

~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. 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 \$16 Email to editor@rapidsolve.net or upload to Heppner.net.

Sharing the Love

As the warm weather arrives, and green things abound, the multitude of hens just itching to become new moms begin jockeying for position and for a secluded and unoccupied nest. They hunker down in the darkness, hoping to be undiscovered and undisturbed while dreaming of the arrival of little fuzzy things.

While this Farm Lady gets just as excited as anyone at the prospect of new life (and more eggs), she's had to remind herself (and the hopeful hens) that this little farm can only handle so much "new life" and some hens will just have to wait their turn. Most eventually give up and decide it's not worth the hassle.

Not to be discouraged, one black hen apparently decided that motherhood was worth any amount of disturbance or intrusion, and she would be rewarded if she stood her ground. No amount of getting "shooed" off her nest, nor gathering of her eggs (terrible...I know) would faze her. She would just circle around and head right back to the egg-less nest.

The other hens must have taken pity on her. Rather than lay in another nest, they would scoot her over, lay their eggs, and then go back to their non-maternal activities. Every morning she could be found sitting on a whole new batch of eggs, which she would lovingly keep tucked under her wings, while harshly scolding anyone that came near.

After several days of watching her efforts, this Farm Lady's cold heart melted just enough to leave the hen and her prospects alone (and even tucked a few more under her for good measure). She sat dutifully for weeks on over

a dozen eggs until finally the hatching and peeping began. One by one, various assorted chicks appeared, and all was well...but that's not the end of the story. As life in the hen house can be a bit hazardous for the newly hatched chicks, the hen and babes were moved to their own little house within the chicken yard for safekeeping. The hen seemed to like her new home and clucked happily at her scurrying brood.

Then one morning, I noticed a black hen outside the nursery door, looking quite distraught while frantically trying to get in. Thinking mama hen must have somehow gotten out; I opened the door to let her in, only to find another black hen looking very much like she wanted out. Okay, so they must have inadvertently gotten mixed up during the morning feeding. I let them each go their way; Black Hen #1 in, Black Hen #2 out. Problem solved.

There are some things on a farm that just can't be explained. The next morning, as I opened the door to the nursery, I would find one such phenomenon. There, tucked back in the corner, were two black hens, sitting in tandem, softly clucking to the babes beneath their wings. How there came to be two hens in what was believed to be a secure fortress is yet a mystery.

The bigger mystery, however, is this: there was no scolding, no ruffled feather, and no selfish ambition.... just two moms sharing the love. I don't presume to know what all goes on in the hen house, but I do know there's a lesson in there for all of us somewhere. Makes you feel all warm and fuzzy inside, doesn't it?

From *The Farm Report: Confessions of a Determined Farm Lady*
Susie Crosby
Prineville, OR

Heppner students take a musical journey through the decades



By Rachel Sykes

Last Wednesday, May 21, the elementary school gymnasium came alive with music, color and nostalgia during the highly-anticipated spring concert. Under the direction of music teacher Brook Baker, students transported the audience through a vibrant musical journey across the decades.

Each grade level was assigned a decade to represent, with students dressing in era-appropriate costumes and performing songs that captured the spirit of the times.

Kindergarten and first graders charmed the crowd with their 1950s flair, while the second and third graders brought the 1960s to life. The fourth and fifth graders showcased the groove of the 1970s, and the sixth

graders brought a modern twist with hits from the 2010s. Finally, the high school choir gave a nod to their parents' generation with several hits from the 1990s.

The evening featured energetic singing, enthusiastic participation, and a lively performance from the school band. The gymnasium echoed with applause and excitement as families and friends enjoyed the students' hard work and musical talent.

The spring concert was not only a celebration of music but also a joyful reminder of how creativity and history can come together in the classroom. Thanks to Ms. Baker's leadership and the students' enthusiasm, it was a night to remember.

Wildhorse grants help MoCo organizations

-Continued from PAGE ONE

Foundation was for the purpose of formalizing the charitable giving on behalf of the CTUIR and Wildhorse Resort & Casino.

A total of 40 organizations were awarded grants this period, in amounts ranging from \$2,249 to \$30,000, for projects in the areas of public health, public safety, arts, education, environmental protection, historic preservation, and cultural activities. The total amount awarded this quarter was \$515,757.

