

The Official Newspaper  
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner  
**GAZETTE-TIMES**  
U.S.P.S. 240-420

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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.

## Area families get gifts of food



Volunteers survey some of the 60 boxes of foods handed out last Sunday. Pictured are (clockwise from front): Patricia Hughes, Irene Plocharsky, Cherry Webber, Merilee McDowell, Dan Sharp, CJ Butenchen, Bill McDowell, Neva and David DeMayo, Jean Damon, Pauline Matheny, Mary Eleanor Gilman, Joan Robison, Karen Debuque and April Sykes. —Contributed photo

Families in need of a little extra assistance over spring break recently received a helping hand in the form of groceries from a group of local churches.

The idea started with a group of women within the shared ministry of All Saints Episcopal and Hope Lutheran in Heppner, but soon expanded to churches throughout the Willow Creek Valley. Under the leadership of Pastor Katy Anderson, Merilee McDowell, Barb Orwick, Cherry Webber, George Nairns and others, the churches banded together to collect groceries for those in need. Boxes containing food staples such as bread, peanut butter, jelly, fruit, soup, cereal, juice and tuna were then handed out on Sunday, March 25 at the All Saints parking lot in Heppner.

The event was scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m., but Nairns said all of their

60 boxes of groceries were spoken for by 3:30 p.m. People were invited to stop by the parking lot to pick up a box with "no strings attached and no questions asked," but Nairns said they were also told of people who were not able to stop by or who might not be comfortable asking for help. Volunteers then delivered boxes of food to those residents.

The food drive was a repeat of a similar event last fall, which met with more success than the planners had anticipated.

"We did it last fall and recognized a greater need in the community than we had realized," said Nairns, one of the volunteers. "We realized we have working families in our community that can't quite make ends meet. There are elderly residents who also need assistance from time to time."

## Ranger District recruits youth

The Umatilla National Forest Heppner Ranger District is recruiting four Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) enrollees for a six to eight week period of employment from June 18 through August 10.

Young men and women, ages 15 through 18, who are permanent residents of the United States. Youths must not reach age 19 during the term of employment in the program.

YCC enrollees will participate in field-going activities such as noxious weed removal, fence removal and construction, trail maintenance, campground maintenance, slash piling, and fireline construction around logged

units in the Heppner Ranger District.

Enrollees are responsible for their own room and board and for transportation to and from the Forest Service Office in Heppner. Enrollees are responsible. The YCC program pays \$8.80 per hour.

Applicants must complete and submit an application and medical history to the Heppner Ranger District, PO Box 7, 117 S. Main St., Heppner, OR 97836. The application and medical history must be received by 2 p.m. on April 16.

Applications are available at the Heppner office and the supervisor's office in Pendleton, or at Heppner, Ione, Irrigon and Riverside high schools.

Selections will be made on a random basis on April 16 at 4 p.m. at the Heppner office. Applicants are welcome to be present during the selection process. All applicants will be notified by mail of their selection status.

For more information, contact Becky Weseman, Heppner Ranger District, 541-676-9187.

## Obituaries

### Jeremiah "Jay" Jewett Brown

Jeremiah "Jay" Jewett Brown, 66, died January 11, 2012, in Heppner, OR, his favorite "frontier town," from health issues related to diabetes.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. on March 31 at Salt Creek Cemetery in Dallas, OR, followed by a memorial lunch at Abby's Pizza, 174 W. Ellendale, Dallas, OR.

### Vernon Clifford Christopherson

Vernon Clifford Christopherson, 90, passed away March 15, 2012 in Woodburn, OR. Celebration of Life services will be held March 31 at the Donald Fire Hall in Donald, OR at 2 p.m.

He was born on Nov. 6, 1921 to Ernest and Ada (Agee) Christopherson. The oldest of three boys, he was born near Ione.

Vernon married Dorothy May Brady on April 23, 1940 in College Place, WA. Both were raised in the Ione area, and they lived primarily in Eastern Oregon, where their children were born, until they moved to Donald in 1965. They owned several businesses; he delivered the Oregonian and Statesman and ran a recycling business throughout the years. He was known as "Vern the Paperman." Vern was active with the Donald City Fire Department for more than 40 years and was the mayor of Donald in the 70s. He lived his last years at Rhonda's Adult Foster Care Home in Woodburn, OR, where he received tender loving care by Rhonda and her staff.

