

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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Chris Sykes ..... Publisher  
Annalynn Black ..... Editor  
Cindi Doherty..... Advertising

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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 \$15

**Good News Only** by Doris Brosnan

Cherry Clark has a great interest in relics from the past, as evidenced by her work at the local museum and her antiques business, and she has been absorbed lately in researching Sears houses. Yes, from 1908 through 1939, a complete pre-cut house could be ordered through the Sears catalog, to be constructed on one's location. So far, Cherry has identified at least four Sears houses in Heppner, and she suspects more are still being lived in Heppner, - maybe Lexington and Ione? If your house was built within these years, she would like to hear from you, as she works on an article for the Morrow County Chronicles. You are encouraged to leave a message at 541-667-7439. A fun connection with the past!

Sharon Lewis believes that some Heppner residents will remember the family of Elmer and Jeanne Berry, whose children surprised her with a visit last Wednesday. Three of the Berrys' children, now grownups, of course, Tana, Ron, and Greg, were friends of Kim and Kraig Cutsforth when they lived in Heppner and their parents had the Bucknum's Tavern. Another brother, Cecil, was not able to join them for this trip that brought them to Stanfield to visit the gravesite of their mother with a bouquet of flowers before they drove to Heppner, the community they all still consider "home."

David and April Sykes traveled to Seaside for several days this past weekend route, they picked up their 5 year old grandson Oscar in Milwaukie. They rented a room on the beach one block from the turnaround, so were able to walk to all the fun things downtown, like the arcade, tilt-a-whirl, bumper cars, and merry-go-round, and, of course, they spent time at the beach, where Oscar liked playing in the sand. The three had dinner a couple of nights at Mo's on the promenade, and also went to Pig 'n Pancake for breakfast. On Saturday, they drove up to Astoria and visited the Maritime Museum, which Oscar enjoyed very much, especially the tug-boat control room with all the levers. David and Oscar also went aboard and toured the museum ship, The Columbia, berthed at a pier behind the museum. The Lightship Columbia functioned as a floating lighthouse to mark the mouth of the Columbia River from 1951-1979. Since the lightship was essentially a small town anchored five miles out at sea, all supplies for the crew had to be on board. The ship was replaced in 1979 by a navigation buoy, which is also on display. Oscar and Grandma loved being together reading books, visiting, and drinking "steamers" in the morning. The trio came back on Sunday, and Oscar was dropped off at home. It was fun for all, and Oscar was glad to be back with Mom.

She did it again! Alison Ball was recognized as "Athlete of the Week" at Whitworth University last week, this time for her first place in the 100-yard dash and first place with a time of 24.94 in the 200-yard dash - a school record - at Pacific University last week. Fun for grandma "DiDi" Ball and parents Duane and Stephanie to watch. And typical of this dedicated athlete was her next performance: this last Saturday, though still not quite over a flu bug, Ali helped her relay team take first, and she took second in the 200 at Whitworth's home meet.

Residents of Ione have been without a local source of fuel for their vehicles for several years, but Morrow County Grain Growers has now changed that. Tanks have been installed and a MCGG card or any credit or debit card will now get the fuel - gas and/or diesel - flowing! (And residency in Ione is not required!)

Morrow County's "Littlest Cowpokes" event at the fairgrounds on Sunday was entertaining and an opportunity to introduce little, future cowboys and cowgirls to the business of showing livestock, by starting them with bovines their size, calves. Fun for participants in the three age groups will surely lead to their impressing the fair judges in future showings!

Last Thursday, the initial YOLO (You Only Live Once) offerings attracted senior citizens to the senior center for a day devoted to their interests. The "Seniors Matter" organization will continue to add and adjust activities to the requests of the participants. Even the chair exercises were fun, the music great, and the coffee and donuts were a hit! All Seniors are invited to come!

A pause for reading some positive tidbits might leave the GT readers feeling a bit more positive, so we can contribute to their good mental health by sharing! Just a few minutes can get your tidbit included: Send to [dbrosnan123@gmail.com](mailto:dbrosnan123@gmail.com) or call 541-223-1490.

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

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**Obituaries**

**Tyrel Shae Walker**



Tyrel "Ty" "Toub" Shae Walker, 28, entered into paradise with his "Key to the Kingdom" on March 20, 2024, while he was working in Riggins, Idaho.

There will be a celebration of "living his dash" from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 20, 2024, with dinner to follow at the Gilliam Bisbee Building in Heppner, Oregon.

Tyrel was born on August 7, 1995, in Pendleton, Oregon to Tina Michelle Davidson and Steven Troy Walker. This day is when he started living his dash.

Tyrel attended school in Heppner until his sophomore year. He then moved to Riggins, Idaho where he graduated from Salmon River High School. He played football and basketball while attending Salmon River and they won State championships in 2012 - 2013 and 2013-2014. Tyrel's love for fishing and sports started out at a young age. He won many casting contests, fishing poles, tackle boxes, lures and caught many fish.

