

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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**Public invited to tour yard
of month selections**

The public is invited to join Heppner Garden Club members for an informal tour of the 1999 yard of the month selections. Those planning to attend are to meet Monday, September 13, at 5 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Senior Center.

During the growing season a different yard is selected each month. Honorees received gift certificates from Green Feed, a co-sponsor of this event. The purpose of this event is to give recognition to individuals who strive to enhance their environment and community, said the Garden Club.

Beautification, along with education and conservation are some of the goals of a garden club, says President Peg Connor.

For instance, the club plants and cares for flowers that enhance the mini-park area next to the Post Office. The club is also asked to decorate tables for community events such as the Town and Country banquet.

Sharing plant knowledge as well as plants has created an annual plant exchange each spring. And in December, the club gathers to provide evergreens and materials for the annual greens workshop.

The Heppner Garden Club provides a scholarship to promote education. A poster contest for younger children focuses on learning about conservation. The club provides "welcome baskets" full of goodies to new teachers as school begins in the fall.

County non-profits get help

Morrow County non-profit organizations just received a little help from friends at Portland General Electric (PGE).

PGE employees obtained financial donations through PGE's Employee Volunteer Grant program—a program designed to align a portion of PGE's charitable giving with the volunteer interests of its employees.

Grants awarded in Morrow County include: \$500 donated by Bryan Timms for Columbia River Heritage Trail/Technical Advisory Committee; \$125 donated by Larry Hull for Columbia United Soccer Club; and \$250 donated by Dean Mason to Columbia Whitecaps.

These donations are part of a total of \$23,275 in grants awarded to nonprofit organizations and schools during the second quarter of 1999 through PGE's Employee

Volunteer Grant program.

A total of 70 grants were awarded, ranging from \$100 to \$500, benefiting nonprofit organizations where PGE employees volunteer. During the first quarter of 1999, PGE employees distributed more than \$28,865 to their communities through this program.

According to the Points of Light Foundation, one hour volunteer time is equivalent to a working wage of \$14.30 an hour.

All totaled, PGE employees participating in the Employee Volunteer Grant program have volunteered approximately 7,700 hours over the last year, providing over \$100,000 worth of volunteer time.

The Employee Volunteer Grant program is one way PGE supports the more than 900 PGE employees who donate thousands of volunteer hours annually to hundreds of service organizations and programs.

**SWCD, weed
board to meet**

A regular board meeting of the Morrow SWCD/Weed Advisory Board will be held Tuesday, September 7, at 5:30 p.m. at Kate's Pizza in Heppner.

Agenda items include: annual meeting discussion, annual work plan, Navy contract proposal, CAFO needs for the future, Conservation Reserve Program status reviews and new plans, Environmental Quality Incentive Program applications, manager report, weed report and "A" list weed focus for 99, agency reports and other business. The public is invited to attend.

Obituaries

Barbara S. Cunha

Barbara Stiener Cunha, 79, of Heppner, died Wednesday, August 25, 1999, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Graveside services were held Sunday, August 29, 1999 at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Mrs. Cunha was born August 24, 1920, at Salinas, California. She grew up in the Salinas area and attended Nevada Grammar School near Salinas. She graduated from Salinas High School.

On September 28, 1948, she married Joseph A. Cunha at Reno, Nevada. The couple lived at Salinas before coming to Heppner in 1972. They purchased a ranch on Willow Creek near Heppner where she raised sheep and helped her husband with cattle and other daily ranching operations.

Survivors include her husband, Joseph A. Cunha of Heppner; brother, Chris Stiener of Salinas; and nephew, Frank Bauman of San Jose, California.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pioneer Memorial Hospital, P.O. Box 9, Heppner, Oregon 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

Orrin "Buzz" Fulong

Funeral for Orrin "Buzz" Furlong, 86, Pendleton, will be held on Thursday, September 2, 1999, at 3 p.m. at the Burns Mortuary Chapel in Pendleton. Disposition will be cremation with inurnment in Olney Cemetery in Pendleton.

Mr. Furlong died Saturday, August 28, 1999, at his home in Pendleton.

He was born on April 22, 1913, in Hardman to William P. and Stella Ingram Furlong. He grew up in Heppner and worked for the Kilkenny family herding sheep.

He was married to Roberta Spangler on September 19, 1942, at Walters, Oklahoma. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the U.S. Army Air Force.

After the war he moved to Portland where he went into the automobile business. From Portland he moved to Hayward, California, where he lived for seven years until returning to Pendleton, where he was in the automobile business until his retirement in 1978.

Mr. Furlong enjoyed hunting and fishing and, in his later years, Bingo and horse races.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Roberta, on March 19, 1975. Survivors include sons, Michael C. Furlong, Hermiston, and Patrick Furlong, Eugene.

W.C.C.C. Golf

WCCC Ladies' 2-Man Scramble

Least putts of the field: Doris Graves and Pat Anderson.

First flight: low gross Jackie Allstott and Karen Wildman; low net Lynnea Sargent and Pat Edmundson.

Second flight: low gross Joyce Dinkins and Karen Thompson; low net Betty Christman and Lorrene Montgomery.

Third flight: low gross Lois Hunt and Carol Norris; low net Bernice Lott and Luvilla Sonstegard.

Long drive: Monica Jones. Chip in: Lois Hunt #5, Karen Wildman #8.

Birdie: Deborah Kendrick, Monica Jones #1, Karen Wildman #10, Pat Edmundson #18.

