

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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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.

Dr. Atkins, an answer to a prayer

To the Editor:

I am writing this in appreciation of the care that my daughter Heidi Turrell receives at the hands of Dr. Ernie Atkins. As a mother I was very concerned when Dr. Ed Berretta left, considering that Heidi has received chemotherapy treatments for the past eight years, usually weekly. Changing doctors was hard for me and hard for Heidi, but then we had Dr. Atkins treating Heidi. He is the most considerate, kind and caring physician that Heidi at that stage in her life needed. He has consistently shown caring and, I would dare say, love for Heidi. Heidi has very friable veins and the trouble we would have week after week starting her IV was very traumatic for Heidi, but after watching Dr. Atkins, I realized it was very traumatic for him also. After one particularly hard day at the clinic which had

left Heidi upset, her mother in tears and Dr. Atkins feeling horrible, he sent her a bouquet of flowers to the high school the next day to help cheer her up. He has been there for me as a mother for a shoulder to cry on and Heidi, who has had too many physicians in her life to count, adores him. I would never wish any of this on any other child or person but I feel that if they had to go through this, I would hope they would be as lucky to have Dr. Atkins there to take care of them. We have recently started new chemotherapy treatments and Heidi had a portacath placed and the knowledge that Dr. Atkins was at home in Heppner to do her weekly treatments lifted my spirits tremendously. As a mother, to have a physician who cares and worries about your child as much as you do is comfort beyond measure. I appreciate you, Dr. A.-you are an answer to our prayers.
(s) Vickie Turrell Heppner

Growth only way to meet costs

To the Editor:

This letter is to express support for the youth accountability camp proposed by the Oregon Youth Authority for a possible site at Heppner. Taxes and expenses constantly escalate for all cities, hospitals, counties and businesses, as well

as individuals. Ready or not, like it or not, growth is the only way we can meet these rising costs. A stable community could be what these youths need, as well as what the community needs to maintain the jobs and services that we currently enjoy.
(s) Meg Murray Ione

Waterpark to offer water aerobics

The Willow Creek Waterpark is offering an "activity you can share with friends, give you more energy, help you cope with stress and improve your self image"--aquatic exercise. The waterpark is now registering individuals for aquatic exercise classes at the new spa. Classes are designed to provide low-impact aerobic exercise, cardiovascular conditioning and muscle toning. The classes do not require that people get their hair wet. Sign up for the February 23-March 20 session will begin Feb. 11. Each session will consist of three classes per week for four weeks for a fee of \$35. Classes

will be held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the following times: 8-8:30 a.m., 12:15-12:45 p.m., 1:30-2 p.m. and 6-6:30 p.m. Other class hours may be added to the schedule if there is enough interest. Those interested in signing up may stop by the waterpark on Monday, Wednesday or Friday from noon to 2 p.m. or 6-7 p.m. or call and leave a message, 676-5752. The spa is also open for use Fridays through Monday by appointment. Those interested may call and leave a message as to the time they would like to use the spa. Waterpark staff will call back to confirm appointments.

Air Life reps visit Heppner



Wanda Grindstaff
While on a three-day road trip in Eastern Oregon, Vern Bartley, Air Life director, and Wanda Grindstaff, new Air Life membership coordinator, visited the Heppner volunteer team. Team captain Robanai Disque, as well as other volunteers, Irvin Rauch and Molly Rill, were present on Thursday evening, Jan. 29. Grindstaff joined the Air Life of Oregon team in mid-December. Accepting the membership coordinator position has been an easy transition for her. During the last six years she

served as development director for both Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Prineville and the Prineville Hospital Foundation. She has a strong background working on community projects and with volunteers. Grindstaff's goal is to visit each team prior to Air Life's annual team training to be held in Bend on Saturday, April 25. Air Life's service area covers a 150-mile radius and 70,000 square miles by helicopter. The airplane/fix wing covers 600 miles and Air Life has 13 volunteer teams throughout Central and Eastern Oregon. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer team member, or who would like to know how to obtain an Air Life membership may call Disque at 989-8535.

