

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

SEARCH OLD COPIES OF THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES ON-LINE:
<http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/>

Published weekly by Sykes Publishing and entered as periodical matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Periodical postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 188 W. Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: editor@rapidsolve.net or david@rapidsolve.net. Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$31 in Morrow County; \$25 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 65 years or older); \$37 elsewhere; \$31 student subscriptions.

Chris Sykes Publisher
Andrea Di Salvo Editor
Kirsten Espinola Advertising

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.

Wolf deterrent grants available

Grant funds are available to livestock producers who implemented non-lethal wolf deterrent methods in 2022. The Morrow County Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee applies for funds each year from the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

The deadline to submit applications is Thursday, Dec. 22. The committee will meet Tuesday, Jan. 10, to review the applications.

Examples of non-lethal wolf deterrent methods include reducing attractants such as bone piles; adding fencing or fladry (a string of brightly colored flags around the pasture perimeter); increased human presence; guardian animals; alarm or scare devices; livestock management/husbandry changes; and experimental practices.

Applications can be found on the Morrow County website, www.co.morrow.or.us/bc-wdac. They can also be obtained via email by contacting Roberta Lutcher at rlutcher@co.morrow.or.us or 541-676-5613. Completed applications should be submitted to Lutcher's email address or dropped off at the Bartholomew Building, Rm. 201, 110 N. Court St., Heppner.

Direct any questions to committee chair Dean Robinson at 541-980-2350.

Town of Lexington receives grant funding for May Day celebration



Lexington Town Recorder Veronica Hess with the "Meeting Owl" purchased with some of the funds from an Amazon technology grant. The county board of commissioners and other Morrow County cities use the same technology to make public meetings accessible online. -Photo by Andrea Di Salvo

By Andrea Di Salvo

The Lexington Town Council discussed the future of the town's May Day celebration at its public meeting Tuesday, Nov. 8, at Lexington Town Hall.

Council member Katie Imes started the discussion with a report that the Morrow County Cultural Coalition had met this month and approved all grant applications, including a grant for \$2,000 for Lexington's May Day celebration, so the town should be receiving notification of that. Imes mentioned that a budget would need to be formalized and asked if Lexington Mayor Juli Kennedy had thought about putting together a committee for that.

"I would love to have

a committee, but committee always comes down to about two people," Kennedy replied, adding that it would be good if they could get commitments from people to stick with it.

Town recorder Veronica Hess said she thought if they put it out in the community they could generate some interest. She also said she thought it would help to have the town recorder involved throughout the process since it is a town event.

Kennedy said she didn't argue that point but reminded the council that it hadn't started as a town event.

"A few of us in the community started it because we were in the COVID lock-

down, St. Patrick's didn't do their deal, and we were like, 'You know, we need to do something.'" She added that the organization and funding had come down to a few community members, including herself, and some donations. "That's not the goal for it moving forward, but that kicked us off."

"I'm all for having a budget, and this is what we need, and making it more formalized so that it can be sustainable, so that we can grow it as a community benefit. I just need buy-in and commitment from people within the town," she said.

Hess asked if it was something she, as town recorder, could dedicate time to while on "company time." Council members Will Lemmon and Bobbi Gordon agreed that if it was a town even with town grant money involved, that seemed appropriate. Kennedy reinforced that oversight from the recorder was appropriate but that she didn't want a town employee trying to take it all on herself.

"I would hate to see it not happen because of lack of community engagement or people just being burned out, so let's make it an official annual event," said Hess.

Gordon said she understood how it started, but that it should have been a town event last year, paid for with town funds, with an accounting of that, not

-Continued to PAGE EIGHT

Is Heppner a Tree City USA?

By Doris Brosnan

Would Heppner citizens be interested in becoming a "Tree City USA"? A look around the community would suggest that it could qualify.

According to the Tree City website, 57 percent of Oregonians live in "Tree Cities." Echo was named a Tree City USA in 1986 and apparently continues to hold that designation. Tree City USA is an elite designation for communities that meet minimum standards set by the Arbor Day Foundation for community forestry programs. Texas A&M Forest Service foresters help leaders qualify for, apply and maintain the distinction. Currently, there are more than 3,200 Tree City USA communities in the United States.

"There are no better ways to show your civic pride than by taking care of community trees," said John Rosenow, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Today, more than 120 million Americans make their home in Tree City USA communities, and they benefit from the cleaner air, shadier streets, and aesthetic beauty that healthy, well-managed urban forests provide."

To become a Tree City USA, a community must have a tree board or department, a tree care ordinance,

a community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observation and proclamation.

Keep in mind that the standards were designed so that no community would be excluded because of its size. So, every community, regardless of how many people live there, benefits in different ways from being a Tree City USA community.

Meeting the four standards for becoming a Tree City USA provides initial direction for an urban or community forestry program. These standards, the first step in the process of becoming a Tree City USA, help a community get started toward annual, systematic management of its tree resources.

As community leaders begin the process of meeting the four standards, they start to make contact with their state foresters staff. This leads to assistance from a variety of professionals in the form of technical advice, literature and films about tree-related topics.

Another important benefit that the Tree City USA program adds to communities is a boost in public perception. Being a Tree City USA helps present the kind of image that most citizens want to have for the place they live or work.

