

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  
Bobbi Gordon..... Editor

All News and Advertising Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.  
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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.

~ 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.

**A 27<sup>th</sup> letter to America**

To the Editor,

America was again shocked, as it should be, by the latest tragic school shooting in Parkland, FL.

What has become of respect of God and respect for precious human life and suffering?

One contributing factor is, God was thrown out of our schools and all public places by some Supreme Court Judges. Judges who found posting of God's Ten Commandments in schools and even county government public places, unconstitutional and also ruled prayer and teaching God's word in public schools unconstitutional. Judges who are prohibited from interfering in religious matters by the First Constitutional Amendment.

That Amendment, which ensures freedom of religion, speech, the press, and the right to peaceably assemble, was intended to keep the federal government off these matters.

But now the federal government tentacles reach way down to the toilet places, better known as restrooms.

The overreach of the

Supreme Court has gone uncontested by our legally elected government public officials. It is their duty to hold the judges accountable when they violate the Constitution and laws.

It was not just inhumane when they ruled in Roe v. Wade and approved the killing of innocent human beings. The seven judges who voted for, on that tragic decision, should have been impeached.

Our Constitution assigns the making of the laws of the land to our Legislators, not to the non-elected Judges.

The Laws of God, which our forefathers held so dearly, have been replaced by man's law. Now some Americans want us to celebrate what God calls abomination.

The loudest outcry about the latest school shooting of innocent children will come from political hypocrites who support the daily mass killing of thousands of innocent unborn human babies.

Repent America, Repent. Manuel Ybarra, Jr. Coalgate, OK

**Three-on-three basketball tournament**

The Heppner St. Patrick's Day three-on-three basketball tournament will be held again this year on Friday night, March 16, at Heppner High School starting at 6 p.m.

Teams need to arrive by 5:30 p.m. to register and warm up. Each team is made up of three or four people and the tournament is open to both boys' and

girls' teams with several age division brackets. Winning teams will receive awards.

The tournament is hosted by the Heppner Mustang boys' basketball team. For more information or to pre-register, contact coach Jeremy Rosenbalm at jeremy.rosenbalm@morrow.k12.or.us.

Cost is \$10 per player.

**Births**

**Makenna Kay Sallee** - Michael and Shanna Sallee of Hermiston announce the birth of a daughter, Makenna Kay Sallee. Makenna was born Mar. 4, 2018 in Pendleton, weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 21 inches long.



Makenna joins a sister, Tessa.

Maternal grandparents are Mark and Tami Rietmann of Heppner and great-grandfather, Bill Rietmann of Ione.

Paternal grandparents are John and Mary Sallee of Arlington.

**MCSO defines policies for major incidents**

When asked how the Morrow County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) would handle an active shooter and other major incidents, the Gazette received the following information:

Morrow County Sheriff Kenneth Matlack has directed the Sheriff's Office to engage in continuous training on many different law enforcement scenarios and this includes training with other law enforcement agencies. The idea is to be on the same page and be trained on the same procedures, when one agency responds to assist another, we are one cohesive unit. By working together as a team, we are able to provide better service to the public. Our number one goal is to preserve life and provide public safety and security.

It is important to have the personnel and resources to properly and safely provide the services required. Having deputies patrolling the county 24 hours a day, seven days a week and having School Resource Officers in our schools is required to maintain public safety and security. Our

School Resource Officers are in the schools working with the students and staff daily. We want the students, staff and parents to be comfortable with contacting law enforcement with issues or concerns and we accomplish this by building relationships.

Active shooter incidents are a major concern and can occur anywhere, from large cities to small communities. During an active shooter incident, the key is to stop the threat. We won't wait for a SWAT team or 10 deputies to respond before deciding what to do. We will rely on our training and respond appropriately.

If we hear shots, we react. We go to the shots and neutralize the threat, period. There is no excuse for not reacting. If we don't react, people are hurt or killed. That is not acceptable. Our duty is to preserve life and provide public safety and security. We plan and train for the worst and hope for the best.

John A. Bowles, Morrow County Undersheriff

**Boardman extends development incentives**

The Boardman city council voted on Mar. 6 to extend development incentives which were due to expire June 30, 2018. In an effort to encourage new construction in Boardman, in January, the City Council passed a resolution that the temporarily waives water and sewer System Development Charges (SDC's) for a period of six months. The resolution waives the SDC's on a sliding scale based upon the number of Equivalent Dwelling Units built. All property owners or developers of residential or commercial property

within the city limits are eligible for the waivers. The waivers were extended to expire December 31, 2018.

