

~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. 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. Email to editor@rapidsolve.net or upload to Heppner.net.

## States now have rights to decide

To the Editor:  
It's easy to think that overturning the Roe vs. Wade decision means that abortions have been banned in the us. But that's not true. Roe vs. Wade was a bad law that claimed to be based on the constitution when it wasn't. Overturning it simply means that this is beyond the authority of the federal government, and that the states have a right to decide whether abortions can be performed and under what circumstances. It returns the power back closer to the people. Some states will restrict abortions in their states, a few forbidding them all together, though not many, and some states will keep or even loosen their laws. And those states, or any individuals, could raise funds to enable women who can't afford to travel from restricted states to come to theirs for an abortion. I always thought there were two sides to this issue, pro-life and pro-choice. I thought people

who called pro-choice people pro-abortion a bit extreme. But I think it's pretty obvious now that some pro-choice people ARE pro-abortion. If you vandalize buildings where women are supported in carrying their babies to term and caring for them afterwards, you aren't supporting their right to choose, you're trying to convince them they have no viable choice except abortion. If you object to "informed consent" requiring mothers to be shown pictures of prenatal development or listening to the baby's heartbeat or seeing the baby on an ultrasound, you're not pro-choice, you're pro-abortion. I remember my dad saying something like "You have a right to swing your arms around, but that right ends where the other guy's nose begins." Well, women have a right to control their own bodies, but that right ends when it means killing another body.  
Sandra Johnson  
Heppner

## Green dedicated to high ideals, integrity


Dear Morrow County Commissioners,  
As a previous Finance Director and fourth-generation family member of Morrow County, I request that you accept my letter of concern for today's special meeting to consider the dismissal or discipline of the Morrow County Administrator, Mr. Darrell Green. For more than four years, I worked closely with Darrell Green. I respect his dedication to the highest ideals of honor and integrity in all public and personal relationships that merit the respect and confidence of elected officials, employees, and the Morrow County citizens. As a leader, Darrell is a prob-

lem solver that navigated Morrow County through the Coronavirus Pandemic and the construction of the new administration building in Irrigon. During these unprecedented times, he demonstrates a commitment to diversity in both hiring and service delivery decisions, loyalty to those in Morrow County, and dedication to the highest ethical standards. I encourage the Morrow County Board of Commissioners to be objective when considering all of the facts regarding Mr. Darrell Green's review and consider the consequences for Morrow County employees and citizens. Sincerely,  
Kate Knop  
Madras, OR

## Commissioners act as star chamber

We don't write many letters to the editor, but after attending the disciplinary hearing for Morrow County Manager Darrell Green, we felt compelled to write. The conclusions from the hearing are as follows:  
1. Morrow County government is not open or transparent. Two commissioners act as a star chamber making decisions, in secret, to the exclusion of the third county commissioner and the public.  
2. Darrell Green is an exemplary county employee who, until he was informed he was fired, has

no record of any discipline as an employee.  
3. The two commissioners who made the decision to terminate Mr. Green, did not inform Mr. Green about their concerns with his performance until they terminated him.  
4. The two commissioners that decided to terminate Mr. Green did not and do not want any public input about their decision.  
Is this the type of local government we want for Morrow County?  
William J. Kuhn  
Annetta L. Spicer  
Heppner



**Effective June 30, 2022, the Fire Chief of the City of Heppner is imposing a BURN BAN.**  
**This also includes Burn Barrels.**  
Residents can request Natural Vegetation and Debris Piles be burned by the Fire Department during this period.  
Sign up list for Fire Department burning assistance is at Heppner City Hall or call Fire Chief Steve Rhea @ 541-980-4232 or Assistant Fire Chief Eric Chick @ 541-701-4910

## New personnel join Boardman Fire Rescue

Boardman Firefighter Zulema Gaytan has received her Advanced Emergency Medical Technician designation, Fire Chief Michael Hughes recently announced. Receiving the certification Gaytan becomes Boardman Fire's first full-time female firefighter to hold the advanced designation. Gaytan also recently informed the fire district she has been accepted to paramedic school at Oregon



Zulema Gaytan receives advanced designation



Del Turner, right, and Mark Keith have joined Boardman fire Rescue

Health & Science University. "Obviously, we are proud of her and support her new adventure," says Hughes.  
Additionally, long time Boardman resident and Paramedic, Del Turner recently joined Boardman Fire Rescue District as a full-time paramedic. And Mark Keith another experienced paramedic has also joined the Fire District. "The paramedics will be assigned to 24-hour shifts. In addition to responding to calls for medical emergen-

cies, the Paramedics will be charged with providing medical training to our firefighters, our industry partners and schools. The paramedics will also participate in public education and safety," Hughes said in making the announcement. "Having these valuable highly trained and skilled employees will enhance the Fire District's Emergency Medical Service to Boardman and the surrounding area," Hughes added.

## Ewing earns doctorate

Ben Ewing, a 1996 Heppner graduate, recently earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Science Education from Oregon State University. He completed his dissertation, "Exploring Oregon Teacher Retention: Patterns and Reasons For Teachers' Persistence" while mentoring teachers in the Lincoln County School District.



