

The Official Newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow
GAZETTE-TIMES
 MORROW COUNTY'S HOME-OWNED NEWSPAPER
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David and April Hilton Sykes, Publishers

Letters to the Editor

An open letter to graduates

To the Editor:

This spring many of you will receive the high school diploma that you have waited for so long. Congratulations. We're proud of you.

But before you begin the excitement and activities of graduation week and the summer ahead, please take just a moment to think about some people - some who may have been your friends, brothers or sisters - who didn't make it to this important day. Or maybe someone who made it to graduation but have been stopped short of further achievement because of the heartbreaking tragedy of a traffic accident.

The month of May has long been the starting line for a race with death and injury on our highways for young people. Graduation has traditionally been the starting gun. As June, July and August come and go, the highest monthly totals of the year occur. We hope that you can set a new, less tragic mark for future graduating classes.

You see, traffic accidents are a particular problem for people your age. The life expectancy of every age group in the U.S. has increased during the past 75 years except one - teenagers whose death rate is higher today than 20 years ago mainly due to auto crashes. About 9,000 American teens are killed every year in traffic accidents. But, let's bring that a little closer to home...of the 518 persons who died on Oregon highways in 1982, 89 of those were age 15 through 19; 6,794 in that age group were injured.

You and your friends need not become one of those statis-

tics. The formula for survival is so simple: Obey all traffic laws and drive within the posted speed - a traffic violation is just an accident that didn't happen.

Buckle up your seat belt every trip and make sure all passengers do the same - sure, seat belts may be uncomfortable at times, not macho and wrinkle your clothes; but the alternative may be two weeks in the hospital of crutches for six months, a seriously maimed friend facing years of plastic surgery or, even worse, death.

Avoid drinking and driving - use the "designated driver concept" and make a deal that someone in your group won't drink and will drive the others.

Drive defensively - most accidents are caused by driver error and are preventable.

As you celebrate this great time in your lives, please keep in mind the survival formula recommended by the Oregon Highway Users Conference and Western Insurance Information Service. We're many businesses and associations who work together for safe, efficient highway transportation. But, we are also parents, brothers, sisters, friends and neighbors of yours who care about you and want you around for a while.

Have a great graduation and vacation. And please - Be careful out there; take care of one another.

Oregon Highway Users Conference Western Insurance Information Service

BMCC calls tax base milestone

To the Editor:

Voter approval of the college tax base on May 15 was a major milestone in the growth and development of Blue Mountain Community College.

The tax base not only provides the college with a much needed funding base, but more importantly, it tells the college and the Board of Directors that you, the voters, approve of the direction the college has taken and of our efforts to control costs.

We realize how difficult it is to vote "Yes" on money measures, particularly when there are so many money measures confronting you on the same ballot. We consider the selective "yes" vote on the college tax base a vote of confidence for the college.

The positive vote in Morrow County was particularly pleasing as we realize the benefits of the college are not as great as they are in the Pendleton area. We do, however, have many students from the Morrow County area and we do the best we can to provide off-campus courses in the Heppner area.

At its regular meeting on May 16, the College Board

reviewed the results of the tax base election and at that time pledged to continue their efforts to manage the college in a manner that would provide the necessary quality programs while paying attention to the cost effectiveness of those programs offered.

The establishment of a tax base will not change our budgeting process nor our budgeting philosophy. It is our intention to continue to monitor costs as closely as possible and we will not utilize the full six percent increase unless that increase is deemed necessary. We hope to continue to retain the voters' confidence and their support.

Thank you all for your support for the college tax base and for the college. We intend to operate the college in a manner that will justify your support.

Sincerely Yours,
 (s) Ken Dauble, Chairman
 Board of Directors
 (s) Ron Daniels, President
 Blue Mountain Community College

30

Hospital Notes

The following patients were admitted and released from Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner during the past week:

Alice Anderson, Heppner - admitted May 21, released May 22.

Chris Berna, Condon, admitted May 23, released May 27.
 Linda Cecil, Heppner, admitted May 23, released May 24.

Joe Cunha, Heppner, admitted May 24, released May 28.
 Greg Maben, Heppner, admitted May 24, released May 25.

Thomas Gates, Ione, was admitted to the hospital May 28 and was still receiving care as of press time Tuesday.