Heppner players selected all-league

Several Heppner football players have been selected for the Blue Mountain Conference All-League selections for 2022.

Chosen for first team were junior Landon Mitchell, defensive back; junior Cameron Proudfoot, defensive back; senior Ty Boor, linebacker; junior Cade Cunningham, defensive lineman; and junior Landon Mitchell, quarterback.

Selected to second team were junior Caden George, linebacker and running back; senior Tucker Ashbeck, defensive lineman and receiver; and senior Jacob Lentz, offensive lineman.

Receiving honorable mentions were senior David Cribbs, defensive back and receiver; sophomore Jaime Cavan, linebacker and offensive line; senior Jacob Lentz, defensive lineman; junior Cade Cunningham, offensive lineman; senior Ty Boor, running back; and junior Cameron Proudfoot, running back.

Several Irrigon players

were also selected for all-league honors. Chosen for first team were sophomore Kobe Campos, defensive back; senior Sean Moore, defensive lineman; and sophomore Lee Harrison, running back.

On second team was sophomore Mason Harrison, linebacker.

Receiving honorable mention was sophomore Lee Harrison, linebacker.

September 21st

-Morrow County Sheriff's Office received an abandoned 911 call in Boardman. On call back, it was determined that there was no emergency.

-Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report from a subject on Wagon Wheel Loop in Irrigon. She reported that her brother has dementia and threatened to shoot her a couple nights ago. She requested assistance removing ammunition and firearms from the household.

-MCSO received report of an open line 911 call from subjects plotting in a field. It turned out to be in Klickitat County.

-MCSO received report of a subject trespassing on the caller's farm. MCSO was advised that the male had been evicted from the residence and was back there.

-MCSO received report of vandalism and theft on Pole Line Rd. in Boardman. The subjects cut wires and stole a disconnect switch on a piler. The caller said it would have happened within the past four days before Sunday when it was noticed.

-MCSO initiated activity at Irrigon Elementary School, S.E. Wyoming

Ave., Irrigon. It was reported that students from Irrigon Jr./Sr. High School caused issues with staff at the elementary school before a volleyball game.

The school resource officer was contacted and would be meeting with the parents of the four students.

-MCSO received an abandoned 911 call from someone on Gar Swanson Rd. in Boardman with machinery heard in the background.

-MCSO received report from a subject in Heppner who complained that the city marked his property again. He also reported that a male was thinking of killing himself, but people were telling him not to. Community Counseling was notified.

-MCSO received a request for deputy contact from an Irrigon resident who said his neighbor's dog came on his property and attached his dog. The neighbor's dog was no longer on the scene.

-MCSO Officer completed area checks at Threemile Campground in Board-

man, Willow Creek Reservoir in Heppner and civil service at the Morrow County Government Center in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of harassment and threats made at a rental property in Heppner.

-MCSO received report of a dark grey Jeep speeding from 10th St. in Irrigon and running the stop sign.

-MCSO received report of a red Dodge pickup pulling a Joyce camper trailer, swerving all over the road. MCSO was out of position and the report was referred to Oregon State Police.

-MCSO received report of a male that went into the Ione Market and got into a verbal altercation. The caller said the male pulled a knife out when the caller told him to leave. The male, with a plaid shirt, grey hair in a pony tail and missing teeth, was reported to be walking, possibly toward the trailer park. MCSO responded, but was unable to locate the subject.

-MCSO received a report

of a subject on the caller's property trying to cut down some tumbleweeds. The caller said she works graveyard and was trying to sleep.

-MCSO received report of a white Lexus with previous damage to the exterior with a flat tire on I-84 East, Boardman. MCSO and OSP advised.

-MCSO received report of a driving complaint with a smaller silver sedan with no taillights. Boardman Police Department checked the area, but was unable to locate the vehicle.

-MCSO received request for extra patrol for people breaking into a shop and yard on Depot Lane in Irrigon and taking items.

-MCSO Office initiated activity at S.E. Fourth St./Hwy. 730, Irrigon, the Umatilla Fish Hatchery, Irrigon, Love's Travel Stop, Boardman, and Homestead Lane/Pole Line Rd. in Hermiston.

-Boardman Fire Department

...continued to PAGE FIVE

Sheriff's Report

Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative Utility Pole Testing Underway

Columbia Basin Electric Co-op will be starting their annual utility pole checking and treatment work for 2022 beginning the week of November 7th. CBEC will be checking poles out of the Ruggs substation areas. This will include: Rhea Creek, Ione Gooseberry, Hardman, Toll Rock, Tupper and surrounding areas. National Wood Treating Company has been contracted to perform this work for CBEC. The pole checking will be conducted with a pick-up and ATV and all NWT vehicles will be marked with CBEC signage. The annual pole checking process is necessary to stay in compliance with Oregon Public Utility Commission and National Electric Safety Code regulations. CBEC thanks you in advance for your cooperation.

HOLLY REBEKAH LODGE

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

135 E MAIN STREET
LEXINGTON, OR

December 3rd
From 10am to 3pm

at the Rebekah Lodge

COME GET YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING DONE LOCAL. WE WILL HAVE VENDORS OF ALL KINDS AND THE REBEKAH LODGE WILL BE SERVING CINNAMON ROLLS, COOKIES, AND A VARIETY OF YUMMY SOUPS!

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK
HOLLY REBEKAH LODGE