bank of Eastern Oregon to help with medical costs. A bake sale will be held at Heppner Family Foods on Friday, October 21 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. to raise money for the medical fund.

**Lexington proposes bond for new fire hall**

The town of Lexington is proposing a bond to fund a new fire station.

Measure 25-29, if approved, would issue \$200,000 in general obligation bonds to provide a new fire station for the town.

The proposed measure was developed after a federal mandate ruled that the existing fire hall, which is on a flood plain, must be removed by June 2012. If a replacement hall is not built, Lexington will have no place to house its fire equipment.

"[T]he ability of the Lexington volunteer fire department to respond to emergencies will be adversely impacted," states the measure.

Bonds would be payable from taxes on property that is not subject to the limits of sections 11 and 11b, Article XI, of the Oregon Constitution. The estimated average annual cost of the bond would be \$2.17 per \$1,000 of assessed value. That's an estimated \$112.41 per year for the typical Lexington home. The bonds might be issued in one series or more and would mature 20 years or less from the date they were issued.

Lexington Mayor Jean Brazell said there are several cost factors involved in the new fire hall's high cost. As a governing agency, the town is required to pay the prevailing wage, which raises the cost. The fire hall must also include a sewer system, which could bump the price another \$18,000. That and other miscellaneous costs, such as lawyer fees, have to be included in the estimated cost, said Brazell.

Even though the price tag is steep, Lexington officials have been working to keep that cost as low as possible. An initial bid of \$252,000 was rejected, and bids of less than \$180,000 are being sought.

The town also has \$40,250 in grant money, matching funds and gifts that it hopes to apply to the cost. Two other grant proposals are in process, and Lexington officials say they would like to see up-front donations from those outside the city limits who benefit from the fire hall.

While Lexington residents might not be happy with the idea of a tax increase, proponents of the measure argue that the financial impact would be less than the result of not having a fire hall in town. Without a fire hall, Lexington's status drops from PC6 to PC10, which indicates there is no responding fire department in a five-mile radius.

A higher PC rating could result in higher insurance premiums...some homeowners might even be told they are uninsurable, depending on their current status. While residents are encouraged to contact their insurance companies for specific premiums, the estimated insurance increase for replacement of a \$150,000 home ranged from \$300 to more than \$600 dollars. Some also point out that it could be more difficult to sell property, since it would be difficult for buyers to get loans for high-risk property.

The proposed bond will be on the ballot for the special election on November 8.

**Thrivent fundraiser for Roy Proctor**

Between now and October 30, the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran and All Saints Episcopal churches will be receiving donations for Roy Proctor. Proctor is in financial need due to a second bone marrow transplant that he underwent recently. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has agreed to match, dollar for dollar, all donations up to \$850.

Members of the community are encouraged to join the Shared Ministry for a German-style potluck

dinner on Sunday, October 30 at 11 a.m. at Hope Lutheran. The total amount raised will be announced at that time.

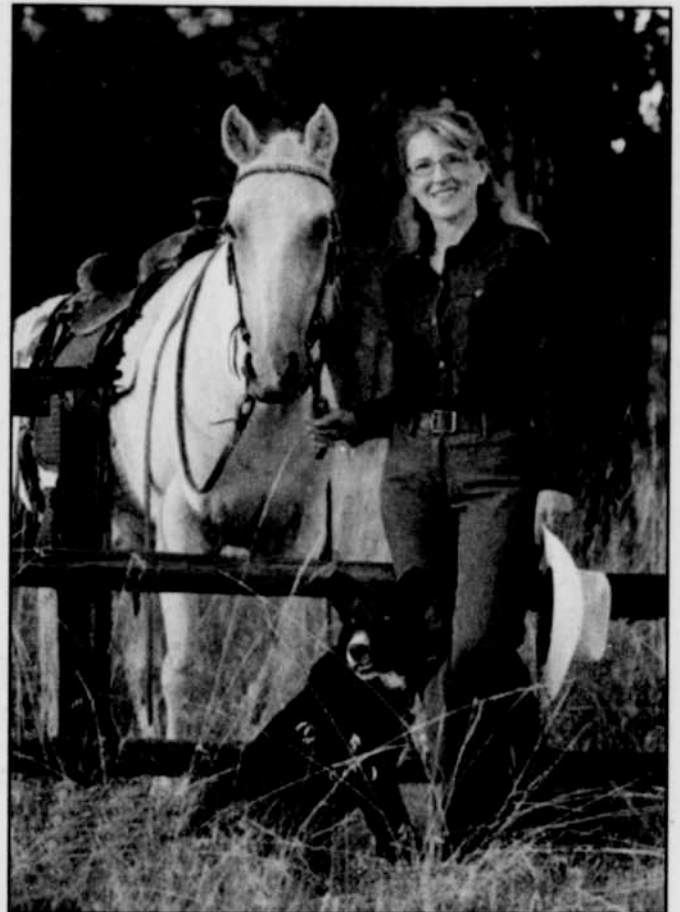
Checks should be made out to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Donations may be submitted at the Shared Ministry office at All Saints, on the corner of Gale and Church streets; the Victorian Rose on Main Street; during worship services at All Saints or Hope; or by mail to Hope Lutheran Church, PO Box 863, Heppner, OR 97836.

