

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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David Sykes.....Publisher
April Hilton-Sykes.....Editor

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.

Let's start solving hospital's problems

To the Editor:
I was shocked to read of the impending closure of Pioneer Memorial Hospital in yesterday's (9/16/98) Gazette-Times. The most disturbing is the fact that we were not warned by the board of this impending catastrophe. The hospital has had financial troubles before but we have always rallied enough support in advance to keep things running. Now it seems that we have no money and no time.

I'm sure that every one over 60 will agree that we need a trauma center, ambulance service and a full time physician. How many unnecessary deaths must we suffer before we can come together and solve these

For Kevin Campbell

To the Editor:
My husband and I are avid supporters of Kevin Campbell, who is running as the Democratic Congressman in the 2nd Congressional District of Oregon. When Kevin was Grant County Judge for six years, I personally worked closely with him on probate, conservatorships, guardianships and adoptions. He worked closely with attorneys, helped close cases out in record time and had none dragging on for years as often they do. He received a letter from the state commending him on his efficiency in the probate matters.

I feel that Kevin Campbell is one of the smartest people in I.Q. and is constantly seeking more knowledge, more information to inform him on his judgments. He is very gracious in manner, independent-minded and profoundly ethical and an avid partisan and savvy politician.

He maintains a strict standard

Don't let nursing home residents down

To The Editor:
I am writing this letter to alert you to the situation developing at Pioneer Memorial Hospital and Nursing Home. That is, the option offered by Pioneer's administration which would lead to closure of the hospital and nursing home.

My mother is one of more than 30 of our elderly citizens living at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home. All can no longer stay in their homes, care for themselves and many can no longer speak for themselves. My mother probably would not survive a move to the closest nursing home. She is 84 and completely disabled. She is very dependent on the caring staff at Pioneer. They are her lifeline. The hospital also being in the same

problems? The board should be calling meetings in each community immediately to explain how we got into this mess and to search for solutions.

If it is government policy not to support Medicaid, Medicare or rural hospitals as has been suggested then the whole community should be hounding our senators and representatives to change the rules. Surely the country can't be broke since all we've heard from the newspapers, television and the Democrats is the wonderful economy. Maybe all the lies are not about sex in high places.

Next week isn't too early to start working. Let's go.

(s) Don McElligott
Ione

of fairness, decorum and good judgment. I feel that he is not a democratic lock-step and would take his 2nd Congressional position very serious and would benefit all of us who live within this district. He would be great as Oregon's democratic congressman from District #2, one that will uphold the United States Constitution for what it stands for, one that we Oregonians in District #2 would be very proud to represent us back in Washington D.C. His heart is in this district.

Kevin Campbell is a man of character, and "character does count." He is strong-willed. "If he's with you, he's with you and if he's not, he's not, and it doesn't take but a couple of minutes to find out."

Please cast your vote for Kevin Campbell on Nov. 3, 1998 to be Oregon's next Congressman from Congressional District #2.

(s) Sammie and Otho Laurance
Canyon City

Big fan of Heppner, "diamond in the desert"

To the Editor:

I am a big fan of Heppner, although I have never even visited your town. However, I have worked with and know many people who have lived in Heppner, and I greatly enjoy reading the Heppner Gazette-Times and visiting your web site.

From what I read and hear, I believe there is a quality of life in Heppner that is noteworthy, indeed a rare find these days where a community places high value on its civic duties, youth, families and residents. I have been so impressed with your town and the people that hail from Heppner, that I wanted to write and give you my "outsiders" perspective of what makes your town special.

A letter to the editor published July 22 caught my attention, and heart, in a big way. The letter was written by Doris Brosnan, titled "Looking Good Heppner", who was filled with pride at the many improvements made to the downtown area, with new sidewalks and highway paving. She notes that private citizens

take the time to spruce up and pull weeds from the town's planters and flower beds, and she compliments the city workers for their hard work and dedication. She articulates well that the citizens of Heppner care about their town and are motivated to take action for its benefit. What a refreshing attitude.

I have referenced Ms. Brosnan's letter at several of my management meetings for the purpose of showing that taking ownership of an issue or project, and having pride and conviction in your work, reaps positive results. These traits also are contagious, and can have a great affect on boosting morale and productivity. Your town appears filled with people that model these characteristics, thereby creating the quality of life so many people seek.

A co-worker and friend of mine, and a Heppner native, is a great ambassador for you, boasting of your community and people. Based on this, I plan to take a group of people on a tour of your town soon so we can see and hopefully meet the people that comprise this diamond in the desert.

(s) Joe Wiley
Kennewick

Historical Society plans program



Joy Christensen

The Morrow County Historical Society will host a special presentation by Western Heritage performer Joy Christensen of Baker City on Sunday, October 4, beginning at 1 p.m. at the Lexington Grange Hall.

Through storytelling and music, Christensen shares the history of the remarkable teachers who taught in one-room country schools. For this event, she also will tell stories from her own experience to illustrate the strength of character, resourcefulness and independence that were developed in students by those teachers and that were characteristic of ranch culture.

