

The Official Newspaper
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
U.S.P.S. 240-420

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Chris Sykes Publisher
Annalynn Black Editor
Cindi Doherty..... 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 \$5.50 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 \$15

Births

Send birth announcements to editor@rapidsolve.net or upload to Heppner.net.

Delilah Grace Lynn Hendricks



-Photo from Nicole Kempken

Delilah Grace Lynn Hendricks of Heppner. She was born April 4th, 2024 at 7:35 am to Nicole Kempken and Johnathan Hendricks of Heppner. She was 6 lbs. 7oz. and 19.5 inches long.

Funeral Notice

Gary Ann (Gross) Edwards

Gary Ann (Gross) Edwards, longtime Condon resident of Hermiston, Oregon, was born on June 26, 1935, in Condon, Oregon. She died on April 3, 2024, in Hermiston, Oregon at the age of 88 years.

A graveside service will be held on Friday, April 26, 2024, at 11:00 A.M. at the Condon Cemetery, Condon, Oregon.

A celebration of life service will follow at 12:00 Noon at the Condon Elks Lodge #1869, 117 S. Main St., Condon, Oregon.

Please share memories of Gary Ann with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon is in care of arrangements.

Hoffman sworn in



Sheriff Bowles and Deputy Brandy Hoffmann - Contributed Photo

Brandy Hoffman was sworn in by Sheriff's John Bowles to be a part of the

Probation Division as Special Deputy/ Work Crew Lead.

Irrigon and Umatilla fish hatcheries temporarily closed

IRRIGON, Ore. – The Irrigon and Umatilla fish hatcheries have been temporarily closed to public access while maintenance crews work on updates to the facilities. Depending on how work progresses, the hatcheries may re-open to the public near the end of June.

Irrigon hatchery staff and contractors have started a large pond valve replacement project which will involve heavy equipment operations on site and will create hazards to visitors.

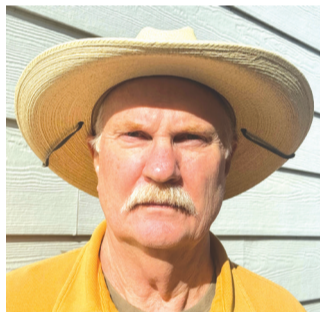
Both hatcheries are operated by ODFW. Umatilla Hatchery is co-managed with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Irrigon Hatchery is co-managed with the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan, which is administered through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Maintenance projects were funded by the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan as a part of infrastructure upgrades throughout their facilities.

BEO Bancorp First Quarter Earnings

Heppner, Oregon, (April 10, 2024) BEO Bancorp (OTCBB: BEOB) and its subsidiary, Bank of Eastern Oregon, announced first quarter 2024 consolidated net income of \$3,527,000 or \$2.87 per share, compared to \$3,313,000 or \$2.75 per share for first quarter 2023. Total assets were \$850.1 million, down 0.3% year over year. Net loans of \$531.8 million were up 10.9% from the same period in 2023, while deposits were at \$762.9 million, down 1.9% year over year.

BEO Bancorp is the holding company for the Bank of Eastern Oregon. It operates 21 branches and three loan production offices in 11 eastern Oregon four eastern Washington counties, and one western Idaho county. Branches are located in Arlington, Ione, Heppner, Condon, Irrigon, Boardman, Burns, John Day, Prairie City, Fossil, Moro, Enterprise, Athena, Hermiston, La Grande, OR Colfax, Dayton, LaCrosse, Pasco, Pomeroy, WA; and Caldwell, ID. Loan production offices are located in Ontario, Pendleton, and Madras, OR. Bank of Eastern Oregon also operates a mortgage division and operates the Washington locations under the name of Bank of Eastern Washington.

Drake running for Morrow County Commissioner



Rick Drake - Contributed Photo

Richard J. Drake, a native of Morrow County, is running for Morrow County Commissioner position #1. He graduated from Heppner High School in 1973 and earned degrees from Blue Mountain Community College, Central Washington University, and Eastern Oregon University. With 18 years of teaching experience in the Morrow County School District, he also has 20 years in the building trade, with 14 of those 20 as a general contractor for Morrow County.

