

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

Melvin Dieter

Melvin "Mel" Dieter, as a welder fabricator. In his 69, of Heppner passed away spare time, he was a master woodworker and gunsmith.



Melvin Dieter

He is survived by: his wife of 22 years, Joan Dieter; children Penny Dieter, Ben (Candi) Dieter, Candy (Fried) Rodley and Tina (Will) Dieter-Crossley; step-children Michelle McCarty, Jacob (Brenda) Scruton, Dean (Nadine) Scruton, David Scruton and Zachary Scruton; 26 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Mel was born May 29, 1943 in Dimmit, TX to parents Harold and Annie Dieter. He worked in many farm and ranch jobs over the years until he moved to P.I.P.E. Inc. in Salem, OR

Catholic churches begin religious ed classes

Religious education classes have begun at both St. Patrick's Parish in Heppner and St. William's Parish in Ione.

Classes for preschool through sixth grade will be held in St. Patrick's parish hall in Heppner each Sunday from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. At St. William's Church in Ione, the classes will follow the 8:45 a.m. Mass on Sundays and will be for preschool through 12th grade.

This year, the junior high and high school groups will be preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will be on Sunday, Oct. 28. The new bishop of the Baker Diocese, Liam Cary, will be coming to both parishes for that event. Anyone wishing further information may contact Fr. Gerry Condon at 541-676-9462.

Puppets in pulpit at Methodist church

Pop quiz: How many Sundays are there in the month of September this year? Answer: Five.

That means that Hairy and friends will be bringing the Gospel message at Heppner United Methodist Church again this Sunday, Sept. 30, in the 10:30 a.m. celebration of worship.

The church invites community members to beat the holiday rush—December is the next five-Sunday month—and join them this Sunday morning to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ through hand puppetry. They say they invite all who are young at heart or interested in receiving the Good News in a different way. They also add that there will be cake afterward.

~ 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.

Respect our town resources

To the Editor:

I am thinking that public exposure to topics that have come up in private conversations might be helpful in some way to someone.

One such topic pertains to the use, abuse and condition of our ancient tennis/basketball courts. As any observer realizes, the long-neglected courts are in dire need of repair or more extensive renovation. But they are useable, if players are willing to put up with the challenges. Until a benevolent someone, or governmental or private entity, grants money to improve the courts, they seem to be an example of "better than nothing."

Once in a while I notice activity on the courts—oftentimes a group of young basketball players, a family now and then playing tennis and, occasionally, young tennis players. I also hear adults and young people say that they are "interested" in playing tennis and wonder if some of them would truly give the game a try if our courts were decent. I know two people who are willing to give lessons.

My purpose in writing is to thank the people—young and old—who are helping to keep the courts useable until, hopefully, the longed-for changes can happen. Using but not abusing. I have seen some of you, leaving the courts with no sign of your having been there. I have seen a young person carry a drink container to the garbage can, proof of his sense of right and wrong.

My knowledge of what happens at the courts after dark is limited, but I do hear about and see the results of vandalism at the site. I can't even begin to guess why anyone would choose to damage or litter the area. I can, however, guess the impact that the people—young and old—who value and respect themselves and others, and others' property, can have on the vandals. I hope you will try to persuade inconsiderate, thoughtless or malicious people you see or know from damaging this and other places in Heppner.

Doris Brosnan, Heppner

Hampton for circuit court judge

To the Editor:

I am writing in support of Judge Lynn Hampton for Circuit Court, Position Number Three, and would urge the voters of Umatilla and Morrow County to retain her in office.

Following her appointment almost two years ago, Judge Hampton has presided over her busy courtroom fairly and efficiently. She has effectively handled a large number of high-profile criminal cases, as well as divorces, custody cases and civil matters. She has the experience, temperament and legal knowledge required to continue to serve us well.

When she was appointed in January 2011, Lynn became one of the first two women judges in the history of the Sixth Judicial District, along with Judge Eva Temple in Hermiston. Because of her wide experience over 34 years of practicing law in Umatilla and Morrow Counties, she already knew her way around a courtroom and "hit the ground running." She had already served as a Deputy District Attorney, Tribal Prosecutor and as an attorney in private practice, representing clients in a way that enhances her judicial skills.

Because of her broad experience as an attorney in our two counties since 1978, Judge Hampton will continue to serve us well as our circuit judge. For me, the choice is clear. Retain Judge Hampton.

Shelley Murphy, Milton-Freewater, OR

Community lunch menu

St. Patrick's Catholic Parish members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, Oct. 3, at St. Patrick's Senior Center.

The meal will include chicken fettuccini, mixed vegetables, Waldorf salad, hot rolls and butterscotch pudding. Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.

At last, a ballot measure to die for...

For certain people, the most unfair and painful tax they will ever pay occurs when they die. It is due immediately upon their death and can force their heirs to "sell the farm" in order to be able to keep the farm. This is commonly referred to as the death tax, and it applies to estates valued at more than \$1 million.

