

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.
For Advertising: advertising deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Cost for a display ad is \$5.25 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 \$6.05 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.

Death Notices

Judith Cochell Shannon

Judith Cochell Shannon, 76, former Heppner resident died Saturday, Jan. 26 at Everett, WA. She was born July 14, 1942 at Norfolk, VA. A memorial service will be held later this spring.

A complete obituary will follow in next week's Gazette-Times. Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in care of arrangements.

Community lunch menu

Nazarene/Christian volunteers will serve lunch on Wednesday, February 6 at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Lunch will be navy beans and ham, broccoli salad, sliced tomatoes, corn muffins and chocolate mousse for dessert. Milk is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.

Valentine's dinner to be held

The Hopeful Saints Mission Trippers will be hosting an Italian dinner fundraiser on Feb. 14 at the All Saints Parish Hall beginning at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person. The meal, served at 5 and 7 p.m., will include salad, soup, homemade pasta (lasagna, spaghetti or seafood fettuccini), dessert and a beverage. The All Saints Parish Hall will be transformed into a candlelit restaurant with intimate seating and roving musicians. Tickets must be purchased by Feb. 10 to reserve a table and choose an entrée. Contact George Nairns

at 541-571-6519 or Diana Sharp at 541-676-8262 for additional information or to purchase tickets. The fundraiser will help support this fall's trip to El Salvador for the third well-drilling mission trip through Living Water International. The trip will be Nov. 3 - 9 and community members are encouraged to consider joining the adventure. Team members give the gift of clean water and good hygiene and in return, get to experience a very different way of life. For additional information on becoming a Mission Tripper, contact the church office at 541-676-9970.

Planning commission holds work sessions

Morrow County Planning Commissioners and staff have held three work sessions over the past four months, gathering information about how renewable energy facilities are sited. At the Jan. 22 work session acoustical engineer Kerrie Standlee was the guest speaker, sharing information about wind energy facilities and sound. Now that these work sessions have concluded, planning staff will be compiling information for the planning commission to begin consideration of potential regulations to be applicable to renewable energy facilities. It is anticipated that proposed regulations will be considered by the planning commission in the next couple of months. During the second half of December and through January 23, Morrow County Planning Department staff issued approvals for a new dwelling, three accessory structures, an authorization for temporary

use of an RV, an industrial change of use with building improvements and an agricultural drying facility. At the Feb. 26 public hearing, to be held at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center in Boardman, three actions are scheduled for consideration: a reconfiguration of farm land, temporary use of a recreational vehicle for a medical hardship and a proposed aggregate mining operation. Information on these items is available by contacting the Morrow County Planning Department at 541-922-4624. Election of officers for the planning commission will also take place. The Morrow County Planning Department encourages everyone to visit their website for information on the planning commission, code enforcement, transportation and much more. The website is available at <https://www.co.morrow.or.us/planning>.

Local students named to EOU fall term dean's list

Rylee Kollman, Heppner and Amanda Rea, Ione have been named to the Eastern Oregon University dean's list for the 2018 fall term. EOU named 526 students to the dean's list for

fall term. To qualify for the dean's list, students must achieve and maintain a 3.5 grade point average or higher while completing a minimum of 12 hours of graded coursework.

Chamber Chatter

Thursday, Jan. 31 from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Heppner Chamber's Annual luncheon at the Senior Center dining room. Lunch of French dip, salad and dessert will be catered by Heppner Fresh Market for \$10 per person. RSVPs are required. A tour of the Gilliam-Bisbee building will follow the meeting. Saturday, Feb. 2 at 10 a.m., Bank of Eastern Oregon's Eleventh Annual Invitational Wrestling Tournament at Heppner High School. Tickets may be purchased at the door; concessions will be available. Thursday, Feb. 7, Heppner Chamber's Annual Town and Country Community Awards event to be held at the Morrow County Fairgrounds beginning at 6 p.m. The theme for the event will be "An Evening With the Stars." Gateway Café will serve prime rib

with au jus, creamy garlic mashed potatoes, green beans in garlic sauce, garden fresh salad, dessert and a beverage at 6:30 p.m. A no host bar will be offered by Bucknum's beginning at 6 p.m. Contact the chamber at 541-676-5536 for tickets. Thursday, Feb. 28 from noon to 1 p.m., Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group hosted Annual Luncheon in the Senior Center dining room. There will be an update on the projects that Willow Creek Valley Economic Development Group has been working on along with plans for the future. Alvin Liu of Gateway Café will cater the lunch of homemade BBQ ribs, baked beans, potato salad and dessert. RSVP is required. Contact the chamber office at 541-676-5536 or heppnerchamber@centurytel.net.

