

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 by Sykes Publishing, LLC 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 188 W. Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: editor@rapidsolve.net or david@rapidsolve.net. Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$27 in Morrow County; \$21 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 65 years or older); \$33 elsewhere; \$27 student subscriptions.

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.

BEO sponsors fair and rodeo queen



Bank of Eastern Oregon Heppner Branch Manager Tricia Rollins presents Maggie Collins, 2012 Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Queen, with her custom Montana Silver trophy buckle, which is sponsored by the bank. -Contributed photo

First Friday event this week

The next session of First Friday Friends of Jesus will be held on Friday, March 2, from 8 a.m. to noon. All children ages four through 12 are invited to All Saints Episcopal Church on the corner of Church and Gale in Heppner for a morning filled with Bible stories, games, crafts, music and a free lunch.

This program is sponsored by the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal Church. For more information about church activities, call 541-676-9970.

Ione pep band spans generations



Father-son duo, Joel (R) and Oskar (L) Peterson, play with the Ione Community Pep Band while sending off the bus in style this past week during one of the Cardinals' playoff games. The band is led by music director Jordan Bemrose and recently won the district award for best pep band. The band consists of members from fifth grade up to 70 years old. -Photo by Deacon Heideman

Wolf forum planned

On Sunday, March 11, at 2 p.m. at Heppner Elementary School, Wallowa County Sheriff Fred Steen will present "Law Enforcement & Wolves," a free program of public information and training on the wolf depredation issues.

Steen is considered a leader on educating people on wolf depredation and the impacts of wolves on eastern Oregon communities. He will talk with Morrow County resi-

dents regarding how wolf packs have affected Wallowa County, as well as the growing concerns of the movement of wolf packs in eastern Oregon. Steen will also share "the rest of the OR-7 story" as told by members of Oregon Wolf Education Committee.

This free meeting should last approximately two and a half hours. It is open to the public, and all community members are encouraged to attend and invite others.

MCSD to hold meetings

The Morrow County School District will hold public meetings to inform and receive input regarding the district's 2012-13 budget.

Meetings will be held Tuesday, Feb. 28 at the Riverside High School library; Wednesday, Feb. 29 at the Irrigon High School library; and Thursday, March 1 at the Heppner Elementary School cafeteria. All meetings will take place at 6:30 p.m.

These community meetings have been scheduled because MCSD needs to reduce a significant amount from its 2012-13 budget. The school district plans to give information to the public on the financial condition of the district, as well as to listen to the concerns of each community as the district works through this process.

~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. 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.

Right to privacy, or a police state?

Seems we need to revive the pony express. Mail from here to Pendleton or elsewhere will now be sent first to Portland; that's typical government efficiency with gas approaching \$5 a gallon. Other astounding policies already in place were revealed on a Fox network program recently showing over-the-top rules and regulations. Hard to believe children's lemonade stands or bake sales can be illegal without permits, etc. It also showed the arrest of persons for taking pictures of police activities in which they are not involved. Also shown was the practice of government agencies like EPA, which prohibits owners from developing their own property. What have we become, a police state? Now we have extreme privacy laws as though we are guilty of spying on one another.

I'm glad I lived in an era when things were less regimented and few people locked doors because they trusted others. For country folks, when they had car trouble and needed a phone, they could walk into a neighbor's house to use the phone even when the owners weren't home. (Remember, back then it was your legs that did the walking, not a smart phone.) I remember once when I woke up our neighbors in the middle of the night when my car broke down.

It used to be a common practice to inquire about an employee who wasn't present or even a customer when walking into a bank or any store in town. It was okay to find out when said person would be available or a person could leave messages or even a package, knowing it would be delivered. That was perhaps the advantage of living in this area where everyone knew everyone else's business. It was also a means of keeping tabs on errant teenagers, as I experienced after pulling a boo-boo. My parents had time to strategize on appropriate discipline since they found out before yours truly got home.

Now we have privacy laws that make it seem like a communist state. Sharing of information through nationwide or state databanks can be a boon, whether relaying health information to other providers or helping law enforcement view criminals' records. Are we becoming a community that is fearful of sharing common knowledge? It's not about revealing information that would be harmful to others or endangering national security. Our free society is becoming severely encumbered.

Merlyn Robinson
Heppner

Schools announce students of month



Top: Heppner Elementary School has announced the February students of the month. Top (L-R): Derek Howard, Kacie Gray, Morgan Correa, Jordan Sweeney, Austin Moses, Kaitlyn Martin, Leo Waite and Jake Lentz. Bottom (L-R): Madelyn Nichols, Marlee Mitchell, Tyson Vawser, Hayden McMahon, Morgan Cutsforth, Cody Fletcher, Hannah Green, Aubriana Rodriguez, Conor Brosnan and Camryn Scrivner. The character trait for February was diligence. Bottom: Heppner High School has announced February's students of the month. (L-R): Seth Palmer, Makenzie Correa, JC Putman, Clyde Britt, Ethan Barnes and Ella McCormack. February's character trait was diligence. -Contributed photo

PGE to host open house

Portland General Electric will host an open house at the Port of Morrow on March 5 from 4 to 7 p.m. and March 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The open house is part of a series of seven open houses in Oregon to update residents on its proposed Cascade Crossing Transmission Project. For more information, visit CascadeCrossing-Project.com.

Bakers celebrate 65th anniversary



Clarence and Clarice Baker, still in love after 65 years. -Contributed photos

Clarence and Clarice Baker celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary this week.

The Bakers were married in Heppner on Feb. 28, 1947. They resided in Heppner until September of last year, when they moved to Sun Ridge Retirement Community in Pendleton to be closer to their children.

A family dinner to celebrate their anniversary was hosted by their chil-

dren, Jan Murrell of Lebanon, Steve and Patti Baker of Pendleton, Bill and Vicki Baker of Tillamook, and Marti and Kevin Mossman of Pendleton. Unable to attend were their son and daughter-in-law, Ken and Abby Baker of Ooltewah, TN. A daughter, Lynda Lewis, is deceased. The couple has 13 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

FFA to speak at garden club

FFA members will be the guest speakers at the Heppner Garden Club meeting on March 5 at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Everyone is invited.

Community members are also asked to mark their calendars for the annual plant exchange on May 12.

Community lunch menu

Christian Life Center church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, March 7 at St. Patrick's Senior Center. The meal will include pork chops, potatoes au gratin, mixed winter vegetables, apple sauce, cheesy breadsticks and chocolate pie. Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.

HEPPNER ELKS 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

LADIES' NIGHT
THURSDAY, MARCH 1
DINNER 6 P.M.

Barbecued chicken, baked potatoes, coleslaw, whole kernel corn, rolls, and apple dumplings

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING!
We are also celebrating "Old Timer's Night" on that particular evening.
Hosted by the talented Judy Buschke, Darlene Lovgren, Sharon Lewis and Bev Sherman!

"Happy 20th Wedding Anniversary on February 29, LEAP YEAR, to my Best Friend, JOHN R GOULD!"

Thank you for giving me the best life I could ever ask for! I love you!
Love, your wife, Ashli

Wedding Announcement

Travis Winters and Laura Browne
are excited to invite you to help celebrate their wedding on **Saturday, March 3, 2012**.
The wedding ceremony will be at 4:30 in the afternoon with a dinner reception following at the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner, Oregon.