Obituaries

Bert Odinet

Bertrand A. "Bert" Odinet, 53, of Ione, died Friday, February 6, 1998, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner. Memorial service was held Wednesday, February 11, 1998 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Heppner. Mr. Odinet was born January 26, 1945, at Arabi, Louisiana, to Bertrand and Eva Adams Odinet. He grew up in Louisiana and attended schools there. During the Vietnam War, he served four tours of duty in Vietnam as a Navy Seal and Underwater Demolition Team member. On June 7, 1973, he married Nansea Crinklaw at Crows Landing, California. They moved to Ione from Grants Pass in 1992. Mr. Odinet enjoyed the outdoors, horses and cows, wildlife, hunting and fishing and was proud of his daughter and spent much time with her. He was a Native American, of the Choctaw Tribe. Survivors include his wife, Nansea, and daughter, Tori, both of Ione; and seven brothers and sisters. Memorial contributions may be made to the Bert Odinet Memorial Fund, c/o Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner Branch, P.O. Box 39, Heppner, OR 97836. Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, was in charge of arrangements.

Huston C. Lesley

Huston Clinton Lesley, 101, of John Day, died Friday, January 30, 1998, two days before his 102nd birthday, at Blue Mountain Hospital in John Day. Cremation was held. Mr. Huston and his wife, Marie, will both be buried in an urn vault at the Monument, OR cemetery. A committal service will be held in the spring when the urn vault is buried and when a monument is placed on the grave. Mr. Lesley was born February 1, 1886, at Nehalem, OR to Newton and Anna Jackson Lesley. When he was six, the family came up the Columbia River to The Dalles and then went by wagon train to Monument where Mr. Lesley was raised. When he was 16, he was head powder man and in charge of other workers in the construction of the Picture Gorge Road, seven miles west of Dayville. From 1926 until 1930, he ran the stage line from Canyon City to Long Creek. From 1931 until 1963, he ran a service station at Mount Vernon and worked as a self-employed auto mechanic, later moving to Portland where he worked in the shipyards. He lived at Hardman, 20 miles south of Heppner, for 46 years. Mr. Lesley was a 70 year member of the American Legion at Monument. His wife, Marie, died in October 1996. Survivors include daughters, Genevieve Woolley of John Day, Nellie Hopson of Anaconda, Montana and Fern Yeakel of Seattle; sisters, Elvera Walker of Medford, Sarah Smith of Milwaukie and Lela Sloan of John Day; brothers, Rudell of Monument, Donald of San Jose, California and Robert of John Day; eight grandchildren, 13

great-grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Canby Funeral Chapel, P.O. Box 1148, Canby, OR, was in charge of arrangements.

Robert R. Conner

Robert Riley Conner, 62, of Irrigon, died Monday, February 2, 1998, at his home in Irrigon. Memorial services were held Saturday, February 7, 1998 at the Hermiston Eagles Lodge. Disposition was by cremation. Robert Riley Conner was born October 1, 1935, at Baker City, to Robert Earl and Nadine Morris Conner. He served with the U.S. Army during the Korean Conflict. He had lived in Arlington and Oregon City before coming to Irrigon eight years ago. Survivors include his wife, Dianne, at the home; his mother, Nadine Conner of McNary; sons, Robert Earl Conner II, and Buddy Colin Conner, both of Portland; daughter, Tamie Jean Conner of Milwaukie; brothers, Melford, Larry, Don, David, Levi and Neil; sister, Kathleen Osborn of Fossil; 10 grandchildren and one-great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his father and one grandson. Memorial contributions may be made to the Vange John Memorial Hospice, P.O. Box 306, Hermiston, OR 97838. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston was in charge of arrangements.

Leila M. Palmer

Leila M. Palmer, 73, of Lexington, died Monday, February 2, 1998, at her home. Funeral services were held Friday, February 6, 1998 at the Lexington Baptist Church. Concluding service and burial followed at the Lexington Cemetery. Leila M. Marshall was born May 9, 1924, at Ellensburg, Washington, to Kenneth and Myrtle Duncan Marshall. The family lived at Ellensburg and she attended school there before moving to Lexington where she graduated from high school. On January 24, 1942, she married Kenneth E. Palmer at Heppner. The couple farmed on the Palmer ranch west of Lexington. Mrs. Palmer was a member of the Rebekah Lodge for over 50 years. Survivors include a daughter, Janet Balfie of Anchorage, Alaska; a son, Michael Palmer of Ukiah; her father, Kenneth Marshall of Zillah, Washington; and a brother, Bernard of Deer Park, Washington; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth; son, Joe; daughter, Carol Ann Rea; mother, Myrtle Marshall; and sister, Alice Majeske. Memorial contributions may be made to Pioneer Memorial Home Health Care, P.O. Box 9, Heppner, OR 97836. Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, was in charge of arrangements.

