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Heppner

GAZETTE-TIMES

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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 \$5.50 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$15 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$6.00 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

Janet Gail Hughes

Janet Gail Hughes, 88, formerly of Heppner, died Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at her home in Walla Walla, WA. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery in Heppner. A reception will follow at the Gilliam and Bisbee Building in Heppner.

She was born December 14, 1934, at San Luis Obispo, CA, the daughter of Edwin H. Coe and Bernice W. (Arnold) Coe. Gail was raised and attended school at Milton-Freewater, OR, where she was valedictorian for the graduating class of 1953 at McLoughlin Union High School. Later in life Gail went back to school at Blue Mountain Community College, receiving an Associate of Arts Degree in 1992.

On June 7, 1953, she married Allen Hughes at St. James Episcopal Church in Milton-Freewater. The couple raised three daughters in the Heppner area, Patricia, Carolyn and Jennifer. After her husband's death, Gail moved to Heppner, where she lived until moving to Walla Walla in 2018. Gail was employed at First National Bank, which became First Interstate Bank and later became Wells Fargo Bank, where she was a personal banker until her retirement.

She was a member of the All-Saints Episcopal Church, where she was the organist for many years. Gail had a beautiful flower garden, which was one of the many hobbies she enjoyed along with sewing, bridge and playing

the organ. She also was on the Willow Creek Valley Assisted Living Facility planning committee.

Survivors include daughters Patricia Hughes, Carolyn Knox (Loren) and Jennifer Jaca (David); four grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a brother, Edwin Arnold Coe. Gail was predeceased by her parents, her husband, Allen Hughes; and a sister, Lorna Roebke.

Memorial contributions may be made to Cove Ascension School Camp and Conference Center, 1104 Church St., Cove, OR 97824 or to Frazier Farmstead Museum, 1403 Chestnut St, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862 or the charity of your choice. Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements. You may sign the online condolence book at www.sweeneymortuary.com.

Death Notices

Timothy E. "Tim" Reese—Timothy E. "Tim" Reese of Heppner died on April 17, 2023, in Spokane, WA at the age of 71. He was born on January 15, 1952, in Minneapolis, MN. Arrangements are pending.

Please share memories of Tim with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

William "Thad" Killingbeck—William "Thad" Killingbeck of Hermiston died on April 28, 2023, in Richland, WA at the age of 69. He was born on April 2, 1954, in La Grande, OR. A celebration of life service will be held on Saturday, May 13, at 2 p.m. at New Hope Church, 1350 S. Hwy 395, Hermiston.

Please share memories of Thad with his family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

Marriages

The Morrow County Clerk reports issuing the following marriage licenses for the month of April:

April 5, 2023—Richard James Occhiuto, 30, and Marissa Therese James, 35.

April 7, 2023—Jackson Riley Richards, 20, and Jael Aguilar, 20.

April 21, 2023—Neftali Abdiel Ochoa Avalos, 29, and Grecia April Chairez Lepe, 29.

April 24, 2023—Maribel Alejandra Sanchez, 33, and Antonio Garcia Garcia, 32.

Housing authority to meet May 9

The next meeting of the Heppner Housing Authority for the Heppner Senior Center will be Tuesday, May 9, at 4 p.m. in the St. Patrick's Senior Center

dining room. For more information, please contact Kay Rene Qualls at 541-980-2836.

Competitions, contests make math fun

Heppner students place in math games



Students participate in math contests and games during the Regional High School Mathematics Contest in La Grande April 18. -Contributed photos

Heppner High School students were among 150 young people from nine different schools who attended a math contest hosted by Eastern Oregon University on Tuesday, April 18. This was the 35th year for the Regional High School Mathematics Contest on the La Grande campus.

Students at the event participate in state qualifying tests before taking part in math contests that include a Math Bee, and a Solve That Problem event, based on the old "Name That Tune" game show, which scores teams on the speed with which they can solve complex mathematical problems.

Students also participated in a Math "Relay Race" that combined physical fitness and problem-solving skills.

Several Heppner students brought home honors in the small schools team contests. Elizabeth Finch took third in Solve that Problem Geometry. Madison Palmer tied for second in Solve that Problem Open. The Heppner team took first in the small schools math relay race.

"Any opportunity to get together and have fun with mathematics is ideal,"

EOU Associate Professor of Mathematics Steve Tanner said. "Our main purpose is to identify top-performing students and invite them to the state competition."

Regional high schools that participated include Heppner High School, Burnt River High School, Enterprise High School, La Grande High School, Imbler High School, Ontario High School, Union High School, Cove High School and Union County Home School.

