

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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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 requested 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.

Thingelstad receives award



CICU nurse Melissa Thingelstad, daughter of Gene and Chirella Wallace of Lexington, was awarded the Values in Action Award at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center during their Mission and Heritage week. It is the highest honor for Providence caregivers in Oregon.

Lone school receives funds for welding helmets



Pictured (L-R): Steve Schaber- math and shop teacher; Mike Alldritt- business agent/ organizer for Ironworkers Local #29 and Martin Vito- FFA advisor, science and math teacher. -Contributed photo.

Birthright of Morrow County to open

Birthright of Morrow County, an emergency pregnancy service, will open Monday, November 2 at 128 W. Willow St., formerly Dr. Rolan's Optometrist office. The hours of operation will be Monday 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Thursday 5 - 7 p.m. and Saturday 1 - 3 p.m.

The phone number for the facility, 541-676-0530, will be available Nov. 2. Birthright will offer love and compassion along with free pregnancy testing to those facing a crisis pregnancy. Anyone interested in helping may contact Julia Finch at 252-382-4450.

Library to host Friday Fun Days

Oregon Trail Library District's Heppner Branch began Friday Fun Days on October 23, with fun crafts to make at home for preschool through fourth-grade children. Each Friday will be a different Take and Make craft-in-a-bag that can be picked up. Those interested should call the library at 541-676-9964 to register and reserve the supplies. Each registered child will receive their own craft tool kit to create the weekly projects.

Publication lists Morrow County stats

The OSU Extension publication "Oregon by the Numbers," just out, lists all sorts of interesting data on each county in the state. According to the data, Morrow County has a population of 11,215, with 46 percent rural, in 2,049 square miles; 17 percent of land is public with 30 percent developed or cultivated. The top three employment industries in Morrow County are listed as food manufacturing, crop production and animal production.

Morrow County's median household income, at \$55,440, trails the Oregon median income at \$59,393. Life expectancy in Morrow County is 83 years for women and 79 years for men with 59.9 percent of the population white, 35.9 percent Hispanic/Latino, 2.6 percent two or more races, .6 percent American Indian/Alaska Native, .6 percent Asian, .2 percent Black/African American, .2 percent Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.

As for "food insecurity", Morrow, at 8 percent, is lower than Oregon as a whole at 12 percent, however child poverty, at 23 percent, is up over state figures of 18 percent, with 17 percent rural and 18 percent urban. 42 percent of households in Morrow County are below the poverty level and "ALICE Thresholds". The ALICE Threshold represents the minimum income necessary for a household.

The Morrow County foster care rate per 1,000 population is at 5, lower than Oregon at 9 percent,

rural at 15 percent and urban at 8 percent.

Crime in Morrow County is 20 per thousand population, lower than Oregon at 28, rural at 21 and urban at 29 percent per 1,000.

Voter participation in Morrow County at 63 percent, lags Oregon as a whole at 70 percent.

In education, 8 of 26 kindergarten ready students (who know their letter sounds) is the same in Morrow County as Oregon as a whole. Third grade reading on track at 35 percent in Morrow County, compared to 47 percent in Oregon, however ninth-grade students on track, at 92 percent in Morrow County, surpass Oregon at 85 percent. The five-year graduation rate in Morrow County, at 83 percent, is slightly above Oregon as a whole at 80 percent; but those in Morrow County with a four-year college degree or greater at 11 percent, seriously lags Oregon at 33 percent.

The unemployment rate in Morrow County matches Oregon at 4 percent, but job growth per 1,000 population at 28 per thousand in Morrow County. Property tax in Morrow County per person is quite a bit up at \$2,670 per person, compared to \$1,548 per person in Oregon (\$1,280 rural and \$1,600 urban).

Around 10 percent of babies in Morrow County have low birth rates, compared to 7 percent in Oregon. The vaccination rate in Morrow County for two-year-olds at 75 percent, is up slightly from 73 percent

Earlier this month, the members of Ironworkers Local No. 29 in Portland, OR voted to grant funds to Ione High School's Career and Technical Education Program to purchase 40 welding helmets. The helmets will be given to students enrolled in CTE classes and will be theirs to keep.

Construction Technology, agricultural mechanics and metal technologies are programs that will benefit from the welding helmets. This will also make it possible for students to refrain from share helmets, which is not an option due to COVID restrictions.

Career and Technical

Education (CTE) provides an important pathway to success for high school students and offers each student opportunities to personalize his or her education based on their career interests and unique learning needs. This is hands on learning that allows students to focus on current vocational opportunities.

Ironworkers Local No. 29 finds that reaching out to rural schools and helping them learn about apprenticeship programs within the building trades is important and much needed. They can introduce students to an alternative to college which is not a choice for some of today's graduates.

in Oregon. 48 percent of people in Morrow County have good physical health, compared to 60 percent in Oregon, however, 71 percent of Morrow County residents have good mental health, compared to 57 percent in Oregon. Morrow County's tobacco use is up, at 37 percent, compared to Oregon in general at 26 percent.

In terms of infrastructure, 78 percent of Morrow County residents have access to broadband, while Oregon in general has 94 percent. Child care slots per 100 children is lower in Morrow County at 10,

compared to Oregon at 16. Not surprisingly, transit service in Morrow County is a low 4 percent, with transit service in Oregon at 52 percent. Thirty-one percent of people in Morrow County live in mobile homes, with 8 percent in Oregon.

Also, not surprisingly, Morrow County residents per capita travel more than three times as do Oregon residents, at 17,282 in vehicle miles, compared to only 5,190 miles in Oregon. Rural Oregon as a whole travels 9,640 miles per capita, compared to 4,326 urban.

New Baby in Your Family? Engagement? Wedding?

We want to share your life events!

Stop in the Heppner Gazette office or email us with details and photos.

All birth, engagement and wedding announcements are always free!

188 W Willow Street Heppner, OR
editor@rapidsolve.net

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- Strong work ethic
- Common sense
- Compassion in and out of court
- Fairness, consistency and respect

"I will treat the people of Morrow County and all who come before me with respect, consistency, effectiveness and fairness."
~ Theresa Crawford

Please like my facebook page
Theresa Crawford for Justice of the Peace


You can also email me anytime with questions
t_buffy@live.com

Vote November 3rd

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541-676-9228


 **Morrow County Health Department**
(541) 676-5421

October 30, 2020
9:00 – 6:00 pm
Drive thru Flu Vaccine

Bartholomew Building
110 N Court St
Heppner, OR 97836

GET your FLU SHOT





 **Departamento de Salud del Condado de Morrow**
(541) 676-5421

30 de Octubre 2020
9:00 – 6:00 pm
Vacuna de la gripe desde su carro

Bartholomew Building
110 N Court St
Heppner, OR 97836

Obtenga su vacuna de la Gripe



