



HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

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Saturday Car Wreck Takes Lex Youth's Life

Charles W Dugan, 21 of Lexington died early Saturday morning in Pioneer Memorial hospital from injuries received when the car in which he was a passenger overturned on the Bunker Hill county road about five miles west of Heppner. He suffered a fractured skull and a broken neck.

Neither Papineau or Ritchie was hurt. A coroner's inquest was held Monday morning at Heppner and the jury determined that there was no criminal negligence involved in the accident. Dugan was the county's first traffic fatality for 1959. Charles William Dugan was born December 14, 1937 in Nachez, Washington and had lived in the Lexington area for several years. At the time of his death he was employed as a ranch hand for William Padberg. He is survived by his father, Ordie Dugan; a half brother, James Dugan; and his grandparents, all living in Nachez. An uncle, Jack Griffin is a resident of Lexington. Funeral services were held Tuesday afternoon at the Lone Community church with burial following in the Lone I O O F cemetery.

HEPPNER TEACHER HONORED FOR 33 YEARS OF SERVICE IN COUNTY

The Heppner and Morrow county O E A units gave tribute to Mrs Edna Turner at their banquet last week at the Heppner high school.

Mrs Turner is retiring at the close of this year after having taught for 33 years, all of them in county schools. Mrs Arolene Laird, Heppner O E A president, presented Mrs Turner with a Teaching Service pin in appreciation of her long years of guidance of the young people of Morrow county.

Preceding the banquet, Joe Stewart was installing officer for the incoming county O E A officers, Mrs Velva Becholdt, president; Harold Gauger, first vice president; Joe Hausler, second vice president; Clarence Friedrich, treasurer, and Mrs Inez Irwin, secretary.

Robert Van Houte, new county school administrator, was the principal speaker for the evening.

Marion Huggett, entertainment chairman, presented numbers by the girls trio composed of Fern Albert, Judy Cocheil and Janice

Martin; the Four Horsemen, Renn Harris, Bob Huffman, and Stewart Gribble; and the grade school girls' chorus directed by Janice Martin.

May 22 Set as Date For Election on Heppner Fire Dist.

The county court Wednesday Set Friday, May 22 as the date for the election on the formation of the Heppner rural fire protection district and the naming of five directors to operate it.

The court held a hearing on the proposal early this month at which time no objections were heard.

It has also been announced that there will be a meeting of persons interested in the rural fire district Monday, April 20 at 7:30 at the court house. It is hoped that the names of persons interested in running as directors can be obtained at that time.

Heppner High Names Its Top Honor Students

Top honor students of the 1959 Heppner high school graduating class are Miss Janice Martin, valedictorian, daughter of Mr and Mrs Randall Martin; and Renn Harris, salutatorian, son of Mr and Mrs Mike Saling.

Miss Martin, who has received a 3.9 grade point average for four years, has received many honors both in and out of school. This year she was the recipient of the Elks local and district scholarships and the Elks leadership award. Last year she won the Carl Raymond Gray scholarship.

She was recently named a princess for the 1959 fair and rodeo and was elected December senior citizen of the month by students. Last month she was named Blue Mountain chapter of DeMolay 1959 Sweetheart. She is a past worthy advisor of the Rainbow for Girls and is five year member of that organization. She has also been chosen both princess and queen of Rainbow dances.

Her 4-H club work includes a 10 year membership and she has held many offices from song leader to the president.

The valedictorian is present editor of the high school paper, the Hehisch, which has recently received several top awards, and other high school activities include work in the Future Homemakers of America, secretary and state reporter for the Future Business Leaders of America, membership in the National Honor Society, the Quill and Scroll and the Pep Club.

Miss Martin plans to enter Oregon State College this fall where she will major in education and home economics.

Renn Harris had a 3.82 grade point during his four years in Heppner high school. He attended Heppner schools for 12 years and has received the 1959 Elks most valuable student scholarship and leadership awards.

