

The Official Newspaper
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES**

U.S.P.S. 240-420

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

Published weekly and entered as periodical matter at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon under the Act of March 3, 1879. Periodical postage paid at Heppner, Oregon. Office at 147 W. Willow Street. Telephone (541) 676-9228. Fax (541) 676-9211. E-mail: gt@heppner.net or gt@rapidsolve.net. Web site: www.heppner.net. Postmaster send address changes to the Heppner Gazette-Times, P.O. Box 337, Heppner, Oregon 97836. Subscriptions: \$24 in Morrow County; \$18 senior rate (in Morrow County only; 62 years or older); \$30 elsewhere.

David Sykes Publisher
Katie Wall Editor

News deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

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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. (Any letters expressing

They would not listen

To the Editor:

After reading the article on the new city water project in the March 12 issue of the Gazette Times, I feel there needs to be further explanation.

As it was stated I do approve of the need to replace the deteriorating water system. I do not see the need for the new storage reservoir and two additional wells, at a cost in excess of \$2 million.

I gave the following reasons for trying to save some money for my town and yours.

Reason #1: In the mid 1970s Heppner built a new reservoir above the high school, that we were told would give us plenty of storage capacity for a city of 2000 people.

Reason #2: In the mid 1980s with the construction of the Willow Creek Dam we abandoned the reservoir below the cemetery and built a larger, 750,000 gallon reservoir above the cemetery. We were told again that this would give us storage capacity to serve a city of 2000 people.

Four of five years ago, when our Chamber of Commerce and city and county officials were trying to locate a "boot camp" type correctional institution here we were told we had plenty of water to serve this "facility".

In the meantime, our population has dropped more than 10 percent to between 1300 and 1400. Dozens of homes are for sale as people leave town and have their water disconnected. What has happened to create a need to spend more than \$2 million for this reservoir and wells?

I suggested that we negotiate an agreement with the county fair board to allow us to tap into their fairground well, to be used only in case of emergency. That would give us a proven source of good water as opposed to drilling two additional wells with the

Lexington IOOF bingo party postponed

The previously scheduled third Sunday of the month Bingo Party at Lexington IOOF hall has been postponed for the month of March due to the wiring project taking place this week. The next Bingo party will be held on Sunday, April 20 at 2 p.m.

This coming Saturday, Holly Rebekah Lodge will host the McNary

possibility of either getting little or no water and no assurance that it would be of an acceptable quality. I remember the well drilled at a cost over \$100,000 up by the new reservoir that was immediately abandoned because of a strong sulfur taste and therefore of unacceptable quality.

The city used a scare tactic by reporting a "near catastrophe" when a water main was drilled into near the grade school two weeks ago. We were told by our city employees that the main reservoir nearly emptied because they were unable to locate valves that would shut off this line and stop the water flow. I stated right then that if the valves had been maintained and employees knew where they were this would not have happened. I also pointed out that with the new water lines and appropriate valves in the right place, an accidental break of this type can be isolated and shut down in a matter of minutes, not hours, and the reservoir would not be drained.

We have the best city maintenance crew we have had in many years. They are all workers and under the direction of Craig Canham have saved our town expenses in the past year.

Two councilpersons understood what I was saying; the others just weren't listening.

One more thing, even with water rates increasing to over 600 percent in the last nine years, two people, including a C.P.A., stated that even with the new rates, it is still not enough to service this debt we are getting into.

I feel that Heppner would be better served by someone knowledgeable about the operation of a water system and would put less emphasis on being a beggar for grant money.

(s) Randy Lott Heppner

District Convention at the IOOF Hall in Heppner. Registration will be at 9 a.m., with a noon luncheon, and sessions planned for both the morning and afternoon. Patricia Olson, President of the Rebekah Assembly of Oregon, will pay her official visit to the local lodge and to the convention.

The next regular card party will be held Saturday, April 5, at the Lexington IOOF Hall.

