

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

The Heppner Gazette established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times established November 18, 1897. Consolidated February 15, 1912.



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Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. until noon Saturday.

Subscription Rates: \$4.50 Year. Single Copy 10 Cents. Published Every Thursday and Entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as Second Class Matter.

Larry . . .

The following editorial was written by Clay Brownhill, and published in his Condon Globe-Times and Fossil Journal. We do not know Larry Brooks, and perhaps not many here know him, but we are sure that the case of Larry Brooks, as so well expressed by Mr. Brownhill, is symbolic of all our boys in Vietnam.

Tucked away in its own small space of this week's issue of the little Fossil Journal, is a news item released to the mother of Larry Brooks, that he has been wounded in action while carrying out his duty in Vietnam. He was shot in the head and chest, is now being well cared for in a hospital in the Philippines.

As the staff of the papers looked at the article, one young girl, who attended school with Larry, remarked in stunned disbelief . . . "Why that is Larry Brooks, I went to school with him."

As we look out the window on this particularly beautiful early spring morning, we see the boys and girls on their way to high school where but just a short two years before young Larry enjoyed life so much. Larry, we are sure, was just another average high school boy, and probably shared equal time with other lads his age being chewed out, for not picking up his clothes, for failing to do as well as he should in school, fixing his car, or if he didn't have one, dreaming of the one he would like to have.

While dreaming of his car he would also have been thinking about some little girl, with brown hair and dancing hazel eyes, who had just that certain walk that makes all young men of that age go around in a daze . . . or possibly he might have spent some of his time looking out the school window at the glorious spring day, with the first daffodils lifting their yellow heads proudly to the new day, and the birds busily chasing each other, when not sitting on a branch letting the world know it is a beautiful place in which to live on an April morn.

Larry, who at the time would have been about 18, probably gave little thought to the world outside of Fossil, population 550, or Condon 1150, where everyone knows each other and the air is just a little bit cleaner . . . where residents are perfectly content in knowing the outside world cares little about them or if they exist.

Two years ago Larry probably wasn't too sure what he wanted to do, just like most other boys and girls coming out of high school. Little did he realize, though, the world in which we live has a deadly habit of making our plans for us with destinies shaped accordingly. He did not think too much about wars . . . and the bloody consequences . . . and it is just as well for we feel, if the Almighty went to all the trouble of placing us on this earth all should be allowed at least a little time to enjoy whatever there is to enjoy here.

Well, anyway, in a strange land, thousands of miles from home, Larry is now looking at a cold, sterile ceiling, from a hospital bed in a room filled with other lads his age, wondering how in the space of two years, at the age of 19, all this could have happened to him . . . As he bears the pain and discomfort of his wounds, suffered at the hands of some little man in a stinking jungle, Larry thinks back to those wonderful years of his youth . . . long before he became an old man of 19, with his dreams of such a beautiful life shot out from under him. Larry is undoubtedly bitter . . . he wonders if our society hasn't let him down . . . what he has done to deserve this. As a nurse comes by to give him a hypodermic, he grimaces and wonders what lies ahead of him now.

Larry is not alone, however, for thousands of our lads in Viet Nam, have been wounded, or killed, and worse . . . more are to become casualties.

As we again look at the tiny article, telling of Larry's wounds, we feel ashamed that in this cultured life of ours Larry and all the other Larys can warrant no more than just a few lines in some paper when they have given so much. As we look at the rest of the news in the Fossil Journal and that for the Globe-Times, we can't help think how unimportant it really is, and instead how much more important Larry and all the other Larys are who suffer wounds and lay down their lives so we can remain a free nation.

We just want you to know, Larry, we are thinking of you.

Pioneer Telephone Week April 18-22

Statewide observance of Oregon telephone Pioneer week by Oregon Chapter No. 31 of the Telephone Pioneers of America will be April 18 through 22. The organization held its first "Pioneer Week" during April, 1965.

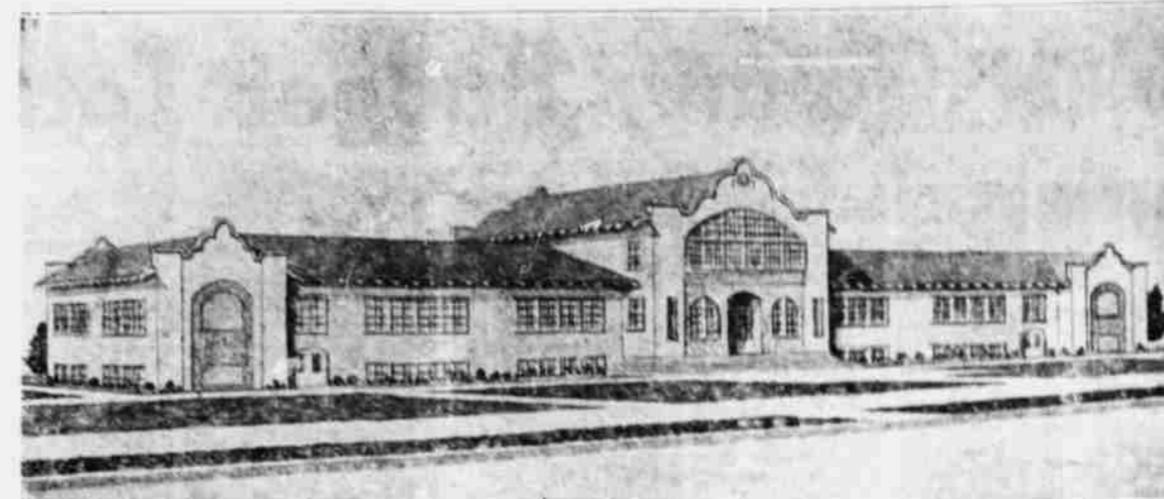
Highlighting the week's events in this area will be luncheons on Wednesday (April 20) in Pendleton, Baker and The Dalles. April 20 has been designated as "Pioneer Homecoming Day," a day on which open house is held for life member pioneers and guests.