His high school awards and activities have included membership in the National Honor Society and Quill and Scroll. He received an award from the American Chemical Society for the most outstanding student of the year; he has been assistant conductor of the concert band and was chosen senior citizen of the month for September.

Renn was elected class president for two semesters, class secretary for one semester, has served as president of the Science club and photo editor and editor of the yearbook. He is also 1959 student body president, and conductor of the pep band.

Blaze Destroys Garage and Car

A fire of undetermined origin Tuesday afternoon destroyed a garage, late model station wagon and a couple of small sheds on the Walter Jacobs ranch about seven and one-half miles south of Lone.

It was discovered by Donald Ball, a member of the county road crew who summoned neighbors and the lone fire department and through their efforts kept the fire from reaching the house.



JANICE MARTIN



RENN HARRIS

Wheat Growers Set Spring Meet

Plans were laid last Thursday evening by the executive committee of the Morrow County Wheat Growers for their annual spring meeting which will be held at the Lexington Grange hall on April 28. An interesting program has been arranged for with chairman of the six standing committees to bring Morrow county wheat growers up to date on activities of the state committees with special emphasis on recommendations made by our wheat growers, reports N C Anderson, secretary, Morrow County Wheat Growers Association.

Floyd Root, president, National Association of Wheat Growers, has been asked to speak at this annual meeting. His topic will be national legislation for the wheat farmer. Wheat growers will be brought up to date on the program of the National Association as well as activities of the Oregon Wheat Growers League.

Chairman of the various committees who will give reports at the spring meeting are Louis Carlson, Federal agricultural programs; Fredrick Martin, lone, taxation and legislation; Mrs Max Barclay, Heppner, domestic wheat utilization; Bernard Doherty, Heppner, youth activities; Kenneth Turner, Heppner, production and land use; and Donald Peterson, lone, marketing and transportation. Max Barclay, Heppner is chairman. Walter Jacobs, vice chairman is in charge of arranging for door prizes which will be given out during the evening. The Lexington home economics club will serve refreshments.

Civil Defense Test to Start Friday Morning

A full scale test of nearly all elements of the Morrow county Civil Defense organizations will be held Friday and Saturday in nearly all communities in the county. The local test will be a part of the state and nationwide "Operation Alert" scheduled for April 17 and 18.

The county participation in the test alert is under the direction of Norman Nelson, Boardman, county Civil Defense director.

Participating in the test will be most local warning devices and organizations; police and fire departments, emergency medical and care centers and organizations; radio and other communications groups. The

Full Raid Alarm To Be Sounded

It will be mighty noisy around Heppner, and probably other county towns, Friday morning when word of the start of "Operation Alert" is received here.

Upon receipt of the official word, Heppner's air raid siren will sound the Alert signal which is a 3 to 5 minute steady blast of the siren, which will be repeated again after two minutes of silence. The "take cover" signal, which probably will not be used, is a 3 minute warbling siren blast.

Shortly after the raid alarm, the Heppner fire department will expect a general alarm call to test its turnout and facilities in a simulated emergency run. All in all, its going to be pretty noisy around town for a while Friday about 8:30 a. m.

CONELRAD radio communications plan will be tested from 8:30 until 9 a m Friday and at that time all radio and TV stations will go off the air and CONELRAD instructions will be broadcast on the specified frequencies of 640 and 1240 kilocycles. Instructions relayed during this period will be for both the public and CD purposes. A special test Alert headquarters will be set up in the court house in Heppner and special short wave radio communications will be established with state CD headquarters in Salem.

The Operation Alert test will start with simulated bombings of Portland and Klamath Falls at about 8:30 a m Friday and as quickly as the alarm is flashed to county CD headquarters, the general alarm will be sounded and local CD units will go into action. The entire test is being made to determine the extent of preparation that has been made for emergency and to test all facilities.

