

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: \$29 in Morrow County; \$23 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 65 years or older); \$35 elsewhere; \$29 student subscriptions.

All News and Advertising Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.  
For Advertising: classified deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Cost for a display ad is \$5 per column inch. Cost for advertising 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.

# FATHER CONDON Valby welcomes new interim pastor

## RETIREES

*-Continued from PAGE ONE*  
Baker, Oregon. I accepted that."

The Diocese of Baker covers all of Eastern Oregon, and the young Father Condon began a life of ministry in parishes that ranged across the eastern part of the state, including Lakeview, Condon, Wasco, Merrill, Ontario, Prineville and, in 1990, Heppner and Ione. He has been in South Morrow for the last 22 years, aside from taking a year off to return to Ireland and care for his sister.



Father Gerry Condon

One unexpected aspect of his time in Morrow County has been his foray into the role of playwright.

"One of the things I've been able to do in this parish and not anyplace else is to compose a number of dramas, which we've been able to put on in conjunction with the St. Patrick's celebrations," he says.

Condon says he became interested in drama when he was a teenager. He began participating in dramas while in seminary because, he says, he was shy and had trouble speaking in public.

"Speaking in other words became quite easy," he says.

He later found a shared interest in drama in some of the parishes in which he served, but he never took on the role of writer until after he moved to Heppner.

"One particular lady in town said, 'Our town is celebrating St. Patrick and our church is named after St. Patrick but we do not do anything religious in honor of St. Patrick, so why not do a drama on the life of St. Patrick?'" he recounts.

He took the question to heart, and searched for a drama about the saint while in Ireland the following summer.

"(I) could not find one, except for a musical, which was not very flattering of St. Patrick," says Condon. "So I decided to try to do better than that. So began the process."

It turned out to be a successful process, with new, original dramas for the St. Patrick's celebration following almost yearly since then, with only a few repeats. The dramas written by Condon, with music and occasional coauthoring by Joe Lindsay and performances by parish members, have been popular every year...so popular that, in 2010, Condon and the cast of one of his dramas, From

Cenacle to Calvary, were chosen as the grand marshals of the St. Patrick's Day Great Green Parade.

He was also chosen as the Heppner Chamber of Commerce's 2007 Man of the Year, but the soft-spoken priest doesn't talk much about that. The fact that he was chosen, though, speaks loudly to the place he has taken in the lives and hearts of the local community.

Condon says his life as a priest has been, as with all lives, full of ups and downs, joys and sorrows. He says his greatest challenge has been to open the gospel in a way that appeals to people, something that, he says, seems to be getting more challenging as time passes.

"The modern era has been a little more difficult. There's more conflict in our world today," says Condon.

As far as the joys, he says the people in his parishes have been his greatest blessing.

"It's been a great joy and a great privilege to work with people in parishes who are so committed to the Lord and who are so ready and willing to help in so many aspects of parish life," he says.

Even though he looks forward to retirement, Condon says he will miss his involvement in that same parish life in all its aspects, including regular participation in local Mass and administration of the Sacraments of the church.

Though the members of St. Patrick's and St. William's will certainly also miss him, there is a bright spot...Condon "tentatively" plans on retiring in Heppner. Though he says nothing is concrete at this point, he will probably be able to help out in area parishes when the need arises, such as when a local priest goes on vacation or has an emergency. He also, of course, hopes to have time for his hobbies of drama, golf, music and hypnotherapy.

Father Condon's final Mass as parish priest will be Sunday, Jan. 27. St. Patrick's Catholic Church will be hosting a coffee hour for Father Condon in the parish hall from noon until 1:30 p.m. Church members say everyone in the community is welcome to come and celebrate the retirement—but hopefully not loss—of a beloved priest, playwright and cherished friend.

Pastor Wayne E. Bohling from Laughlin, NV has accepted a call to serve as interim pastor for Valby Lutheran Church, the church announced this week. A spokesman for the church said Bohling will be in attendance at a special welcoming service at the church at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 20.

Bohling, who comes originally from Nebraska, has served Lutheran churches in Kansas, Iowa and Nebraska, and also in the Pacific Northwest at Camano Island and Whidbey Island in Washington.

After "retiring" from the ministry, Bohling served as Director-Chaplain of an International Seamen's Center in Aberdeen, WA from 1977 to 1987. He also served as visitation pastor and did chaplaincy ministry with his late wife. He was more recently interim pastor at Desert Springs Lutheran Church in Truth or Consequences, NM from August 2010 to August 2011. He has been on mission trips to the Philippines, Russia, Cambodia and Hungary, and has twice traveled to the Holy Land.

He has a son who owns and operates Seattle Boats in Seattle, and a son-in-law and daughter in Bellevue, WA; his son-in-law is a dentist and has several offices in the Northwest. Another son lives on the Island of Kauai in Hawaii and is a golf and water-ski enthusiast.

Pastor Bohling has also

done volunteer work in Biloxi, MS at the Katrina disaster site and has done volunteer work at Canon Beach Conference grounds in Canon Beach, OR.

