

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.

**Obituaries**

**Kathleen Ruth Chinen (Herold)**

Kathleen Ruth Chinen (Herold) passed away peacefully on September 9, 2021, in Spokane, WA at the age of 84. She is survived by her six children, Robin Monter, Randy Nagy, Lori Wilber, Lisa Van Allen, Terry Chinen, and Tina Holtz. She also has 14 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.



**Kathleen Ruth Chinen (Herold)**

Kay was born in Helena, MT on March 8, 1937, to Fred and Ruth Herold.

During WW2, her father enlisted as an aircraft mechanic at Geiger Field and the family moved to Spokane, WA. Kay grew up in the era of Frank Sinatra and James Dean. She attended Marycliff all-girls Catholic High School and graduated in 1955.

Soon after, she married and raised four children, Robin, Randy, Lisa and Lori. In 1979, she chased her passion for teaching to Heppner, where she raised two more children, Terry and Tina.

In Heppner, she found her true calling as a special education teacher, following in the schoolteacher

footsteps of her pioneering mother and grandmother. She worked tirelessly helping her students. "As she taught between elementary, middle, and high school, she became a beloved figure within the Morrow County School District and community of Heppner," noted a family member.

Upon retirement, Kay moved back to Spokane, where she cared for and comforted her parents until their time of passing. In the last few years, she lived with her sister-in-law, Penny. She loved to visit with her friends and children and especially enjoyed spoiling her grand-babies.

A celebration of life/funeral service is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on Friday, October 1, 2021, at Heritage Funeral and Cremation. Graveside services will be held directly after at Fairmount Memorial Park.

All are welcome to attend and celebrate Kay's life.

**Linda Ruth Tefft**

Linda Ruth Tefft, age 68, died Friday, September 3, 2021, at her home in Heppner. She was born in Pendleton July 28, 1953, to Archie Dale Tefft and Irene Ruth Perkins. She was the oldest of three children.

Linda is survived by her son, Michael Black of Maplewood, Minnesota and her daughter, Diana Sharp of Heppner, 10 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Linda was preceded in death by her father, Archie Dale Tefft; her mother, Irene Ruth Cain; her brothers, Bill Tefft and Frank Tefft and one great-grandchild, Jasper Duree McKenzie.

She was loved by many and loved spending time in the mountains, working in her garden, reading and spending time with her family. A private celebration of life will be held to honor her memory.

**Funeral Notices**

**Vonna L. Shutter** – Vonna L. Shutter, 86, of Lexington, died January 5, 2021, at Hermiston, and her husband, Francis P. Shutter, 82, of Lexington, died, July 5, 2021, at Heppner. They are the parents of Alita Nelson of Heppner. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, September 25, 2021, at 1 p.m. at the Morrow County fairgrounds in Heppner, following state covid 19 guidelines. A meal will follow the celebration. Sweeney Mortuary

of Heppner is in care of arrangements.

**Colleen Ployhar** – Colleen Ployhar, 88, former Heppner resident, died January 23, 2020, at Hermiston. She was born January 4, 1932, at Heppner. A graveside memorial service, following state covid 19 guidelines, will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, September 25, 2021, at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery. Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in care of arrangements.

**Justice Court Report**

Morrow County Justice of the Peace, Glen Diehl, has released the following Justice Court report:

-Anthony D. Looney, 32, Heppner, was convicted of driving while suspended, fine, \$440; failure to carry proof of insurance, fine, \$265; and failure to obey traffic control device, fine, \$265.

**Forest Public Use Restrictions reduced to Phase A**

Umatilla and Walla-Walla National Forest officials will reduce Public Use Restrictions (PURS) to Phase A on Friday, September 17, 2021. Phase A is the first level of restrictions, generally implemented when the fire danger is moderate to high. PURS are phased in collectively, as conditions warrant, and may differ from forest to forest. Restrictions under Phase A include:

- Chainsaws may be operated only between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time. A one-hour fire watch is required after saw operations cease. Saw operators are required to have an axe (minimum 2 lb. head, 26" length), shovel (8" wide, 26" length), and fire extinguisher (minimum ABC 8 oz.) in their possession.
- Smoking is allowed only in enclosed vehicles, buildings or cleared areas.
- No off-road/off-trail vehicle travel or travel on roads not cleared of standing grass or other flammable material; no vehicle travel on those Forest Service roads where access has been impeded or blocked by earthen berm, logs, boulders, barrier, barricade or gate, or as otherwise identified in the Fire Order.

developed campsites. Forest officials recommend the following campfire safety precautions:

- Campfires should be in fire pits surrounded by dirt, rock or commercial rings and in areas not conducive to rapid fire spread. All flammable material shall be cleared within a three-foot radius from the edge of the pit and free of overhanging material. Use existing pits wherever possible.
- Campfires must be attended at all times, and completely extinguished prior to leaving.
- Persons with campfires should carry a tool that can serve as a shovel and one gallon of water in their possession. The intent of this recommendation is to ensure individuals with a campfire to have the tools necessary to completely extinguish their campfire.

