

Hunting Accident On Opening Day Claims Doug Drake

Douglas Elmo Drake, 46, prominent Heppner rancher and Morrow county's Father of the Year for 1967, died early Saturday morning, October 7, from a gunshot wound sustained accidentally while he was hunting on the Kirk and Robinson ranch near his own farm in the Sandhollow district.

News of his death, which occurred about 7:30 a.m. stunned the community. It was the first fatal accident reported in the state on the opening weekend of general deer season.

According to accounts of the accident, Drake and his 12-year-old son, Richard, were riding in a 4-wheel drive vehicle and a 30-06 rifle was between them. They were approaching deer that had been spotted on a hill above the Don Robinson ranch home. Other hunters had seen the same deer and were approaching from other directions. Included were Gene Pierce, George Krebs, Kirk Horn, Dean Naffziger, and Kirk Horn's father, all on foot, and Don and Montie Evans, who were on horseback. Some younger hunters were also in the group.

The Drake vehicle hit a bump, and the impact caused the rifle to discharge. The bullet went into his right side and out his back.

One of those on horseback was first to realize that an accident had happened and told the others. Pierce said that Drake had toppled out of the vehicle when he arrived, apparently having fallen out when the rifle discharged. He took Ricky back to the Drake home while Horn and Naffziger attempted to administer first aid to the fatally injured man. Don Evans went to the Robinson ranch to summon the ambulance.

Bob Lowe brought the ambulance out and Dr. Gerald Jones accompanied him. The doctor said that Drake was still alive when he arrived but death came before he could be put in the ambulance.

Dean Gilman, Morrow county deputy sheriff, was on hand to investigate the accident.

Friends Overlook Church. Both the sanctuary and the basement of the Methodist church were filled with friends, neighbors and relatives at funeral services which were Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m. Many were standing in the basement. The Rev. Melvin Dixon officiated and vault internment followed at the Heppner Masonic cemetery with military honors accorded by American Legion Post No. 87.

John Maatta was soloist with Mrs. Pauline Miller as organist. Casket bearers were close



DOUGLAS DRAKE

friends and neighbors, Bill Rawlins, Don Bennett, Kenneth Turner, Don Robinson, Don Evans, and Gene Winters. Sweeney Mortuary was in charge of arrangements.

Douglas Drake was born May 25, 1921, son of Raymond K. and Emma C. Drake, while they lived on a ranch at Eightmile. He attended Hall Ridge school, Heppner Elementary school, and Heppner High school where he was an outstanding athlete.

He went to Pacific University Forest Grove, for one year on an athletic scholarship, but enlisted in World War II and served with the Seventh Air Force, being stationed in Hawaii and Iwo Jima.

He met Miss Grace Gadeken when she came to Morrow county by extension agent, and they were married on September 29, 1946.

(Continued on page 8)

Meeting Tonight To Organize BMCC Evening Classes

An organizational meeting for those interested in taking night classes sponsored by Blue Mountain Community College will be held in the library tonight (Thursday), at Heppner High school under the direction of David Reynolds of BMCC.

Those interested in classes that prepare for G.E.D. exams (high school equivalency) will meet at 7:30 and those interested in other courses will meet at 8 p.m.

Among the courses that are available are developmental reading, conversational Spanish, home decorating, drawing, painting, farm welding, and basic education (a program to prepare for high school equivalency examinations).

College transfer courses offered are History of Western Civilization and General Sociology.

Meeting nights will be decided upon at the organizational meeting. All classes are contingent upon enrollment of at least 10 students.

Anyone who is unable to attend the organizational meeting but plans to take a class, is asked to notify the high school office, 676-9138.

No School Friday, 'Professional Day'

There will be no school Friday because it will be "Professional Day" for teachers and administrators—the modern version of the old "Teachers' Institute."

On this day many of the faculty members in Morrow county will go to various parts of the state for institutes in their various subject fields. The few remaining will spend the time in professional activities at home, doing research in their fields, catching up on needed work and similar tasks.

"Professional Day" has been set aside statewide for the purpose of teachers furthering their work in their specific fields.

