

**Obituaries**

**Richard M. "Dick" Hammack**

Richard M. "Dick" Hammack, 60, of Woodburn, died Thursday, October 28, 1999 of heart failure at his cabin in rural Morrow County.

Funeral service was held on Wednesday, November 3, 1999 at the Trinity Lutheran Church, Mt. Angel, with interment following the service at Trinity Lutheran Cemetery.

Mr. Hammack was born June 25, 1939 at Coquille, Oregon. He graduated from Redmond High School in 1957. He attended Concordia College to become a lay minister for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

He started working for Les Schwab Tires at the age of 16 and worked at several tire stores throughout Oregon, Washington and Idaho. He moved to the Woodburn area 26 years ago, where he managed the Woodburn Les Schwab Tire Center until his retirement eight years ago. Mr. Hammack also owned and operated a nursery business in Gresham, C.H. Belle Nursery, which specialized in landscape trees.

He served in the Army Reserves and Oregon National Guard.

Mr. Hammack attended the Trinity Lutheran Church at Mt. Angel, where he was a Lay Minister, and served on several church boards, including Lay Minister Association for the Lutheran Missouri Synod and the Hispanic Ministry Commission for the church.

He was a past member of the Woodburn Rotary Club. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, music, his cabin and his dog.

Survivors include his wife, Kathleen "Kathie" Hammack, at the home; sons, Terry Hammack of Aloha, Timothy Hammack of Portland, Thomas Hammack of Mt. Angel; daughter, Tamara Hammack-Ryan of Woodburn; mother, Dona Hammack of Heppner; brothers, Lyle Hammack of Junction City, John Hammack of Prineville, Jack Hammack of Sisters, Jim Hammack of Redmond; sisters, Patricia Hall and Denise Hammack, both of Redmond; and five grandchildren.

Contributions in memory of Mr. Hammack may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church Pre-School, Mt. Angel, or the American Diabetes Association.

Simon-Woodburn Funeral Chapel, Woodburn, was in charge of arrangements.

**Robert C. Notson**

Robert C. Notson, 96, of Portland, died Monday, September 5, 1999.

Mr. Notson's life was deeply entwined with Oregon history and the history of The Oregonian newspaper. He was born in Lexington in 1902. His family survived a major flood that destroyed the town of Heppner. He was managing editor of The Oregonian when it won the Pulitzer Prize in 1957. That led to an offer to become managing editor of the New York Herald Tribune, which he declined. Mr. Notson stayed with The Oregonian until he retired in 1975.

He was born in Lexington on December 28, 1902, the son of Samuel E. and Mary A. Notson. Shortly after his birth, his mother cradled him in her arms as the family fled the flash flood that destroyed Heppner in June, 1903.

When he was 12, he obtained a printing press and started publishing his own newspaper, "The Budget," in Heppner. "The Budget represented a boy's viewpoint of the news in a little community and had no particular virtue," Mr. Notson recalled in a 1976 memoir.

The youthful venture led to Mr. Notson's first stab at investigative reporting and his first brush with censorship. When a theater burned, he noted that the volunteers firefighters were disorganized and ill-equipped. "Father correctly surmised that townspeople would figure he inspired the piece," Mr. Notson wrote in his memoir. "He confiscated the edition."

Mr. Notson attended high school in Salem and graduated from Willamette University in 1924. He served on the university's board of trustees from 1931 until 1971 and was awarded an honorary degree in 1973.

Mr. Notson worked briefly for a Salem newspaper before attending Columbia University. He joined The Oregonian as a reporter in 1925. He was promoted to city editor in 1936 and to managing editor in 1941. He became executive editor in 1965. Three years later, Mr. Notson succeeded Michael J. Frey as publisher, a job he held until his 1975 retirement.

