

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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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.

CLC plans community worship

Heppner's Christian Life Center will host an evening of music and inspiration on Saturday, March 4. The evening will feature musical artist Jeremy Foss of Racing 24/7 out of Pasco, WA and motivational speaker/comedian Steve Hays of Happy Life. Doors open at 6:45 p.m. with worship beginning at 7 p.m.

Jeremy Foss has served as the worship director at Pasco Christian Church since 2012.

"My passion is worshipping and leading others in the worship of our Creator and Heavenly Father," says Foss.

Steve Hays of Maple Valley, WA is the founder of Happy Life and hosts podcasts aimed at sending out wisdom and encouragement to all that are working toward a happy life.

"The Happy Life is a lifestyle where we learn to secure and sustain joy in all circumstances," explains Hays.

Christian Life Center members say they are looking forward to taking this opportunity to give thanks for all the hard work that has gone into the updates and changes that have been made recently.

"We have experienced abundant blessings lately and are so excited to gather together for a great time of community fellowship," says Pastor Tony Long-Drew.

Christian Life Center, lovingly referred to as the "golf ball" or "dome" church, is located at 535 W. Morgan Street in Heppner. For further information, contact the church office at 541-676-5814.

Grief support group to meet Thursday

The Heppner area grief support group will be meeting again at Peggy Connor's house (615 S. Alfalfa) this Thursday, March 2, at 12 p.m.

The group consists of a wide variety of folks who have experienced an assortment of grief, who meet together to help one another and others with their journey through their heartache.

This month the group will hear from Kimberly

Lindsay, who has been working at Community Counseling Solutions for 20 years. She will speak on the grief that follows suicide and how to support individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide.

Lunch will be provided at noon with the presentation to follow. All are welcome.

Questions, please call Mary Ann Elguézabal, 676-5774, or Jean Adams, 676-5841.

First Friday Friends of Jesus this week

Will also be held last Friday due to April school schedule

First Friday Friends of Jesus will meet this Friday, March 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 pm at All Saints parish hall. Kids age four to 12 are invited to a morning filled with Bible stories and lots of activities. A free lunch is included.

This month only there will be a second opportunity to join the fun on Friday, March 31, because school will be in session the first Friday in April. More information is available by calling the Shared Ministry office at 541-676-9970.

Community lunch menu

Heppner United Methodist Church volunteers will serve lunch on Wednesday, March 8, at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Lunch will include pulled pork sandwiches, calico beans, coleslaw, apple sauce and cookies.

Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.

Register early for Remembrance Walk

March is here, and St. Patrick's Day is right around the corner. Walkers, runners and those who just want to support a good cause are reminded to beat the rush and pre-register for the March 18 Remembrance Walk/5k Run. Even those who don't plan to walk or run that morning are invited for eats and treats at the social hour. Event organizers say any donation big or small is greatly appreciated; this year's proceeds will go to Eric and Rachel Schonbachler to help their son Asher fight Vanishing White Matter disease.

Please mail donations to Friends Helping Friends

(FHF), Box 566, Heppner, OR 97836. Shamrocks are currently being made. For those who didn't get a shamrock this year, all honored names will appear in the G-T the week after the event, so it's not too late to give in memory of loved ones. A flyer isn't necessary to send in a donation; a note with an address and who should be honored is enough.

Finally, new door prizes have arrived: a \$50 gas card from Barb and Gary Watkins, and a \$50 Nike gift card and half-off pass to the Nike Store from Jaci Drigens.

Holly Rebekah card party this week

Holly Rebekah Lodge will be resuming its monthly pinochle card parties this Saturday, March 4, at the Lodge Hall in Lexington. The cost to play is \$5 per person. Snacks will be provided along with a prize for high and low score. Play will start at 7 p.m.

SWCD, weed advisory board to meet

The Morrow SWCD and Weed Advisory Board will meet Tuesday, March 7, at 6 p.m. in the Ag Service Center conference room.