No requirements are made of the children, and they may enjoy the day as they see fit.

Property Tax Statements to Show Increase

84th Year

Number 33

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

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10 Cents

'67-68 Bills Readied For Mailing

Morrow county property owners will pay a total of \$191,164.09 more on their tax bills for all purposes for 1967-68 than they did last year, according to figures released by Rod Thomson, county assessor.

The total to be collected on the 1967-68 roll is \$1,442,962.29 as compared with \$1,251,798.20 for 1966-67.

County valuation is also up, but only \$197,979 more than last year. The assessed valuation is figured at \$24,323,061 for this year as compared with \$24,125,082.

Net result is that a higher tax rate will be noticed in each of the county's 22 code areas, the increase ranging from 5 to 10 mills and probably averaging in the area of 7 or 8 mills increase. Code area paying the highest taxes in the county is that in the City of Lone (Area 35-1) where the rate will be \$80.24 for each \$1,000 of assessed valuation. Taxpayers living in the City of Heppner (Area 1-1) will pay at the rate of \$74.04 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Under the new state law, the assessor figures the rate on dollars and cents per thousand of assessed valuation this year, instead of the former method of stating the rate in mills. While this probably promotes understanding on the part of the taxpayers, it all comes out the same.

Figured on Assessed Value. It should be pointed out, too, that the rate is based on assessed valuation rather than on true cash value or market value. Next year the law provides that the rate will be computed on the basis of true cash value. If a person's property has a true cash value of \$16,000 on the tax rolls, the assessed value will be 25% of this amount, which is Morrow county's posted assessment ratio. Thus the assessed value of the property is \$4,000. If the rate is \$80.24 per \$1,000 assessed value, as it is in Lone, the tax to be paid will be four times \$80.24, or \$320.96. This includes taxes for all purposes—schools, county, city, Port of Morrow, Blue Mountain Education District, and others.

Mrs. Elvira Irbay, sheriff's deputy, and Mrs. Lillian Sweek are preparing the tax statements for mailing this week and said Monday that the big mailing may go out before the end of the week. Each statement will be accompanied by a complete tax summary prepared in the office of the assessor.

Rebate Deadline Nov. 15. Taxpayers will have until November 15 to make tax payments in order to take advantage of the usual rebates allowed.

The county's assessed value showed a considerable gain in land outside corporate limits, due principally to the reappraisal of the lands in the area of the Boeing holdings. Last year, land outside corporate limits was on the roll at \$13,888,980. This year it is shown

(Continued on page 3)

Auto Hits Pole, Causes Outage

When an auto driven by Bill Springer, 19, struck a 69KV power pole about two miles west of the Butter Creek power substation early Monday morning, it caused a power outage that lasted for some three hours and extended over Morrow, Wheeler, Gilliam and part of Sherman counties.

Springer and Steve Brandon, 23, were returning from Pendleton around 2 a.m. Monday morning when the driver apparently went to sleep. The car hit the pole and broke it, causing the short circuit that resulted in the general outage.

Crews of Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative were called out at 2:15 a.m. and worked through the remainder of the night to repair the damage.

Springer was unhurt and Brandon, too, had apparently escaped injury but later he went to the hospital for treatment of concussion. He was released early this week from Pioneer Memorial hospital.

The auto involved was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Springer. The nephew had borrowed it. The vehicle was badly damaged in the crash.

Jim Follensbee of Columbia Basin said that some parts of the area served by the cooperative were returned to service by routing them over other lines but the outage in Heppner lasted for approximately three hours.

Speech Contest Slated October 19

Speaking on the topic, "Water Conservation in an Oregon Conservation District," high school students will compete for district honors at the annual speech contest Thursday evening, October 19, in the Heppner High school multipurpose room at 8 p.m.

Students of Miss Cecilia Delmore, speech instructor, have been preparing talks on the assigned topic, and judges will choose first, second and third place winners, with trophies to be an added incentive.

