

# Gazette Times

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## Third graders start pool fund



Heppner Elementary school third graders with George Koffler and Rollie Marshall

Everybody's talking about how bad things will be without a swimming pool in Heppner, but Heppner Elementary School's third graders are doing something about it.

The kids in Cara Osmin's and Karen Dubuque's third grade classes opened up a pool fund at the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner May 21 and deposited the first \$100. The kids raised \$106.60 from a bake sale they held in their classroom May 20. They sold 400 treats at 25 cents each and also received a donation.

Anyone interested in making a

donation to the pool fund may do so at the bank. Groups are also invited to participate with proceeds from fund raisers.

The Heppner pool will not open this year because of structural and funding problems. Heppner city administrator Gary Marks has made a video which shows the pool's structural problems and examples of pools that he and city foreman Dave Winters visited in other cities. One such pool, preferred by city officials, is estimated to cost around \$1 million.

Funding for the pool was cut

along with funding for the Heppner Library and salary for one policeman. Officials say the cuts were necessary because of Ballot Measure 5 shortfalls. The city doesn't have enough bonded indebtedness to fund a new pool.

City officials had contemplated forming a pool district to levy money for pool construction and operation, but regulations prohibited this because a similar district already exists, the Willow Creek Park District. Members of the Willow Creek Park District so far have been reluctant to take on the pool project.

## Foundation announce scholarship winners



Christy Corwin

Heppner High School graduating senior Christy Corwin was awarded a \$400 scholarship by the Pioneer Memorial Hospital Foundation. Corwin wishes to go into medical imaging technology and is enrolled at Blue Mountain Community College.

Scholarships were also awarded to Dean Munkers, Sheri Warnock and Gary Bingham. Munkers will be a junior at Pacific University and plans a career in sports medicine. Warnock and Bingham are continuing their education to become X-ray

technicians.

The scholarships are awarded annually to residents of Morrow County who wish to continue their education and training in a healthcare related field.

The foundation and the North East Oregon Area Health Education Center (NEOAHEC) located in LaGrande, have each announced a program to assist with the cost of training for EMTs. The foundation and NEOAHEC will each grant \$50 to a Morrow County resident who completed an EMT course and receives their certification.

## Babysitter training class offered

Do you or someone you know ever wish for a trained, reliable babysitter "on call?" Do you know of a youth, fifth grade or older, that would like to learn a valuable life skill and be trained to earn money at the same time?

A good way to resolve these concerns might be to sponsor a youth, or encourage your own child to participate in the Baby Sitter Training to be conducted on June 8 and 9 in Heppner. At the training, youth can learn: what is expected of them while they babysit, how to conduct a

business, how to handle emergencies, how to stay in control in a variety of situations, the needs of children at different age levels, simple meals and snacks, and more.

The training will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parish hall of All Saints Episcopal Church, Heppner. The course is administered by Kathleen Lowe, R.N. and Carol Michael-Bennett, OSU Extension agent. Local medical personnel, day care providers and interested parents

teaching the course include: Ginny Nairns, Laura McElligott R.N., Sheree Smith R.N., Georgia Van Winkle, Kathy Tellechea and Sue Thompson, R.N.

Participants need to pre-register by paying \$4 at the Heppner Extension Office, 430 Linden Way, by June 1. For additional information contact Carol Michael-Bennett, extension agent at 676-9642.

## Heidi Orem to study abroad

By Anne Morter

Ione sophomore, Heidi Orem will spend her junior year studying in Germany. Heidi was awarded one of nine Congress/Bundestag scholarships given out in Oregon.

The scholarship pays for her insurance, international travel and program fees, and since it is through the Congress and the Bundestag (Germany's governing body), she will tour Bonn and Berlin. While there, she will meet German officials as well as American officials living in Germany. Upon her return to the U.S. she will make a stop in Washington, D.C., where she will tour the Capitol and again meet American and German

officials.

Heidi's initial entry was a series of essay answers to questions about Germany. On the basis of those essays, 27 semifinalists were selected to be personally interviewed. After interviewing in Oregon City, Heidi was selected as a finalist.

Heidi will spend a full year traveling, starting at the end of July. Her first four weeks will be spent at a language and culture camp in Germany before she meets her host family. She will not know her exact location in Germany until shortly before she departs.

