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Obituaries

Deby M. Hammons

Deby Murphy Hammons, 29, of Heppner died Tuesday, Jan. 27, 1987, in a motor vehicle accident near Roseburg.

She was born Dec. 4, 1957, at Klamath Falls, the daughter of Herb and Betty Happold Hamilton.

She moved to Heppner in 1959 and, following the death of her father, moved to Pendleton in 1965 where she was adopted by Dr. John Murphy. She attended elementary and high school in Pendleton.

On June 14, 1981, she married Nathan Hammons. The couple lived in Pendleton for two years, then moved to Hardman.

Survivors include brothers, Don Hamilton of Santa Rosa, California, and Pat Murphy of Portland; sisters, Phyllis Hamilton, Santa Barbara, California, Judy Leathem of Caribiss, California, and Carol of Beaverton; and her grandparents, Oral and Marge Wright, Lexington.

A graveside service was held Saturday, at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Friends who wish may contribute to the Deby Hammons Memorial Fund through the Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner.

Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, is in charge of arrangements.

Delbert "Slim" Emert

Delbert "Slim" Emert, 81, of Lone, died Saturday, Jan. 31, 1987, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

Recitation of the rosary was 7 p.m. Tuesday at St. Williams Catholic Church in Lone. Funeral Mass was 11 a.m. today at St. Williams Catholic Church in Lone. Concluding services and burial will be 3 p.m. Wednesday at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton.

He was born Feb. 13, 1905, in Elberton, Wash., the son of William A. and Mary C. Ogle Emert.

He came to Morrow County in 1927 and began farming near Lone.

Emert had ranches in Morrow and Grant counties. He was named Morrow County Cattleman of the Year in 1954 and Grant County Conservation Rancher of the Year in 1969.

He married Catherine M. Fahy on Feb. 11, 1940 at Alameda, Calif. She died in 1968.

Emert was a member of St. Williams Church and Willows Grange, both of Lone.

Survivors include a daughter, Mary Kilkenny of Heppner; three grandchildren; brothers, Beecher of Tigard, Clarence of Roseburg, Arland of Raymond, Wash., and Dee of Walla Walla; sisters, Blanche Ward of Cascade, Idaho, Beulah Dunham of Brightwood, and Pat Pettyjohn of Lone. Two brothers, Phil and Alfred, died earlier.

Contributions may be made to the Pioneer Memorial Hospital Fund, P.O. Box 9, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, is in charge of arrangements.

Samuel A. Van Vactor

Samuel A. Van Vactor, 78, a former Wasco County District Court Judge, died Monday at The Dalles.

He was born October 11, 1908 in Heppner to Sam E. and Myrtle Van Vactor. His father was a Heppner attorney and his grandfather, William Van Vactor, was a territorial sheriff in Klickitat County before Washington became a state.

Van Vactor attended school in Heppner and then moved to The Dalles and graduated from The Dalles High School in 1926. He went to the University of Oregon and graduated from law school in 1932.

He joined the law practice of T. Leland Brown in 1934. He later became a deputy district attorney and held that position for four years.

He continued his law practice until World War II and served with the U.S. Army in Europe for 3½ years. He returned to The Dalles in 1945 at the end of the war and continued his private law practice until he was appointed District Court Judge.

Van Vactor served as judge from July 10, 1967 to Sept. 1, 1974. He had succeeded Dan M. Loughlin and James Donnell took that office when Van Vactor retired.

Prior to being district court judge, Van Vactor had served as city of The Dalles recorder court judge beginning July 7, 1950 on a part-time basis.

He had served on the board of governors of the Oregon State Bar, was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church and The Dalles Elks Lodge.

In 1941 he married Mina George. She died in 1982.

Survivors include three sons, Sam, Portland; Dan, Bend, and William, Eugene; five grandchildren and a sister Mary Stevens, White Salmon, Wash.

The Rev. Rustin Kinsey officiated at the January 30 requiem eucharist. Private burial services were at The Dalles IOOF Cemetery.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Dept. at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner reports handling or dispatching the following business during the past week:

January 26-the Sheriff's Office dispatched the Boardman ambulance to the post office where a female had fallen. She was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston.

The Sheriff's Office assisted two disabled motorists during the week of January 20-26.