A large advertisement appears elsewhere in today's Gazette-Times which tells in detail what the plan is and what the general public can expect.

Storm Brings Snow To Higher Points

Spring went back around the corner Tuesday and early Wednesday when a storm moved in over Morrow county and dropped considerable snow on the higher elevations.

The white stuff started to fall in Heppner about 6 p m Tuesday and kept up intermittently during the night. By Wednesday morning over four inches had fallen on Jones hill, east of Heppner and drifts closed the Heppner-Pilot Rock road for a time until state highway snow plows got into action.

Up to one-quarter inch of moisture was reported. No farmers were reported to be complaining.

WEATHER

| | HI | Low | Prec. |
|-----------|----|-----|-------|
| Thursday | 57 | 26 | — |
| Friday | 64 | 32 | — |
| Saturday | 66 | 32 | — |
| Sunday | 62 | 35 | — |
| Monday | 59 | 37 | — |
| Tuesday | 57 | 29 | — |
| Wednesday | 61 | 33 | .18 |

Rainfall for the week .18; for April .18; for the year 5.45 inches.

Flu Causes On Again, Off Again School

Heppner school kids literally didn't know whether they were coming or going this week as continued prevalence of the flu bug brought an "on again, off again" school schedule.

Last Monday morning the county health officer ordered both the Heppner high and grade schools closed for three days when well over 80 students were reported missing from flu and related illnesses. The youngsters were told to report back this morning (Thursday). They reported, all right, but not for long, as a count of noses at the opening of classes showed an even 100 were missing. So, they were all shoed home again at noon and told to stay there until next Monday.

Whether they will get to stay in school next week, only time will tell.

Last week an increasing number of students were reported sick but it had been hoped that the weekend might see a drop in the number. Up until Monday

most of the illness was reported in high school, but by Monday it had begun to take its toll in the lower grades.

No other schools in the county reported any unusual amount of absences and all continued classes.

As a result of today's shutdown, Heppner has cancelled its Friday baseball game with Umatilla and will not take part in the Pilot Rock track meet Saturday. Several Heppner students will, however, attend the FBLA state convention this weekend at Corvallis.

School Board Posts Attracting Many New Faces

Considerable interest has been shown during the past week by county residents in the seven positions which will be open on the new county school board. The election for these directors will be held Monday, May 4.

By Wednesday at least seven persons from just three of the seven zones in the county have either filed petitions for posts or are now having them circulated and several other persons have requested petitions, though they did not indicate for whom they were to be circulated.

Those who have indicated they will run for the board are Phillip Blakney, L E Dick Jr, and Lowell Gribble, all of Heppner (There are two directors to be elected from the Heppner city zone); D O Nelson, Gene Cutsforth and Ellwynne Peck, all of Lexington where one man is to be chosen; and Don McElligott of lone.

No definite commitments have been received from anyone in Boardman, Irrigon or the Heppner rural zone, though it is understood that several persons might be interested. The seven member board will replace the present 5 member board which has served since the formation of the county unit school district in November and will go out of existence on June 30. The new board will assume its duties on July 1.

The seven member board will be made up of one member from each of the Boardman, Irrigon, lone, Lexington and Heppner rural zones and two from the Heppner city zone.

Candidates for any of the positions have until April 27 to file petitions.

The present county school board, which has been facing budget trouble, will hold a special meeting Friday night, April 17 at the court house.

At its last meeting which followed the public hearing on the proposed school budget for next year, the board withdrew the budget for further study before presenting it for publication. The revised budget is expected to be developed for discussion at Friday's meeting. Following its publication, probably starting next week, another hearing will be held.

SPECIAL G-T CENTENNIAL EDITION COMING

A special 16 page Centennial supplement to the Gazette-Times will be a part of next week's paper and it has been planned to give readers a better understanding of the entire state's great 100th birthday story.

