

HEPPNER 50¢ Gazette Times

VOL. 137 NO. 45 8 Pages Wednesday, November 7, 2018 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Local businesses, churches join in Halloween fun

Bank of Eastern Oregon, Willow Creek Terrace, Heppner City Hall and Hopeful Saints all got into the holiday spirit last Wednesday for Halloween. BEO employees dressed as their favorite rock stars while the city hall theme was nursery rhymes. The Hopeful Saints Mission Trippers posed in their costumes as did employees at Willow Creek Terrace.



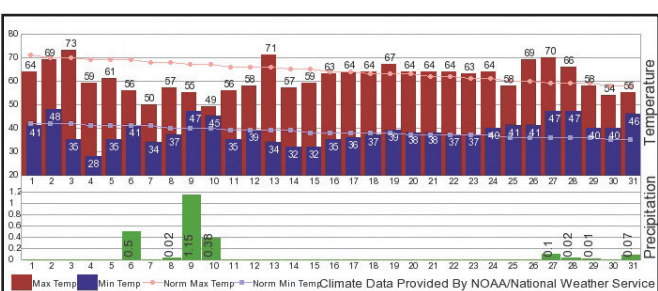
A Community Halloween Party was hosted by the Hopeful Saints Mission Trippers, pictured above.



Left: Willow Creek Terrace's busy bee cook was Monica Powell, pictured with mail lady Shari Ober.



Heppner slightly colder in October



According to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton, temperatures at Heppner averaged slightly colder than normal during the month of October. The average temperature was 50 degrees which was 1.3 degrees below normal. High temperatures averaged 61.3 degrees, which was 2.9 degrees below normal. The highest was 73 degrees on the 3rd. Low temperatures averaged 38.8 degrees, which was 0.4 degrees above normal. The lowest was 28 degrees, on the 4th. There was one day with the low temperature below 32 degrees. Precipitation totaled 0.02 inches during October,

which was 1.11 inches above normal. Measurable precipitation of at least .01 inch was received on eight days with the heaviest, 1.15 inches reported on the 9th. Precipitation this year has reached 9.11 inches, which is 1.97 inches below normal. The highest wind gust was 43 mph which occurred on the 2nd. The outlook for November from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for above normal temperatures and near normal precipitation. Normal highs for Heppner fall from 57 degrees at the start of November to 45 degrees at the end of November. Normal lows fall from 35 degrees to 28 degrees. The 30 year normal precipitation is 1.60 inches.

Motorcyclist dies in accident

Michael James Wilson, 62, of Hermiston was killed in a single vehicle motorcycle accident on Highway 207 near the Buttercreek junction on Nov. 1. The accident occurred at approximately 2 a.m. According to information provided by the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police is in charge of the incident.

Ione Topic club tours grief center

In lieu of their regular October meeting, members of the Ione Topic club toured Cason's Place, a grief support center in Pendleton. Matt Terjeson and Jan Peterson-Terjeson, who spearheaded the establishment of the facility, met with the group before the tour. Led by Jan Peterson-Terjeson, the club members viewed some of the rooms designed to help children adjust to the loss of a family member or friend. Counselors help participants work through their grief using themed rooms to allow children to express themselves through role playing and games. Many area families have helped

Heppner council meeting date changed

Due to the Veteran's Day holiday on Nov. 12, the Heppner city council meeting will be held Nov. 13 instead. For additional information contact the city hall at 541-676-9618.

BEO to acquire four Umpqua Bank branches

BEO Bancorp and its subsidiary, Bank of Eastern Oregon, announced that they have entered into a definitive agreement to acquire four Washington branch locations from Umpqua Bank. The branch locations are Colfax, Dayton, Lacrosse and Pomeroy. Jeff Bailey, president and CEO for Bank of Eastern Oregon said, "Our expansion into Washington began nearly five years ago when we acquired Bank Reale in Pasco. We see the

addition of these Umpqua branches as a natural progression of expanding our brand of banking to rural communities in eastern Washington." "As customer preferences change how we deliver banking services, Umpqua remains strongly committed to supporting our communities," said Brian Read, Umpqua's executive vice president of retail banking. "We're pleased that Bank of Eastern Oregon has agreed to purchase

these four locations and will continue serving customers locally." The transaction is expected to close during first quarter 2019, following final regulatory approval. The terms of the transaction are not being disclosed. Upon closing of the transaction, the branches will operate as Bank of Eastern Washington, branches of Bank of Eastern Oregon. Keenan and Partners served as facilitator of this transaction.



Above: Rock stars made an appearance at BEO. Pictured L-R: Sara Santora, Betty Jo Colvin (Cyndi Lauper), Hanna Rinehart, John Qualls (Elton John), Tricia Rollins, Emma Wright (Stevie Nicks), Jessica Peterson (Annie Lennox) and Bev Benson (Tina Turner).

Right: Elton John, aka John Qualls, visited the Heppner branch of the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Below: Heppner City Hall's nursery rhyme theme was demonstrated by Brandy Medrano, city manager Edie Ball and Tarina Foster. -Photo by April Sykes.



Morrow tax refunds rate in top ten

In a study conducted by financial technology company SmartAsset, Morrow County was ranked number eight in the state of Oregon for receiving the highest tax refunds. According to the study there are 3,760 taxpayers who receive refunds averaging \$2,586. Clackamas County rated number one with 132,400 taxpayers and an average of \$2,778. Hood River County was number

ten with 8,150 taxpayers receiving an average of \$2,568. The other counties in the study were Yamhill in number two, Deschutes as number three, Malheur in fourth, Washington County in fifth, Jefferson as sixth, Umatilla in number seven and Multnomah as ninth. The total number of taxpayers receiving refunds in the study were 1,331,430 averaging \$2,593 each.

Morrow County Grain Growers Green Feed & Seed
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