

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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Bobbi Gordon..... 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.

Funeral Notices

Carol Ehrmantraut, 13 at the Lexington Cemetery, died Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017 at her home. She was born on Sept. 28, 1955 at Heppner. A memorial service will be held Saturday, Jan. 13 at the Lexington Cemetery. A bereavement lunch will follow at the Lexington Odd Fellow Lodge. Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in care of arrangements.

Chamber to hold annual meeting

Heppner Chamber's annual lunch meeting will be held on Thursday, Jan. 18 from noon-1 p.m. in the Heppner Senior Center dining room. The cost for lunch is \$10 and an RSVP no later than Jan. 16 is required. Heppner Market Fresh Foods will be catering the lunch consisting of French dip with Au jus, green salad and cheesecake for dessert.

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office has released the following report of marriage licenses:
January 2, 2018: - John Carey Breidenbach, 80, Heppner and Jennifer Lee Cote, 50, Heppner.
January 4, 2018: - Eric Miguel Lopez, 18, Irrigon and Jenny Lynn Stanger, 18, Irrigon.
-Adam F Reyes, 19, Boardman and Naomi Elise Sophia Rayne Hernandez, 18, Boardman.

First Friday Friends of Jesus to meet

First Friday Friends of Jesus will meet Friday, Jan. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the All Saints Parish Hall on the corner of Church and Gale in Heppner. All children, ages four to 12, are welcome and there is no cost to attend. The morning will be filled with Bible stories, games, music and crafts. A free lunch is served. Newcomers are always welcome. For more information call the Shared Ministry office at 541-676-9970.

Obituaries

Samuel E. Howell

Samuel E. Howell Sr., 71, of Monument died, Thursday, Dec. 28, 2017 at Heppner. A celebration of life and potluck will be held Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018 at 1 p.m. at the Old Elkhorn Tavern in Monument, OR.

Howell was born on Feb. 23, 1946 in Heppner, the son of Clifford and Charlotte Wilhelm Howell. He was raised and attended school at Monument. Sam met Joan Miller in high school and they were married on Dec. 24, 1964 at Canyon City, OR.

He worked as a timber faller for 53 years, then worked at the Cross D Ranch in Monument until his retirement.

Sam loved playing sports in high school; basketball was his favorite. He was an avid hunter and loved to trap in the winter months. One winter he sold enough hides to buy a new pick-up. Sam killed 69 bull

Elk, but never killed a four point. In his younger days, Sam and his brother Bill enjoyed riding bulls in the rodeos. He won the Sisters Rodeo in 1963.

Survivors include his wife, Joan of Monument; a brother, Paddy Howell of Baker City; a daughter, Sandy McKinney of Prineville; a son, Sam Jr. of Monument; grandchildren, James Jewell of Monument, Jessica Taylor of Powell Butte and David Howell of Monument and 4 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Clifford and Charlotte Howell, a brother Bill Howell and numerous aunts and uncles.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pioneer Memorial Hospice, PO Box 9, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in care of arrangements.

Heppner Lions to provide vision screening

Heppner Lions Club is sponsoring a comprehensive vision screening for kindergarten through sixth grade students at Heppner Elementary School on Wednesday, Jan. 17. Working in conjunction with the Heppner Parent Teacher Club, local volunteers will be utilizing a Spot Vision Screener (Spot), a type of photo screener for both vision screening and autorefraction applications.

According to Molly Rhea, Heppner Lions Sight and Hearing Chairman, "Our Lion's club recognized a need for quality vision screening in the schools and made a commitment to bring this service to our community."

The Spot allows testing of students, regardless of age, color of eyes, or other potentially limiting factors for the potential indication of: Myopia (nearsightedness), Hyperopia (farsightedness), Astigmatism (blurred vision), Anisometropia (unequal refractive power), Strabismus (eye misalignment) and Anisocoria (unequal refractive power). This vision screener is a handheld, portable device designed to help users quickly and easily detect vision issues. Spot screens both eyes at once from a nonthreatening

three-foot distance.

According to the Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation (OLSHF) report, "Vision problems can and do affect the physical, intellectual, social and emotional development of children. Early detection of vision problems can provide a child more opportunity for educational success. Because vision loss may impede normal development, the earlier vision impairments are diagnosed and treated, the more favorable the outlook for correction or improvement of the child's well-being. Experts estimate vision problems affect 25 percent of all school children in the United States."

Under the guidance of an Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation staff person, volunteers from the Heppner Lions Club and the Heppner Parent Teacher Club will be conducting the screenings. "The Heppner Lions Club is funding this as a service to our community and the children we all want to succeed," states Rhea.

The results of this screening will be sent directly to Heppner Elementary School and then will be furnished to each student's parent(s) or guardian.

Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice of the Peace Ann Spicer has released the following Justice Court report:

-Dallas Edwards Dowdy, 30 of Heppner was convicted of driving while suspended, \$260 fine.
-Taylor Renee Nelson, 18 of Heppner was convicted of violation of basic rule, 82/55 mph, \$260 fine.