In other city business, councilors heard an update from the city's engineer regarding the on-going water and sewer upgrades. The council also approved an intergovernmental agreement with Morrow County, and all other cities in Morrow County to hire a consultant to create a county-wide buildable lands inventory.

The next Boardman city council meeting will be Tuesday, Apr. 3 at 7 p.m. at the Boardman city hall.

**Riding club to meet**

Wranglers Riding Club will have a meeting this Thursday, Mar. 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the rodeo office at the fairgrounds. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to come. The meeting agenda will include a discussion regarding fundraisers, playday dates, awards and new officer elections.

**Obituaries**

**Elizabeth Jane Allen**

Elizabeth Jane Allen was born in Bend, OR on Sept. 11, 1981 and left this world Mar. 4, 2018 in Portland, OR due to kidney failure. Liz to her friends, Beezer to her oldest friends and Boo to her mom and dad, Elizabeth left her mark on everyone who knew her.

The Allens lived in Spray from 1981-1985 where Elizabeth loved riding horses and enjoyed all the small Wheeler County town had to offer. It was in Spray that her compassion

for others began when she saw starving Ethiopian children on the news and emptied her piggy bank to help.

In 1985 the family moved to Ione where Elizabeth quickly made friends and the Allen household was full of kids' laughter. The summer was always the highlight of Liz's year when the swimming pool was open. She spent every day at the pool with the lifeguard giving her a ride home after the pool closed each night.

At the age of 12, Liz was once again saddened by the evening news as a rough winter was forecast for Portland and the homeless would be in need of help. So she organized the first of five trips to the city with winter supplies, enlisting the help of many of her friends.

Liz's travels took her to Scotland where she spent her junior year of high school, Eugene where she attended Lane Community

College and several years in Columbia, MO. A Sober Way Home in Prescott, AZ had a profound effect on Liz's life, where she got help and helped so many others through their struggles. Living in Portland for the last several years, she continued to reach out to anyone who needed help.

Liz was an avid reader who always had two or three books going at the same time. She lived by her favorite quote from Harry Potter: "Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light."

In addition to countless friends, Elizabeth leaves behind her parents, Dick and Jannie of Ione, her brother, Stephen and his wife, Renee of Richmond, VA and the light of Liz's life, her niece, Saadi. She was preceded in death by her beloved dog, Opal.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Ione Community Pool c/o Ione Community School, PO Box 167, Ione, OR 97843. Donations will go toward training swim lesson instructors, free swimming lessons for all and keeping the pool open for PE classes an extra week in the fall and spring. The family has made a five year commitment to this plan.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in care of arrangements. Sign the online condolence book at [sweeinemortuary.com](http://sweeinemortuary.com).



Elizabeth Jane Allen

**Morrow SWCD receives award**

The Oregon State Weed Board (OSWB) awarded \$3,771 to the Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for the Morrow County Russian Knapweed Biocontrol Project, Phase III at the Feb. 2018 board meeting in Salem.

The award was one of 63 grants totaling \$1.84 million provided to local organizations statewide to fund projects that restore, protect fish and wildlife habitat, watershed function, water quality and overall watershed health from invasive noxious weed impacts. The State Weed Board, funded 49 projects \$1.4 million as part of the regular grant program. In addition, the board funded 14 separate projects at \$401,000 from the newly available county weed grant program. The grants represent all areas of the state.

"The Morrow County Russian Knapweed Biocontrol Project will once again look to distribute biocontrol

agents for Russian knapweed throughout Morrow County and the surrounding counties as well at no cost to the landowners," says Kevin Payne, with the Morrow SWCD. "We are encouraging landowners to contact us if they have Russian knapweed on their property and would like some assistance with control". The District plans to make releases late May through September, 2018.

OSWB grants are funded through partnership with OWEB from Oregon Lottery funds. Since 1999, the Oregon Lottery has provided over \$500 million to OWEB's grant program that helps restore, maintain and enhance Oregon's watersheds.

For additional information about this project contact Kevin Payne at 541-676-5452 x111. For additional information about OSWB Noxious Weed Grant Program, contact Tristen Berg at [tberg@oda.state.or.us](mailto:tberg@oda.state.or.us).

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