He was preceded in death by: his parents; his wife, Dorothy; and his children, Caroline, Charles and, more recently, Debra. He is now with this beloved wife, whom he loved and missed so much.

Vernon is survived by: his two daughters, Gloria Klimaschesky of Milton-Freewater, OR and Kathy Olsen

of Donald, OR; his brothers, Ernest "Ernie" Christopherson of Columbia Falls, MT and Ersel Christopherson of Woodburn and brother-in-law, Melvin Brady of Milton-Freewater, OR. He is also survived by grandchildren, Arlynda Gates of Ione; Arletta Arnsperger of Lexington; Christie Kelly of Donald; Michael Luna of Hubbard, OR; Ricky Luna of Kingston, ID; Keith Olsen of McMinnville, OR; Alicia Rippey of Portland, TN and Marissa Kovach of Redmond, OR. He had 14 great-grandchildren and seven great-great grandchildren.

Vern's wishes were for any donations to go to the Donald City Fire Department, 20909 Feller St NE, Donald, OR 97020.



Vernon Clifford Christopherson

## Birth Announcement

**Kendall Alice Matteson**—Jodie and Ryan Matteson announce the birth of a daughter, Kendall Alice Matteson. She was born February 22 at 4:20 p.m. at St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton. She weighed seven pounds, 14 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. She joins an older sister, two-year-old Kamryn.



Kendall Alice Matteson

Grandparents are Phil and Kathy Carlson, and Chuck and Sherry Matteson, all of Heppner.

## Everyone loves an Irish girl



Alaina Watson of La Grande, daughter of Heather Watson, shows off her traditional Irish dress during the Wee Bit O' Ireland celebration in Heppner. The dress was given to Alaina's grandmama by a close family friend. It had belonged to the man's wife; they had purchased the dress in Cork County, Ireland. Alaina instantly fell in love with the dress, so her grandmama hemmed it (without cutting it) so the girl could wear it on St. Paddy's Day and for other Celtic festivals she loves visiting. As Alaina grows taller, the hem will slowly be let out to grow with her. —Contributed photo

### You are invited to the E. George Koffler Farewell Retirement Reception



BEO Heppner Branch Lobby  
Thursday, March 29, 2012  
2:00 p.m. ~ 4:00 p.m.  
Cake, coffee, and punch

Please join us in wishing  
George the very best!



**Bank of Eastern Oregon**



## BMCC offers investment classes

Blue Mountain Community College will offer a three-part education course this April to help residents of Morrow County plan and save for retirement.

The three-part series of classes will cover the topics of Investment Basics, Retirement Basics and Retirement Income Planning. The courses complement one another and can be taken as a series or independently, depending on individual knowledge and needs.

The classes will be taught by Rita Van Schoiack, a financial advisor who is owner of Blue Mountain Investment Management. The goal of the courses is to help attendees gain the skills to estimate how much

money they need to retire, learn how to create retirement goals, review investment basics and more.

The classes will meet in the large conference room of the Pettyjohn Building, 430 West Linden Way in Heppner. The classes will be held on Monday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Investment Basics will be April 9; Retirement Basics; April 23 and Retirement Income Planning, April 30.

There is no charge to attend but workbooks can be purchased for \$5. Advance registration is required. Call Anne Morter at 541-422-7040 or e-mail her at amorter@bluecc.edu. Students may also register online at www.bluecc.edu.

## Senior issues forum planned

A community forum on issues affecting senior citizens will be held at St. Patrick's Senior Center

in Heppner on Wednesday, April 4, at 1 p.m.

The forum will be a discussion of the Area Agency on Aging's (AAA) plan for senior services for the next four years. The forum is part of the AAA planning process to ensure services offered to seniors are those they need most.

The AAA works in Umatilla and Morrow counties to help people aged 60 and over find the services they need to remain living as independently as possible. Such services include the senior meals program, in-home services, information and assistance, and the Family Caregiver Support Program.

Everyone is encouraged to be involved in determining what those 60 and over will need to live their best lives. There will be a drawing for a door prize as well as coffee.



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