DA's Report

Kyle Christopher Moses was convicted on a plea of guilty of Assault-4, a Class-A misdemeanor. Moses was sentenced to 335 suspended days in jail, 24 months bench probation and received 30 days in jail as a condition of probation, with possible credit for time served. Moses was also convicted on a plea of guilty of two counts of Criminal Mischief-2, Class-A misdemeanors and Reckless Burning, a Class-A misdemeanor. For counts two through four, he was sentenced to 24 months bench probation to be served concurrently with the same terms and conditions as count one.

Moses was also convicted of a second count of Assault-4, a Class-A misdemeanor and Criminal Mischief-2, a Class-A misdemeanor. He was sentenced to 335 suspended days in jail, 24 months bench probation with 30 days in jail as a condition of probation, with possible credit for time served. This sentence will be served concurrently with the sentencing from the previous case. Moses was also required to pay \$1449 in fines.

Timothy A. Mooney pled guilty to Contempt of Court. Mooney was sentenced to 180 suspended days in jail and five years bench probation. As a term of probation, Mooney must make monthly court ordered payment, plus 20 percent. He shall also seek employment and provide proof of search and provide notification once employment has been secured.

Local Pathfinder recognized by the AAA

Kathryn Healy of Heppner has been recognized nationally by the American Angus Association for having two registered Angus cows included in the Association's 2003 Pathfinder Report.

Only 1971 of the more than 35,000 American Angus Association members are represented in this year's report, according to John Crouch, executive vice president of the Association with headquarters in St. Joseph, Missouri.

The Pathfinder Program identifies superior Angus cows based upon recorded performance traits that are economically important to efficient beef production. These traits include early and regular calving and heavy weaning weights, reports Bill Bowman, Association director of performance programs. More than 1,250,000 eligible dams were examined to determine Pathfinder status. All registered Angus cows that meet the strict Pathfinder standards are listed, along with their owners, in the Pathfinder Report that is published annually by the Association.

The 2003 Pathfinder Report lists 7,980 individual cows and 228 Pathfinder sires. It is published in the April issue of the Angus Journal, and limited copies are available from the Association. The reports appear on the website at www.angus.org. The largest number of Pathfinder cows from a single herd this year is 70. Started in 1978, the Pathfinder Program continues to recognize outstanding breeders participating in the Angus Herd Improvement Records (AHIR) Program.

Marriage License
March 14: Justin Jay Smith, 32, Irrigon and Lori Ann Schilling, 25, Irrigon.

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Chamber Chatter

When I think of the past weekend, I see the three flags flying high at the Morrow County Courthouse: our American flag on top, the Oregon flag next, and then the Irish flag. What a sight with all three waving in the breeze.

The American flag speaks to us, even more since 9/11. We feel emotion as we share its pledge; we admire and respect faces of all those who fought in wars to protect our freedom; we think of our color guard in the parade; we feel abundant emotions, and we all yearn for peaceful existence for the world. That starts in our homes, our schools, our communities, our valley, our county, our state, our country, and our world. We have to look deep within.

The Oregon flag represents the state in which we live, and though we have many challenges, we will work through them as our pioneer forefathers before us: we are proud to call this state home.

The Irish flag could well be a flag from many different countries, but this weekend it happened to be Irish because the early Irish settlers had ancestors who liked a party on St. Patrick's Day. It represents those families who did come from the old country, it represents a community and valley working together to set a positive image for the area; it represents diversity, it represents new life and change, which the Irish faced when they came to America. It makes one wish that Ireland could settle their differences, yet reminds us that we all have differences and problems, which everyone faces in one way or another daily. And in Heppner, it represents taking time to have a little fun or create some fun for others in the midst of our daily lives. Three flags a-flying.

No question whatsoever, it did rain on our parade. Maybe we should have held more parades throughout the year if that's what it took to get rain. 'Tis sure a bit more sunshine would have been appreciated by all, but in spite of it, the sunshine came through in many ways. What a tremendous community of volunteers, friendly appreciative visitors, and energizer leprechauns running all over the place. The Committees did an awesome job. The community did an awesome job. Those soaking wet kids marching from Heppner and Ione did an awesome job. Parade entries endured. Together we make a difference.

