

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

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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. The G-T is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters.

Sunday school-a choice you'll never regret

To the Editor:
As a Sunday School teacher, I am writing this letter on behalf of all children, teens, as well as adults. It is the sincere desire of my heart to see everyone from all age groups become involved in Sunday School in the church of their choice. There's not a church in this town that wouldn't be thrilled to have kids and teens and grown-ups pack out their classrooms. As I'm on my way to church on Sunday mornings, I see kids playing and teens with their friends and adults using Sundays as their "play days"-I think to myself, "Has anyone taken the time to show an interest in these people and invite them to Sunday School?" I have taught Sunday School for most of the 24 years I have lived in Heppner and I have discovered a great benefit in the 45

minutes of class time. I'm a student within a teacher and I'm still learning many awesome teachings from the Bible, not to mention the joy and satisfaction I get in return from my students. If you've never given Sunday School much thought, or you weren't raised that way, or your lifestyle is too busy, maybe you'll want to rethink what's really important and rethink your priorities and maybe possibly fit Sunday School into your life. I hope this letter will move you to choosing a church of your choice and sending your child or children or your teen or even yourself to Sunday School. It's a choice you'll never regret and if you need me to pick up your kids, call June Rollis at 676-5199. I'll even bring them back home. (s) June Rollis Heppner

Republican Party given a choice

To the Editor:
A Jan. 2 Sunday talk show featured Robert Novak opining that there is no credible alternative Republican candidate other than George W. Bush. One could expect this from one who has spoken for some time for the right wing of the Republican Party. But I was surprised to hear David Broder agree with everything Novak said, and with no reason given. It seems that neither party wishes campaign finance reform. Voters need to know the extreme right wing of the Republican Party does not like John McCain because his reforms would prohibit many things, one being Pat Robertson's own voter's pamphlet he sends to all church and their related organizations. I have viewed with alarm the intolerance advocated by some in the right wing. Besides being a deplorable attitude, it has cost the Oregon Republican Party the governorship for the past 12 years.

President Clinton had a perfect opportunity to take the Democratic Party to the political center. But he chose to personally blow his chance to do so. If he had acted differently, he possibly could have forever won the hearts and minds of a vast majority of the American people. Now the Republican Party has been given a chance with John McCain. Americans have a right to expect a government that is not extreme in any direction-right or left. Young people are turned off and older people have lost patience with a political system in which one party is not fiscally responsible and the other party is intolerant, and in which the general public has no say. We need to have a clearly stated choice to express our wishes in the primaries. But if the media is effectively muzzled, everybody loses. (s) Meg Murray Ione

School board

continued from page 1
Weikel, who has lived in Boardman since 1992, previously served on the Sam Boardman Elementary Site Council and the Boardman-Irrigon Advisory Committee, of which she was chairman. She is certified as a secondary teacher in biology, physical science and health. Weikel is self employed with Beef Profit Decisions and performs contract veterinary services for ag business accounts. Married to Hans Magden, Weikel has four children, one employed in Portland, two attending college in California and one who is a student at Riverside High School.

-discussed a proposal for an alternative education program that could increase the number of students in alternative ed programs and generate more revenue for the district.
-discussed the Consolidated District Improvement Plan and individual school improvement plans and the upcoming school report card mandated by the state. The district and school improvement plans include data based on test scores dropout reports, discipline reports, at-risk behavior reports and other demographics, in addition to self evaluation, goals and an action plan to implement the goals.
According to assistant superintendent Mike Keown, parents will receive a report card rating their children's school on an ABCDF scale. Keown said that the first report will be available from the state on February 1 and the district will distribute the information to the parents by the end of March. He said that the consequences of a below satisfactory rating are not yet known, but added that it was understood that a school must improve from year to year.
-approved resignations for Ruth Anderson, A.C. Houghton Elementary School special ed/regular ed assistant; Cheryl Hobbs, ACH head cook; Deena Reid, Heppner High School special ed assistant; Wendell Kreder, Riverside High School assistant football coach.