Heidi is the daughter of Joe and Anita Orem of Ione.



Heidi Orem

## Fishing tournament set at dam Service officer

The Youth Fishing Tournament is fast approaching. This annual event will again be held at the Willow Creek Reservoir on June 7 from 1-5 p.m. Held in conjunction with National Fishing Week and sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service and the Heppner Lions Club, the derby promises to be a memorable time for the young and old alike.

Youngsters 13 years old and under may pre-register at Heppner Elementary School, the Heppner Ranger District office or the Gazette-Times. Kids may also register on the day of the derby. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and should bring their own fishing poles and tackle.

There will be prizes donated by local merchants. Prizes will be awarded in various age groups

and species caught. An extra special event is the Zebco Casting Contest which will take place during the fishing derby.

All kids who participate will receive a souvenir and a certificate of participation. Kids will also receive lucky fishing hooks and other related material. Local volunteers will be on hand to offer assistance, expertise and fishing tips.

"The Heppner Lions Club and the U.S. Forest Service have a strong commitment to America's youth," said Delanne Ferguson, district ranger, "and are proud to celebrate National Fishing Week by sponsoring an unforgettable day of fishing for your kids."

For more information contact the Heppner Ranger District at 676-9187 or Steve Rhea, 676-9113.

## Service officer to visit Heppner

Veterans of Foreign Wars Service Officer, Norman P. Griffin, will be in Heppner on June 5, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Senior Center.

Veterans and their dependents will be able to file claims and ask questions regarding Veterans Affairs entitlements. All veterans and their dependents are welcome to attend.

Accompanying Griffin will be Morrow County Service Officer, Rita Hedman, and Richard Sorn of Veterans Employment Division. Walla Walla Medical Center will have staff available to take blood pressure readings and hospital eligibility information from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

## Economic Development plan presentation

A presentation by Peter Dobert, consultant for Rural Development Initiatives is planned for Tuesday, June 2. Anyone interested in joining an executive committee that would form Heppner's economic development decisions is invited to attend.

Over two years ago an analysis was done for Heppner which identified the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to the community (SWOT). A community resource team of volunteers evolved from that study. The volunteers who came from a variety of groups, businesses and organizations, attended a training session in John Day and began meeting on a regular basis. Members of the initial group were Meg Murray, Fred Toombs, Rene Devin, Raymond French, George Koffler,

Roger Williams, Jackie Allstott, Pat Hyatt, Ann Spicer, Fred Lundin, Marsha Sweek and Claudia Hughes.

From this group came a vision statement, strategies and a name - VISION 2000 Committee. Heppner Economic Development Commission, the Heppner Chamber of Commerce, the city and task force groups have been active in implementing some strategies, getting some projects started, acquiring some grants and doing research. "Heppner qualifies for a number of grants and assistance from an economic development specialist if we can all pull together and 'get our ducks in a row,'" said a spokesperson.

The group has an opportunity to have a Heppner profile done

by Eastern Oregon State College. The profile could be used as a fingertip reference/fact book to bring businesses to town, develop housing, pull together for grants and continue to implement the VISION statement, they continued. The fact book could contain the answers to questions anyone might ask about Heppner.

Five to seven people are being sought to act as the umbrella organization over all the groups working toward progress for Heppner. They would work together as a team and with the other organizations and entities working on projects. Having a clear idea of the projects, they could possibly prioritize them for completion.

For more information and the meeting place call 676-9141.

## Pioneer picnic draws big crowd



Jean Nelson (l) presents plaque to Al, Donna and Rick Osmin

Around 150 people gathered Sunday for the annual Pioneer Picnic held at the Elks club in Heppner. The picnic was catered by the Lexington Grange.

Al Osmin was presented a Century Farm plaque. Tom Fraters was the oldest man attending;

Beulah Florence and Mable Deny tied for the oldest woman; the person coming the farthest came from San Diego; and Nikki Wolferin, 3 month old granddaughter of Gerald Swaggett was the youngest. Sally Cohn, a former resident won the

door prize.

American Legion representatives from Heppner and Ione presented the colors and played taps. They also read the names of the Morrow County War dead from World War I, WWII, the Korean War and Vietnam War.

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