Wranglers Riding Club April 21st

The Wranglers Riding Club will have our first Play-Day this Sunday, April 21st at Morrow County Fairgrounds. There will be a potluck lunch beginning at 11:30 am (please bring something to contribute), and events will begin at 12:30 with the stick-horse race for kids up to 7 years old. Followed by Barrels, Poles, & a different 3rd event each week. Our series runs for 4 weeks and will end on Sunday, May 12th. Anyone interested or with any questions can email wranglersridingclub@gmail.com.

DEADLINE:
MONDAYS
AT 5PM

Tyrel Shae Walker



Tyrel "Ty" "Tdub" 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, April 20th, 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 four State championships back to back 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.

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Obituaries

Stephanie Lee Howard



Stephanie Lee Howard, born on July 28, 1988, in Redmond, Oregon, passed away on April 5, 2024, in Heppner, Oregon, at the age of 35. Stephanie was a beloved mother to her two sons, Lee age 6, and Ethan age 4. She was a cherished daughter of Hank and Debbi Howard, Sid and July Kennedy, and a dear sister to Rachel Schonbachler. She was also survived by her great-grandma Charlen Howard. Stephanie's kind and vibrant personality touched the lives of all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her grandpa Cliff and grandma Charlotte McDonald, grandpa Jim Howard, and her Aunt Karen Gillett as well as several great aunts and uncles.

Despite facing the challenges of epilepsy, Stephanie pursued her dreams with determination and courage. She excelled academically at Heald College, where she studied Medical Billing and achieved remarkable success, making the Dean's List multiple times. Stephanie's resilience and positive spirit inspired those around her.

Stephanie had a true love for family. She cared deeply and loved unconditionally. Her greatest love on this earth was her two boys. They were her primary focus and it showed, not only in them but with everyone around her. She protected them, loved them, and shared her spirit of love and laughter with them.

She had a love for her Lord and Savior and drew close to Him in Prayer. She faced challenges with her health and other obstacles along her journey on this earth, but she rose above and did the best she could with what she had and with whatever came her way. She was patient about not being able to drive until she was seizure free for at least a year. She conquered that and got her driver's license and hit the ground "running".

We often laughed that we were going to have to replace the tires she was undoubtedly going to run the rubber off. She was able to take the boys on drives, shopping, to the park, school activities and more. The independence she wanted came and she embraced it with a thankful heart.

Stephanie loved animals and again had a huge heart for them. When she was young, it seemed every girl animal she had needed to be named Rose and boys got the name of Sam. From her cats, dogs, sheep, horses, and cows, she found joy in taking care of them, and was involved in 4-H as

well, which she loved until she had to sell them, being the soft-hearted person she was.

She found joy in camping, being in the mountains, and assisting on her father's ranch with branding and working cows. She also enjoyed hunting in her free time, riding four wheelers and side-by-sides. She loved going to Wallowa Lake and tubing behind the boat. She was a dedicated homemaker who found fulfillment in caring for her family.

A graveside service will be held at Powell Butte Cemetery, Powell Butte, Oregon, on Friday, April 19, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., followed by a service at Powell Butte Christian Church at 11:30 a.m., with lunch provided. A Celebration of Life will take place in Heppner, Oregon, on Saturday, May 18, 2024. Sweeney Mortuary in Heppner and Prineville Funeral home in Prineville will assist with the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to Stephanie's sons at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, PO Box 39, Heppner, OR 97836. Contributions in Stephanie's memory can also be made to Doernbecher Children's Hospital, 3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, OR 97201.

Stephanie will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing her. A huge hole is felt with her absence, but we know where she is, and we are comforted by the love that Christ has for her and those that remain. She is whole, without difficulties or health issues. May she rest in peace in the arms of her Lord, and we look forward to the day that we shall join her. God, grant us a spirit of gratitude for the life of our Stephanie and thankfulness to you for blessing our lives with her presence. She was truly a gift from you.

She is now rejoicing in Heaven with her Lord, healed completely from the things that she battled. May all that is left behind find peace and comfort.

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit" Psalm 34:18.

On the wall of her young boy's room, she placed:

The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. In His love and mercy, He redeemed them; He lifted them up and carried them. Let the beloved of the Lord rest secure in Him, for He shields him all day long. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm. He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart. God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. I am with you to rescue and save you, says the lord. Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are Mine

Murray's has something for the mothers in your life!

Happy Mothers Day

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May 12th

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