-approved employment for Gloria Schmidt, who will be reinstated as RHS English-as-a-second-language ed assistant.
-approved an extra duty contract for Carol Johnson, Columbia Middle School assistant girls' basketball coach.
-accepted a \$50 donation to the Sam Boardman Elementary School Library from Mid-Columbia Bus.
-approved second readings of job descriptions for technology coordinator, computer tech II, food service director, computer tech I and deputy clerk positions.
-heard the first reading of a policy revision requiring insurance to be provided by groups wishing to use school facilities.
-heard the first reading of a policy revision on suspensions.

The board approved a change in the suspension-expulsion rules which would increase the maximum time a student could be suspended from "five days" to "10 school days" for out-of-school suspensions and from one to three days for in-school suspensions.
Another change would modify the rules concerning the expulsion of a student guilty of bringing a weapon to school. Previous policy specified that expulsion in such a case would not be less than one year; current language adds "unless modified by the superintendent."
-approved a proposed HHS band trip to Coeur d'Alene, providing the group pay all the costs involved in the trip.
-announced the following meetings: budget work session-Jan. 13, RHS Library, 2 p.m.; facility planning meeting-Jan. 18, SBE, 7:30 p.m.; next board meeting-Feb. 14, SBE, 7:30 p.m.; facility planning meeting-Feb. 15, Ione School, 7:30 p.m.
-heard, in executive session, the superintendent's performance review for district principals and the superintendent's personal performance review.

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Obituaries

Adaline Fleeta Horner

Adaline Fleeta Horner, 91, of Irrigon, died Friday, January 7, 2000, at Good Shepherd Community Hospital in Hermiston.

At her request, no service will be held. Disposition was by cremation.

Mrs. Horner was born April 1, 1908, in the Highland Glenn area near Elgin, to Roy and Mary Hug Flexer.

On June 17, 1934, she married John Joseph Horner at Walla Walla, Washington.

Mrs. Horner ran a produce stand at Irrigon for several years and was involved in the activities at Stokes Landing Senior Center.

She was a former member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Irrigon.

In later years, as her health failed, she enjoyed reading, crossword puzzles, listening to music and watching Three Angels Broadcasting Network at her home.

Survivors include a daughter, Barbara Person, and a son, John Horner, both of Irrigon; five grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Her husband, John Horner, Sr., died in 1978.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

Mary Ann Peck

Mary Ann Peck, 67, of Pendleton passed away Jan. 6, 2000, at St. Mary's Medical Center in Walla Walla from complications of a stroke.

Disposition was by cremation.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, January 15, at 2 p.m. at the Peace Lutheran Church, located at 9th and Carden in Pendleton. Refreshments will be served by the ladies of the church after the service. Pastor Larry Nelson will officiate.

Mary Ann Peck was born June 5, 1932, to Earl and Mildred Hunt of Heppner. She went through school at Heppner.

On April 21, 1950 she married George (Bud) Peck in Hermiston.

Mrs. Peck raised three children and was a homemaker most of her life. She worked two years as an assistant cook for the Pendleton School District and 10 years for Harris Pine Mills. She had a variety of hobbies with a life-long love for flowers, plants and gardening. Other hobbies included ceramics, sewing crocheting and craft making.

In 1973 she and her family moved to Pendleton, where her husband was employed by Ford's tire service.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one older sister and two younger brothers and a daughter who died at four years of age. Survivors include her husband, Bud; sons, Terry Peck of San Raphael, CA, and Bob Peck of Darby Montana; daughter, Frances Amos of Puyallup, WA.; three granddaughters and four grandsons.

Donations may be made to the Diabetes Association of Oregon, Visions NW of Oregon or the Peach Lutheran Church Memorial fund.

Bishop Funeral Chapel of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements.

Scott Wayne Groshens

Scott W. Groshens, 38, of Sumpter and a former resident of Bend and Heppner, died January 8, 2000, near Sumpter.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, January 15, at 2 p.m. at the Elks Club in Heppner.

Mr. Groshens was born January 20, 1961, in Heppner to Victor L. and Judy Darnielle Groshens. He was a 1979 graduate of Heppner High School. He also attended Blue Mountain Community College and Central Oregon Community College in Bend.