One of the high points of Mr. Notson's career came in 1956 when he supervised an investigation by reporters Wallace Turner and William Lambert that exposed union racketeering and the activities of organized crime in Portland. The disclosures helped prompt a Senate rackets investigation and earned The Oregonian the Pulitzer Prize, the Heywood Broun award and the Sigma Delta Chi Public Service award, three of American journalism's top honors.

Mr. Notson was also involved in integrating the traditionally white newsroom when he hired William A. Hilliard, the first African American member of The Oregonian news staff, who followed in Mr. Notson's footsteps and became the paper's editor.

Fellow journalists and newsmakers alike praised Mr. Notson for his objectivity and the calm but firm management of the newspaper.

After his retirement, Mr. Notson remained busy in his church, as a Willamette University trustee, and as a writer, occasionally contributing to The Oregonian.

Mr. Notson married Adelia White, a librarian at the University of Oregon Medical School, on June 5, 1926. In addition to his wife, survivors include daughters, Ann Notson Poling of Newport and Jane Notson Gregg of Santa Fe, New Mexico; a brother, Charles Notson of Seattle; five granddaughters and three great-granddaughters.

**Eugene (Gene) Ottis Ferguson**

Eugene (Gene) Ottis Ferguson, 101, died October 21, 1999, at Hillsboro.

Mr. Ferguson was born in Quinlan, Woodward County, Oklahoma Territory, on August 8, 1898, to Ottis Theodore Ferguson and Hattie Elizabeth Gardner Ferguson.

He married Fay Helen Heiny on June 17, 1923, in Portland. They lived about 50 years of their lives in or around Heppner, where Fay had been a school teacher and Gene was first a farmer, then owned a service station and garage, as well as continuing in farming.

As a young man, before he was 10, Gene started to earn money. He would take out to pasture the cows that people in his home town owned, then return them at night, charging the people a dollar and a half a month. With this job he made enough money to buy a cow of his own.

Gene came to Oregon the first time in 1905 with his parents and family. They settled first in Lexington, then moved to Lebanon, then in 1908 they started back to Oklahoma. In 1915 the family again moved to Oregon, settling first in Lakeview. Then, in 1917, the family moved to Heppner. Except for about a year when they moved around Oregon some, Fay and Gene lived in or near Heppner until 1972, when they moved to Hermiston.

Gene belonged to the Elks Club (BPOE) in Heppner, was a trustee for eight years and a life member. He also served as a Morrow County Commissioner for eight years.

Gene's grandfather, Joseph Ferguson, fought in the Civil War as did several other members of Joseph's family. His great-great-grandfather fought in the Revolutionary War.

Gene has been predeceased by his parents, his two brothers and a sister, Ollie Ferguson, Raymond Ferguson and Vida Estelle; his wife Fay, as well as two grandsons and one great grandson. Survivors include children, Richard E. (Dick) in Burien, WA, Charles E. (Ted) in Gold Beach, OR, and Nancy Jean Rounsefell in Boring; 11 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Fay was afflicted with Alzheimer's Dementia for several years before she died. She spent the last four years of her life in various care facilities, and Gene lived nearby to be able to visit her.

It had long been Gene's desire to live in three centuries. He was born in the 19th century lived through most of the 20th century and had hoped to live into the year 2000.

He will be interred in the Rogue River cemetery in Gold Beach, next to his wife.

**Ag safety seminar slated**

An agriculture safety seminar, sponsored by SAIF, has been scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 17, in Pendleton.

In addition to providing agriculture specific safety training, continuing education credit for pesticide recertification will be provided. Small agriculture employers attending the seminar will meet their annual four-hour instruction on agricultural safety rules and procedures required by House Bill 3019. Topics include driving safety, respiratory protection, conducting safety observations and how to combat the physical stress of agriculture.

The free seminar is designed primarily for owners operators, supervisors and foremen, but would also be beneficial to anyone working in agriculture, said a news release.

Registration and continental breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m., with the seminar from 8 a.m. to noon.

Early registration is required as seating is limited.

