

The Official Newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES

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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper
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Country Rose celebrates "Good Neighbor Day"



Tricia Sweeney, manager at Country Rose flowers and gifts in Heppner, presents a dozen roses to Irene Anhorn, Heppner, as part of the store's "Good Neighbor Day" promotion Wednesday, Sept. 4. Everyone who came to the store and asked for the roses received a dozen, with the stipulation that they give away all but one of the flowers.

Anhorn picked up her roses just in the nick of time—they were the last of 30 dozen given away by 9 a.m. that day. Anhorn said she was going to give her roses to the residents of Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home.

First Christian plans kids' events

The elementary-age children at First Christian Church, Heppner, will celebrate the coming of fall with their "Fall Frolic," Saturday, Sept. 28, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Events include a cake walk, carnival games (in which the children can win prizes), face painting,

hay rides in a horse-drawn wagon, and a pinata to be broken at 10:30 a.m.

All children four to 12 years old are invited to attend. The cost will be one can of food to be donated to the Neighborhood Center. All of the games and the hay rides are free to anyone who attends.

Letters to the Editor

Editor's note: Letters to the editor must be signed. The Gazette-Times will not publish unsigned letters. Please include your address

and phone number on all letters for use by the G-T office. The G-T reserves the right to edit.

Berrettas tireless in dedication to hospital

To the Editor:

Here in Morrow County, we've experienced many changes over the years with regard to medical services. One of the most positive was the arrival of Drs. Ed and Jeanne Berretta in the summer of 1988. Their tireless dedication to providing quality medical care helped make this community a better place to live, work and play. While the Berrettas have recently moved from our community, their legacy of quality care will remain with us far into the future.

Their impact was indeed significant. This was due to their own high degree of professionalism and their high expectations of other medical professionals. With their encouragement, nearly all of Pioneer Memorial Hospital's nursing staff achieved or retained their Advanced Cardiac Life Support certification, and most became Trauma Nurse certified.

Under Dr. Ed Berretta's guidance, the hospital became Oregon Trauma Level 4 certified. This means that Heppner area residents have timely access to highly skilled professionals whenever a traumatic injury occurs. Since its inception in 1991, the hospital's trauma system has been activated 44 times. While not all 44 lives could be saved, many more would likely have died without the trauma care pro-

vided by Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Jeanne Berretta's specialty training in geriatrics greatly enhanced the quality of care in the nursing home. With the area's high elderly population, many have and will continue to benefit from the improvements she implemented.

Both devoted countless hours to clinic and hospital emergency room responsibilities. This was oftentimes at the expense of personal time with their family. Out of the eight years they were here, the Berrettas worked for five years without any other full-time provider to relieve them. Few could have sustained the pace and continued meeting the health care demands of a community so dependent on them.

Yes, Drs. Ed and Jeanne Berretta have given much to this community and they will be missed. Because of their efforts, we are stronger and better able to provide the quality care this area needs and deserves. With our current physicians, Dr. Ernie Atkins and Dr. William Bitzas, we will continue the forward-moving momentum, constantly striving to provide the highest quality of medical care possible. We look forward to a promising future.

Sincerely,
(s) Kevin R. Erich,
Administrator
Morrow County Health District

Vote against cigarette tax

To the Editor:

The ballot initiative that would raise the state tax on cigarettes by .30 cents per pack is nothing more than a pack of doctors and hospitals angling for more money. Here's how it works: the hospitals and doctors directly benefit from the existence of the health care plan by being compensated for each Oregon Health Plan member they serve. So, naturally, they want to dump as much money into the program as they can. The more money there is, the more people the plan can cover and the more the doctors and hospitals benefit.

The odd thing about the plan is that if there are not enough funds for the program, they will simply reduce the number of services available to those eligible for the plan. They won't cut costs. They'll just cut

the number of treatments they cover. Doctors and hospital corporations passed a little amendment to the health plan that says their fees can never be reduced. Never.

The other strange piece to this puzzle is the expectation that a fraction of the population should pay for the majority of the people receiving care. That's ridiculous. Why doesn't everyone contribute to the cause? Why not tax milk and coffee? A lot more of these items are sold than cigarettes and almost everyone uses them. I know life isn't fair, but give me a break.

I don't smoke, but I refuse to support this tax increase for Oregonians who do. I hope my fellow Oregonians will see through this scam and vote against the tax with me.

Sincerely,
(s) Lynn Penwell
Portland

Students to meet with college reps

Students from lone High School will go to Heppner High School for a meeting with representatives of Oregon's four-year public colleges and universities on Thursday, Sept. 26 at 1 p.m.

