

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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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 177 N Main St. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: editor@rapidsolve.net or sykeschris@hotmail.com Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: In Morrow County \$35/year. Outside Morrow County \$40/year. In County Senior Rate (65 years or older) \$30/year. 9 month Student student subscriptions \$35/year.

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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

## A View from the Hill

The sunshine and toasty temperatures have returned (at least for now) and so have the Willow Creek Terrace residents enjoying the front patio for conversation and a view of the hills and reservoir.

The cement of the entry patio has been newly poured, thanks to the Silver Creek crew, who came after a broken water pipe beneath the cement had been located and repaired. This was a surprise noticed only when water flowed underneath the front door! Riley Wight was able to complete the repair on the second attempt after Bill Rosenbalm showed up with his equipment that could suck the water away from the damaged area in which Wight had to work. Applause!

The welcome mat was, so to speak, out to welcome Keith Lewis last Thursday, when he came from his Heppner home to check out life at the Terrace, but the residents and staff have been grieving the loss of two of their former neighbors, Randall Peterson and Ray Harper. Soon another gentleman is expected to move into an apartment, which will leave only one more available.

Mother's Day brought reminiscing about mothers and was celebrated with a luncheon that featured a special dessert. Family members were invited to the luncheon. Virginia Peck's special birthday luncheon will follow when she celebrates her 88<sup>th</sup> birthday with neighbors and family. And on Memorial Day, more reminiscing and a related activity offered by staff member Makayla will mark the day.

Throughout the month other events and activities are adding to the variety of living at the Terrace. Cinco de Mayo was studied a bit and topped with tacos for lunch. Even though the weather didn't cooperate, the May Day celebration in Lexington was visited by Ed Baker, who used to live there. Bingo continues to hold interest for several residents, and Rita Bowman, Rita Dezoete, Joyce Ward, and Dorothy Green seem to be sharing the "big winner" spot! A variety of games now offer some fun to participants at the table in the common area, and the puzzle table is now located in the sunroom, an ongoing challenge for "puzzlers." One of the favorite activities for several residents is the volleyball-type game that uses swimming-pool "noodles" for trying to keep a balloon in the air. Another challenge for takers is the occasional blind-taste tests that require tasting some items while blindfolded.

Visitors are always welcome at the Terrace, and several faces are increasingly familiar as family members come to visit their loved ones, as well as visit with other residents. Rita Bowman was recently pleased to have son Ronnie and his wife, Ginger, come for a visit from Independence. Joyce Ward's daughters often visit from Hermiston, weekly. And Bev Sherman, who seems to go, go, go, also had a great visit with granddaughter Mahaley and grandson Kyle Huddleston. Administrator Leann Lankford reports that many residents enjoy visits from family every month, oftentimes weekly.

The warm weather has benefitted the Terrace community already with rhubarb from Hal Bergstrom's garden. Jerry Green and Alex Camarillo have gotten tomato plants from John Edwards, ready to be transplanted in the raised beds in the small enclosure that protects the Terrace vegetables from the deer.

When the new roof project begins, sidewalk superintendents may have another something to view that will take them outside. When another new resident comes to live at the Terrace, everyone will view that as an opportunity for another friendship. When the positions for a cook, a groundskeeper, and caregivers are filled, everyone will view that as continued breaths of life for Willow Creek Terrace. (Information about these positions is available at the Terrace, on its website, and by calling 541-676-0004.)

## Commissioner recall effort

-Continued from PAGE ONE

primary or general election, he might still face recall during the last months of his current term but would be reinstated for a new term starting in January 2025. Recall efforts are limited to the current term, meaning a new recall attempt would have to wait six months and a day if Drago is re-elected.

According to the East Oregonian, Drago has stated he will not resign if the required number of signatures is verified, expressing concerns about the misuse of recalls and noting that the issues cited in the recall were inherited by the current commissioners. Sykes, whose term lasts until January 2027, has also indicated he will fight to keep his seat if the recall moves forward. Wenzholz has refrained from commenting until after the signature verification process.

If all three county commissioners are recalled, the responsibility of appointing

Morrow County's commissioners will fall to Governor Tina Kotek, who will nominate two commissioners. These two appointees will then select the third commissioner. Typically, in Oregon, the governor does not appoint county commissioners, as they are usually elected by county residents. However, in the event of a vacancy with no scheduled election, the governor has the authority to appoint a replacement to serve until the next election.

## Spiritually Speaking

Father Thankachan Joseph



## COME HOLY SPIRIT: RENEW THE FACE OF THE EARTH

The feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the Catholic Church, is celebrated the immediately after Ascension Sunday. Originally, Pentecost was a Jewish feast celebrated on the 50<sup>th</sup> day after the Passover feast. For Christians, it is a feast celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter, celebrating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and Mary while they were together praying in the upper hall.

**The Transformation on Pentecost:** The Acts of the Apostles and the last chapters of the Gospels describe the apostles and their locked-down experiences and feelings. "On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews" (John 20: 19). Though clearly mentioned as timid, frightened, or fearful, the disciples were transformed into powerful orators, as the Acts of the Apostles describes: "Peter stood up with the other eleven apostles and in a loud voice began to speak to the crowd" (Acts 2:14). What we notice is that timidity was transformed into boldness, and indecisions were transformed into persuasions. Now when we take part in the Pentecost, we need to pray to the Spirit of the Lord to come down upon our world and also transform us.

