

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**

**James L. Martin**

James L. Martin, 67, of Lexington died Thursday, November 29, 2012 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner. A funeral service was held Wednesday, Dec. 5, at 1 p.m. at the Lone Community Church, with concluding service and burial to follow at High View Cemetery in Ione.

Mr. Martin was born August 18, 1945 in Pendleton, OR, the son of Roy and Juanita Bellenbrock Martin. He was raised and attended school in Lexington and Ione. He attended Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR. Mr. Martin was a test pilot and a certified flight instructor for the Federal Aviation Administration based out of Seattle, WA. He certified Boeing airplanes, which included the 727 through 777 aircraft.

On April 2, 1965 he married Katherine Rea in Lewiston, ID. Following his aircraft pilot career, the couple retired to the Martin family ranch near

Lexington. He was a member of the Heppner Elks Lodge and enjoyed golf and flying as hobbies.

Survivors include: his wife, Katherine Martin of Lexington; son, Brent Martin and his wife Jill of Ione; daughters, Jacqueline Martin of Auburn, WA and

Sherra Mogen and her husband Terry of Missoula, MT; brother, Tommy Martin and his wife Shirley of Lexington; five granddaughters, Jessica, Ashley, Samantha, Emilee and Eva; and one grandson, Derik.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Juanita Martin.

Memorial contributions may be made to Willow Creek Terrace, 400 Frank Gilliam Drive, Heppner, OR 97836 or to the Ione Education Foundation, PO Box 61, Ione, OR 97843.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.



James L. Martin

**Ronald Charles Harris**

Ronald Charles Harris, 73, passed away from natural causes on Wednesday, November 28, 2012 while vacationing in Maui, Hawaii. A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, December 16, at 1 p.m. at the Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie, OR. A separate event will be announced for close family and friends.

Ron was born to parents Charles and Eva Harris on November 14, 1939 in Portland, OR. Ron attended Gresham High School, graduating in 1957. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Oregon State University in agriculture-animal husbandry in 1961. While attending OSU, Ron was a member of ROTC and Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity.

He spent three years in the US Air Force and was a member of the Arnold Air Society. He was honorably discharged with the rank of

captain. Ron joined the Multnomah County District 10 Fire Dept. in 1968, which merged with the Portland Fire District in 1984, and retired as a battalion chief in 1994.

He married Judith Harris on June 26, 1993.

Ron had owned and operated a ranch near Ione since 1992 and was a member of the American Angus Association. Ron enjoyed flying his airplane, fishing, hunting, camping and travel.

Ron Harris is survived by: his loving wife, Judy Harris; his daughter, Pamela Leymaster; five grandchildren, Kayla and Kile Lee, Keisha Covey, April Rose and Rachel Schultz; and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association in memory of Ronald Charles Harris.

**~ 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.

**Keep roads open on forest lands**

*(Editor's note: This letter was originally sent to Kevin Martin at Umatilla National Forest Headquarters and Todd Buchholz at the Heppner Ranger District, as well as other organizations and individuals.)*

During deer season, we noticed some new gates and signs in the Umatilla National Forest, which indicate that many of our roads will be closed to motor vehicle access on a yearlong basis, beginning in 2013. I will site two examples: Road 2202 below Sunflower Flat and Road 020 at Hog Creek near Tupper. Both of these roads provide access to deep canyons and draws, which provide excellent habitat for deer and elk.

This country is very rugged. Even with these roads, game retrieval can sometimes be a several-day task. Closure of these roads will add to that burden. For older hunters, who don't have the physical ability for an all-day hike, closure of these roads will cut off access to these areas completely.

During elk season, I spoke to one of your forest service workers and asked why the Hog Creek road was going to be closed in 2013. He said that someone had tried to vandalize a gate and had left some garbage. This is an outrageous reason to close a road. Why should all of us be punished for the actions of one person or a few?

Over the years, we the people who hunt and play in the forests south of Heppner have lost access to thousands of acres of land around Opal Butte and French Prairie due to such entities as Opal Butte Outfitters and the Morrow County OHV Park. Now, managers at the Umatilla National Forest are trying to lock us out of even more land by closure of the roads that we need to get closer to the draws and canyons for hunting and for game retrieval. To say that we are upset by your decision to close these and other roads is an understatement. We are angry and outraged by this decision and fearful that you will leave us no place to hunt. We want to see this decision reversed.

During elk season, both first and second seasons, we gathered the signatures of 197 like-minded individuals, who also wish to protest your decision. Two of the people who signed are retired national forest service workers, who told me that the real reason the roads are being closed is that there was a mandate from headquarters in Washington D. C. to close the roads in order to cut your road maintenance expenses. What is interesting about that is that most of these roads have received no maintenance at all in many years. In fact, Road 2202 at Sunflower Flats even has a signed posted at one end that says "end vehicle maintenance."