Many times, the value of assets in a farm, ranch or a small business reaches this level. However, especially with farms and ranches, the amount of cash on hand can be minimal compared to the total value of all the assets. This means that in order to raise the money to pay the tax bill, there is sometimes only one option for the heirs. That option involves a for-sale sign or, sometimes, closing the business altogether. This results in a loss of jobs for people who may never have an estate worth \$1 million but who are severely impacted by the death tax anyway. An Oregon logging family recently was forced to liquidate 60 percent of the business in order to buy it back from the tax collector. This is obviously unfair, and thousands of Oregonians know it.

As a result, more than 8,000 Oregon voters (who think we are Taxed Enough Already) helped gather signatures for a petition to end this unfair tax. Consequently, on July 31 of this year, the Secretary of State announced that the petition had qualified to become a ballot measure. You will have a chance to vote on Ballot Measure 84 this fall. A yes vote will mean that you are in favor of abolishing the death tax. If enough people are informed and if enough people vote yes on 84, the tax will be phased out over a three-year period and will zero out entirely on January 1, 2016. Yes, indeed, Ballot Measure 84 is a ballot measure to die for.

Jack Meligan, Heppner
For the Willow Creek Tea Party Patriots

A welcoming place for hunters

Dear Heppner Community,

I want to write you regarding a recent hunting trip my father and I had near Heppner. It was our first time in the Heppner area after hunting Colorado for 15 years. We were extremely impressed with the services that you provided hunters from free water to garbage service to all the friendly business people we met. We camped in the hills above Cutsforth Park and spent three days in Heppner to re-supply. During our stay we spent hundreds of dollars on food, gas, ice and sporting supplies, all purchased from local businesses. The services provided far exceeded those we experienced in our Colorado trips (the premier elk hunting state?), including a place to have our game cooled and hung at the local grocer.

Please pass along our thanks to the local businesses and rest assured we will return and tell our hunting friends about our experience. We didn't get an elk, but we will be back, maybe even for a chukkar hunt this fall. We just want you to know your efforts don't go unnoticed.

Kind regards,
Mark Weitz, St. Helens, OR
Dr. Conrad Weitz III
P.S. The hunters at Cutsforth were very friendly and accommodating as well.

Christian Church plans harvest festival

The Heppner Christian Church has extended an invitation to the community to attend its harvest festival on Sunday, Sept. 30 at 6 p.m.

The harvest festival is intended to be a time of praise, food and fellowship. It will also feature special guest speaker Spike Psarris. Psarris is a former engineer from the U.S. military space program. He went into that program as an atheist and committed evolutionist and came out of it as a young-earth creationist and Christian. Those who have heard Psarris speak say he has a unique way of explaining complex topics in astronomy and making them easy to understand.

Shared Ministry fifth Sunday schedule

Sept. 30 is a fifth Sunday of the month, which affects the Shared Ministry alternating cycle of Sunday services at Hope Lutheran (first and third Sundays) and All Saints Episcopal (second and fourth Sundays).

Worship on Sept. 30 will be held at Hope (corner of Alfalfa and Cowins in Heppner) beginning at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, help is available and that help is FREE of charge.

If YOU have a family member who suffers from gambling addiction, YOU can also receive FREE treatment even if the gambler is not receiving treatment.

If you are a resident of Morrow County and you wish to take advantage of the services above or desire more information, Please call any of the following numbers to set up a LOCAL appointment or just to talk:

Bobby Harris @ 541-676-9925 or 541-256-0175
Community Counseling Solutions (CCS) @ 541-676-9161
OR 1-877-695-4648 (1-888-MYLIMIT)

50 going on 13!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

13th Birthday

The U.S. Navy and the Oregon National Guard INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE in the Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility Boardman EIS

The U.S. Navy, in cooperation with the National Guard Bureau and the Oregon National Guard, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with ongoing and proposed military readiness activities within Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility (NWSTF) Boardman.

The Navy and Oregon National Guard request your input!	Public Meetings Open House Information Session: 5-6 p.m. Presentation/Public Comment Session: 6-8 p.m.
SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS TO: Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Northwest Attention: Mrs. Amy Burt - NWSTF Boardman EIS Project Manager 1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203 Silverdale, WA 98315-1101	Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2012 Hermiston Conference Center Great Room 415 S. Highway 395 Hermiston, OR 97838
Submit comments online at www.NWSTFBoardmanEIS.com	Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2012 Port of Morrow Conference Center B. Arthur Room 11 Main Drive Boardman, OR 97831

The Draft EIS is available for public review and comment from **Sept. 7, 2012 to Nov. 6, 2012.**

All comments must be postmarked or received online by **Nov. 6, 2012, for consideration in the Final EIS.**

VISIT THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC LIBRARIES OR www.NWSTFBoardmanEIS.com FOR MORE INFORMATION.