

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 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.

Chris Sykes Publisher
Andrea DiSalvo..... 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

Spiritually Speaking
Father Thankachan Joseph



Epiphany: Revealing as the Real Messiah

The word “Epiphany” comes from an Ancient Greek word *epiphainein*, meaning revelation, appearance or manifestation. For Western Christians, the Feast of the Epiphany marks the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus.

Many of us can recall this event, described in the Gospel of Matthew: the three wise men are Melchior, Caspar and Balthasar, who presented to the baby Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Christian theologians emphasize the epiphany as the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles, i.e., their belief in Jesus as divine Lord and Savior of all people. Since the wise men came searching for Christ, found him, worshipped Him and offered Him gifts, millions of people have followed in their footsteps and come to Christ. We, too, are doing just that this coming week.

The Gospel of Matthew (2:1-12) describes well the visit of the Magi to the newborn king of Israel. The term “Magi” originally referred to a clan of Persian priests with special claims to interpret dreams. Here, they appear as astrologers/astronomers who observed the movements of the stars as a guide to major events.

The Magi, or wise men, seeing a sign in the heavens, learn that some important event has taken place in the West, in Palestine. They follow the sign, reach the palace of King Herod, and ask, “Where is the child who has been born King of the Jews?” (The Oracle of Balaam in the Book of Numbers 24:17 says, “A star shall come forth from Jacob, a scepter shall rise from Israel.”)

King Herod is greatly troubled hearing the words of the Magi. He makes all efforts going through Scriptures; the experts find out that the child is to be born in Bethlehem. He lets the wise men go to worship the child, but he intends to destroy the child. The king knows that the newborn child may not be a pretender to his throne but can cause unrest in Judea. Therefore, the best thing would be to eliminate him.

Most often, instead of appreciating and approving the goodness of someone, we try to eliminate it at the root level itself. This Feast Day of Epiphany is an invitation to examine our conscience. What is my approach to the well-being of someone else?

When Matthew was writing the Gospel around 85 AD, most Jewish people had rejected Jesus as the Messiah, though the proclamation had first been made to them.

We read in the Acts of the Apostles how the Christian preachers were being delivered up to the Sanhedrin, flogged in the synagogues and dragged before kings for bearing testimony to Jesus.

Meanwhile, Gentiles were flocking to the Christian communities, and, thus, the apostolate had become one of making disciples of the Gentiles (Matthew 28:1).

Matthew differentiates the believing Magi from the unbelieving lot led by Herod and “all Jerusalem with him.” In spite of their claim of possessing scripture and tradition, they fail to recognize the Messiah.

For the Gentile, on the other hand, a glimpse of a rising star is enough to discern God’s presence in the world. However, Matthew is quick to add that the Magi could not find Christ with “their own” effort. Their wisdom and science needed to be complemented by the revelation in Scripture to find the precise birthplace of Christ.

The gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh are another Epiphany: a revelation of the identity of Jesus as King, Priest and Savior of the world. Jesus had not even started to talk or walk, yet it is clear to the entire world that He is God in human flesh. He rules as King with gold, He sanctifies as a priest with incense, and is Savior of humanity, for Jesus’s body would be preserved with myrrh when He offers His life for our salvation. The three gifts manifested the future mission of the newborn King-Messiah.

This Feast of Epiphany brings a great message, that we need to trust and deepen our knowledge of scripture and traditions passed on to us for becoming better believers in our faith. The three wise kings had a mission to fulfill, the mission to meet the Savior of the world and worship and adore Him.

Let us ask the child Jesus to give us the faith of wise men so that we may, like them, fulfill the mission to love the Lord, serve Him, and be faithful to Him forever.

Kelton named to OSU honor roll



Piper Kelton

Piper Kelton of Heppner was named to the honor roll at Oregon State University for Fall 2024. Kelton is a freshman and is majoring in Botany.

Print & Mailing Services
* Design
* Print
* Mail
Sykes Publishing
541-676-9228

Good News Only by Doris Brosnan

As 2024 was ending, two “elves” were seen about the area wishing a few friends a “Happy New Year” and sharing a peppermint or cranberry toast to 2025. Only the couple slow to answer their phone to let the elves know they were, indeed, home, missed out on the brief celebration.

David and April Sykes traveled to Portland last weekend to visit daughter Camille and grandson Oscar. On Saturday, the group went to see the movie Sonic the Hedgehog 3 at Clackamas Mall and then spent some time at the arcade, where Oscar played lots of games and had a great time. They rounded out the day with dinner at the Olive Garden before returning home Sunday.