After the symphony Sunday, the sun was shining, rain was falling and the most brilliant rainbow curved over Heppner. Oh, to have been able to capture it in a painting. It was the end to a busy weekend, which we hope, meant new friendships, lots of laughter, and increased funds for our many worthwhile organizations in the community, our school, and for our local businesses. That's what it's all about.

Correction

In the story entitled "St. Patrick's Committee donates fountain" in the March 12, 2003 edition of the Heppner Gazette Times, it was Dan McLaughlin (not Herb) that left a memorial donation to the St. Patrick's Committee.

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Obituaries

Stanley Leon Magill

Stanley Leon Magill, 84, of The Dalles, previously from Cecil, died at his home on Sunday, March 16, 2003.

Viewing visitation was held at Spencer, Libby and Powell Funeral Home of The Dalles on Tuesday, March 18, and Wednesday, March 19.

Graveside services were held Wednesday, March 19 at the Veterans' section of The Dalles Parklawn Cemetery with Asa Jenson officiating.

Magill was born May 29, 1918, in Tygh Valley, the youngest of four children to Fred Gardner and Melvie (Remington) Magill. He grew up in Wamic.

Magill joined the National Guard prior to World War II and was called to active duty after the attack on Pearl Harbor. After his discharge in July 1945, he returned to the Mid-Columbia area and bought a ranch at Cecil in Morrow County, where he farmed in partnership with his father.

He married Eleanor Rose Landreth on Dec. 12, 1947, in Walla Walla, WA and they worked on the ranch at Cecil until retiring to The Dalles in 1974.

He was a member of the VFW and American Legion and enjoyed the outdoors and hunting.

Magill is survived by his sons, Leon Magill and his wife, Linda, of Pendleton and Leland Magill of Oak Harbor, WA; his daughter, Marlene Shaw of Milwaukie; grandchildren, David, Scott, Ryan, Stefanie, Justin and Jason; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Eleanor, on March 21, 1987, and his siblings.

Remembrances may be made to the American Cancer Society, 2120 First Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98109.

Ruth Frances Lundell

Ruth Frances Lundell, 94, an Ione native, of Milwaukie, died Friday, March 14, 2003, in Milwaukie.

A memorial service was held at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19 at the

Ione United Church of Christ in Ione.

Lundell was born Feb. 19, 1909, at Ione, to C.W. and Arvilla Petteys Swanson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Lundell, in 1983.

Survivors include sons, William Lundell of Milwaukie and Merle Lundell of Westport, WA; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. A daughter, Norma Lundell, also preceded her in death.

Stehn's Milwaukie Funeral Home, 2906 S.E. Harrison, Milwaukie, OR 97222, is in charge of arrangements.

Elroy Grant "Roy" Martin

Elroy Grant "Roy" Martin, 78, of Lexington, died Friday, March 14, 2003, at Kadlec Hospital in Richland, WA.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, March 18, in Heppner. Concluding service and burial followed at Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Martin was born Dec. 7, 1924, at Lexington, to Miles and Hortense Martin. He lived on the Martin Ranch near Lexington his whole life.

He attended Lexington schools, graduating from Lexington High School.

Martin served with the U.S. Army on Okinawa during World War II. On Nov. 4, 1942, he married Juanita Bellenbrock, at Portland.

He served on the Morrow County Grain Growers Board and the Morrow County School Board. He was a member of the Willow Creek Country Club, the Senior Blues golf group, the Wheat League, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Survivors include his wife, Juanita Martin of Lexington; sons, Jim Martin of Kent, WA, and Tommy Martin of Lexington; eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a sister and two brothers.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heppner BPOE 358 Foundation, P.O. Box 494, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeny Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

Softball clinic to be held

A softball clinic will be held Saturday, March 22 at Bob Kilkenny softball field in Heppner. The clinic will be held from 9 a.m. until 12 noon. Children ages 8-18 are

welcome, along with major and minor coaches.

For more information contact Kim Gutierrez, 676-5052 or Petra Elguezabal, 676-5774.

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