Chana Kelton wins OTPR all-around

Chance Kelton took the all-around cowboy honors at the Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo, held at the Morrow County Rodeo grounds in Heppner August 20-21. Kelton earned \$1,815.84. Kelton took first place in steer wrestling with a time of 4.0 for winnings of \$1139.26. He was also second in team roping, along with partner Brent Lockett with a time of 6.1 and \$676.58 in earnings.

Sean Culver of Grandview, WA, rode the bounty horse, Copenhagen One Spot, for a prize of \$250 from the Bank of Eastern Oregon. Culver had a score of 83 to capture first place and win \$748.84. Second was Matt Weishoff with a score of 81 for \$561.63; Clint Corey was third with 80 and \$374.42; and Jack Peterkin was fourth with 78 and \$187.21.

Grand total in Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo payoffs was \$21,666.66

J.L. Schaffner took first place in saddlebronc. Schaffner rode Skoals Spring Fling for a score of 89 at \$997.16. Gary Alger was second with 84 and \$747.87; third was Jeb Knox with 81 and \$498.58; and fourth was Dan Mortensen with a 79 and \$249.29.

Fred Whitfield was the top calf roper with a time of 8.7. He earned \$970.48. Second was Tony Reina with an 8.9 and \$803.16. Jason Stewart was third with 9.0 and \$635.84; Johnny Emmons, fourth with 9.2 and \$468.51; Jeff Coehlo, fifth, 9.4 and \$301.18; and Brad Goodrich, sixth, 10.0, \$167.33.

Chance Kelton took first in the steer wrestling with a time of 4.0 and won \$1,139.26. Three tied for second through fourth place with a time of 4.3. Tommy Cook, Tim Segelke and Todd Suhm each won \$746.41. There was another tie for fifth and sixth place with K.C. Jones and Randy Suhm each with a time of 4.4 and \$274.99.

In team roping, the team of Jason Stewart and Kyle Lockett had a time of 5.2 and each won \$902.10 for first place. Chance Kelton and Brent Lockett were second with 6.1 and \$676.58 each. Just a second behind with a time of 6.2, the teams of Bobby Hurlley and Monty Joe Petska and Daniel Green and Allen Bach tied for third and fourth places and each received \$338.28.

Vince Stanton took first in the bull riding event with a score of 82. He earned \$966.92. Hank Reece was second with a score of 79 and \$725.19.

Local barrel racer Katie McCoin tied for the top spot with Holly Richter. They each had a time of 17.19 for a purse of \$573.79.

Third place was Melissa Hubier with a 17.27 and \$453.70. Rayna Prewitt was only a 100th of a second behind for fourth with a time of 17.28 for \$373.63. Jaclyn Hales was fifth with a 17.48 and \$293.59. Randy Rae Britt was sixth with a 17.56 and \$213.50; Brenda Mays was seventh with 17.65 and \$133.44; and Rene Koppe was eighth with 17.68 and \$53.38.

Big Bend was stock contractor. Judges were John Schoorl and John Hall. Timers were Ellen Pederson and Evie King. Steve Kenyon was announcer. Mark

Swingler was the barrelman and clown, along with Danny Newman and Tim Vredenburg. Pickup men were Ricky Shannon and Randy Allan.

County behavioral health affiliates with Grant Co.

Morrow-Wheeler County Behavioral Health (MCBH) began an official affiliation with Grant County Center for Human Development on August 4.

Initially the two agencies will retain their identities but share management structure. Gary Oberg, current director of MCBH, will assume the executive director position for the Grant-Morrow-Wheeler group.

Oberg states that with this model an assistant director or site director will be placed in Morrow County as well as Grant County. MCBH will hire from within as additional staff will not be hired, he said. Grant County is currently recruiting for an assistant director.

Oberg said that "the motivation for such a venture is to reap the benefits of regionalization. By ourselves we are a relatively small agency but by combining forces we will have a greater population base and thus be able

to hold our own when competing for resources at the state level and with other mental health centers."

The overall outcome of this will be increased services for the public while retaining local autonomy for the county mental health authority, he said.

Grant-Morrow-Wheeler, by combining forces, will support a budget of nearly \$3 million and a staff of 35 people. "We are now a respectable sized agency without the fear of being forced to partner up with a larger county that would not necessarily support local small county interests," continued Oberg.

Grant-Morrow-Wheeler counties mental health agency receives no county general fund money. The majority of funds come from the federal government with a state match. Other revenues come from insurance billing and fees for services, said Oberg.

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Time: Noon
Location: Heppner Family Resource Center (above the Coast to Coast store)

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Important Town Hall Meetings

Dear Willow Creek Valley Residents,
This letter contains important information concerning the creation of an assisted living facility in our area. Your input is crucial.

For nearly two years, a board of nine volunteers has been investigating the siting of an assisted living facility in the Willow Creek Valley. Building a "traditional" facility would not be financially feasible, according to initial research and surveys.

The board is now in contact with Mr. Jim Rippey, of Spokane, WA, who specializes in helping small, rural communities realize the creation of a practical and financially more efficient facility better suited to their economic situations.

Now the board is at a vital point in this project: Should we proceed or dissolve the board and terminate the project? Since we wish to gather information from as many residents as possible, town meetings will be held. On Wednesday, September 8, Mr. Rippey will present information at two different times: 12 Noon and 7:30 P.M. Both meetings will be at the St. Patrick Senior Center in Heppner.

If you wish to have an assisted living facility in our area, it is **urgent** that you attend one of these meetings. The board needs to hear from each and every one of you, so please put this date on your calendar now. We need your support if we are to continue.

Sincerely,
Willow Creek Valley
Assisted Living Facility Board

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8