Imbler High School walked away with top honors in the small school category, and the Enterprise High School team took top honors for the large school category.

Scholarship winners included Tyler Leathers, Union High School, Enjie Fan, La Grande High School, Olivia Thornburg, Union County Homeschoolers, Rowan Hassinger, Cove High School, Azat Kossanov, Burnt River High School, and Weston Durfee, La Grande High School. Each scholarship winner was presented with a \$1,000 EOU scholarship award for excellence during the Eastern Oregon University Regional Mathematics Competition.

BMCC to hold community listening sessions

Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC) has announced it will host a listening session in Boardman May 9 as part of a series of community and public listening sessions. The meeting will take place from 5:30-7 p.m. in the Riverside High School auditorium.

The listening sessions are part of the process in BMCC's new strategic plan.

"Input is vital," said BMCC President Dr. Mark Browning. "BMCC is poised to move into the future with new efforts to align programs, outcomes and services to further enrich the lives of our students and the communities we serve."

"Sitting down and hearing what are the needs and wants of our community partners is the first step in our work to formulate the plan that will guide Blue Mountain forward," added Browning.

The BMCC strategic plan will guide not only the overall direction of the college but serve as a catalyst for other campus planning and operational efforts such as strategic enrollment, facility usage and operational optimization.

Input from the listening sessions will impact the development of the 2025-2028 strategic plan. BMCC's current 2021-2024 strategic plan can be viewed

DEADLINE: MONDAYS AT 5PM

Spiritually Speaking

Father Thankachan Joseph St. Patrick Catholic Church Heppner



Are you fear-full or faith-full?

As we read last week, Peter, immediately after the Pentecost, added to the number of disciples three thousand on the very first day. The first reading for this week is again from Acts (6:1-7), the concern of the 12 apostles about the fast-growing early community of believers. As good shepherds, they accepted the seven reputed men, who were selected by the community and were filled with the zeal of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, to lead and guide the fast-growing believers' community in the path of Christ. The apostles laid hands and prayed over the seven. The word of God continued to spread and the number of the disciples increased in Jerusalem significantly.

The Gospel reading of this fifth Sunday of Easter is from John (14:1-12) and begins with these words: "Do not let your hearts be troubled." These are the words of Lord Jesus Christ addressing His disciples, not the crowd. A careful study of the Gospels shows that there are times Jesus speaks to the crowd, and at other times He would talk to His disciples as a group or to specific individuals among them. (For example: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human...." to Peter [Mt. 16:23].)

One of the pieces of advice nowadays that young people receive from their parents, teachers and other people who play caring roles in their lives is to "stay out of trouble," which are actually similar to words Jesus addressed to His apostles: "Do not let your hearts be troubled." It could be possible to stay out of trouble in the sense of not deliberately looking for it, but what about the times when troubles come to you even when you do not want them? What about when you are minding your own business and something or someone shows up with cans of troubles? Can we avoid being troubled?

This week's reflections are taken from the priestly prayer of Jesus. Christ was giving part of His final instructions to His committed followers who could relate to His words and actions. Note that He was not telling them to stay out of trouble but not to be troubled. In a later instruction from the same Gospel of John (16:33), Jesus says, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Are you troubled? If your answer is "yes," then I would ask, how is that helping you? Being troubled would mean that you are becoming disheartened and dismayed. It could also mean that your trust or dependency in the Divine is deteriorating. Faith comes in such situations as the Lord has instructed as in the Gospel passage. There are many definitions of faith, but the one that excites me the most about faith comes from the letter to the Hebrews: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible" (11:1-3). The above understanding of faith helps us to know that it does not ask the famous traditional questions of what, why, where, when and how. Faith could be understood from the scriptural perspective: In fact, faith made Abraham the father of faith (Gen. 12:1ff), to leave his hometown without clarity about the destination. Faith made Daniel accept being cast into the lion's den rather than deny God (Daniel 6). Faith made Job declare, "I know that my redeemer lives and that in the end, he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh, I will see God" (Job 19:25-26). Faith made the woman with the hemorrhages of 12 years touch the garment of Jesus (Luke 8: 41ff). What is your own story of faith in moments of your troubles; are you fear-full or faith-full?

May God grant you the grace to look beyond the troubles of the time because they have expiration dates. Instead, may we focus on the enduring peace that reigns in the eternal home that our Lord Jesus Christ has prepared for us, and may we continue to strive to secure our dwelling places in the Father's house.

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Responsible Economic Growth
County-wide Representation