Sign dedication honors memory of Howard and Jo Pettyjohn



L-R: Dorris Graves, Larry Pettyjohn and Dee Ann Pettyjohn
A ceremony to dedicate a sign erected in memory of Jo and Howard Pettyjohn, who were killed in an automobile accident on Nov. 19, 1992, was held at the site on January 30. In July of 1997, Dorris Graves, mother of Jo Ann Pettyjohn, made an application to the Oregon Department of Transportation to have an Impaired Driving Victim Memorial sign installed. According to ODOT, the purpose of the impaired driving memorial program, a pilot program that has been in place since 1995, is to raise driver awareness about the impacts of driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. For the family of Jo Pettyjohn it was an opportunity to save other families from the pain and trauma they have suffered. The memorial sign is located on the southbound land of

Highway 207 at milepost 14.5, where the accident occurred, and reads, "Please don't use drugs and drive. In Memory of Jo Ann and Howard Pettyjohn." According to police reports, there was evidence of drugs in the truck and around the crash site. Medical reports showed the driver was under the influence of drugs at the time the accident occurred. Dorris Graves, Mesa, AZ, and two of the Pettyjohns' children were at the ceremony, Dee Ann of Portland and Larry of Burbank, WA. Their son, Steve, lives in Sacramento, CA, and was unable to attend. Also in attendance were the couple's four grandchildren, Howard's brother Bill, The Dalles, Jo's sister Betty Carlson, Heppner, her brother, Deane Graves, Hermiston, and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews and friends. Following the dedication, the group a reception was held at the Hermiston Eagles Lodge.

Morrow County representatives meet with FEMA head

Local concerns about the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP) prompted Federal Emergency Management Agency director James Witt to schedule a visit with three Morrow County representatives. County Judge Louis Carlson, Boardman Mayor Terry Tallman and Irrigon Mayor Don Eppenbach traveled to Washington D.C., to discuss CSEPP issues with Witt. During the Feb. 9 meeting, Carlson, Tallman and Eppenbach planned to address county specific issues regarding response capabilities in the "unlikely event

of a chemical release" at the Umatilla Chemical Depot. Issues the three representatives hoped to discuss included response level monitoring to determine the presence or absence of chemical warfare agents, personal protective equipment for first responders, CSEPP-funded tow vehicles for the mobile decontamination trailers, tone alert radios and additional sirens. "This is a great opportunity for Morrow County representatives to deal with a lot of issues one-on-one and hopefully get some concrete answers," said Dan Knoll, Morrow County public information officer.

Pioneer Memorial Clinic will be closed Monday, February 16th for Presidents' Day

Celebrate Valentine's Day!
EVERYBODY FREE FLOWER DELIVERY IN HEPPNER THURSDAY, FEB. 12 & FRIDAY, FEB. 13

LOVES ROSES

Flowers
Balloons
Plants
Candy

The Country Rose
833 N. Main P.O. Box 270628
HEPPNER, OREGON 97836
Serving Heppner, Irrigon and Area

Invitation to Bid:
Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, Inc. will accept sealed bids on the following surplus equipment:
Unit #15:
1968 Ford, F-800. Engine does not run, 2-speed rear axle, 5-speed main transmission, PTO, good rubber, 391 V8, 108,309 miles, sold for parts.
Unit #27:
1988 Ford, F-350 4x4 w/utility bed. 460 V-8 engine, 5-speed O/D transmission. 102,502 miles, fair tires, standard cab. Vehicles are sold as is, no warranty. Each vehicle must be bid separately.
Vehicles can be seen at CBEC headquarters in Heppner from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays only. Sealed bids to be opened at 11:00 a.m. on February 27, 1998.
Successful bidder notified immediately. Payment in full upon delivery, not more than 48 hours following opening of bids.
Bids must be clearly marked "Sealed Bid".
CBEC reserves the right to reject any or all bids.
Mail or deliver bids to: Columbia Basin Electric Co-op., Inc.; ATTN: Fred Toombs, Manager; P.O. Box 398; Heppner, OR 97836

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FOR COMPLETE IONE AND HEPPNER SPORTS SCHEDULES Visit Our WEB SITE At www.beobank.com Schedules: Boys • Girls • JV • Junior High