

# The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES VIEWPOINT

## Doctor Search Committee needs your help, too

The Morrow County Doctor Search Committee, which held its organizational meeting last week, is a group of people that will be spending considerable time and energy in the months ahead for the ultimate benefit of all people residing in Morrow County.

The Search Committee already has a brochure underway and letters of inquiry are being sent to all physician placement centers and medical schools.

We think their approach is sound—looking for some interim physicians to handle patients, while scouting for doctors that would like to make Morrow County their home for a lifetime. Also, the Committee is looking at selling the doctors on Morrow County without promise of guaranteed income, free rent, etc.

Financing the search for doctors will largely become the responsibility of citizens in both the north and south ends of Morrow County. Business and industry will provide much of the financial help needed, but individual contributions are badly needed. Persons wishing to make contributions should send them to the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner in care of the Morrow County Doctor Search Committee.

A contribution now will help get needed physicians for Heppner and Boardman clinics, and for the people that reside in those communities.

## Sizzlers Sidewalk Sale here July 14

Heppner merchants are again planning their annual sidewalk sale called Summer Sizzlers Sidewalk Sale this year, to be held on Friday, July 14.

The streets of Heppner will be loaded with bargains for everyone. Don't miss it.

## Picture Credit

Mayor of Sandhollow Ken Turner, looks over (barely) one of his wheat fields and smiles at the thought of the anticipated yield. Farmers in the area have been happy with this year's wet spring and early summer as kernels are now filling out beautifully with the added precipitation. It'll take some doing however, for anyone to come up with better wheat than Ken's chest-high (barely) crop.

## Letters From Readers

### Thanks for BMCC budget support

Editor:

Prior to budget elections public officials are very visible in the different communities—seeking the support of the citizens in regard to the tax levies. It seems to me that it is also appropriate for public officials to express their thanks to the voters following a successful budget election.

That is the intent of this letter—to express the appreciation of the Board of Directors, the faculty and staff, and the administration of the college to you, the voters, for your continued support of the college.

It is our intention to continue to operate the college in a manner that will warrant the continued support of the citizens of Morrow and Umatilla counties.

I am especially appreciative of those residents of south Morrow County who contributed dollars and placed their names with our advertisement, urging support for the college budget. This public effort was particularly meaningful to me as most of those people are personal friends of mine.

Ronald L. Daniels  
President, BMCC



## Thunder takes toll on county roads, power, and fallow land

Rain drenching thunderstorms during the extended Fourth of July weekend played havoc with area roads, croplands, bridges and electrical service.

The highway between Hardman and Spray was virtually impassible Sunday night, after cloudbursts filled otherwise dry runoff gullies with water and debris. Rocks, mud, and water covered that stretch of highway in more than a dozen locations.

Summer fallow grain fields were badly eroded at sites in the Eightmile and McNab areas, as were some county roads. A Union Pacific railroad bridge about 10 miles north of Ione was put out of commission by floodwaters along Willow Creek, disrupting train service to the Kinzua Corp. mill and area grain elevators.

Lightning caused scattered electrical outages to Columbia Basin Electric Co-op customers in rural Morrow County. No more than 10 customers were without power at any given time.

Three bridge washouts occurred along Hwy. 19 between Spray and Dayville, and a bridge approach was washed away along the Condon-McNab road. Flash flooding was also reported in the Olex area.

Nearly half of the youths attending the annual 4-H summer camp at Cutsforth Park were sent home a day early on Saturday, after marble-sized hail pummeled the camp during a cloudburst.

Camp officials said about three inches of hail fell, before the precipitation took the form of rain.

Officials said the hail fell with such force that paint was stripped from some buildings and parked cars received

minor damage.

In the 24 hour period preceding 6 a.m. Monday, a total of 1.9 inches of rain was recorded at Pendleton Airport, according to the National Weather Service.

## 4-H Horse Show starts July 9 at fairgrounds in Heppner

The Morrow County 4-H Horse Show will get underway Sunday, July 9, at 9 a.m., with youthful area competitors taking part in five categories of horsemanship.

Contests will be held on horse showmanship, followed by western equitation, colt ground training, English riding, and trail horsemanship.

Competitors will be divided into beginner, junior, intermediate and senior divisions based on age and experience.

The event will be held at the Morrow County Fairgrounds, in the outside arena, weather permitting.

A related horse judging contest will be held July 11 at the fairgrounds.

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## OBITUARIES

### Verl Frederickson

Verl Frederickson, 86, of Monmouth, a former Lexington schoolteacher, died June 29 in Monmouth.

Born Feb. 21, 1892 in Joliet, Mont., she was the daughter of Samuel and Mary Carmack. Mrs. Frederickson was a graduate of Oregon College of Education, and for a number of years was a teacher in Lexington and Hermiston.

Funeral services were held Monday in First Christian Church, Heppner, with the Rev. Edwin Sikes officiating. Carl and Betty Marquardt sang "In the Garden" and "Beyond the Sunset".

Casket bearers included Jack Van Winkle, Howard Bryant, Cornett Green, Kenneth Peck, Dean Gilman and Kit George.

Concluding service and interment were held at Heppner Masonic Cemetery, with Sweeney Mortuary in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Frederickson's husband, Lewis, a daughter, Louise, and a son, Don, preceded her in death.

Survivors include a sister, Ethel Chapin of Monmouth, several nieces and nephews.