Mr. Groshens struggled from the age of 19 with a hydrocephalic condition and underwent a total of 40 surgeries throughout the next 19 years. He became a patient advocate at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend, working closely with Dr. Norwyn Newby in a volunteer program for several months to assist other patients who suffered severe brain trauma. He was especially good with the younger patients. He was featured in a March 1993 article, "Everyday Heroes", by the Bend Bulletin. When his health allowed, he had been employed as a mill worker, as a recreation leader at the Inn of the Seventh Mountain in Bend; a lifeguard and as a camp counselor. He enjoyed kids, snowmobiling, white water rafting, cutting firewood and spending time in the mountains with his dog.

He is survived by his son, Daniel Caswell, Pendleton; daughter, Ashley of Portland; a grandson in Pendleton; father and stepmother, Victor and Wanda Groshens, Baker City; brothers, Greg Groshens, Baker City, Harry and Laura Groshens, Pendleton; niece, Nicole Groshens and nephew, Brandon Groshens, both of Pendleton; step-brothers, Steve and Lynne Hawkins and Scott Hawkins of Baker City; grandmother, Virginia Groshens of Hermiston; and numerous other relatives and many special friends.

Disposition was by cremation. The family suggests memorial contributions to the Ronald McDonald House in Bend through Coles-Strommer Funeral Home, 1950 Place Street, Baker City, OR 97814 or to the charity of one's choice.

Funeral services will be held for Mrs. Nelson on Saturday, January 8, 2000, at 11 a.m. at the Assembly of God Church in Spray. Pastor Steve Adams will officiate. Vault interment will follow at the Spray Cemetery.

Mrs. Nelson was born on December 9, 1911, in Richmond, Oregon, the daughter of John and Nancy (Howard) Britt. Mrs. Nelson was one of 12 children. She grew up and attended Cove School near Alder Creek near Spray and graduated from High School in Montesano, WA.

From 1932 through 1933 she attended nurse's training. Mrs. Nelson worked as the Spray city recorder for 25 years

and also worked as an EMT. Mrs. Nelson met and married Clarence Nelson on November 18, 1934, in Fossil. Her husband ran the C.L. Nelson Lumber Company.

Mrs. Nelson had continued to live in Spray until a recent fall at her home.

Mrs. Nelson was a member of the Assembly Of God Church in Spray and the Spray Grange. She enjoyed gardening, canning, going to the beach, quilting and good chocolate chip cookies, but, most importantly, she lived for her grandchildren.

Mrs. Nelson is survived by her daughter Connie Spivey of Prineville; sisters, Hazel McQuin of Stanfield and Beulah Tilley of Spray; two grandchildren, Brian Spivey of Heppner, Penny Hughes and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband in 1978, her parents, seven brothers and two sisters.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Prineville Funeral Home.

DA's Report

Morrow County District Attorney David C. Allen has released the following report:

December 23-Jason A. Bathurst was found guilty of Fleeing or Attempting to Elude and Driving While Suspended, both Class A misdemeanors, and sentenced to: 90 days in jail, 18 months' bench probation, 80 hours community service, successful completion of the DUII diversion program, prohibited from driving a motor vehicle for 90 days and ordered to pay fines and assessments of \$574;

December 23-Alex Rivera was found guilty of Delivery of a Controlled Substance within 1000 Feet of a School, a Class A felony, and sentenced to: optional 36 months of formal probation to the Oregon Department of Corrections, 180 sanction units and 90 custody units to be used by his probation officer as he deems appropriate, 120 hours of community service, ordered to be subject to a drug package and ordered to pay a fine of \$1,300.

Price on Lakeview lots reduced

Lots at the Lakeview Heights subdivision have been reduced in price for the next 90 days in an effort to sell them off, says Tom Wolff of the Heppner Economic Development Corp.

Wolff said Monday the lots, which overlook Willow Creek lake, will be selling for between \$13,500 and \$17,500 with no money down and 10 percent interest over 10 years to qualifying buyers.

There are 18 lots left in the subdivision, which was recently turned back over to the bank by the developer.

HEDC has agreed to help the bank market the lots, Wolff said.

Anyone interested in purchasing the lots should contact George Koffler at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, said Wolff.

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