

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.

Cardinals suffer double losses

The Ione Cardinal boys basketball team faced the Irrigon Knights and Riverside Pirates last week and, after two hard-fought games, came away with double losses for the week. They suffered a 19-76 loss to the Knights on Tuesday, then fell to the Pirates 32-52 on Friday.

Game stats are as follows:

Ione Cardinals vs Irrigon Knights, 19-76 Dec. 16, 2014

Scores by Quarter:

Ione: 2-7-4-6

Irrigon: 24-30-16-6

Player: Reb, AST, ST, PTS

Donald McElligott	2	0	2	0
Austin Carter	1	0	0	3
Henry Padberg	4	1	0	0
Joe Doherty	0	1	0	0
Tj Patton	13	0	0	10
Jason Juarez	5	0	1	3
David Smidmajer	0	1	1	3

Ione Cardinals vs Riverside 32-52 Dec. 19, 2014

Scores by Quarter:

Ione: 6-6-13-7

Riverside: 20-8-5-19

Player: Reb, AST, ST, PTS

Donald McElligott	2	1	3	2
Austin Carter	1	0	0	10
Henry Padberg	2	0	1	0
Joe Doherty	1	0	0	3
Tj Patton	10	3	0	15
Jason Juarez	2	2	2	2
David Smidmajer	2	0	0	0

FFA coat drive ends but need continues

The Heppner FFA sponsored a coat drive during the months of November and December. Heppner Family Foods, Murray's Drug, Les Schwab, the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner Elementary and Heppner High School all generously allowed the FFA to leave drop-off bins with them for the extent of the drive.

The Heppner FFA members said that help, as well as the community's

generosity and participation, made the recent coat drive a success.

The coat drive has come to an end; however the need for coats in the winter is always there. Heppner FFA President Makenzi Hughes says that if anyone was planning on donating and did not get around to it, the Neighborhood Center would be happy to accept any donations.

Obituaries

Ryan Michael Bennett

Ryan Michael Bennett, 21, of Heppner, died Saturday, December 20, 2014, as a result of a motor vehicle accident near Heppner. A funeral service will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, December 27, at the Heppner Elementary School gymnasium. Burial will be at the Summerville Cemetery in Summerville, OR.



Ryan Michael Bennett

He was born July 24, 1993 at La Grande, OR, the son of Mike and Misty Dyer Bennett. He was raised at Elgin and Union before he and his family moved to Heppner, where he graduated from high school. He then obtained a degree in diesel technology. He was currently employed with the Morrow County

Grain Growers in Lexington.

Ryan was a member of the Lexington Volunteer Fire Department. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, engines, fast cars, trucks, motorcycles and four wheelers.

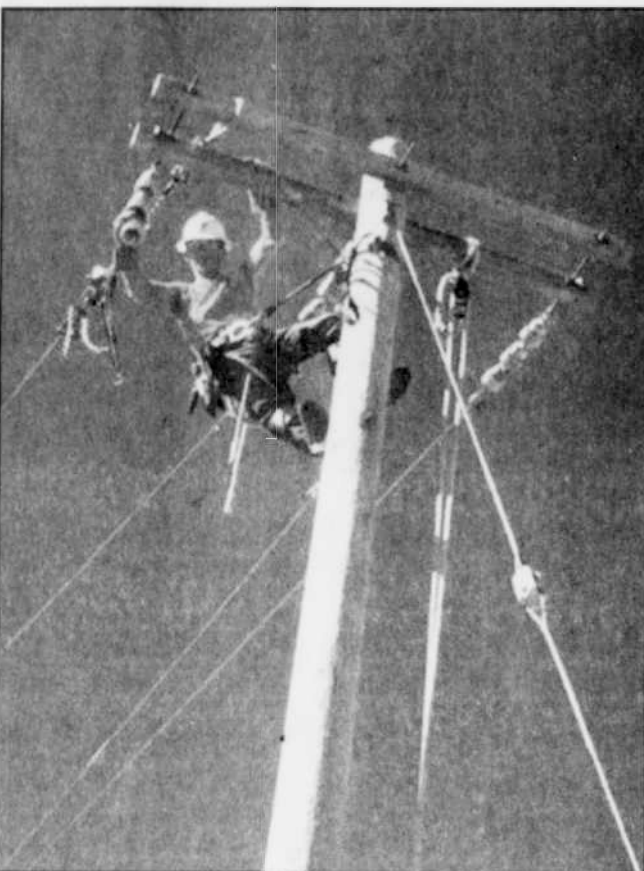
Survivors include his parents, Mike and Misty Bennett, and sister, Bailly, all of Heppner; grandparents, Alvin Bennett of Adams, Bob and Deb Dyer of Elgin, and Bernadine Miller

of Lostine; great-grandma, Audrie Chandler of Elgin; and great-grandpa, Bob Dyer Sr., also of Elgin.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ryan Bennett Memorial Fund that has been set up through the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner Branch, PO Box 39, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

Local grad completes first step to becoming tradesman



Heppner graduate Tate Gentry performed a simulated and timed pole-top rescue at his graduation from Northwest Lineman College Dec. 19. —Contributed photo

Heppner High School 2014 graduate Tate Gentry has successfully completed the 15-week lineman course at Northwest Lineman College in Meridian, ID.