Christensen will be accompanied by her dog Sage, the well "schooled" mascot and side-kick.

Christensen was born in Montana, in time to be raised with the experience, traditions and outlook on life developed during the pioneer era of the great American West. She has been a working cowgirl and horse trainer much of her life. Living on isolated ranches afforded her the opportunity to attend one-room country schools.

The program will include a potluck dinner. Those planning to attend are asked to bring salads and desserts. Drawings for door prizes will be held.

Everyone is invited to attend.

Symphony to begin new season

The Willow Creek Symphony will begin its fall rehearsals on Tuesday, Sept. 29, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Heppner Middle School band room.

Rehearsals will be held at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday. The conductor for the symphony will be Ralph Werner.

The symphony will give two concerts this year in conjunction with the South Morrow County Community Choir. The dates of the concerts are Dec. 6 and April

25.

Due to a shortage of string players, the format of the group will be a concert band this year. Brass and woodwind players of all ages are welcome to join.

Basic instrument proficiency and note reading ability are prerequisites to playing in the symphony.

Anyone interested in joining may call Myrna Van Cleave at 676-5448 for an application form.

Tworek selected for scholarship



Marie Tworek

Marie Tworek of Pendleton was selected as the 1998 recipient of the Maryan L. McElligott Memorial Scholarship by the Oregon State Scholarship Commission in June.

A \$1,000 scholarship was awarded to Tworek, a 1996 graduate of Ione High School, for the 1998 - 1999 school year. Tworek, who begins her second year at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton this fall, is pursuing a registered nursing degree and working at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston. After she receives her associate degree in the summer of 2000 she hopes to continue her studies and attend Eastern Oregon State and pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing from Oregon Health Science University.

The Maryan L. McElligott Memorial Scholarship was established in 1993 following her short and unsuccessful battle with cancer. McElligott placed a high value on community and volunteered in the schools, 4-H and throughout the community. Education was very important to her. She raised eight children; seven have completed their college degrees and the eighth is currently a senior at Regis University in Denver Colorado.

The scholarship was established to provide other students the opportunity to go to college and for youth to carry on those values she cared most about, said L. J. "Jerry" McElligott, her husband and family spokesperson. "The family set-

up the fund with the Oregon State Scholarship Commission in 1994 with the goal of establishing an endowment of \$20,000 and making an annual scholarship award. We reached our goal at the end of 1996 and have now more than doubled our goal which enables us to make an annual scholarship grant."

Only the income from the endowment fund will be used to make annual awards, thus leaving the principle intact and creating a perpetual source of scholarships for Ione students.

"The Maryan L. McElligott Memorial Scholarship Fund assets are currently managed by the Oregon Community Foundation in Portland. Family and friends continue to make gifts to the endowment," Jerry added.

The Maryan L. McElligott Memorial Scholarship Fund will continue to make an annual scholarship award to graduates of Ione High School who are enrolled or will be enrolled as sophomores or above in a full-time undergraduate course of study at any eligible post-secondary institution, including out-of-state institutions. Successful applicants can reapply for additional assistance. Applications are available in January from the Oregon State Scholarship Commission at Valley Office Park, 1500 Valley River Drive, Suite 100, Eugene, Oregon 97401.

For more information about the scholarship, contact Jerry, 422-7567.

Wheat commission plans meeting

A meeting of the Oregon Wheat Commission will be held Thursday, Sept. 24, at 9 a.m. at the Cousins Restaurant & Saloon at 2114 W. 6th St., The Dalles.

The meeting is open to the public.

Lexington Baptist plans Roundup

Lexington Baptist Church is planning its annual Roundup Sunday for Sept. 27 at 11 a.m.

The annual event features lots of special music, a brief message by Pastor Glenn Anderson, followed by a meal of Chuckwagon Stew and biscuits.

Those attending the service are encouraged to come dressed in their jeans or other western clothes. This year's special music includes a string quintet featuring violins, cello and double bass. Other instrumental and vocal numbers will also be performed.

Everyone is invited to attend. Visitors are especially welcome. Lexington Baptist is located at 160 East B Street in Lexington.

Obituary

Francis E. Ely

Francis Ely, 84, of Salem, formerly of Ione, died Saturday, September 19, 1998. Services were held Wednesday, September 23, 1998 at the Virgil T. Golden Mortuary, with interment at Belcrest Memorial Park.

Mr. Ely was born on July 13, 1914 in Ione and served in the Coast Guard during World War II. After the war, he taught school and coached a variety of sports in Ione for five years. He moved to Salem in 1951 and was a claims director for SAIF until retiring.

He was a member of Odd Fellows, Ione Masonic Lodge, Salem Golf Club and was an avid golfer. His wife, Florence Frederickson Ely, whom he married in 1938, died in 1996.

Survivors include his son, Duane of The Dalles, and two grandchildren.

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**Arts Council
Annual Meeting**

Monday, September 28th
7 p.m. at the Morrow Estates, Boardman

*We will hear reports from
board members on future projects*

For questions, call 422-7191

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