The contest is sponsored annually by the Heppner Soil and Water Conservation District, with Kenneth Turner serving as contest chairman. The public is encouraged to be present and hear the students' talks on this important subject.

PP&K Contest Due Here on Saturday

Competition in the Punt, Pass and Kick contest will be held Saturday, October 14, at the rodeo grounds here, Everett Keithling, general chairman, announced.

All boys, 8 through 13, who have registered for the competition are to be on hand at 10:30 a.m. at the grounds.

Joining with Heppner Auto Sales, Inc., as local sponsors is the Lone Lions club, Lindsay Kincaid of Lone has been acting as chairman for that area and Joe Balfe is chairman for the Heppner area.

Everyone is invited to come and watch the contest. Admission is free. Eighteen winners will be chosen, three for each year of age, and winners scores will be matched against those of other areas for possible advancement to the national competition. Registration closed for the event last Friday, October 6.

Stockmen Hope for Record Turnout on October 25

With a streamlined program and speakers and features of interest to all in the industry, Morrow county Livestock Growers expect a record size crowd at their annual meeting in Heppner on Wednesday, October 25, Larry Lindsay, president, states.

Instead of an all-day program, the meeting this year will start at 1 p.m. Reports will be compressed into a shorter time, and items of importance will be emphasized.

One particular feature of the meeting will be a panel discussion on "Cutability." This important development in the industry affects feeding and breeding, Lindsay explained.

Some of the meat packers are now emphasizing cutability as the basis for purchasing animals, rather than stressing the traditional show animal. How this affects the livestock grower will be discussed by the panel, including Dean Firschniecht, extension livestock specialist, OSU; Dr. Walt Kenrick, in charge of the meat department, OSU; Brent Horn, feedlot operator, Hermiston; and Frank Anderson, purebred breeder, Heppner.

Committee reports will be at 1 p.m.; report from the Oregon Cattlemen's association will be at 2 p.m.; and a report of calf breeding trials at the Umatilla Experiment Station will be given by Tom Davidson, Supt., at 3:15. The Cutability panel will be at 3:30, and a business meeting will follow at 4:30.

Bank of Eastern Oregon will be host at a coffee break at 2:45, and First National Bank will be host at a social hour at 5:30.

Glittering attractions will feature the annual Farm-City banquet, which will conclude the day's program. This will be at 7:30 in the Heppner High School cafeteria under the joint sponsorship of the Livestock Growers, the Soil Conservation District and the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce.

One of the "glittering attractions" will be a \$100 diamond that will be given away by Peterson's appearance of Neils Anderson as principal speaker with slides on his two years' work in Niger, Africa. Presentations will be at 7:30.

He arrived at Hinkle by train at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday and was met there by his parents. He had made the trip to the States by airplane, leaving from Camarillo Bay for Okinawa, from there to Tokyo, and then on to Seattle.

Pfc. Pierce said that it feels "great" to be home. The year that he has spent in Vietnam seems short, just "as if it were yesterday" that he arrived there, he said.

Although he took training as a paratrooper, Pfc. Pierce has not been doing any jumping in Vietnam. Helicopters have taken him and his buddies from place to place in ground actions.

The young soldier arrived home in good health despite the fact that he has seen a lot of action in the conflict. "Of course we're winning," he said when asked how the war is going.

Pfc. Pierce will report at Ft. Lewis, Wash., on November 5 and expects to return to Vietnam. He speculated that he may be assigned to duty behind the lines after having spent the year in combat.

A graduate of Heppner High school, Pfc. Pierce attended Clatsop Community College before entering service.

Two Men to Attend Inland Empire Meet

County Judge Paul Jones and Commissioner Jack VanWinkle plan to attend the annual meeting of Inland Empire Waterways association in Spokane Monday and Tuesday, October 16 and 17.

Judge Jones will represent Morrow county at the meeting and VanWinkle plans to attend as a representative of the Heppner-Morrow county Chamber of Commerce, of which he is a director.

Directors of the Chamber voted Monday to help defray costs of the trip, since the Inland Empire association has been important in supporting the Willow Creek dam project.