This program supplements the guidance program of lone and Heppner's high schools by giving students first-hand information about academic program offerings, admission requirements, student support services, housing, costs to attend, financial aid, scholarships and other information impor-

tant to post-high school planning.

Parents are also encouraged to attend the program that will feature individual information sessions with representatives from Eastern Oregon State College, Oregon Institute of Technology, Oregon State University, Portland State University, Southern Oregon State College, University of Oregon and Western Oregon State College. Parents are also encouraged to discuss post-high school plans with their sons and daughters before and after the visitation program.

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Teachers from Page 1

basketball, baseball, football and track.

When the couple were first married, they taught during the school year and then rodeoed all summer. "Now," laughs Chuck, "we've retired so the kids can go. We keep pretty busy chasing the kids with rodeo, sports and their friends."

Before moving to Heppner, Chuck had taken some time away from education and worked at several different jobs. "I always knew I would probably go back (to teaching)," he said. "I really enjoy kids again and coaching is fun again."

Obituaries

Leon I. Deffenbaugh

Leon I. Deffenbaugh, 69, Fossil, died Thursday, September 5, 1996 at his ranch after falling from a horse.

Memorial service was Tuesday, September 10, 1996 at Restlawn Funeral Chapel in Salem. Private entombment service followed at Restlawn Mausoleum.

Mr. Deffenbaugh was born March 16, 1927, at Moreland, Kansas, the son of Oran and Letha Lloyd Deffenbaugh. He was raised and attended schools at Moreland and Meeker, Colorado. He moved to Oregon in 1944 and then served with the Merchant Marines.

On November 24, 1949, he married Amy M. Worzech at Portland. He moved his family to the Salem area in 1955 and began working for Hollywood Plumbing Company. In 1964, he started L.D. Plumbing and lived in the Gervais area.

The past seven years, he has enjoyed his retirement, revitalizing a ranch at Winlock, near Fossil. He enjoyed golfing and ranching.

Survivors include his wife, Amy Deffenbaugh of Fossil; sons, Lonny of Salem, Loren of Ashland, and Graig of Gervais; daughter, Carolyn Poach of Durham; mother, Letha Talbot of Milwaukie; brother, Lionel Deffenbaugh of Yerington, Nevada; sister, Darlene Mai of Oregon City; and 11 grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Oregon Association of Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors Scholarship Program, 10754 S.E. Highway 212, Clackamas, OR 97015.

Sweeney Mortuary, Condon, was in charge of arrangements.

Earl J. Blake

Earl J. Blake, 96, Heppner, died Tuesday, September 3, 1996, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

Memorial services were held Friday, September 6, 1996, at the Heppner Elks Lodge.

Mr. Blake was born September 12, 1899, at Howard, Idaho,

Chuck has been hired as half-time alternative education teacher at Heppner High School. He will meet with students on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school and all day on Fridays. The alternative program, says Chuck, is for kids, who, for one reason or another, have not had great success in the regular school program and who need more credits for graduation or more study for obtaining their GED.

In addition to his teaching position, Chuck is groundskeeper at the schools. He also coached JV basketball at HHS last year and helped with Colt football and basketball.

to John and Mary Miller Blake. He grew up at lone and attended school there, graduating from lone High School.

A veteran of World War I, he made 16 Atlantic crossings as a U.S. Navy radioman.

Following military service, he attended Oregon Agricultural College, now Oregon State University, at Corvallis.

He married Margaret C. Jones on October 9, 1920, at Portland.

He began farming in the lone area and later owned a wheat ranch in Clark's Canyon and a cattle ranch on Hinton Creek with summer pasture on the North Fork of Willow Creek.

Following a brief retirement to Ocean City and Portland, he returned to Heppner and developed part of the Willow Creek property into a subdivision now known as Blake Ranch. There are now 25 permanent residents and many part-time residents on the property.

He built the first radio in Morrow County and continued his interest in radio as an amateur radio operator (HAM) for many years. At the time of his death, he was one of the oldest people in Oregon holding a HAM license.

In his early years, Mr. Blake played the saxophone with various dance bands throughout Morrow County.

He was an active member of the Elks Lodge, Masonic Lodge, Shriners and the American Legion. He served as worshipful master of the Masons at the same time his wife, Margaret Blake, served as worthy matron of Eastern Star.

His wife, Margaret, died in 1988, and a daughter, Mary Kay Singer, died in 1994.

Survivors include his companion, Marjorie Blake of Heppner; daughters, Helen Gilliam of Heppner and Joanne Blake of Portland; son, Donald of San Francisco; brother, Keithely of Gresham; five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of choice. Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, was in charge of arrangements.

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