January 27- the Sheriff's Office dispatched a Boardman ambulance to a one-vehicle accident at Hwy. 730-1-84 junction. Two male subjects with unknown injuries were transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

January 28-a deputy responded to a report of an assault at a residence in Irrigon. A deputy arrested Serjio Gutierrez, 25, for alleged Assault IV, and on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Pay Fine/Driving While Suspended. Also arrested on an Assault IV charge was Ruben Gutierrez, 23. Both were transported to Umatilla City Jail. Ruben Gutierrez posted bail and was released.

January 29-a deputy responded to a one-vehicle roll over accident at Miller Lane and Kunze Road. A Boardman ambulance was also dispatched to the scene. Diane Hernandez, 19, Boardman, was transported with injuries to Good Shepherd Hospital. She was also issued citations for Careless Driving and Open Container of an Alcoholic Beverage.

January 30-the Sheriff's Office dispatched a Boardman ambulance to a report of a female having a possible heart attack. Anne Littlejohn, 67, Boardman, was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

January 30- the Sheriff's Office dispatched a Boardman ambulance for a male who was throwing up at the Shell Station. He was transported to Good Shepherd Hospital.

January 31-a deputy assisted Boardman Police with the investigation of a one-vehicle accident on

Kunze Road in Boardman and with the arrest of Lewis J. Turner, 44, Boardman for allegedly Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. Turner was later released on his own recognizance.

January 31-the Sheriff's Office assisted the Boardman Police Dept. with the arrest of Mark Douglas Wending, 31, of Ward, Alaska, on a LaGrande warrant for Probation Violation. He was lodged at the Umatilla Police Dept.

February 2-a deputy contacted Dave Wright, Hardman, after receiving a complaint of an animal problem.

February 2-deputies responded to a family disturbance in the Lexington area. Disturbance was resolved upon their arrival.

During the week of January 27-February 2, the sheriff's office assisted three disabled motorists.

Heppner Police Report

The Heppner Police Dept. reports handling the following business during the past week:

January 26-citation issued for Expired License Plates; citation issued for Using Invalid License; officer requested for Security Check; officer requested for Traffic Check.

January 28-officer requested for Emergency Check; took missing dog report.

January 29-juvenile charged with Initiating False Report, motorist assist; took report of Worthless Document; took report of Worthless Document; officer requested for Traffic Check; officer requested for Noise Complaint; security check; security check.

January 30-took found property report.

January 31-funeral escort; officer requested for security check; assist Sheriff's citation issued for Violation of the Basic Rule.

February 1-took report of Criminal Mischief.

February 2-officer requested for security check.

Letters to the Editor

Communities need to comment on forest planning

To the Editor:

The long-range plans for the 19 national forests in Oregon and Washington now being issued for public comment by the U.S. Forest Service are extremely important to the people of these two states, especially those who live and work in the scores of small, timber-dependent communities. These plans can be blueprints for economic stability by providing high levels of timber output while protecting wildlife, watershed and recreational values. However, there is a gut-level fear spreading through these communities that our way of life is instead threatened by major reductions in the wood harvests from national forests -- 25% or more -- that sustain logging and mill jobs and the local businesses they support.

We've heard a lot lately about setting aside huge acreages of forest for the spotted owl, a bird that isn't even on the federal threatened or endangered species list. We're going

Film series benefits parents

To the Editor:

As a parent I wanted to say that I thoroughly enjoyed the first film of the Dobson series: The Strong Willed Child held at the Episcopal Church. I think that everyone should take advantage of this opportunity and come to the rest of the series.

When I became a parent I realized that I really didn't know what I was doing and suddenly everyone became an expert. And I became confused very quickly trying to decide whose advice to follow. So I have been on my knees praying a lot for answers and this film series has been an answer to my prayers.

to hear even more about new minimum-management requirements that were adopted without any opportunity for public comment, and they are already having a drastic effect on harvest levels.

It's important for all of us to make our voices heard on the Forest Service planning process before it's too late. We need to organize at the community level to do this. A few such community organizations already exist, and we're tying ourselves together into an umbrella group called CPR - Citizens for Perpetual Resources. Your community needs to be a part of this effort, and we'll be glad to share ideas with you. You can contact us by writing to CPR, P.O. Box 33, Florence, Oregon 97439.

Sincerely,
(s)Del Phelps
President
P.O. Box 67
Sheridan, OR 97378

This series is not only for parents but grandparents, families and people who are thinking about having a family. So I would really like to see more of the community get involved and come to the seven other presentations. It will help many of us give us an opportunity to help others.

If you have a chance to come please do, on every Sunday for the next seven weeks at 4:30 in the Episcopal Parish Hall.

Sincerely
(s) Merilee McDowell
Heppner

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