October 5—Rewel Bower, Kimberly, hunting in a closed season, fined \$5, 10 days in jail suspended.

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October 3—Byron Miller, lone, possession of illegal venison, fined \$10 and \$5 costs.

Michael Gregg, lone, possession of illegal venison, 10 days in jail suspended.



LARRY LINDSAY
President, Morrow County
Livestock Growers

tation of the Morrow county Livestock Man of the Year will be made, and the Conservation Man, Louis Carlson, will be presented. Name of the livestock man will be kept secret until the banquet.

Herman Winter, Chamber of Commerce president, will be toastmaster at the banquet.

Tickets will go on sale at various business places later this week at \$2.50 per plate. Arrangements are being made to handle a crowd of more than 250 and Lindsay asks that all set aside the date now to attend. More information is on page 1, section 2.

Pfc Pierce Home on Leave After Year's Vietnam Duty

Pfc. Greg Pierce, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pierce, is home on 30 days leave after serving in combat for a year in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division.

He arrived at Hinkle by train at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday and was met there by his parents. He had made the trip to the States by airplane, leaving from Camarillo Bay for Okinawa, from there to Tokyo, and then on to Seattle.

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Tad Miller Reelected Rodeo Chairman

Tad Miller was reelected chairman of the Morrow County Rodeo Committee for another year at its monthly meeting Wednesday evening, October 4.

Also elected for another term was Charley Daly, vice-chairman; Archie Munkets was assigned a three-year term as director and Jerry Dougherty will serve as grounds director for the coming three-year term.

Dr. Gerald Jones was present to discuss with the board the possibility of establishing more complete medical facilities at the rodeo grounds, and tentative dates were recommended for the rodeo for 1968.

Deer on Highway Causes Auto Mishap

Gene Olsen, 27, of San Diego, Calif., nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Nate McBride of Heppner, was hospitalized overnight last Thursday after his auto over-turned on highway 207, five miles south of Heppner. He reported that he swerved to avoid hitting a deer on the highway. The car went over a six foot bank, rolled over and came to rest on its wheels.

Olsen, lone occupant of the car, was brought to the Pioneer Memorial hospital by ambulance. He suffered lacerations and bruises.

A former resident of Milton-Freewater, he has been visiting with the McBrides here.

City Accepts Bid Of Bank of E. O. For Pool Bonds

Bid of the Bank of Eastern Oregon on the purchase of swimming pool bonds for reconstruction of the Heppner municipal pool was accepted at an adjourned meeting of the Heppner City council Monday afternoon. The bids were opened at 2 p.m.

Bank of Eastern Oregon and the First National Bank of Oregon were the only firms submitting bids on the \$110,000 bond issue.

The bank of Eastern Oregon submitted a bid calling for an effective interest rate of 4.3525%. This would make the estimated interest on the issue total \$45,592.50.

The First National bid had an effective interest rate of 4.562% which would make the interest on the issue total \$47,787.18.

Both Gene Pierce, president of the Bank of Eastern Oregon, and John Venard, manager of the Heppner branch, First National Bank, were present at the meeting.

After Attorney Bob Abrams had checked the bids, the motion was made that the Bank of Eastern Oregon bid be accepted.

It is expected that the bonds will be negotiated and delivered within 30 days after which the McCormack Company may proceed on the project, being the successful bidder on the job.

Pierce told the council that the Bank of Eastern Oregon would permit the city to repurchase any of the bonds at face value plus accumulated interest at any time, if it wished to retire any portion of the issue before maturity dates.

Crazy Days Set October 27, 28

Crazy Days in Heppner, another major promotion of local merchants, will be Friday and Saturday, October 27 and 28, Bill Hust, chairman of the merchants' committee of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce, announces.

Meeting of all Heppner merchants is scheduled for Friday, October 13, at noon in the Wagon Wheel Cafe, Bill Hust, merchants' chairman, announces.

Plans will be made at the luncheon for Crazy Days and for Christmas Opening. He emphasized that all merchants in Heppner are invited.