To sign up or for more information, contact the SAIF Groups Division at 1-800-285-8525 or visit SAIF's website at www.saif.com.

Seminars will also be held November 8 at Crooked River Ranch, November 9 at Hood River, November 15 at Ontario and November 16 at Union.

**IMS walks away with first at volleyball tourney**



Ione Middle School 8th graders Cyd Tullis, Natalie McElligott, Emily Key, Megan E. McCabe, Megan M. McCabe being congratulated by Helix girls after winning tournament at Pilot Rock on Oct 23. Not pictured is Sarah Barrow

The Ione Middle School traveled to Pilot Rock on Saturday, October 23, to participate in the Pilot Rock Middle School Volleyball Tournament. The Ione squadron walked away with a first place finish. The tournament consisted of eight teams from Umatilla and Morrow counties.

The Ione girls defeated their first opponent, Pilot Rock, 15-7, 10-8.

Emily Key belted over 12 points for the team, eight points consecutively in game one.

The next match, Ione easily defeated Heppner 15-7, 12-1. Natalie McElligott served over a total of 16 points for Ione, totally dominating the Ponies in game two with 12 serves in a row before the 20-minute time period was up.

Ione's next match squared off with Umatilla. Ione split games with Umatilla, 15-2, 2-14. Natalie McElligott again led the Lady Cardinals with 11 points. McElligott was the only member of the Ione team to score in game two for Ione.

Ione then took on Athena Weston splitting their games, 15-6, 2-5.

Barbara Holland launched 10 points for the Lady Cardinals in the match and did an outstanding performance at the net.

Ione easily defeated Stanfield 15-5, 13-1. Megan E. McCabe belted over 12 consecutive points for the Ione team for a total of 14 points.

Ione advanced to the final round to play Umatilla. Umatilla took the first game from the Lady Cardinals, defeating Ione 11-15, but the Lady Cardinals rallied back to take the next two games 15-3, 15-11.

Emily Key served 12 points for the Cardinals, followed by Natalie McElligott with 11 points.

The tournament was a good tournament for the Ione girls. Natalie McElligott led the Lady Cardinals with 43 total tournament points, followed by Emily Key with 32 points. Megan E. McCabe walked away

with 20 points for the tournament and did a nice job playing all positions on the court. Meghan M. McCabe scored 18 total points and did an outstanding job of getting the set assists to teammate hitters.

Barb Holland ended the tournament with 17 points and was a dominant force in the front row for the Lady Cardinals.

Sara Peck came out with eight points for her team and had good play all around.

Sarah Barrow, Cyd Tullis, Kim Morris and Kasie Peterson did an excellent job in the back row, hustling to get the point throughout the tournament.

Coach Barbara Stefani was pleased with the performance of the team, noting that the entire team played exemplary team ball. "The girls were out to play hard and have fun and were able to accomplish both. It was exciting to see the girls play so well and have so much fun," said Stefani.

**We Make POSTERS**  
Heppner Gazette-Times

**Back to the 50s**



If you went to the Bank of Eastern Oregon last week, and thought you were suddenly on the set for the movie Grease, that's because this year's Halloween "theme" was back to the 50s. Employees dressed up in their best 50s dress for the occasion.

*The Family of*  
**LOIS & DEAN HUNT**  
*would like to invite*  
*all of their friends*  
*to the Heppner Elks Lodge*  
*on Sunday, November 7 from 2-5 p.m.*  
*to share in the celebration of their*  
**50th wedding anniversary**  
*(Informal dress/No gifts, please)*

**Notice To**  
**City Water Customers**  
REMINDER: Water Meter Boxes Should Be Insulated For The Winter Months. Packing Should Be Contained In A Plastic Bag So It Will Not Get Wet. The Cost Of Any Meter Replaced Due To Lack Of Or Insufficient Insulation Will Be Borne By The Customer.  
David Winter  
Public Works Director

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