

HEPPNER

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# GT Gazette Times

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## Heppner's wrestling coach sees program reach new heights

By David Sykes

Mustang Head Wrestling Coach Mark Lemmon's philosophy on coaching is pretty straight forward.

"I tell my wrestlers that I will work just as hard for success as they do," says Lemmon, who took over the Heppner wrestling duties five years ago when the program was in its infancy. And that attitude

-See WRESTLING COACH/PAGE FOUR



Father and son team Mark and Brian Lemmon coaching together. -Photo by Jeremy Lanthorn Photography

## Heppner to host 16<sup>th</sup> EO Walk MS



2013 EO Heppner Walk MS participants Vicki Rayburn (left) and Beth Dickenson share a laugh during last year's event. -Contributed photo

Heppner is getting ready for the 16<sup>th</sup> year of sponsoring the Eastern Oregon Walk MS. The walk will take place April 26 at 10 a.m. in

Heppner.

All towns in Eastern Oregon are invited to walk, roll, volunteer and even by registering as virtual walkers.

That's right, virtual walkers. Anyone unable to attend the day of the scheduled walk can still help the cause by registering as a virtual walker and walking on a lunch break, walking to and from work, or walking with a group of walkers on another day to raise funds.

Registration/check-in begins at 9 a.m. at All Saint's Episcopal Church, 460 N Gale Street, Heppner.

The walk will start at 10 a.m. with brunch and door prizes to follow after the walk. The well-marked

5k route is wheelchair accessible.

A 5k run and a marked 10k walk are also available.

There is no registration fee for the MS Walk but donations of any amount are welcome.

Participants raising \$100 per person or more can earn prizes for outstanding fundraising, starting with a T-shirt prize at the \$100 level, while supplies last.

Pre-registration is appreciated but walk-ons welcome. Pre-register on the web at [www.walkMSoregon.com](http://www.walkMSoregon.com) or by phone at 1-503-445-8342.

Questions, contact Heppner MS Walk co-chairs Merilee McDowell, 541-571-5853, or Barb Orwick, 541-256-0455.

## Grieb files for commissioner

Ken Grieb, current Morrow County Commissioner, has announced that he has filed for re-election.

"I appreciate so much the support and encouragement from people throughout the entire county

who have asked me to run again," said Grieb. "The other commissioners and myself have done a lot of long-range planning for the county recently. I would like to help them finish work on projects already started and follow through on the goals that have been set for the future."

"I take great pride in the work that I have done in the past as a county

commissioner and would look forward to continuing to serve the great people of Morrow County," he added.

Grieb is in his second term as commissioner, serving seven years with the Morrow County Court.

He has lived in Morrow

County since he was eight years old. He is a member of the Elks club and has served as president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League, a member of the Morrow County Grain Growers

board, a Morrow County Planning Commission member and a basketball coach.

He and his wife, Carri, have three children, Paige, Logan and Claire.



Ken Grieb

## Septic and gravel company undergoes ownership change

By Andrea Di Salvo

An area business has a new owner and a new name.

Local man Roger Britt has sold his business, Roger Britt Septic and Gravel, to Mike Duncan of Heppner. Duncan bought out the business, which now operates as Silver Creek Contracting, LLC, in January. While the name and the owner are different, Duncan says he plans on

offering the same services in the same locations, with a dedication to the same level of service.

Britt, a 1968 Heppner graduate, started the business in 1994. Since then, he and his wife, Rita, have built it into a staple of the local economy. Now, Britt says, he just wants to focus on other things.

"I'm 64 and I thought it was time to let somebody

else have it," he says. "I just decided to stay out on the ranch on Upper Rhea Creek and take care of the ranch."

When looking for a buyer, he says he picked Duncan because he knew the younger man could handle the business.

"He has had experience in this area and has the knowledge to run it," Britt says. "I feel it's in good hands."

Britt also stressed that he's grateful for the support he's received over the years.

"I want to thank my customers through the years that have supported us as a business," says Britt.

Duncan, 32, was born and raised in Joplin, MT, an area in north central Montana only five miles from the Canadian border.

-See DUNCAN BUYS OUT BRITT/PAGE TWO

## McEwen keeps his eyes on the target with new book lauding Navy SEALs

By Andrea Di Salvo

The hits keep rolling for Heppner native Scott McEwen.

McEwen, who achieved relative fame in his role as coauthor of "American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History," has been busy since the release of his first novel, "Sniper Elite," last year. "Sniper Elite" didn't achieve the New York Times bestseller status of the nonfiction "American

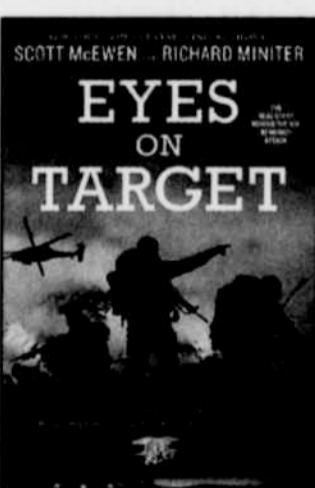
Sniper" about Navy SEAL Chris Kyle, but it was listed on USA Today's Top 100 list, not to mention getting as high as number seven on Amazon's ranking.

McEwen didn't rest on his figurative laurels, though. Instead, he got to work on another nonfiction piece, this one "Eyes on Target: Inside Stories from the Brotherhood of the U.S. Navy SEALs" an "... inside account of some of the most harrowing missions in American

history."

For this second nonfiction book that highlights the heroism of America's Navy SEALs, McEwen teamed up with Richard Miniter, author of New York Times bestsellers "Losing Bin Laden," "Shadow War" and "Leading From Behind."

"Rich and I teamed up at the suggestion of our mutual agent, and it really worked out well," says McEwen. "I like working with Rich. He's a very good writer, a very good research guy. He has some amazing contacts."



Eyes on Target

The book, which -See SEAL BOOK, MOVIES/PAGE TEN

## Council to hold public hearing on revisions to abandoned vehicle ordinance

Citizens will need permit to keep unlicensed vehicles

By David Sykes

Next Monday the Heppner City Council will hold a public hearing on a proposed city ordinance change that would require owners of automobiles or other vehicles with expired license tags to obtain a permit from the city in order to store the vehicle on their private property.

The city is considering the change after city manager Kim Cutsforth recently toured Heppner with two Morrow County Sheriff's deputies and

found 27 "nuisance" instances, most of which were abandoned vehicles.

Letters were sent out to the property owners about the vehicles. The letters caused some negative response in the community and prompted Cutsforth to last month ask the council to look at changing the city's abandoned vehicle ordinance.

At a Jan. 30 Police Commission meeting it was reported that "there was a lot of negative response" to the letters. Cutsforth said at

that meeting that the present ordinance is too strict and she would like to see a less strict version.

"The goal is not to harass people but get some of the trouble spots in town cleaned up," she told the police commission.

The present ordinance allows the city to declare a vehicle discarded, and therefore a nuisance and subject to impoundment, simply if the car has an expired license. If the car is parked on private property, not inside a building out of

sight, and has expired tags it can be confiscated by the police department after five days, the ordinance says.

-See ABANDONED VEHICLES/PAGE FIVE

## Ione continues to state quarterfinals



Cardinal Jason Juarez steals the ball during the state first-round game against Joseph. Ione continues on to quarterfinals in Baker City Thursday. -Photo by Paula Emmel

-See full story PAGE THREE

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