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Plans will be made at the luncheon for Crazy Days and for Christmas Opening. He emphasized that all merchants in Heppner are invited.

In the planning stage are a kids' parade for Saturday, October 28, and an appearance of the Heppner school band. The children will be asked to dress in Halloween costumes, and the one appearing in the funniest or most appropriate costume will receive a \$10 prize. Crazy Days will fall just before Halloween.

Prizes will also be given to merchants who dress in the "craziest" costume for the event. Directors of the Chamber of Commerce Monday authorized \$20 to be spent for prizes.

Directors also approved purchase of a Santa Claus suit to be used during Christmas Opening promotion, which will be the week-end after Thanksgiving.

Further details on Crazy Days, which will feature special bargains for the public again, will be announced in the next two issues of the Gazette-Times.

Dennis O'Donnell Hurt in Accident

Dennis O'Donnell, a freshman at Treasure Valley Community College at Ontario and a 1967 graduate of Heppner High school, was injured in an auto accident Friday night near Emmett, Idaho, according to information received here.

He apparently was going to the Emmett-Vale football game with other college students when the accident occurred. His aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Harry O'Donnell, with whom he has been living, left Monday for Emmett.

Other relatives said Tuesday night that they had not received any further information but speculated that the O'Donnells might return later Tuesday night. First information was to the effect that Dennis would be released from the Emmett hospital by mid-week. No word was received as to the severity of the injuries, but an early report said his back was injured. Relatives surmised that his condition was not serious in view of the report that he was expected to be released by mid-week.

The others in the accident were not believed to be in serious condition.

Mrs. Britt Suffers Injuries in Crash

Mrs. Elvin R. Britt of Heppner is in Good Shepherd hospital, Hermiston, with serious injuries following an auto collision that occurred near Stanfield Friday afternoon. Two children and her father-in-law, Walter Britt of Hermiston, were passengers in the car she was driving but they were not seriously injured.

It was reported that Mrs. Britt has a broken leg, three broken ribs, a broken collarbone and other injuries. Her condition was listed as serious but not critical.

Apparently Mrs. Britt was driving on the highway between Hermiston and Stanfield when a car came out of the road leading to the Hermiston feedlot and collided with her vehicle.

Friends said that they expected she would be hospitalized at Hermiston for perhaps three weeks, after which she may be transferred to the hospital here.

Mrs. Britt is the wife of one of the owners of Britt Bros. Trucking.

Season Opening Brings Hunters in Record Number

There is no way of knowing for sure, but indications are that a record number of hunters came through Heppner on opening week-end of the general deer season, which opened Saturday.

A counter placed across the highway near the place of Harold (Doc) Sherer, county roadmaster, north of Lone, recorded 2600 vehicles over the week-end, according to County Judge Paul Jones.

Another counting device placed across the road near Parker's Mill recorded 1000 vehicles.

Old timers said that they had never seen so many hunters here. One reported that he counted 49 camps below Cutsforth park Saturday. Another said that he counted 85 vehicles coming up the Willow Creek

road as he was driving the other direction. A normal meeting of four or five vehicles would be considered fairly heavy for this road.

Indications are, too, that hunter success was good, although it was reported only fair in other areas. Ernest McCabe at Central Market reported that he received 65 deer over the week-end, the most of any season.

Many rigs went home with bucks, and as usual, the local hunters probably had the greatest success.

All manner of hunting outfits—4 wheel drive rigs, campers, pickups, station wagons, trailers, tent outfits—filled the town Friday night. One service station operator said that his business on the opening day of the season far exceeded any

other in his memory.

Most Heppner businesses reported a heavy run of trade from the migrating hunters. The restaurant business was booming, apparel stores were busy, and the drug stores reported heavy sales in such items as magazines and candy, as well as other items.

Lowell Gribble, justice of the peace, said that six cases had come to his court on violation prior to opening day. Three resulted in fines, one was given a suspended jail sentence, and two were yet to be heard.

Violations for which officers had issued citations over the week-end had not been turned in to his court as of Monday. Gribble said that he expected quite a number of them.

One woman driving up Willow