I recently found your decision document about road closures on your website. Protecting streams seems to be another reason for closing these and other roads. That sounds good on paper, but I've hunted this area for 38 years. Most of the streams in the area are seasonal streams, which dry up during the summer months. In fact, when I drove the Sunflower Flat road in October, there was no water in the streambed at all.

I am enclosing photocopies of the signed petitions. We the people who hunt and play in the Umatilla National Forest protest the closure of these roads on a yearlong basis. We want these and all other roads within the Umatilla National Forest that were open in 2011 and 2012 to remain open at least during the summer months and up through the end of November for hunting-season users.

You are the caretakers of the land, not the owners. Please keep that in mind and find another way to protect habitat, while still allowing motor vehicle access for those of us who wish to use these roads to hunt, play and enjoy our beautiful Umatilla National Forest.

Sincerely,  
Molly P. Kernan, Tigard, OR

**Shared Ministry plans First Friday, Christmas pageant**

The December session of First Friday Friends of Jesus is coming up this Friday from 8 a.m. to noon at All Saints Episcopal Church in Heppner. Children ages four to 12 are invited for a morning filled with Bible stories, crafts, games, songs, snacks and a free lunch. Newcomers are always welcome.

On Sunday, Dec. 16, at 2 p.m. the "First Friday Friends" and several Ecumenical Youth Group members will star in a rehearsal Christmas pageant to be held at Hope Lutheran Church. The afternoon will include carol singing and refreshments. The community is invited.

More information about activities in the Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal Church is available by calling the church office at 541-676-9970.

**Birth announcement**

**Harper Rae Coiner**—Josh and Melissa Coiner announce the birth of a daughter, Harper Rae Coiner, on November 6, 2012. She weighed eight pounds, six ounces and was 19 inches long.

Harper joins older brothers Jackson and Keaton. Grandparents are Joe and Jeri McElligott of Ione, Barb Coiner of Heppner, and Dan Coiner of Sacramento, CA. Great-grandparents are Morris and Shirley McCarl of Lexington and Betty Snow of Salem, OR.



Harper Rae Coiner

**Heppner man earns master's degree**

Heppner man Troy Morgan has graduated from Eastern Oregon University with a Master of Science degree in education, the university announced this week.

Morgan was one of four Morrow County residents to graduate from EOU this term, the only one to obtain a graduate-level degree. Other Morrow County graduates were Cristina Morgan from Bettsworth of Boardman, and Jacquelyn McPherson of Irrigon, with a Bachelor of Science degree in History.



Troy Morgan

**Dodge ball tournament to benefit senior night**

Heppner High School will hold a dodge ball tournament Dec. 19 at 6 p.m. at the high school; proceeds will go toward the senior night grad project. Anyone who feels competitive and would like to support Mustang seniors in this project is encouraged to enter the tournament. For more information, contact Craig Gutierrez at 541-256-0155 or Ann Jones at 541-256-0149.

**Marriage Licenses**

The Morrow County Clerk has issued the following marriage licenses:  
**November 30:** -Ryan Curtis Angel, 34, of Irrigon and Jennifer Michelle Irwin, 36, of Irrigon.

**Whooping cough vaccines offered at Murray's**

Those who haven't gotten their whooping cough vaccine have another shot at it this week.

Due to a recent outbreak of pertussis (whooping cough) in Morrow County, the Public Health Department has been working with Murray's Drug to begin offering Tdap (whooping cough) vaccine to Medicare Part D Clients. They will hold a joint clinic to help

kick off this new service on Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Murray's Drug in Heppner.

The Morrow County Health Department will also be offering free flu shots and Tdap vaccines to those without insurance coverage during this time. Vaccinations also are offered regularly through the MCHD office in Heppner.

**County parks dept. to meet**

The Morrow County quarterly parks meeting will be held Monday, Dec. 17, at 1 p.m. at the US Forest Service building in Heppner.

The public is invited to attend. Anyone with agenda items, contact Betty Gray, Morrow County Parks Chairwoman, at 541-989-8214 or bgray@co.morrow.or.us.

**Medicare Part D Open Enrollment ends this Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>!**

**Morrow County Health District will conduct the last free Medicare Part D Workshop for this year on Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.**

**Please call 541-676-9133 or 1-800-737-4113 to make an appointment.**



**MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT**  
Excellence in Healthcare

**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)

**Route 74 Restaurant will be closing early on December 16 at 2:00 p.m.**



**541-422-7160**

**ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.**