The Wildhorse Foundation has awarded a total of over \$19 million in grant funding since its establishment in 2001. Grants are awarded on a quarterly basis with the deadlines being January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1.

In addition to the quarterly grants, five organizations recently received Rapid Response Grants in

amounts of \$1,500 or less. Rapid Response Grants are intended for small and immediate needs that surface throughout the year, and funding decisions are made within 30 days from an application's submission.

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation comprises the Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla tribes, formed under the Treaty of 1855 at the Walla Walla Valley. In 1949, the tribes adopted a constitutional form of government to protect, preserve and enhance the reserved treaty rights guaranteed under federal law.

Lexington Hunter Education

The course is a 1 day **Field Day** on June 14, 2025 at 8:00 am. The class requires students to take an approved online course and bring the certificate with you. Instructions for signing up at <http://vem.myodfw.com/eventprofile/174>. For more information contact instructor Jim Marquardt at 541-969-4845. For help signing up contact 855-686-1055 or odfwhelp@payitgov.com



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Charming 1900 Victorian Home in Heppner, Oregon – A Unique Opportunity! Step into history with this 1900 Victorian gem, located in the picturesque town of Heppner, Oregon. This two-story home offers 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Classic Victorian Style: From its timeless architecture to intricate woodwork and high ceilings, this home exudes vintage appeal. 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms: Plenty of space for a growing family. Detached Garage & Basement: A versatile space for storage, a workshop, or future renovations. Ideal for those with a vision, this property offers the opportunity to restore and personalize to your taste. With a little love and care, this house could become a stunning blend of classic and modern. Enjoy the charm of small-town life in Heppner while crafting the home of your dreams. Don't miss out on this rare chance. Selling as-is. 195 N COURT ST Heppner MLS#:24426505



Discover a timeless treasure with this beautifully preserved Craftsman-style home, featuring 1,174 sq ft on the main level and an additional 1,008 sq ft in basement, perfect for storage or extra space to customize. This 2-bedroom, 1-bath gem combines classic charm with modern comforts, including a newer furnace, forced air heat, and a freshly painted exterior. Located in a prime spot near the school and within walking distance to downtown Heppner, this home provides both convenience and a sense of community. Experience small-town living with easy access to downtown. Don't miss the chance to make this spacious, character-filled home your own! 240 N COURT ST Heppner MLS#:24652848

The Gazette Puzzle Pop

Sharpen your mind with our Gazette Puzzle Pop! Weekly math, word, and local trivia from our five towns—no internet or phones allowed. Answers in next week's edition—grab a pencil and show off!

Math Quizz

Level - Easy
Q: Enchanted Square: A square clearing has a perimeter of 28 m. What's its area?

Riddle

Level - Moderate
Q: The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?

Morrow County Trivia Challenge

Level - Moderate
Q: What was the original name of the Columbia River landing near Irrigon, Oregon, before it was renamed Stokes, and what was the significance of its competition with Umatilla Landing?

Answers from May 21th edition

Puzzle: Snail mail
Q: Which number doesn't belong: 2, 3, 5, 7, 10?
A: 10 because it's not a square number.
Riddle
Q: I'm light as a feather, yet the strongest man can't hold me for long. What am I?
A: Breath
Morrow County Trivia
Q: Which Morrow County river, a tributary of the Columbia, is vital for irrigation in the region?
A: Willow Creek

Births



Amelia James Van Liew was born May 21, 2025, to James Van Liew and Krista Vendetti of Bridgton, ME. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 18-3/4 inches long. Grandparents are Dan and Sandra Van Liew of Heppner, OR; Rhonda Roberts of Brookside, CO; and Tom Vendetti of Florence, CO.

3rd Annual
GLEN WARD MEMORIAL YOUTH FISHING DERBY

YOUTH AGES 14 AND UNDER

Saturday, May 31, 2025
Cutsforth Park Pond
58430 Willow Creek Rd., Heppner, Oregon 97836

Registration Starts 8:30am
Lines in water: 9:00am
Last Fish Measured: 11:00am
Awards at approximately 11:30am

QUESTIONS CONTACT
Morrow County Parks at 541-989-8214 or E-Mail mcparks@morrowcountyor.gov