Pioneers in Heppner are members of the Oregon Trail Council, one of five similar council groups in Oregon. The state organization has grown from 60 members when the state chapter was established in 1924 to over 1900 members today.

The telephone pioneer organization is composed of men and women who have worked at least 21 years in the telephone industry. The organization is made up of both active and life members, with life members being those who have now retired from their telephone careers.

Throughout Oregon, telephone pioneers are active in community service programs. Pioneers promote good citizenship with projects such as voter registration or aid the handicapped through hospital volunteer work.

Oregon's telephone pioneers repair old telephone switchboards for use by rehabilitation centers.



BOARDMAN'S SCHOOL was a proud structure when it was dedicated in 1920, but the building will soon be a thing of the past. It will be razed because of the forthcoming rise of the Umatilla reservoir from John Day dam. The above picture is apparently from the architect's sketch of the structure prior to

construction. It is one of many pictures included in Carl and Betty Marquardt's Boardman School Reunion Book, just being published. This picture was in the archives of the Gazette-Times. (See Chaff and Chatter).

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

BOB LOWE came in to the G-T office on a little business transaction Wednesday, then felt for his billfold. It was missing. He asked to make an emergency telephone call to the hospital and dashed to the phone.

Substance of it was that he had changed his pants and sent the dirty ones into the laundry. His billfold was in them.

"No, I think it's clean. You don't need to wash it," we heard him say, referring to the billfold no doubt.

Don't know how much cold cash Bob carries in his billfold, but his call kept it from being both cold and wet.

CARL AND BETTY MARQUARDT are about to complete the second in their series of school reunion books. The one for Boardman Public schools is all printed and now ready for binding here. The job should be done shortly.

Since the Boardman school is about to be a thing of the past, this booklet, which will be 43 pages, plastic bound, will be quite a keepsake for those who have fond memories of attending Boardman or Riverside.

The book is full of pictures of classmates, teachers, some of the former classes, athletic teams, and others. LaVern Partlow helped them gather the pictures and compile the information, and it is a considerable task.

Although advance orders have been placed for many of the books, the Marquards had enough printed so that more are available for sale.

They recently published one for Lexington, and a book on Heppner is coming up next.

With the coming of the John Day dam pool, the Boardman school won't quite hit the half-century mark, but it has had a very interesting history, nevertheless.

FRED AND CECIL OTT had a nice surprise for the Chamber of Commerce Monday. They served them a free meal in the new banquet room at the Wagon Wheel. The Ott's are featured by the way, on the Merchant of the Month page in this week's G-T (see page 5).

Fred and Cecil felt that they wanted to show some appreciation to the chamber for the support and friendly relationships that have existed between the cafe and the organization, and decided to give the free meal as this token. Their new banquet room is very nice and a good thing for Heppner. They expect to serve 60 in it at a forthcoming dinner.

Tell the advertiser you saw it in the Gazette-Times.

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WISHING WELL

Heppner-Lex Highway LaVelle Cecil & Betty Saddler

Mrs. Lucy Peterson traveled to Spokane, Wn. last Friday to enjoy the Easter weekend with her daughter, Mrs. Darrel G. (Alice) Ployhar, and her small granddaughters, S/Sgt. Ployhar is now stationed with the army intelligence in Santa Domingo, and surprised his family with a long distance call on Easter morning. Mrs. Peterson returned home Tuesday.

Need scratch pads? Get them at the Gazette-Times.

DANCE

SATURDAY,

APRIL 16

LEGION HALL
SPRAY, ORE.

To Music Of
The Westerneers

Admission-\$1.25 Per Person
Dancing From 10:00 P.M.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

LUNCH MENUS

Heppner Elementary School

April 15-22

Monday—Sloppy Joe's, green beans, apricots and milk.

Tuesday—Rico with hamburger gravy, cabbage slaw, peach and grapefruit, bread and butter and milk.

Wednesday—Vegetable beef stew, cottage cheese, pears, hot rolls, butter and milk.

Thursday—Macaroni casserole, molded vegetable salad, applesauce, bread and butter, milk.

Friday—Potato soup, tuna sandwiches, vegetable salad, cherry cobbler and milk.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

TRACK MEET

Heppner Invitational Meet, Field Events, 12 noon, Running Events, 1:30 p.m. Heppner Rodeo grounds. Public invited.

HEPPNER HIGH BASEBALL

Friday, April 15, 3:30 p.m. Pilot Rock High, here. Saturday, April 16, Heppner at Madras, 1 p.m. Tuesday, April 19, Hermiston at Heppner, 4 p.m.

WRANGLER COW CUTTING

Saturday, April 16, 7:30 p.m. County Fairgrounds Sunday, April 17, 9:30 a.m. fairgrounds.

PUBLIC CARD PARTY

St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 8 p.m. By Lexington Altar Society Dessert, bridge, pinocchio, prizes. Everyone welcome.

PLANT-FOOD SALE

Ione Builder's Supply Bldg. Thursday, April 21, 1 to 5 p.m. By Ione Garden Club

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