Community lunch menu

Christian Life Center volunteers will serve lunch on Wednesday, Jan. 17, at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Lunch will be baked chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrot salad, Parmesan Brussel sprouts, hot rolls and raspberry mousse for dessert.

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

CBEC pays dividend, adjusts rates

Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative has shared the margins generated by the business with the members of the electric cooperative. In mid-December, CBEC distributed \$525,000 to their members and former members. These funds represented the second half of 1988, all of 1989 and \$175,000 of the 1990 outstanding Capital Patronage credits, as well as several small credits from more recent years. Capital Patronage credits represent the members' equity in the member-owned cooperative. With the addition of the \$525,000, the Co-Op has returned \$6,308,697 to its member/owners over the last 40 years.

In additional co-op news, Columbia Basin Electric commissioned a Cost-of-Service-Analysis study this past spring to analyze and review their rates and rate structures. This study was in anticipation of the announced Bonneville Power Administration wholesale rate increases scheduled for October 2017, averaging 5.4 percent. The study confirmed that CBEC's various rate classes are fair and independent and do not cross-subsidize one rate class by another. Based on the results of the study, the board of directors decided to not increase current rates of electricity for most rate classes. There will be a slight increase in the fixed monthly fee for residential customers of \$1.50 per month or \$18 per year. This increase continues the objective of having the utility's fixed costs and expenses covered by each and

every meter service cooperatively, while the cost of the actual electricity consumed is a virtual pass-through of the wholesale value. Other rate classes will also see minimal increases in their fixed monthly fees. Irrigation accounts will be the only rate class to have an electricity cost increase, which will be approximately 4.25 percent in accordance with the BPA wholesale increase. There will be no changes to the irrigation rate class horsepower-based fixed fees. The CBEC board authorized these changes effective with the January 2018 invoicing cycle.

The cooperative continues to work with the Wheatridge NextEra wind project in the design and routing of its transmission line to move generated power out to the national grid. Management has been working with local land owners throughout the fall to devise a suitable route and design that will be agreeable to everyone. This CBEC-owned transmission line will be capable of meeting the renewable energy wheeling needs of Wheatridge NextEra and other proposed renewable projects in Morrow County. Final easements and documents are in the process of being approved. The Wheatridge NextEra wind project is expected to bring several new permanent jobs to central Morrow County, as well as 150-200 construction period workers to our area. It is reported that it will pay more than a million dollars annually in Strategic Investment Program (SIP) and other taxes to the local economy.

NRCS to hold local work group meeting

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will be hosting a meeting at the USDA Service Center on Feb. 1 at 1 p.m. to gather input regarding the natural resource opportunities and priorities across Morrow County. The goal is to bring together individuals with a variety of expertise and knowledge allowing NRCS and others to build on the collective successes while focusing efforts to make the greatest impact with the available staff and funding. Goals for this meeting will be:

- Identify where the best investments can be made to address natural resource problems
- Share the work that has already been done in the county
- Share your vision for what the county will look like when these natural resource concerns have been

solved. NRCS will be considering the information provided to include in the future conservation implementation strategies for the county. This will help guide conservation efforts and funding over the next five to ten years. Input in this process is very valuable as this information will be used to focus the work in the future.

The information provided in this process will help everyone work towards a stronger, healthier more economically viable community and agricultural industry.

If unable to attend this meeting, but would like additional information or would like to provide input, please contact NRCS at 541-676-5021 ext. 113 or email kacee.lathrop@usda.gov. The meeting is open to the public.

SAFE DRIVING DURING WINTER WEATHER

Morrow County Road Dept. would like to remind all motorists there will be NO winter maintenance on Coalmine hill (USFS Route 53)

For the rest of the County winter maintenance practices include applying deicing agent, plowing and sanding. The combination of practices used at each site may vary to accommodate the different climate, traffic and storm conditions encountered. Please use extreme caution and common sense. They will do their best and would appreciate your patience. Driving in the snow and ice requires a certain set of driving skills that some residents rarely get to use.

HERE ARE SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- ◆ Check road conditions on your route before you go at TripCheck or by dialing 511. Plan your trip accordingly.
- ◆ Allow extra time to get where you're going. Travel is going to be slow.
- ◆ Allow extra stopping distance. There is less traction on slick, snowy roads.
- ◆ Brake gently to avoid skidding or sliding. If the wheels lock up, ease off the brakes.
- ◆ Carry chains and know how to use them.
- ◆ Make sure your vehicle is in top operating conditions, with clean headlights, good brakes, working windshield wipers and good tires.
- ◆ Slow down when approaching off-ramps, bridges and shady spots where the snow often lingers longer.
- ◆ Turn on your headlights to increase your visibility.
- ◆ Be prepared for delays. Make sure you have water, blankets, a full tank of gas... and plenty of patience!
- ◆ If you feel tired or if road conditions get rough, don't be afraid to stop for the night.

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TO A WOMAN WHO WE ALL KNOW, AND WHO ALL OF US ADORE, CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 50 YEARS... AND HERE'S TO 50 MORE!

HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY!