

## Obituaries

### Elmer M. Moe

Elmer M. Moe, 89, of Heppner, died Sunday, November 1, 1998, at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home in Heppner.

Graveside service was held Wednesday, November 4, 1998 at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Elmer Moe was born February 7, 1909, at Dover, Idaho, to Martin and Mamie Moe. He attended school at Kootenai, Idaho, where he graduated from high school in 1927.

He lived at Lone, Washington for a time, then moved to Pilot Rock, where he worked in the mill. In 1941, he moved to Heppner. He worked at Kinzua Pine Mill, retiring as a superintendent in 1975.

On February 27, 1943, he married Rosalie Ployhar at Pendleton.

Mr. Moe enjoyed fishing and spent a great deal of time fishing on Lake Pend'Oreille in Northern Idaho.

Survivors include his wife, Rose Moe, of Heppner; daughter, Jo Hudson of Heppner; stepsons, Jack Ployhar and Darrell Ployhar, both of Heppner; stepdaughter, Peg Martin of Redmond; a brother, Albert Moe of Spokane; 14 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pioneer Memorial Hospital Foundation, P.O. Box 515, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

### Yvonne E. Lovgren

Yvonne E. Lovgren, 66, of Heppner, died Monday, November 2, 1998, at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend.

Graveside service was held Friday, November 6, 1998 at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Yvonne Dougherty was born December 31, 1931, at Blalock near Arlington, to Earl and Roberta McKinney Dougherty. She began school at Lexington, then attended St. Joseph Academy in Pendleton, then attended school in Heppner.

On March 19, 1949, she married Robert L. Lovgren at Heppner. The couple farmed near Lexington, retiring in 1994 and moving into Heppner.

Mrs. Lovgren supported the Hardman Community Center. She belonged to the Garden Club and was always ready to volunteer when needed.

Survivors include her husband, Robert Lovgren of Heppner; son, Chris Lovgren of Seattle; brother, Jerry Dougherty of Heppner; and three grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heppner Elks Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 494, Heppner, OR, 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

### Vasa Lesperance

Vasa Elizabeth Lesperance, 84, of Hermiston, died Thursday, November 5, 1998, at her home.

Graveside services were held Tuesday, November 10, 1998 at the Hermiston Cemetery.

Vasa Elizabeth Koegeboelm was born March 20, 1914, at Marion, Kansas, to David and Leanna Coleman Koegeboelm. In her earlier years, she worked outdoors and helped raise crops.

She had been a resident to Hermiston the past five years and had previously lived at Irrigon and Moses Lake, Washington.

Mrs. Lesperance enjoyed crocheting.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dennie, in 1981.

Survivors include a son, Dennis of Irrigon; a sister, Mildred Davis in Oregon; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston was in charge of arrangements.

## Donations

### welcome

Anyone wishing to donate to the Jovita Reyes Foundation (Cassie Chapel) may send checks made out to the Jovita Reyes Foundation to June Crowell at P.O. Box 101, Lone, OR 97843. Checks should be mailed by Sunday, Nov. 15.

### Helen Searcy Ruggles

Memorial services for Helen Searcy Ruggles, 83, will be held at Central United Protestant Church in Richland, WA, on Saturday, November 14, 1998, at 4 p.m. in the chapel. A reception will follow.

Helen Searcy Ruggles was born to Thomas B. Searcy and Lena Rivers Shelton on January 23, 1915, in Moro. She died peacefully in her sleep at Kadlec Medical Center in Richland, WA, on November 10, 1998.

Mrs. Ruggles was raised on a wheat ranch in Sherman County. She married Charles Ruggles in 1933 and raised their daughter, Connie, in Heppner, where they ran a successful insurance company for a number of years. They retired to Arizona and, after Charles died in 1976, she moved to Richland to be near her daughter and family.

During her life in Richland, Mrs. Ruggles volunteered her piano skills to various organizations, including Central United Protestant Church and Eastern Star. Her hobbies and interests included wildflower photography, piano accompaniment for a dance band and numerous special occasions. Sweet Adelines, the Sherman County Historical Society, traveling the western states and "armchair quarterbacking".

She was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Ruggles, her daughter, Connie Fastabend, a well-known local artist, her parents, six brothers and one sister.

She is survived by her son-in-law, Jack Fastabend, and six grandchildren, Dona Gilmour, Laura Benson, Neil Fastabend, Linda Fastabend, Jef Fastabend and Wayne Fastabend and their families.

Einan's Funeral Home at Richland was in charge of arrangements.

### Walter Russell Lacey

Memorial services for Walter Russell Lacey were held Friday, November 6, 1998, at the Burns Mortuary Chapel in Hermiston. Disposition was by cremation.

Mr. Lacey, 67, died Monday, November 2, 1998, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

Walter Russell Lacey was born at Rushville, Indiana, on December 20, 1930, Oscar and Bessie Hawkins Lacey.

Mr. Lacey, a resident of Heppner the past month, had previously lived in Pendleton for three years. Before moving to Pendleton, he lived in Tygh Valley and had also lived in Condon for many years. At Condon he was a Little League coach, ran the bowling lanes and was a city policeman. He also worked for the Oregon State Highway Dept. He was a veteran of the Korean War, serving in the United States Air Force.

Mr. Lacey loved fishing, hunting and all sports.

Mr. Lacey is survived by his wife, Billie Faye Lacey of Heppner; two sons, David Lacey of Conrad, Montana, and Scott

Lacey of New Mexico; five daughters, Marthela Potter of Pendleton, April Wilson of Heppner, Dorothea Frost of

Redmond, Kathy Cutsforth of Heppner and Lola Miller of Redmond; 16 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

## Hope, Valby welcome new members

The congregations of Hope and Valby Lutheran churches welcomed new members to their Christian fellowship on Sunday, November 8.

The Neiffer Family of Lone was welcomed into membership of the congregation at Valby's 9 a.m. worship. Linda and Duane Neiffer met while they were working for the USFS out of Heppner in the early 1980s. Most recently of Boardman, the family now lives in Lone. Linda continues to teach at Sam Boardman Elementary while husband, Duane, is now teaching science at Lone Junior and Senior High. Their sons, Paul seventh grade, Adam ninth grade, and Jacob, 11th grade, attend lone schools.

Seven new members were welcomed into the Hope congregation at the 11 a.m. service. The Basile family has attended Hope (Debbie Basile is the church musician) for some

time and on Sunday they were formally received into membership. Joe is an Oregonian "by way of New York" who is employed as a plant operator at the Coyote Springs Power Plant.

In addition to being Hope's music leader and the mother of Luke, third grade, and Dan fifth grade, Debbie is the accompanist for the South Morrow County Choir and works part time at Murray Drugs. Debbie hails from Salem. The family has been living in the Heppner area since 1990.

Ashley Collette, a sophomore at Heppner High School, and her brother, Travis Judd, a senior, also became members, transferring their membership from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Boardman.

Dick Metz, pastor of the Hope/Valby Lutheran Parish, also transferred his church membership from Woodlake Lutheran Church, Richfield, MN.

## 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.

### Will miss patriotic trip to the polls

To the Editor:

Many, many many years ago, as I passed the magic age of "21" (the legal age to vote back then), I could hardly wait to register to vote. In 1932, I proudly went to the polling place to cast my ballot. I felt very patriotic to mark my first ballot.

In my home, as I grew up, there was much discussion of candidates and issues, both national and local. I remember going to the polling place, the local schoolhouse, with the family and babysat my siblings while my parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and older cousins voted.

I have gone to the poles every election since 1932 to vote except when I was away from home and then I would get an absentee ballot. I am not very enthusiastic about the new mail-in ballot.

There was an article in the Metro section of the Sunday Or-

egonian a couple of weeks ago about the number of registered voters in each county and the state. It told how many registered absentees, the percent of absentees and the percent of absentee ballots returned.

It was quite enlightening as to what may happen with the new vote-by-mail.

Less than 14 percent of the mailed ballots were returned.

I personally will miss the patriotic trip to the poles.

(s) Barbara Gilbert Heppner

Have your own  
**WEB PAGE**  
Heppner Gazette  
676-9228

**Dr. Donald J. Carlson**  
**Foot Specialist**

will be at the Pioneer Memorial Clinic  
on November 18th for the diagnosis  
and treatment of all foot problems

Heppner 676-5504 Hermiston 567-8750

It's  
Time  
To  
Winterize  
Your  
Home  
& Auto

**Coast to Coast**  
Heppner WE CAN HELP YOU 676-9961

Pre-Thanksgiving EVERYBODY LOVES  
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Hermiston, Oregon 97838

Thank-you  
from...

To our constituents in Umatilla & Morrow Counties—we greatly appreciate your support—we take very seriously our stewardship of the monies you provide to us for community college educational services in Eastern Oregon.

To those who served on the "Friends" committees in Milton-Freewater, Pendleton, Hermiston/West Umatilla County area, the North Morrow/Columbia River area, & the South Morrow/Willow Creek Valley area; to the Blue Mountain Community College Board of Education, Foundation Board Members & Budget Committee Members; and to the faculty & staff of Blue Mountain Community College—*thanks for all the hard work and dedication to the Bond Effort*—we couldn't have done it without all of you!

...The Friends  
of BMCC

# Thank You!

The confidence that you have expressed in me and my family is deeply appreciated. It is a great honor to be chosen as your congressman. My campaign pledge to you was that I will do the best that I can every time, and that will be my mission in Congress.

- Congressman-elect Greg Walden and family