Historical items of particular local interest have been, and will continue to be, included in each week's paper throughout much of the year. The special section includes many interesting stories and pictures of Oregon, its history and its everyday life and advantages, and it is expected to create considerable interest among readers.

Lex Grange Favors State Hydro Bill

The Lexington Grange went on record Saturday in favor of HB 528 which deals with hydroelectric development and following considerable discussion ordered the secretary to advise legislators of its members stand.

The grange also reaffirmed its resolution of last month favoring the securing of another county extension agent. In other business, Mr and Mrs William Smethurst and Mrs O W Cutsforth were appointed on a rodeo dance committee for the grange's princess Judy Cocheil, and a \$25 4-H scholarship was ordered paid.

It was announced that the home ec meeting will be held Thursday at the home of Mrs Kenneth Smouse.



PARK WORK APPRECIATED—Heppner mayor W C Collins, left, receives a Certificate of Recognition for the city's efforts in developing the city park, from chamber member Frank Turner at the C of C annual banquet Monday night. Collins expressed his thanks to the group and later stated that the council's appreciation must go to city superintendent Vic Groshens and his crew for the many extra hours of work and care that they have put into the planning and development of the park. (GT Photo)

Early Day County History Told by Judge

Guests at the chamber of commerce annual banquet Monday night at the Heppner Legion hall heard former county judge Garnet Barratt give one of the most interesting talks on early day Morrow county history ever presented here. His theme, in keeping with the state's Centennial, was "Morrow county before 1900."

Judge Barratt told how people crossed the northern end of the county on the Old Oregon Trail starting in 1842 and related that the first settlers in this area came in 1864.

Other little known historical dates that relate directly to the county's history included the introduction of the first sheep in 1867 to 1870; the first cabin was built in Heppner in 1869 at the present location of the Farley Motor company used car lot; that Heppner's first store was established in 1872, the first school

in 1873 and the first mail route from Pendleton to The Dalles, which came through Heppner, was started in the same year.

Barratt said Wells-Fargo Express had an office in Heppner in 1877 and told about the Indian scare of 1878 when a fort was built here. Wheat was first introduced in the county in 1880 and Morrow county was formed in 1885 with Heppner established as the county seat the following year and incorporated on Feb 9, 1887.

A big event was the coming of the railroad on Dec 2, 1888 which started one of the areas biggest business booms.

A comparison of schools and the number of children showed that in 1888 there were 1760 students in the county (now there are 1200) and in that year there were 50 schools in the county which operated an average of 4.3 months a year. The

average teachers salary then was \$41.30 a month. In 1901 the school census was 1298 and the total cost of operating the schools that year was \$21,000.

Barratt told of 2,325,000 pounds of wool being stored in one warehouse in Heppner in 1891 when there were 65,000 sheep sold here that year. The 1891 valuation of the county showed \$325,000 in merchandise; \$2,000,000 in livestock which included 350,000 sheep and 7546 horses and mules. In that same year Heppner had eight churches and a like number of saloons.

Barratt pointed out how Heppner had suffered repeatedly from floods and fires, but that the people always had had the spirit to come back from any trouble. He said that the county always has had, and still does have unlimited resources which still need developing.

Barratt was introduced by the

Rev Bruce Spencer, rector of All Saints' church, who served as master of ceremonies. Frank Turner presented Heppner mayor W C Collins with the chamber's Certificate of Recognition for the city's development of the city park.

A drawing was held by treasurer Bruce Lindsay for the repayment of 20 \$50 bonds sold to provide funds for the lighting of the Heppner rodeo field. These drawn were Heppner Elks lodge 10 bonds (the lodge put up half of the total cost), James L Davis, Ed Thorpe, Marcel Jones, Mrs L E Ruhl, H L Duvall, Lance Tibbles, the First National Bank 3 bonds; and the J C Penney Company.

Holders of these bonds may redeem them by presenting them to the treasurer.

About 80 persons attended the banquet which was prepared by members of the St Patrick's altar society.