Ben Ewing

His partner, Cinamon Moffett, is on the faculty at Oregon State University and works at the Hatfield Marine Science Center as the Research Program Manager. They spend

their free time hiking and traveling and are now on a celebratory vacation in Canada.

## County hires new finance manager

Morrow County has a new finance manager. Kevin Ince came here from Lamb Weston in Boardman where he has worked in finance for the past five years. Prior to that Ince worked at Umatilla Electric Co-op for seven years.



Kevin Ince

Ince and his wife Melissa have four children and live in Hermiston. Ince has a master's degree in business administration from Washington State University and also attended Western Washington University where he studied sociology. He was

hired by the county commissioners at their June 22 meeting.



SEEING POSSIBILITIES IN POTATOES

## Boardman East Hiring Event

Join us!  
July 13th 9am - 5pm  
\$1000 sign on bonus!  
Gilliam & Bisbee Building  
106 E May St. Heppner  
Bring your resume!  
Apply- [lambweston.com/careers](http://lambweston.com/careers)  
Lamb Weston is an equal opportunity employer

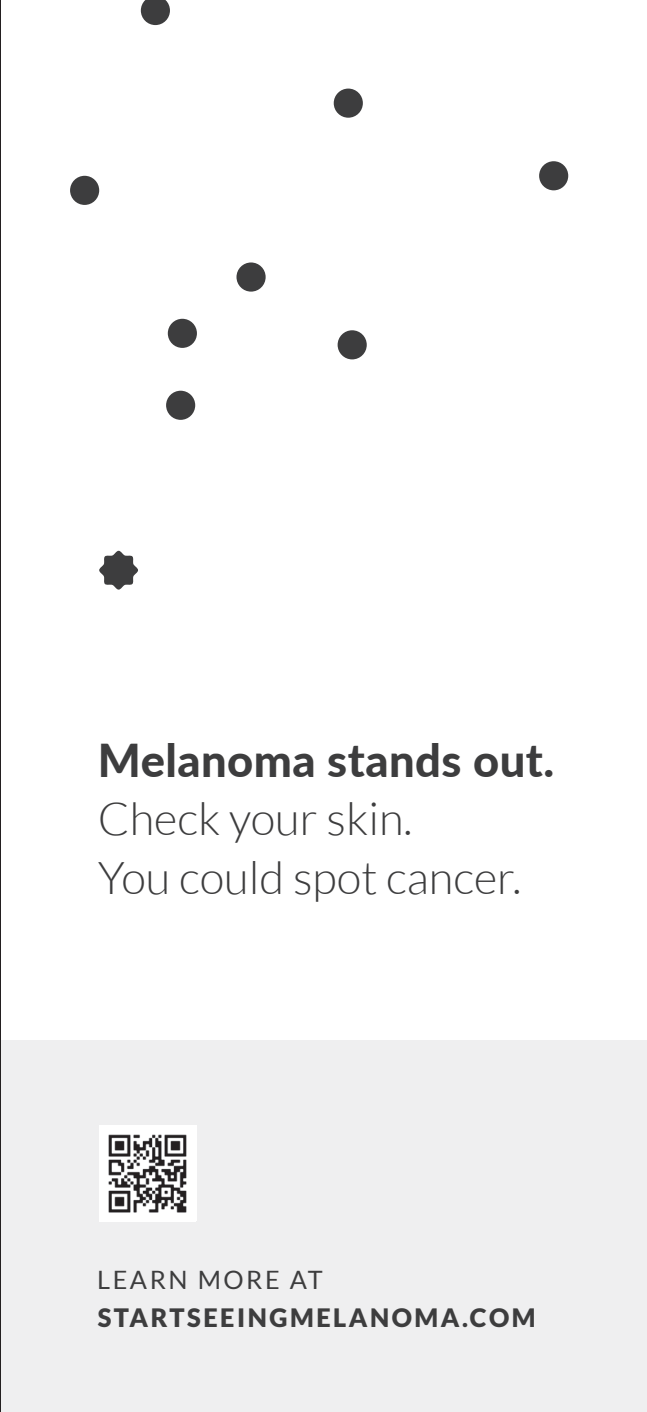
Ione Community Church  
Ione, Oregon




**Now! 10:00 am through Labor Day**  
*"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24"*



**Prepare for power outages today**  
WITH A HOME STANDBY GENERATOR  
\$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS  
Contact a Generac dealer for full terms and conditions.  
**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE**  
CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE  
(833) 665-1711  
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\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



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[STARTSEEINGMELANOMA.COM](http://STARTSEEINGMELANOMA.COM)

HEPPNER OUTREACH COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO

## HEPPNER'S FIRST FRIDAY

Celebrate our Community!

**FRIDAY JULY 01** MAIN STREET - HEPPNER, OR FROM 5-9PM

**ACTIVITIES**  
VENDORS, FOOD TRUCKS, BEER AND WINE TASTING, LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, FREE ICE CREAM, FREE FACE PAINTING AND BALLOON ANIMALS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO SIGN UP TO BE A VENDOR:  
[FACEBOOK/HEPPNEROUTREACHCOUNCIL](https://facebook.com/heppneroutreachcouncil)