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Wranglers schedule meeting

The Wranglers club will hold a meeting on Friday, Feb. 1 at 5:30 p.m. in the USDA conference room in Heppner at 430 Linden Way.

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, Feb. 1 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.

Tax assistance to be offered

The AARP Foundation's Tax-Aide program will provide free tax assistance and preparation beginning in February and running through early April. This year there will be assistance available in Heppner as well as Boardman, Hermiston and Pendleton. Assistance will be offered in Pendleton on Mondays, Hermiston on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Wednesdays in Boardman. Dates and the location for Heppner will be announced later, but are tentatively scheduled for some Fridays in February and March. The assistance provid-

ed through Tax-Aide is available to those with low or moderate incomes, not just adults over 50. AARP membership is not required. Volunteers are trained and IRS-certified each year to ensure they are aware of the latest changes to the U.S. Tax Code. People are encouraged to check the website for current information and what to bring when going to a Tax-Aide site. There are no scheduled appointments; people are encouraged to arrive early to get on the list. For more information, visit www.aarpfoundation.org/taxhelp.

FOR SALE



235 SKYLINE DRIVE, HEPPIER
Enjoy a great view of Heppner from this well-kept 3 bedroom 1700 square foot home with large double garage on a .7 acre lot. Also available, .7 acre adjacent lot with easy access to Chase Street and all utilities. **Accepting purchase offers until March 1. Call Bill Jepsen- 541-667-7498**

School district's graduation rate improves

According to the Oregon Department of Education, the Morrow County School District improved its overall graduation rate by more than five percentage points over last year, from 77.84 percent in 2016-17 to 82.86 percent in 2017-18.

(General Education Diploma), within the four years being measured. Morrow County's four-year completer rate is 89.14 percent. Dirk Dirksen, district superintendent, said the district had 10 students who earned their GEDs, who are included in that rate.

Graduation rates for school districts in Oregon were released on Jan. 24. The rates are based on the four-year cohort rate, which includes students who earned their regular diplomas within four years of high school. The 2017-18 four-year cohort consists of students who first entered high school in 2014-15. ODE also reported the four-year cohort completer rate, which includes students who earned a standard high school diploma, as well as those who were awarded an extended high school diploma, adult high school diploma, or GED

The four-year cohort rates were Irrigon Jr/Sr High School, 80.52 percent; Heppner Jr/Sr High School, 76.19 percent; Riverside High School, 92.86 percent. The four-year completer rate was Irrigon, 87.01; Heppner, 85.71 and Riverside, 95.71. Dirksen said the district continues to focus on strategies to improve graduation. "Everyone in our school buildings, including administration, teachers and support staff, are working on ways to help more and more students reach the goal of graduation," Dirksen said.

NRCS seeks input

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will be hosting a meeting at the USDA Service Center on Feb. 12 at 10 a.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. NRCS seeks help in identifying where the best investments can be made to address natural resource

problems, sharing the work that has already been done in the county and sharing visions for what the county would look like when the natural resource concerns have been solved. Information provided will be used in future conservation implementation strategies for the county. Those wishing additional information or to provide input can contact NRCS at 541-676-5021 ext. 113 or email kacee.lathrop@or.usda.gov. The meeting is open to the public.

First Friday Friends of Jesus to be held

The February session of First Friday Friends of Jesus will be held this Friday, Feb. 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the All Saints Parish Hall. Kids ages four to 12 are invited for a morning full of

Bible stories, crafts, games and songs, concluding with a free lunch. Additional information is available by calling the Hopeful Saints Ministry office at 541-676-9970.

SWCD to meet

Morrow SWCD will meet Tuesday, Feb. 5 at the Ag Service Center in Heppner, beginning at 6 p.m. Items on the agenda will include minutes of the January meeting, financial, partner and staff reports. Meetings of Morrow SWCD are open to the public. For questions or additional information, contact Kevin Payne at 541-676-5452 ext. 111.

Prayer team schedules meeting

The Heppner prayer team will meet at the SDA Church on Minor Street in Heppner on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 5:30 p.m. The subject of the meeting will be "What is prayer?" For additional information contact Wendy Bleth at 509-540-8800.

VALENTINE'S DAY IS THURSDAY FEBRUARY 14TH!! CALL OUR FLORAL DEPT TODAY 541-676-9426



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