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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
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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.

Births

Gabriel Martin Elguezabal—Staci and Juan Jesus "Chuy" Elguezabal announce the birth of a son, Gabriel Martin Elguezabal. He was born August 16, 2015 in La Grande, OR. He weighed 7 pounds and 15 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. The proud parents have decided to call him "Gabe."



Gabriel Martin Elguezabal

The maternal grandparents are Toni and Bill Collins of Silver Lake, OR. Maternal great-grandparents are Evan and Sue Carlson of Red Bluff, CA and Helen Collins of Medford, OR. The paternal grandparents are Mary Ann Elguezabal of Heppner and the late Juan Elguezabal. Paternal great-grandfather is Maximiliano Elguezabal of Nyssa, OR.

Cookbooks to be here in time for Christmas

After a long wait, the time has finally come for the women of St. Patrick's Catholic Parish to place their community cookbook order. The St. Patrick's Parish Hall Restoration committee has been compiling recipes and making the cookbook, as well as completing extra proof-reading in their efforts to have uniformity throughout the book and as few of mistakes as possible—and that's a lot of work when you're editing more than 670 recipes. Committee members say they planned to have the cookbook available before now but are pleased to announce that "Taste of Heppner, and Surrounding Communities" will be available before Christmas. The cost of a cookbook will be \$25. The women

are taking pre-orders to give them some idea of how many they will need to order. Any orders received before Oct. 11 will be guaranteed delivery before Christmas. While there is no need to pay until the books arrive, when the time comes, checks can be made payable to S.P.P.H.R. (St. Patrick's Parish Hall Restoration). To place an order, call Mary at 541-676-9759 or Ashley at 541-376-8285 and provide name, telephone number and how many books to order. "Again, sorry for the delay but we hope to be releasing a much higher quality book for our community and friends," says committee member Ashley Lindsay. "Thank you for supporting our efforts!"

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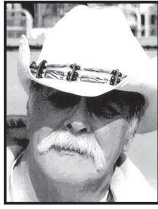
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Obituaries

Lester Richard Workman

Lester Richard Workman, 72, of Heppner passed away on August 28, 2015. A funeral service was held at his home on Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 10 a.m. Another funeral is planned at a national cemetery, date to be announced.



Lester Richard Workman

Lester was born on January 25, 1943, in Lancaster, PA to Harry and Hilda Workman.

He served in the U.S. Navy. He has three brothers and five sisters. He married Lelia 25 years ago. He has eight children, numerous grandchildren, and a few great-grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Lelia. He was preceded in death by his son, Lee, and his grandchild, Jason.

Church celebrates St. Francis with blessing of the animals

Oct. 4, the day the church sets aside to remember Francis of Assisi, happens to fall on a Sunday this year. For that reason the Shared Ministry will be celebrating this 12th century saint with a Blessing of the Animals at Hope Lutheran Church beginning at 10 a.m. Well-behaved house pets are welcome to attend worship with their owners. Other animals may wait for their blessing in the parking area, and all are invited to bring objects that represent pets or other animals that are not portable, or are now only a memory. Everyone is welcome.

First Friday Friends of Jesus this week

The next monthly session of First Friday Friends of Jesus will be held in the All Saints Episcopal Church parish hall this Friday, Oct. 2, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All children ages four to 12 are welcome. Children may be dropped off for organized play after 8 a.m. if transportation needs make that necessary, but an advance call to the church office at 541-676-9970 would be appreciated. Activities include Bible stories, games, snacks, and crafts, and a free lunch is served.

Christian Life Center welcomes new pastor

By **Andrea Di Salvo**
The Christian Life Center welcomed a new pastor recently, when Pastor Tony Long-Drew and his family moved to Heppner from his previous position in Alaska. Long-Drew, 41, has spent much of his life on the West Coast, but his life's journey started a long way from Heppner, in Washington, D.C. He lived in D.C. through his sophomore year of high school. Then he moved with his adoptive mother to Anchorage, AK, where he spent his junior and senior years in high school.



Tony and Amy Long-Drew with daughter Evelynne. —Contributed photo

Long-Drew is not licensed to teach) at Children's Institute for Learning Differences, a school for children with autism and other behavioral challenges. There, he taught literacy and life skills, and worked with the choir. "Growing up as a foster child I had a special need myself," says Long-Drew, who adds that he is blind in one eye and severely impaired in the other. He says that background, along with his background in psychology, gives him a special empathy toward others, and especially toward children. He now puts that to use not only serving his church in Heppner but also volunteering with the local AWANA group. "I love children," he

says. It was while teaching that he met his wife, Amy. He says it was her influence that led him to take the first steps into full-time ministry. He started part-time as a music minister in Olympia, WA while still working full time. From there, he and Amy moved to the Tri-Cities, WA, where he served as music pastor and college pastor at Life Church. Then, five years ago, Long-Drew took a position as a pastor in Petersburg, AK, where the family remained until he took the call to Christian Life Center

this fall. "I love small towns," says Long-Drew. "I also felt like there was a call from God to be here." While moving to Heppner from Alaska may seem like an adjustment, he says the change hasn't been that difficult for the couple or their five-year-old daughter, Evelynne. "(Petersburg) was 3,000 people and was on an island. The only way off was by morning or evening jet or by ferry," he says. "To come down here to a town of 1,000-some, with a road system—I feel less isolated." "And I love the church family," he adds. "They embraced us and we embraced them. I just have a big thank-you for the town embracing our family, especially the church community. "I'm so glad that we're here." The Heppner Christian Life Center is located at 535 West Morgan. Call 541-676-5814 for more information on the church and service times.

~ 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.

Grateful for VA representatives

To the Editor:
I'm not sure if the Heppner Gazette-Times even responds to letters shared as this but I thought I'd try based on the help Linda has given me and many other veterans. I got this idea from a veteran here in Baker City who shared his feelings about our Baker City veterans service representative by writing a letter to our local newspaper, the Baker City Herald, and sharing what a helping hand the Baker County veterans service representative had given him.

My wife and I lived in Heppner from 2008 until 2013. The first Morrow County veterans service representative I was introduced to in Heppner was Juanita Cox. She was very helpful also by letting me know that many of my health problems could very well be caused by my Agent Orange exposure in Korea. Juanita Cox retired around 2009 or 2010 and the new veterans service representative was Linda Skendzel. Linda is the one that I'm so, so grateful to. Linda followed up on my disability case continually. Another impressive factor of how Linda worked on my case was that she would contact me at times to see how I was doing. It wasn't just me calling or stopping in to talk in her office. That type of consideration and skill is why I'm writing this letter to express how fortunate all of us Morrow County veterans are to have such a strong, considerate and skillful representative as Linda Skendzel. (I do now live in Baker County.) Let me also mention how grateful I am to my wife as I went through all the steps it took to get help from the Veterans Administration. If it wasn't for her education and helping me with paperwork, I'd still be running in circles. In closing let me say that I'm proud to have served my country, I'm very grateful for the help the V.A. hospital in Boise, ID gives me and the considerate help and guidance that my veterans service representative Linda Skendzel gave me. Thank you,
(s) *Paul Denlinger, Baker City*

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office has released the following report of marriage licenses:
September 24, 2015: -Hector Manuel Ortega Ventura, 27, of Hermiston and Elva Fabiola Beteran Mendoza, 33, of Hermiston.

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For further info call Michael: 503-577-6824 or email Michael@MKTactical.com or call Sal at: 503-349-1155.

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