Cecilia Bucknum, Heppner was admitted to the hospital May 23 and transferred.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner handled the following business during the past week:

May 16, the Boardman Fire Department responded to 20 Marine Drive where a pile of chips were reported to be on fire.

May 17, the Morrow County Sheriff's office took a report from Andy Arstein of Miracle Potato and Cattle Co., of the theft of a Miller Starfire welder from one of their storage sheds. The welder was reported to have been taken sometime during the night before. Value is \$1,200.

Also on May 17, the Boardman Fire Department responded to a grass fire behind the Hillview Christian Center on Wilson and Olson roads in Boardman. The cause of the fire was listed as a neighbor's burning barrel. The fire was extinguished.

May 18, the Heppner Police Department responded to a vehicle accident at the corner of E. May and Chase Streets in Heppner. No injuries were reported. Drivers of the vehicles were Archie N. Lucas, 19 of Heppner and Francis F. Connor, 82, of Heppner. Connor was cited for Failure to Yield Right-of-Way at a Controlled Intersection.

May 19, the Boardman Police Department arrested Lyle Lawrence Standberg, 23, from Yakima, Washington, on a charge of Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. He was also cited for No Valid Operator's License. He was lodged at the Umatilla Police Department.

Also on May 19, the Morrow County Sheriff's office issued a citation to James D. Fowler, 31, Lexington, for Driving While Suspended.

In a third May 19 incident, a Boardman Ambulance responded to Columbia Villa Apts., No. 10 and transported a female to Consolidated Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston.

May 20, a female with unknown problems was transported from her residence on Boardman Avenue to Consolidated Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston.

The Morrow County Sheriff's office at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner handled the following business during the past week:

May 23, a Boardman ambulance responded to the Shell service station where a 13 month old child was reportedly choking on a foreign object. The child was transported to Consolidated Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston.

May 26, the Boardman Police Department arrested Tony Ray Sumpter, 33, of Portland. He was arrested on two Multnomah County Sheriff's Office warrants: 1) unlawful Possession of a weapon and 2) Carrying a loaded Firearm. He was booked and posted bail.

Also on May 26, the Morrow County Sheriff's Department arrested Rodney J. Paulson, 27, Irrigon, on a charge of Assault IV. He was lodged at the Umatilla City Jail. He later posted bail and was released.

May 28, the Boardman Fire Department responded to items on fire at a railroad overpass on Highway 730.

Obituaries

Sarah Ann Prock

Sarah Ann Prock died on Saturday, May 19, 1984 at the Forest Grove, Oregon care center. She had celebrated her 100 birthday on March 21. She was born in the state of Missouri on March 21, 1884. After arriving in Oregon, she and her late husband Ernest Prock raised five children in the Heppner area; Ernest operated the only trucking concern in the Heppner farming market until after WWII. Sarah cooked many feasts for the farm workers when the crops were being harvested, as well as being a mother and homemaker. She was affectionately known as 'Grandma' to many of the area young people. She is survived by a daughter, Norma A. Merrill, Portland; a son, Faye E. Prock of Heppner; and by eight grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.

Graveside funeral service was on May 23 at 11 a.m. at the Heppner Cemetery.

Henry E. Peterson

Henry E. Peterson died Friday, May 25, 1984 at Deleamarler Care Center in Pendleton. He was born September 27, 1894 to Aaron and Ida Peter-

son at the home ranch near Ione.

He married Hilda Justus in Walla Walla on November 10, 1960 and has resided in Pendleton since then.

Peterson was a lifetime member of the Heppner B.P. O.E. No. 358, Valby Lutheran Church and the Ione Masonic Lodge, No. 120, A.F. AND A.M. He was a veteran of World War I and a member of the V.F.W., a 50-year member of Rhea Creek Grange, a lifetime member of the Oregon Wheatgrowers League and a state Representative from 1944 to 1954.

Survivors include his wife, Hilda Peterson, Pendleton; sons, Ted Peterson of Portland, and Herbert Peterson of Ione; and one daughter, Marjorie Skuzeski of Portland; 11 grandchildren and one great granddaughter. A son, Robert preceded him in death in 1982.

Funeral services were held Wednesday, May 30, 1 p.m. at Valby Lutheran Church with the Rev. Jonh Maas officiating. Rikka Tews provided organ music.

