

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.

## August chamber lunch meetings

The August lunch meetings of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be an all entities report on Thursday, Aug. 7, and guest speaker Gary Neal with the Port of Morrow on Thursday, Aug. 21.

Meetings are at noon in Heppner City Hall conference room.

Cost of lunch is \$10. Chamber lunch attendees are asked to RSVP at 541-676-5536 no later than the Wednesday before to guarantee a lunch.

## Community lunch menu

Willow Creek Baptist Church members will serve lunch on Wednesday, July 30, at St. Patrick's Senior Center.

The meal will include a turkey bake of mashed potatoes and dressing layered with turkey, mixed vegetables, cranberry sauce and strawberry Jell-O parfait. Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal.

Menu is subject to change.

### GERALD C. SUMNER Feb. 1939 – May 2014

Some of you reading this may remember Jay as "Jay Bird". Our family moved to Heppner when he was 6 years old. He was anxious to leave, as many of us Heppner kids were, when we graduated. He went to Oregon State, receiving a BS in Statistics. He moved on to UCLA for his Master's and PhD. Degrees. (But, don't dare call him "Dr. Sumner"!)



Jay was a statistician. He wrote surveys and samplings, and interpreted them for the US government, the State of California, UCLA, and the University of Peru, and other agencies. He worked for Rand Corporation for a total of 20 years and UCLA in statistical research. Much of his career he was self-employed. He authored and co-authored numerous books and papers on the subject of statistical research.

After graduating from OSU, he worked as a gardener (many calls to Mom) for room and board for the Matells (think "Barbie doll"). Later on he worked for Helen Sheats, a silent film star-turned painter. He did this with a couple of other families before he struck out on his own.

He bought property on a Malibu mountain side. Grand view of the ocean. Here he built his house. He read books, took classes, and generally taught himself. In the same way he built his furniture. He had timbers from the construction of The Dalles Dam sunk 30 feet to bedrock, so had no fear of sliding off the mountain side during the rains that cause many land slides. Fires? He said, "Everyone knows that if you stay with your house you have a better chance of saving it." So he stayed. Unfortunately, so did the eucalyptus trees...he didn't like them much.

In his young years he fell in love with the idea of rain forests. When he finally walked in one, in Costa Rica, he found his fantasies, but also that rain forests were more than he ever could have imagined. He loved Costa Rica, went there several times, and considered retiring there.

But, when he did, he came to Oregon, where most of the family still is. Urban life in Portland was a big change from the quiet mountain side. In fact, he slept in his walk-in closet for the 1st couple of weeks because of the night lights.

Jay was an avid hiker. He hiked in all 3 Americas, and especially in our gorgeous Northwest. He became close to younger members in our family doing this. The people he did these activities with became close friends. They all have their own stories of him. All these friends and families remark about how good a man he was. He cared. He kept in close touch with his family.

Our parents, Cal and Jerry Sumner are gone, as are the siblings---Jeanne, Tom, Jim, Jack. Four from cancer, and now Jay on May 5th.. He's survived by me, the youngest, Laura Lee Sumner Krenk, our sisters-in-law, Phyllis and Joan Sumner and our wonderful family of nephews and nieces and their children and their children. So, brother Jay: scholar, mathematician, musician, composer of music, poet, writer, builder of houses, builder of furniture, gardener, mountaineer, hiker, skier, observer of nature and human kind, and close and loving man to your family and friends, we bid you adieu. We are loving you always.

Laura

## Funeral Notice

**Barbara A. Gilbert**—Barbara A. Gilbert, 93, died February 19, 2014 in Eugene, OR. A graveside memorial service will be held Saturday, July 26, 2014 at 11 a.m. at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery. A potluck reception will follow from 1 to 5 p.m. at Cutsforth Park. Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

## Local student plans Africa mission trip presentation



Sebastian Wenberg with a group of children during his recent trip to Africa. —Contributed photo

Sebastian Wenberg recently went on a mission trip the Democratic Republic of Congo in Africa to hold an evangelistic series about the Bible with the people in the capital city of Kinshasa.

Wenberg is going to

share his trip experience this Saturday, July 26, at the Heppner Seventh-day Adventist Church at 11 a.m. There will be a potluck dinner following the presentation. All are welcome to come hear about his trip.

## Shared Ministry plans summer activities

Art, music featured in church events for whole family

The Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal Church has launched a summer Art & Music Camp, to be held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 4 p.m. in the basement of Hope Lutheran Church (corner of Alfalfa and Cowins).

The first session began on July 21, and this first week will be devoted to paint, using a variety of techniques. Pre-registration is not necessary, and everyone is welcome to attend at any time on a drop-in basis.

The camp is intended as "an opportunity for both children and adults of all ages to exercise their

creativity and just have some fun during these long summer days."

On Saturday, July 26, the Shared Ministry will host a Hand Chime Workshop at Hope Lutheran Church beginning at 10 a.m. and continuing through lunch, led by Dean and Judi Mason of Hermiston.

The church recently acquired a two-octave set of hand chimes for use in teaching basic music skills to children, in addition to enhancing worship. Community members are welcome to attend.

