

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  
Giselle Moses.....Advertising

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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.

**Births**

**Maverick Curtis Rhea** was born to Trevor and Mollie Rhea, Heppner, at Kadlec Hospital in Richland, WA, on July 28, 2020. He weighed seven lbs., 2 oz. and measured 19.5 inches long.



Maverick Curtis Rhea

Grandparents are Steve and Molly Rhea, Heppner, and Dan and Lori Henderson, Springfield, OR. Great grandparents are Bud and Gail Nadeau, Springfield, OR, and the late Don and Audrey Rasmussen, formerly of Eugene, OR, Gene and Fay Pierce, and Carl and Mildred Rhea, all of Heppner.

**Donations to help Boyer/Kates family**



Above: Cole and Evan Kates. Right: The Kates family.



Kelly and John Boyer of Lexington have volunteered for countless fund raisers, dinners and benefit run/walks in Heppner and Lexington over the years, have been generous 4-H and Morrow County Fair and Rodeo donors and volunteers, volunteered at schools and coaching sports and have helped many local families facing hardships.

But now, their family needs help. Kelly and John's five-year-old grandson, Evan, the son of Jon and Brooke (Boyer) Kates, Boise, ID, was born with AVM, a rare congenital abnormality of the brain.

AVM, a brain arteriovenous malformation, is a tangle of abnormal blood vessels connecting arteries and veins in the brain, which disrupt normal blood flow and oxygen circulation. The affected arteries and veins can weaken and rupture, causing bleeding in the brain, stroke or brain damage. Some people can have this abnormality their entire lives with no problems, but Evan developed

an aneurism that ruptured and bled in his brain. His mother, Brooke, a former nurse, knew something was terribly wrong with Evan and took him to the hospital on March 3.

Evan then suffered respiratory distress from mucous that had accumulated and required an emergency bronchoscopy to save his life. He suffered five strokes and developed severe vessel constriction in his brain, which caused additional strokes. Because the pressure in his brain was so high, he was put into a deep coma for three weeks and then was finally awakened on March 28.

Over the following weeks, his breathing re-

mained labored and he continued to wake up more and more. Because he was making strides, the doctors decided to repair the aneurism and AVM, which had brought on the strokes. After Evan's successful surgery, the family traveled to Salt Lake City where they remained for several months for Evan's rehabilitation. Rehab was a rigorous four days a week, six hours per day so that he could learn how to walk and talk again, which may take years.

Because of COVID-19,

Brooke was the only family member allowed to visit Evan in the hospital. The virus also resulted in the loss of Jon's job as a surgical equipment representative and they don't know when he will be able to go back to work. Brooke, a graduate of Heppner High School, works as a real estate agent. Their family also includes 10-year-old Cole.

An account to help Evan and his family has been set up at the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner and donations through BEO are welcome.

**County builds new storage facility**



Morrow County Public Works has been building a new storage facility in Lexington. One end will be for equipment storage and the other end will store sand. -Photo by Bobbi Gordon.

**Correction**

Included in the "City moves forward with lot purchase" story on the front page of the Heppner Gazette-Times August 12 issue, it was incorrectly stated that the Neighborhood Center distributed 54 food boxes last month. According to Lisa Patton, Coordinator, there were actually 62 food boxes distributed.

**Catholic Churches hold memorial golf tournament**



The late Father Gerry Condon at a previous Holy Name Society golf tournament. -Contributed photo.

The First Annual Father Condon Memorial Golf Tournament was held August 15 and was considered a huge success with a great turnout. The Holy Name

Society members of St. William's and St. Patrick's Catholic Churches have organized a tournament for several years to help fund scholarships and support local youth programs. This year they renamed it to honor the late, longtime priest who made his home away from Ireland in south Morrow County.

Many commented that Father Condon probably would have enjoyed the get together on a nice summer day at the Willow Creek Country Club golf course and perhaps it was a "ceil-iúradh saol", Gaelic for a "Celebration of Life."

**Fire departments respond to lightning fires**



Heppner, Ione and Lexington fire departments responded to multiple fires caused by lightning strikes Monday evening. Trucks are pictured near McNab Road in Ione. -Photo by Josie Miles.

**BLOWN AWAY RANCH**  
Ione, OR

**Blown Away Ranch** would like to wish all of the participants of the 2020 Morrow County Fair **Good Luck!**

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