Agenda items include minutes from the January regular and annual meetings, treasurer's report for January and February, weed report, staff reports, partner reports and oath of office.

Meetings of Morrow SWCD are open to the public.

~ 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.

Medical marijuana saves lives

Hi, I'm Stephanie Howard, and I'm writing this to tell you why marijuana should not be banned or dispensaries shut down.

I live in a small town, part of Morrow County, lived here my whole life, with seizures my whole life—over 250-plus seizures a year until I got on medical marijuana in 2015. My pills have been lowered, my VNS shut off, and only three seizures since the end of the year 2015.

If they take the recreational marijuana away here in Oregon, the medical will be destroyed with it. Please, the medical marijuana helps with so many diseases, curing cancer, epilepsy, etc. with no side effects. It helps me and many more who are on medical marijuana for health problems. If they change the laws again or turn it into a prescription, it will not work the same, and it would hurt or kill those who are trying to be healed. People don't understand that if you take away recreational the medical will be taken away too.

Again, I live in a small town where I have to drive out of town because Morrow County won't wake up and help by putting in a dispensary. I have to urgently run and try to find my CBD oil to stop my seizures. It's the only thing that works. When I run out—or in this case can't find any anymore because of what the government and state is doing—it has caused my epilepsy to increase a little. Don't have us epilepsy patients go back to having seizures. I have a friend in Portland who even has it worse than me.

Wake up, Oregon. Medical marijuana saves lives. It did mine. I don't feel fear that I am going to hit my head any more or feel like I have to stay in my home because of the fear of falling outside, or be scared of drowning in my bathtub.

I vote to keep marijuana legal. Don't let us people with cancer, MS, epilepsy, etc. be in fear. Fight for us and with us so we can live a normal life. Please, United States of America, us medical patients want to live a normal life, and the only way we can do that is if dispensaries stay open so we can have the CBD and RSO oil we need to get better and live a normal life.

This is the truth. I speak the truth. I'll keep fighting to keep marijuana legal for me and for others like me.

(s) Stephanie Howard, Heppner

Shared Ministry observes Lent

Prepares for visit from bishop

The Shared Ministry of Hope Lutheran Church and All Saints Episcopal Church will be observing Lent beginning Ash Wednesday, March 1, with weekly activities on Wednesday evenings. A light supper of soup and bread will be served at 6 p.m.

On Ash Wednesday, the meal will be followed by worship with the imposition of ashes and celebration of the Eucharist at All Saints. On subsequent Wednesdays, the meal will be followed by a half-hour class concluding with Vespers beginning at about 7 p.m. The location will alternate between buildings weekly.

On March 5, the first Sunday in Lent, the Rt. Rev. Patrick Bell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese

of Eastern Oregon, will make his first visit to the Shared Ministry as Bishop. Bishop Bell will preach and preside at Hope Lutheran Church at 10 a.m. followed by a potluck and conversation at All Saint Episcopal Church beginning at about 11:30 a.m.

Bishop Bell is no stranger to Eastern Oregon, having served St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Ontario from 1989 until being called in 2002 to serve St. Luke's in Coeur d'Alene, ID. He was consecrated as Bishop of the Diocese in April 2016.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend these activities. More information is available by calling the Shared Ministry office at 541-676-9970.

Catholic men to hold first Friday meeting

The men of St. Patrick's Catholic Church of Heppner and St. William's Catholic Church of Ione will hold their first Friday of the month meeting on Friday, March 3, at the parish office in Heppner. The meeting will start at 6:45 a.m. and will be followed by first Friday Mass at 7:30 a.m.

Chamber lunch meeting

The next lunch meeting of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be an all entities report on Thursday, March 2, at noon at Heppner City Hall. Cost of lunch is \$10; Two Old Hags Pizza will cater. Chamber lunch attendees are asked to RSVP by the Tuesday before.

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