Bohling is no stranger to eastern Washington and Oregon, since his brother-in-law was formerly a pastor of a church in the Tri-Cities, WA; family visits gave him a familiarity with the area.

A Valby Lutheran spokesman said Bohling will be installed as Valby's pastor in the near future, when area congregations and pastors will have the chance to welcome him and his pastoral skills into the church and community.

Special events for Jan. 20 include not only Bohling's welcome but also a presentation of medical assistance, given in conjunction with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, to the Kendrick family of Ione. Andra Kendrick was the victim of a serious accident last year and continues to recover at home in Ione.

Retired Pastor Wes Sackmann of Hermiston will be the guest pastor on Jan. 20 and will deliver communion. A potluck lunch will follow the service. All are invited to attend this service to welcome Pastor Bohling at Valby Lutheran Church, 17 miles south of Ione at 60492 Valby Road, Ione, OR.

Contact Louis Carlson at 541-676-5302 for more information.

## Nordic club skis Herren Creek



Eleven skiers joined the Arbuckle Nordic Ski Club Saturday, Jan. 12, to ski up the Herren Creek trail. It was 11 degrees when the group left the trucks but members said it warmed up fast climbing the very scenic but narrow trail. Snow conditions were excellent. The trail also allowed a fast, fun descent when returning to the trucks at the end of the day. —Contributed photo

## Local man graduates from Boise State

Heppner man Tony Haguwood graduated Dec. 21, 2012, from Boise State University in Boise, ID. His Bachelor of Science degree is in construction management.

Haguwood is employed with Inland Crane in Boise. He is the son of Kelwayne and Mary Haguwood of Heppner.

## Rock fall project begins along Hwy. 74

LEXINGTON, OR—The Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) contractor Rawhide Excavating has begun work on a rock fall project along Oregon Highway 74 about a mile west of Lexington in Morrow County, near mile post 35.

The project will cut back part of the rock face to help reduce the amount of falling debris onto the highway section.

Travelers can expect

flaggers and minor delays, and are advised to watch for crews and equipment in the area.

All work on the project is expected to be completed by mid-March.

For more information on this or other ODOT highway construction projects, contact ODOT Public Information Officer Tom Strandberg at 541-963-1330, or by email at Thomas.m.strandberg@odot.state.or.us.

## Fab Four 4-H crafts Christmas cookies



On Dec. 20, 2012, the Fab Four Food Group met at Ione Community Church to decorate Merry Christmas Cookies for use by the church during the holidays. Pictured are (L-R): Renee Peterson, Morgan Orem, leader Rebecca Jepsen, Syd Stefani and Aaron Smythe. —Contributed photo

## Social media classes offered in MoCo

Blue Mountain Community College is offering a series of four Social Media for Business classes as part of their community/continuing education course offerings in Morrow County

for the 2013 winter term.

Each class is an intense, two-hour workshop designed to "help businesses of all sizes tap into social media platforms to create and boost their brand awareness."

The classes are \$49 each and are currently planned to be held in the Heppner High School computer room. The class schedule is:

Facebook for Business: Thurs., Jan. 17, 5-7 p.m.; Twitter/Pinterest for Business: Thurs., Jan. 24, 5-7 p.m.; Blogging for Business: Thurs., Jan. 31, 5-7 p.m.; and Social Media Management: Thurs., Feb. 7, 5-7 p.m.

The classes will be led by Ione native Heidi Nelson.

A 1992 graduate of Ione High School, Nelson recently moved back to the Ione area, yet still works for her Connecticut-based employer, Media Ventures, Inc., as a digital media coordinator.

To register for any of these classes, contact BMCC South Morrow County coordinator Anne Morter at 541-422-7040.

**On Monday, January 21, Martin Luther King Day Murray's will have special pharmacy hours 12-6 pm Please note that your prescriptions must be picked up during that time (Pharmacy ONLY, rest of store open regular hours.)**

**Pre order for Valentine's Day**

We have flowers, candy, jewelry, perfume & Hallmark

**CHECK OUT OUR DAILY LUNCH SPECIALS**

**THURSDAY (17th)-** Greek Chicken Pitas  
**FRIDAY (18th)-** Messy Sloppy Joes  
**MONDAY (21st)-** Reuben Sandwiches  
**TUESDAY (22nd)-** Hula Ham Wraps  
**WEDNESDAY (23rd)-** Turkey Veggie Bagel

**2012 PRESCRIPTION PROFILES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST -CALL PHARMACY FOR INFORMATION 541-676-9158**

**Murray's Drug INC.**  
217 North Main St., Heppner • Phone 676-9158 • Floral 676-9426  
Serving Morrow, Wheeler & Gilliam counties Since 1959

**Bank of Eastern Oregon**

**FDIC MEMBER**

A strong ag lender & ag producer relationship is a valuable asset. Our ag lenders know agriculture. Stop in and see us next time you need an ag or commercial loan.

**Joe Perry**  
Loan Officer  
Heppner  
541-676-9125

**Russell Seewald**  
Loan Officer  
Heppner & Ione  
541-422-7466

•Term Loans •Lines of Credit •Commercial Real Estate Loans  
[www.beobank.com](http://www.beobank.com)

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