More information about Shared Ministry activities is available by calling the office at 541-676-9970.

## Kinzua Lunch Group

A small group of four, including Bob and Mary Lee Britt, Pat Hyatt and Marilyn Garcia, met for lunch on July 18. The group celebrated Pat Hyatt's birthday, a great visit and good food.

The next Kinzua lunch will be Aug. 15 at 11:30 a.m. at Service Creek.

## Home-school support group to meet

South Morrow County families who home-school or who are interested in finding out more are invited to a meeting next Thursday,

July 31, at 3:30 p.m. at Heppner City Park.

The meeting is intended for those who do or plan to home-school and would like to form a support network, as well as for those who are interested in home-schooling but would like to find out more.

For more information, contact Andrea at 541-989-8184 or Jessie at 541-701-4896.

**SUMMER SAVINGS**  
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## ~ 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.

## Public comment meetings denied by forest supervisors

In a letter dated July 17 of 2014 the Forest Supervisors of the three national forests (Wallowa-Whitman, Malheur and Umatilla) of the Blue Mountains closed the door on public comment meetings to the people of Eastern Oregon.

Mr. Laurence of Baker, Ms. Raaf of John Day, and Mr. Martin of Pendleton all signed a letter provided to this paper stating that they did not feel there was a need for public comment meetings, and no extension was warranted as they were doing their due diligence to interact with the public of Eastern Oregon. Mr. Laurence assured a group of people on March 1 that such meetings would take place; now he is declining to move forward with those meetings as promised, yet another misrepresentation of the truth.

The people of Eastern Oregon not only deserve to have open public comment meetings on the Forest Plan Revision, they require such meetings because of the limited opportunities they have to comment on the 1,400-page document. The U.S. Forest Service has supplied three electronic means to submit comments, and one paper means, all in written format, with no way to articulate the positions verbally, and has also stated you may visit a supervisors or district office to submit comments, that is if one wants to be made to feel like a criminal in accessing an office building, or can get an appointment with a Forest Service employee to discuss the matter.

It is grossly apparent the USFS in Eastern Oregon does not want to engage with the public in Eastern Oregon in an open forum public comment meeting, and they are hoping that the written comment method will help limit the amount of comments they will receive in the matter.

You must stand up for yourselves and have a voice. Please contact the below people and let them know you expect and demand public comment meetings before the Aug. 15 cutoff deadline or request an extension of the comment period on the Forest Plan Revision.

Wallowa Whitman Forest Supervisor – John Laurence – [jalaurence@fs.fed.us](mailto:jalaurence@fs.fed.us)

Malheur Forest Supervisor Teresa Raaf – [traaf@fs.fed.us](mailto:traaf@fs.fed.us)

Umatilla Forest Supervisor Kevin Martin – [kdmartin@fs.fed.us](mailto:kdmartin@fs.fed.us)

Regional Forester Pena – [jpena@fs.fed.us](mailto:jpena@fs.fed.us)

Secretary Vilsack – [tom.vilsack@usda.gov](mailto:tom.vilsack@usda.gov)

Chief Tidwell – [ttidwell@fs.fed.us](mailto:ttidwell@fs.fed.us)

(s) John D. George, Bates, OR

Editor's note: Below is the text of the letter from the forest supervisors to Mr. Bates, which he provided to the Gazette along with his letter to the editor.

Date: July 17, 2014  
Mr. John George  
34266 Austin Road  
Bates, OR 97817  
Dear Mr. George:

Thank you for your emails of June 23, 2014 and July 13, 2014. We have considered your request for holding formal public comment meetings. After this consideration we do not plan on holding formal public comment meetings based on these factors:

1. There are a number of ways the public can provide comments on the Proposed Revised Land Management Plan and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement;  
2. Information is summarized on the plan revision web site at [http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3793222.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprd3793222.pdf), and <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/CommentInput?Project=31195>;

3. Since the Draft Release, we have continued to engage the public through media outreach, a webinar, and answering questions over the phone and by email;

4. When county governments and interest groups, including yours, originally requested an extension of the comment period, the Regional Forester considered a 30, 60, or 90 day extension. Based on a number of factors, including the complexity of the plan revision effort, he settled on 60 days as the appropriate extension. We support that decision and would recommend that he continue with the plan to end the comment period on August 15, 2014.

Thank you for your interest in the National Forests of the Blue Mountains.

Sincerely,  
JOHN A. LAURENCE  
Forest Supervisor  
Wallowa Whitman NF  
KEVIN D. MARTIN  
Forest Supervisor  
Umatilla NF  
TERESA RAAF  
Forest Supervisor  
Malheur NF

## TO OUR AMAZING FRIENDS AND FAMILY.....

You are invited to join in the marriage of  
**CHARISSA GATES and JIM NEWMAN**  
Saturday, August 2nd, 2014 at 11:00 am  
Ione City Park, Ione, OR

Reception to follow at Ione Legion Hall.

For inquiries please contact Arlynda Gates  
at [gatesarlynda@hotmail.com](mailto:gatesarlynda@hotmail.com) or call 541-256-0334