Friday, Dec. 19, friends and family members traveled to NLC to attend the student "Pole Rodeo." Graduates performed many different skills for the crowd that braved the severe Central Idaho winter weather. Gentry performed a simulated and timed pole-top rescue.

Friday evening diplomas and individual awards were presented to 125 winter-term graduates. Gentry earned one of seven individual awards

presented to those students who exemplified the highest level of behavior, skill and knowledge.

Along with his diploma, Gentry also earned his first aid card, crane operator's certificate and a class "A" CDL.

Gentry has begun his search for a job to continue with his quest to become a Journeyman Lineman.

Those making the trip to attend Gentry's graduation were Garrett Robinson; Rylee, Irelynn and Brian Kollman; Candy Martilla; and Willy, Terri and Jerry Gentry. Gentry's host family during school was Diana, Shane, Bailey and Boone Baitlome from Kuna, ID.

Local students named to EOU dean's list

LA GRANDE, OR—Two local students are among the 518 students Eastern Oregon University has named to the dean's list for fall term 2014.

Qualifying students achieve and maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale while completing a minimum of 12 hours of graded coursework for the duration of the term.

Local students who have earned the distinction are Marco Juarez and Charlette Burghard, both of Ione.

Other county students named to the dean's list are Jason Hendricks and Shara Maude of Boardman, and Lauren Snyder, Stephanie Loving and Shelly Anderson of Irrigon.

~ 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.

The Reason for the Season gives us hope beyond this life

Well, the Christmas Holiday Season is here. Lights and bells, carols and songs, trees and homes decorated with bright dancing colored lights, and more. It seems Heppner is filled with happiness, festivities, gift exchanges, and Merry Christmas greetings.

Let us also remember those bereaved, who may be facing their first Christmas without someone they loved. I understand this, because I'm one of them. Try as we might to join in the Christmas mood, these very memories of happier time trigger sadness and loss.

Heppner had its share of loss this year. So I know I am not alone in being alone. So, having learned that grief shared is grief diminished, I am reaching out to any who share this grief today.

I was blessed with helpful family and close friends. I was also fortunate to attend a Grief Counseling Class, where I learned symptoms I felt were common to the race, but knowledge of how to handle them is not.

I recently said, "Other than finding God, Nona was the most beautiful thing that happened in my life." My own personal journey has made me realize the significance of suffering such a personal loss. And unfortunately, half of us who are married may walk that wilderness one day.

So, if you, like me, are bereaved, or become so, please consider a Grief Counseling Class. They will help you understand you are not as alone in the universe as you feel, and there are ways of processing grief which heal it, rather than aggravate it.

Because I am a man of strong Christian faith, my journey, difficult as it was, was made easier by faith that there is a hope beyond this life. So please remember, Christmas celebrates Christ's coming to earth to give everyone hope beyond this life. That's why He's the Reason for the Season.

Let us celebrate together Christ's coming this Christmas. That was the Sacred Gift, giving to all of us a blessed hope to look forward to. May the blessings of the Christ-Child rest upon each of you, this Christmas and for all time.

Ray Grace, Heppner

New Year's Eve Bunco party planned at Lexington lodge

Mark your calendars for New Year's Eve in Lexington.

Lexington Rebekahs are hosting Bunco on Dec. 31 at the lodge hall in Lexington. Play will start at 7 p.m. Snacks will be provided (though everyone is invited to bring something to share). Bring a partner (or not) for an alcohol-free New Year's Eve.

The cost is \$5 person, with proceeds going to the Vocational School Scholarship Fund for a graduating senior from both Heppner and Ione high schools.

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office has released the following report of marriage licenses:

December 22, 2014: -Alexander Michael Hawman, 26, of Hermiston and Emily Katherine Rietmann, 25, of Hermiston.

GREAT GIFT & STOCKING STUFFER IDEAS!

GIFT CERTIFICATES,
COFFEE CARDS - \$3.50, \$15 OR \$25,
GOURMET FOODS, SPECIALTY FOODS,
GAMES, TOYS, DECOR & MORE

FLORAL- Centerpieces,
poinsettias, hostess gifts, table
decor & more

Congratulations to our treasure hunt drawing winners Melissa Sanchez and DJ Comstock

HOLIDAY HOURS-
OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE 7AM-5PM
CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
DECEMBER 26TH OPEN 9AM-6PM
FEATURING HALF PRICE SALE!

OPEN SATURDAYS 8AM-6PM

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HEPPNER ELKS 358
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

New Year's Eve Crab Feed
December 31st

Dinner 6:00 pm

Members & out of town guests only

★ HAPPY ★ BIRTHDAY!

JOIN **Ron Haguewood's US! 80th Birthday Party**
Heppner Elks Lodge
December 27th 1-4 pm

Join us for food, drinks, and old stories.

No gifts please, just good times