### Ralph Yeager

Ralph Andrew Yeager, 86, of Santa Monica, Calif., formerly of Heppner, died June 25 in Santa Monica.

Born in Heppner in 1892, he attended schools here before moving on to Idaho, Washington and California. He married Emma Fahey of Clarkston, Wash., who preceded him in death in 1961. Mr. Yeager has lived in the Los Angeles area since 1961.

He was a retired maintenance man with the U.S. Postal Service, and a member of the Disabled American Veterans.

Survivors include a son, Ralph Jr. of Grand Rapids, Minn.; daughters, Mrs. Gardner Clark of Yakima, Wash., Mrs. Dave Jennings of Santa Monica, Cal., and Mrs. James Huff of Torrance, Cal.; brother, James Yeager of California; 22 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

## Sifting through the TIMES

Sixty years ago this week in Morrow County, a large crowd gathered in Ione to hear J.W. Brewer of Portland deliver an Independence Day speech carrying the usual patriotic theme, plus a blistering attack against "the slacker and the pro-German," according to the Gazette-Times account of the day.

The 1918 July 4th celebration included a Red Cross hosted dinner in the Ione Christian Church basement. An evening program of entertainment followed, but was interrupted when word was received that a fire had broken out in Heppner.

And what a fire it was. The blaze broke out about 4 p.m. in the Patterson and Elder barber shop during that hot and windy day. It soon spread to the Pearlson Tailor Shop, and into the Palace Hotel.

Mrs. J.L. Wilkins, co-proprietor of the hotel, rushed to the upper stories to warn all guests in time for them to make a safe exit with their belongings. Cut off from the stairway by flames, Mrs. Wilkins jumped to safety from a fire escape, cutting her chin in the process.

By that time, the fire had spread across Main Street to burn the Natter buildings, the Star Brewery building, which housed the local Red Cross chapter, and the Heppner Light and Water Co. wood yard. A number of residences and other structures also went up in flames.

Two men were seen carrying a 1,100 pound player piano from the Oscar Borg residence, in an effort to salvage the instrument from flames. They managed to push the cumbersome piano about 75 feet down the sidewalk before heat from the fire forced them to flee. The piano was consumed in the inferno.

Two horses being boarded by out of town visitors at the Red Front Livery Barn burned to death in the blaze.

Total damage was set at more than \$200,000 to downtown Heppner, including the \$30,000 destruction of the Palace Hotel. Insurance covered only a fraction of the losses.

During the same week in 1918, Joseph Hayes of Butler Creek was returning from Thompson Falls, Mont., after moving a band of sheep there for summer grazing. Pvt. William O'Rourke of Heppner was having trouble convincing Army officials at Fort Lewis that his 5 foot 2 inch height was sufficient for military purposes.

The departure of doctors from Heppner was also in the news 25 years ago this week, when Dr. Wallace Wolff notified his patients that he was closing his Heppner practice to report for Army duty at Fort Sam Houston, Tex.

Dr. Wolff had been in Heppner about a year at that time in 1953, after he took over the practice of Dr. Richard O'Shea, who was also called to duty during the Korean war.

That same week in 1953, D.O. Nelson was the first grain grower in the county to put combine to wheat, on a stand of volunteer grain near Lexington. Agricultural officials at the time were predicting a "bumper crop" wheat harvest of 2.3 million bushels in Morrow County.

Apricots were selling for six cents a pound at an orchard near Irrigon during this week in 1953.

Twenty years ago this week, the grain harvest was just underway, with Lexington area ranchers showing average yields of 30-35 bushels per acre in wheat, and 40-45 bushel averages in barley.

Oregon motorists were praised by then-governor Holmes for making it through the 1958 Independence Day weekend without a fatality.

Fifty years ago this week in the Gazette-Times, an editorial called for the immediate construction of stop signs in Heppner.

"Some folks may smile at the mention for such a need for traffic regulation in Heppner," stated the editorial, noting that people wouldn't smile should they encounter "a loaded wheat truck coming in off Heppner Hill, never at less than 30 miles an hour."

This week in 1928, the Lexington Post Office, at the end of the fiscal year, showed a record-setting business, with sales totaling more than \$18,000 for the year. Holiday fisherman in 1928 likely experienced good angling during the July 4 weekend, since 29,000 trout had recently been planted in Willow Creek.

## Hospital Notes

Patients admitted and later discharged from Pioneer Memorial Hospital between June 20 and July 5 included Rick Henderson, Ione; Richard Schmidt, Heppner; Patricia Osborn, Ione; Edgar Myers, Fossil, Ella Mae Green, Lexington; Inez Gentry, Heppner; Julie Ann Harrison, Heppner; Alice Rains, Condon; and Anna Wilson, Heppner. Wilbur Gourley, Heppner remained a patient.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Mark Steven Greenup of

Heppner.

The seven pound, 10½ ounce boy was named Jonathan Paige. The new Greenup's birthday was June 17.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kahl of Portland, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Greenup of Portland. Great-grandparents are Mrs. Hannah Kahl of Portland, Mrs. Sam Omar of Detroit, Mich., Mrs. Peggy Moyer of Heppner, and Mr. and Mrs. Norval Martin of Lake Oswego.

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July 7  
Merchant's Committee,  
noon, Wagon Wheel.

July 10  
Chamber of Commerce,  
noon, West of Willow

July 11  
VFW meeting, 8 p.m.,  
Wagon Wheel



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