**The Fruits and Gifts of the Holy Spirit:** In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he makes clear the difference between persons who are led by the human spirit and those who are led by the Spirit of God. He urges Christians to be always under the Spirit of the Lord. When we live by the Spirit of God, the qualities of that Spirit will be visible in us. The fruits of the Holy Spirit are "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (5:22-24). When we possess the gifts of the Holy Spirit, it automatically changes us into a new beings/creations. The Holy Spirit in us helps us move from fear to freedom, from timidity to power, from victim to victor, from silence to proclamation, from being individuals to being community, from division to reconciliation.

In the first letter to the Corinthians, Paul speaks about the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: 1) **WISDOM** helps us not to get upset over little problems, not to put too much stock in passing events. We need the gift of wisdom to remember that people are more important than things and that God's love is more than everything else. 2) **UNDERSTANDING** accepts others just as they are and an understanding person cares for the people no one else notices. Those who understand us know our faults and imperfections as well as our strengths and good qualities. Such people are always ready to encourage and challenge us, and always ready to forgive us and give us a second chance. 3) **KNOWLEDGE** is a gift from God; the development of this gift is our responsibility, it is what education is all about. It is important to remember, also, that human knowledge can be used for bad ends as well as good. 4) **RIGHT JUDGMENT** helps us to learn from our mistakes and to correct the problems caused by our bad decisions. Our greatest gift is the gift of freedom, the gift to decide for ourselves what we will make of our lives, the ability to make good and wise decisions. 5) **COURAGE** is the strength to do the right thing in spite of the obstacles and difficulties that make it hard to do. The gift of courage gives us the strength and stamina we need to keep on trying, day after day, to be the kind of Christians we want to be. 6) **REVERENCE** helps us to see the true value of every person and of all created things. This gift gives us a deep respect for God and others and all of creation. 7) **WONDER AND AWE IN GOD'S PRESENCE** is the gift by which we are given a sense of who God really is and who we are as creatures of God. What I understand by this gift is that this same God lives in my heart, listens to my daily prayers, cares about my tiny worries, and loves me in all my specialness and in all my weaknesses.

We need to have persons with these seven gifts of the Holy Spirit to change the world.

## OTLD Budget Committee will meet May 15

Oregon Trail Library available. Budget Committee is the 5 members of the budget committee and the board members.

## Funeral Notice

### Jeanne M. Grijalva

A Celebration of Life will be held for Jeanne M. Grijalva, at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 18, 2024 at Hopeful Saints Church in Heppner.

She was born October 28, 1946 at Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan. Sweeney Mortuary is in care of arrangements.

### Stephanie L. Howard

A Celebration of Life will be held for Stephanie L. Howard, 1 p.m. Saturday, May 18, 2024 at the Morrow County Fair Grounds, in Heppner. A meal will be provided. She was born July 28, 1988 at Redmond, Oregon. A

memorial service will be held Friday, April 19, 2024 at Powell Butte Christian Church with burial at Powell Butte Cemetery, Powell Butte, Oregon. Sweeney Mortuary is in care of arrangements.

## Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District is awarded \$191,950

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) awarded \$191,950 to Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District for the Morrow County Grassland Restoration of Annual Grass-Invaded Habitat Project at their April 22-24, 2024 board meeting.

The award was one of 62 restoration, technical assistance, and engagement grants to local organizations statewide totaling \$11,378,813 to support fish and wildlife habitat and water quality projects.

"We look forward to treating these acres in the project area with help from ODFW, NRCS, Heppner Rural Fire, and private landowners. Annual grasses are a big problem in the County," says Kevin Payne, SWCD District Manager.

In the Morrow County Grassland Restoration of Annual Grass-Invaded Habitat Project, rangeland health will be improved in Morrow County by treating 3,500 acres for invasive annual grasses. It is expected to begin August 15th and be completed by November 1, 2024. Interested landowners in the project area should contact the SWCD

and have application materials in by June 7, 2024.

Funding for these grants, awarded by the OWEB Board, comes from the Oregon Lottery, and Federal Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery funds provided by the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration.

Since 1999, the Oregon Lottery has provided over \$525 million to OWEB's grant program that helps restore, maintain, and enhance Oregon's watersheds. Combined, the Lottery has earned nearly \$15 billion for watershed enhancements, public education, state parks, and economic development. For more information about the Oregon Lottery visit [www.oregonlottery.org](http://www.oregonlottery.org).

For additional information about this project contact Kevin Payne at 541-676-5452. For additional information about OWEB and its grant programs, contact Eric Hartstein at [eric.hartstein@oweb.oregon.gov](mailto:eric.hartstein@oweb.oregon.gov). A listing of all awarded grants is available at: <http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/Documents/2024-Apr-Board-Awards.pdf>

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**HEPPNER SCHOOLS PRESENTS**

"Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue"

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 6pm in the Heppner Elementary Gymnasium. We would like to invite and honor any and all area Veterans.

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