After graduating from high school Tyrel moved back to Heppner, during this time he met Melissa Martin and started working for Martin's Construction.

They had two beautiful children, Meadow Marie, and Willow Shaelyn.

After his dad's passing, his love for Idaho drew him back to the area. Tyrel started his own business TSW. He did beautiful work, flooring, carpet, and tile work, it had to be perfect for his customers. Using his mathematical mind, he designed geometric shelves for his customers.

While living in Idaho, one of the most peaceful places for Tyrel were the mountains. He would sit for hours writing his thoughts, beautiful letters, and poems. Selling firewood for the residents of McCall was also a passion, because he was in the Idaho mountains. Tyrel also welcomed a son, Tyrel Shae Walker Jr. on February 16, 2024, in Idaho.

Tyrel was preceded in death by his father Steven Troy Walker and great grandpa R G Watkins. Survivors include his mother Tina Davidson, children, Meadow Marie 5 years, Willow Shaelyn 2 years and Tyrel Shae Walker Jr. 2 months, a brother Steven Walker, grandmother Chris Lewis and great grandmother Florence Watkins, and several stepbrothers and sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to Sundown M Ranch, 2280 State Route 821, Yakima WA, 98901 (drug and alcohol treatment center) or to Community Counseling Solutions, PO Box 469, Heppner, OR 97836. Sweeney Mortuary is in care of arrangements.

**New court security sworn in**



Sheriff Bowles with Deputy Tom Roberts. - Photo from the MCS D Facebook page



Sheriff Bowles with Deputy Mason Murphy. -Photo from the MCS D Facebook



Deputy Wade Duvall Jr. with his family. -Photo from the MCS D Facebook.



-Contributed Image

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office recently added three new deputies for court security. Patrol Deputy Mason Murphy, Special Deputy Tom Rob-

erts, and Patrol Deputy Wade Duvall Jr. were officially sworn in by Sheriff Bowles for their new roles.

**Funeral Notice**

**Ellis D. McRoberts**

A Graveside Memorial Service will be held for Ellis D. McRoberts at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery, Heppner, Oregon on Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 12pm.

A Celebration of Life will be held 1 p.m. at the Heppner Elks Lodge. Mr. McRoberts died in

Heppner, Oregon January 28, 2024 at the age of 89. Memorial contributions may be made to Heppner Booster Club, PO Box 917 Heppner, OR 97836 or to Elks Lodge P.P.O.E #358 PO Box 494, Heppner, OR 97836. Sweeney Mortuary is in care of arrangements.

**Stephanie L. Howard**

Stephanie L. Howard, 35, of Heppner, died Friday, April 5, 2024, at her home. She was born July 28, 1988, in Redmond, Oregon. An

obituary to follow in next week's Gazette-Times. Arrangements are pending at Sweeney Mortuary.

**WREFE seeks approval from EFSC**

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patterns to place turbines advantageously.

Topography: Considers land's physical layout, which can influence wind speed and flow, aiming to position turbines in locations where they can best harness wind energy.

Environmental Considerations: Involves assessing potential impacts on wildlife and natural habitats, striving to mitigate adverse effects.

Shadow Flicker and

Noise: Addresses the impact of shadow flicker and noise generated by turbines on nearby residences, aiming to minimize these nuisances.

Infrastructure and Accessibility: Assesses construction and maintenance access, road proximity, and grid connectivity.

Legal and Social Constraints: Adheres to legal requirements and evaluates potential community concerns related to visual impacts and zoning laws.

**HHS updates gym floor**

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the gym floors began at the start of this school year. Understanding the urgency of the situation, the school administration made the decision to proceed with the project and take a proactive approach. Consequently, April was selected as the start date for the much-anticipated renovations.

One may wonder why it was important for the school to commence the renovations now, rather than waiting until summer when most other school improvement projects take place. Principal Gerry enlightens us by disclosing a pleasing fact - the school managed to secure a discount on the remodel by starting the project prior to the summer period. This cost-saving opportunity, combined with the school's eagerness to provide students with improved facilities, was the driving force behind the decision to begin the renovations earlier than anticipated.

The administration and staff at Heppner High School are fully aware of how essential a functional and safe gym floor is for not only their athletic pro-

grams but also for various other school events. The renovation will not only enhance the appearance of the gym but also ensure the students' well-being. The expected completion date for this extensive project is set for August, just in time for the new school year.

**Announcement**

Dr. Schaffer has accepted a new position on the coast closer to family. He and his wife have been a great addition to our community and will be missed. His last day at PMC will be Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*"This decision comes as a mixed blessing for my family. My wife and I have felt welcomed freely into this community, and I have made strong connections with my patients. I have thoroughly enjoyed working for the District and will miss Morrow County, however, we are excited to be closer to our family."*

MCHD extends our warmest wishes to Dr. Schaffer as he embarks on his next adventure!



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Rodney Schaffer, MD