Two readers remind us: “There’s sun out there somewhere! Keep the faith and remind yourselves that we needed the rain, though there might be more smiles and good news without daily drizzle.” And “Snow in the mountains means good grass in the spring, and grass is growing down here with all the rain.”

As Porky Pig used to say at the end of a cartoon: “That’s all folks!”

A quick note to dbrosnan123@gmail.com or call to 541-223-1490 will get your positive item in the G-T and bring a smile to many faces!

Here’s hoping that good news comes to everyone reading this.

County students named to BMCC honor roll

Blue Mountain Community College fall term 2024-25 honor roll recognition went to the following full-time students from Morrow County:

President’s List (3.75 - 4.0 GPA)—Cindy Agripino, Braden Atkins, Ana Calvillo, Arely Cambero, Isela Echols, Alejandro Gomez

Chavez, Kourtney Krogh, Miranda Landeros, Savannah Medrano Pruitt, Juliet Montes, Chelsea Newdiger, Brisa Salas, Humberto Sanchez, Sariah Thomas and Mayra Wightman.

Vice President’s List: (3.5 to 3.74)—Juan Ochoa, Carol Salas and Dailen Schultz.

Wolf Depredation committee to meet

The Morrow County Wolf Depredation Advisory Committee will meet Tuesday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. at the Bartholomew Building, 110 N. Court St., Heppner.

The meeting is open

to the public in person and online. The meeting agenda with Zoom link can be found online at <https://www.co.morrow.or.us/meetings>.

From the Archives Of the 1965 Gazette-Times

Sixty Years Ago: January 7, 1965

Auto Smashed As Tree Topples

High winds that hit the area in early morning hours Saturday caused a big black walnut tree to fall on the parked car of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Hunt at their home in Lexington about 2:30 a.m.

The car was severely damaged with a portion of the top crushed and the windshield broken out, Mrs. Hunt said. A woven

wire fence and its concrete foundation were also damaged.

The tree was some two feet in diameter and perhaps 40 to 50 feet high. The Hunts did not realize that the tree had fallen until they went out later in the morning, although they had heard the high wind in the night.

From “Chaff and Chatter” by Wes Sherman

What does 1965 hold in store? We don’t exactly know, but here are a few things we don’t expect during the new year:

Bill Collins giving up bowling to devote full time to his new duties on the city council.

The office of Turner, Van Marter and Bryant being used as a meeting place for Ladies Aid Society.

Police Chief Dean Gilman tagging overparked cars every day.

Randall Peterson entering the Northwest Amateur bronc riding championship at the Morrow County Rodeo.

County agent Nels Anderson punching a time clock.

Clint McQuarrie giving up coffee drinking.

Orville Cutsforth complaining because the taxes are too low.

Claude Cox catching a 18 lb. steelhead in Ditch Creek.

Boardman and Irrigon consolidating their city governments.

Max Barclay and Rod Murray giving up raising quarter horses to start a Morrow County kennel club with Roice Fulleton as manager and Charley Daly as trainer.

It couldn’t have been too bad down south on New Year’s Day. Clint McQuarrie came back with a smile and Dr. McMurdo came back with laryngitis. Apparently the doctor shouted his best support for OSU and Clint can still be philosophical about it.

It was cold down south, too, Clint said. When they got out to watch the Rose Parade in early morning there was ice on the bleachers. At the Bowl game he succeeded in getting a sun burn, but as soon as the sun went down they about froze to death.

DeSpain Pizza

-Continued from PAGE ONE warmer weather approaches. Customers can reach the restaurant by phone.

Looking ahead, the family has several goals. They aim to create a welcoming spot for Heppner’s youth, including a positive place for teenagers to “hang out.” They also hope to sponsor local little league teams and add homemade items to their menu, such as bread for sandwiches.

As time allows, they plan to expand the menu even further to include breakfast, burgers, and other local staples.

Additionally, they envision a five-year plan to add an arcade.

David and Dakota

express gratitude for the support they’ve received during the transition.

“We have received so much grace and support from the community, our family and our friends during this transition, and we couldn’t do it without them,” they say. They also thank Nicole and Drion for staying on the team. “Momma Merry” will continue selling her handmade jewelry, garden and memorial stakes, gifts, and holiday decorations in the pizza shop.

As their son Logan says, “Everybody’s excited.” The Rice family is hopeful for success in this new chapter.

Help to connect!

If you or someone you know:

- Is 55 or older or 18 and older living with a disability
- Feels isolated or alone
- Lacks technology
- Wants to be more connected to others

Find out if you qualify for a free laptop, tablet or robotic pet.

Call 855-ORE-ADRC (673-2372)



ADRCofOregon.org