Casket bearers were Jerry, Greg, Todd, Treve, and Rick Peterson and Tom and Steve Skuzeski.

Contributions for those who wish may be made to the Valby Memorial Fund.

Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, is in charge of arrangements.

Sifting through the Times

10 Years Ago
 Thursday, May 30, 1974

Ione and Heppner High held awards and graduation ceremonies during the previous week.

The Memorial Day Pioneer Picnic hosted 230 guests.

25 Years Ago
 Thursday, May 28, 1959

Receiving diplomas at Lexington High School's final graduating ceremony were Hank Pointer, Dora Sue Davidson, Lee Cornelison, Barbara Steagall, Laddie Henderson, Judy Darnielle, Earl Papineau, Steven Klinger, and Keith Peck.

"About 70 residents of the Boardman area last night indicated strongly that they did not favor the elimination of the seventh and eighth grade class in the Boardman school which would mean that those students would be transported to Irrigon, and they made it plain that they did not want to see the county school budget reduced if it meant reducing their school facilities."

Heppner city council awarded contracts for the purchase of six miles of steel water pipe to Everett Den Herder of Medford.

Karl L. Beach, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Beach of Lexington recently received Congressman Al Ulmann's principal appointment to West Point.

50 Years Ago
 Thursday, May 31, 1934

"Flood Damage heavy; cloudburst hits in southern hills, large body of water from Balm Creek inundates city. Rhea creek swept. Heppner people cleared from path by siren; much property damage reported."

"Willow Creek became a mad, raging, muddy torrent through Heppner at 4:30 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, overflowing its banks and inundating much of the city, as it was fed from the run-off of a cloudburst which hit several miles to the southeast. The large flow of water came down Balm creek into Willow."

Many businesses and homes sustained damage as well as bridges which were washed out and many cattle and sheep were lost by farmers.

Memorial services planned by the American Legion and Auxiliary were called off as the "flood of Tuesday and its eventualities took precedence over all other events."

Former Lexington man graduates basic training



Private John Smith

Private John Smith, formerly of Lexington, recently graduated from basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Calif.

He is now on leave at home in Lexington. From here he will go to Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas, where he will be stationed.

Former area man speaks at CPA conference

Former Heppner High School graduate, Russell R. Kilkenny was one of the speakers at the farming and ranching conference presented by the Oregon and Idaho societies of Certified Public Accountants. Kilkenny, now a member of a Portland law firm, addressed qualified retirement plans for the agricultural businessman.

'Father Rock' celebrates 25 yrs.

The Rev. Robert Rekofke S.J. know fondly as "Father Rock", is celebrating his 25th anniversary in the Priesthood on Wednesday, June 13. Father Rekofke served Heppner-Ione in the past and is currently at St. Margaret Mary Church, Box C, Big Sandy, Montana.

You are invited to a Pot Luck Dinner to say "Farewell" to **BILL & CAROL HELPHINSTINE** and family
 Wednesday, June 6, 1984
 All Saints Episcopal Parish Hall, Heppner
 6:30 p.m.
 If your last name begins with the letter:
 A - G bring a dessert
 H - R bring a main dish
 S - Z bring a salad.
 Children are welcome

Proud of OUR CLASS OF '84
 We wish you success in the future!
Peterson's Jewelers
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Births



Aaron Christopher Tworek - a son Aaron Christopher was born May 22, 1984 to Lucy and Conrad Tworek of Ione at Pendleton Community Memorial Hospital.

He weighed 7 lbs. 6 oz. Grandparents are Paul and Agnes Doucet of Iota, Louisiana, and Ben and Josephine Tworek of Omaha, Nebraska.

Justice Court Report

Justice Court at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner handled the following cases during the past week:

James Duane Fowler, Lexington, Driving While Suspended, \$57 fine.

Thomas William Lowe, Heppner, Parking in the Roadway, no fine.

Frank Daniel Azevedo, Heppner, Illegal "U" Turn, \$15 fine.

Craig Allen Miles, Offensive littering, \$41 bail forfeited.

Mark Earl Miller, Spray, Defective Equipment, \$36 bail forfeited.

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The Class of 1974
 would like to invite all friends and teachers to their Ten Year Class Reunion.
 Saturday, June 9
 Heppner Elks Club
 Live music will begin at 9 p.m.