The public's awareness of the fire danger and cooperation is essential to a safe fire season. Recreationists, firewood cutters, hunters and other forest users can all help by closely adhering to restrictions, operating safely and cautiously and keeping up to date on the latest orders and regulations.

Please remember that it is everyone's responsibility to know what restrictions are in place when visiting public lands.

The public is also encouraged to practice safe campfire principles when recreating in dispersed and

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**Good News Only**

By Doris Brosnan

Surely no one in the small, scattered group gathered for the music-in-the-park on the 12<sup>th</sup> could have enjoyed the concert as much as wee Ethan Wood, son of Sean and Laurie, who stopped enroute with mom and sister to the playground equipment. The tiny towhead cutie was drawn to the music, marched directly toward the musicians, stood for a long time in front of the bandstand seemingly mesmerized, showing no interest in moving on. And he continued to be totally focused as Laurie sat with him on her lap for another long time. A delight to watch this little guy, who eventually did enjoy the playground, probably still listening to the music. Music in the park will return next summer, along with the added entertainment always provided by children.

Get the word out: Story Time has returned to the Heppner Library. Everyone is welcome at 11 a.m. on Fridays.

Kudos to Blake Carter, who wrote like a seasoned reporter in his GT sports article last week. And kudos to the GT for recognizing the contribution Blake will make to the publication as an intern. And kudos to the HHS enthusiastic, synchronized cheerleaders and pep band who were "tuned in" to what was happening on the field Friday evening. Good sounds coming from both. "Always Ready, Always There" is the National Guard motto, and it has four recruits from HHS and IHS to help fulfill its pledge. The Hermiston Guards are fortunate to include HHS seniors Kason Cimmiyotti, Kegan Steagall and Brian Lindsay and IHS student Aubry Blakely on their rosters.

Wow. The sidewalk work seems to be progressing quickly on Gale, Church, Chase and Willow Streets. And JoAnna Lamb, chamber director, reports hearing that the new sidewalks are "the best for skateboarding on." They are especially enjoyed by Katie Dog, so much more comfortable than gravel under her paws. And speaking of doggy paws: city hall reports that the paw prints in the cement in Thomson Square are there to stay.

Many community members have come to the city park to support the Juarez family and Tacos Hometown while they were temporarily displaced by the work at Thomson Square.

How many construction jobs are simultaneously

happening in our fortunate community? Five? JoAnna comments, "Construction everywhere but that just means everyone is working hard on making Heppner awesome for the future." Improvements, attractive new looks, good news.

Reported on Tuesday: During the middle of the construction at Thomson Square, a construction worker jumped into action and left his job to assist an elderly lady with her walker navigate the road crossing and got her safely to the sidewalk and on her way to the post office.

Good news for the unemployed: A long list of employment opportunities in our south Morrow County area can be found at heppnerchamber.com.

Who hasn't noticed that the BEO clock reports accurate temperatures but time that is also accurate except for displaying an hour earlier than everyone else's clock? As the employees report to every inquiry every day, a big power outage "fried" part of the mechanism. The decision remains: repair, replace or just wait until "fall back" time returns next month?.

Busy times, rewarding times for John and Karen Griffith last month: "On August 19, our new grandson, Byron Lane Griffith (6 months old), flew (like a veteran flyer.) for the first time to the Pacific Northwest, accompanied by parents, Aaron and Kirsti, from Van Horn, TX. Byron got to meet his great grandparents, Don and Joann Griffith (Spray, OR) and Jo Smith (Hood River, OR). Fourth-generation pictures were taken. He also got to meet great aunts Donita Griffith and Kim Beam (Karen's sister). A small luncheon was held, and Byron was the center of attention for all." Then, on August 28, John and Karen had a Griffith family reunion at their home. About 45 people attended. The oldest was 89-year-old Bev Denney, the youngest was nine-month-old Brook, and the farthest traveled was Mark Griffith, who resides in North Dakota. Lots of stories, good eats and barbeque on a beautiful Saturday.

If you enjoy reading these bits of good news, please share yours. Send your "good-news tidbits" before Monday afternoon to dbrosnan123@gmail.com, or call 541-676-5382 or 541-223-1490, or stop me on the street.

Here's hoping that some good news comes to everyone reading this.

**The Loop is looking for Members for the Special Transportation Fund (STF) Advisory Committee**

The STF Advisory Committee is established in the interest of transit system users in Morrow County.

Its purpose is to advise the Morrow County Commissioners/The Loop on matters that pertain to the Special Transportation Fund and all matters regarding the transportation needs of those utilizing the transit system.

The Advisory Committee will make recommendations that encourage and promote the accomplishments of those needs that directly affect the welfare of those who desire and/or require such services.

*If you are interested in serving in this committee, please contact:*  
**Katie Imes at The Loop: 541.676.5667 or kimes@co.morrow.or.us**

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