**Booster Club holds dinner and auction**



The Heppner Booster Club held its annual dinner and auction last Saturday night at the Elks Club. Looking over some silent auction items to perhaps bid on is Robin Bredfield and along with Jennifer Cecil and her children Allison and Ryan. -Photo by David Sykes

**Business after Hours features Van Schoiack**



When she's not working, Rita Van Schoiack likes to ride on the family ranch. -Photo by Sibbea Browning

By Andrea Di Salvo

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce is holding a "Business after Hours" function on Thursday, October 20 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Business after Hours will be hosted by Rita Van Schoiack, owner of Blue Mountain Investment Management Company, LLC.

Fifty-two-year-old Van Schoiack was born and raised in Portland. After graduating from Portland's Cleveland High School in 1977, she went on to attend Portland State University. She graduated from there with a BA in business in 1982.

Van Schoiack says she wanted to become a stockbroker. Knowing she needed sales experience to enter that field, she went to work in the sales department of Blake, Moffit and Towne, a company that distributes paper products. She was with that company for two years.

Van Schoiack made the move to US Bancorp Investments, working not as a stockbroker but as an institutional investment officer. Around that time she also moved to Lake Oswego just outside of Portland. She lived in Lake Oswego and worked for US Bancorp for the next 17 years. She then left US Bancorp and went to work for D.A. Davidson's Fixed Income Strategy Group.

She met her husband, Morrow County native Dan Van Schoiack, while searching not for love, but for country recordings. A friend had told her she could find old 45 records on the internet. As a country music fan, she started hunting for recording singles on 45s.

"I went online looking for country singles and found countrysingles.com. I looked and said, 'Hey, look what I found.'"

What she found, of course, was rancher and CPA Dan Van Schoiack. The couple married within the year and have been married for seven years. Ironically, both were 45 at the time.

Van Schoiack left Lake Oswego and moved

with her husband to Morrow County. She didn't immediately launch into business for herself, but found a job with Baker Boyer Bank in their Kennewick office's investment advisory department. She worked there two and a half years, but says the two-hour commute grew old.

That was when she decided to start her own business, Blue Mountain Investment Management Company.

"It was practical, given where we live," she says.

She has owned and operated her investment company for two years, doing financial planning and investment management for her clients. Though she started her company for practical reasons, she says there are perks to having her own business.

"I can spend as much time as I need to with each client," Van Schoiack says. "There isn't the pressure for production. I can tailor my business to the needs of the client."

Van Schoiack still has a brother in Portland, but she also has extended family in Brooklyn, NY and Italy. She speaks conversational Italian, though she says she's grown a bit rusty, having few occasions to use it in Heppner.

Van Schoiack says Heppner was quite an adjustment after life in Portland, but she seems to have adapted well. She loves western art, several pieces of which adorn her office walls. She also enjoys spending time riding and working cattle with her husband.

Community members can find out more about Van Schoiack and her business by attending the Business after Hours at Van Schoiack's office in the Pettyjohn Building, 430 W. Linden Way.

The Heppner Chamber invites everyone to, "Come check out her office and find out what her business is about, have some great refreshments and make her feel welcome as she continues to grow her business in our community."

Heppner Family Foods now has gift certificate cards... Now you can come in and load any amount onto your new gift card and give it as a gift or have your student come in and purchase groceries for you!! Make your life easier with our new grocery gift cards.



Morrow County Public Works  
365 W. Hwy 74, P.O. Box 428, Lexington, OR 97830  
541-989-9000

There are better locations to dispose of paint than a landfill.

Recycling your old paint free, is simple and something that everyone can do. More importantly, protecting our environment is something we should all want to do. That's why the PaintCare program was created to make it easy for everyone to recycle and properly dispose of every can of unused paint.

Dispose of FREE of charge at these locations  
North and South Transfer stations.  
69900 Frontage Ln. Boardman, OR  
57185 Hwy 74, Lexington, OR  
Every Saturday and Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

HEPPNER FAMILY FOODS  
CONGRATULATES KAYLEE LEMMON  
FOR BEING OUR OCTOBER  
EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH!!!