

Obituaries

Merritt Harold Gray, Sr.

Merritt Harold Gray, Sr., 87, of Heppner, died Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2003, at the Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

A grave-side service will be held at 11 a.m. Nov. 15 at Heppner Masonic Cemetery. Disposition was by cremation.

Gray was born Jan. 23, 1916 in Elgin to Eugene and Mable Clair Davis Gray. He was raised in and around Lexington and graduated from Lexington High School in 1933.

He married Maxine May Barnes on July 1, 1940 at Lewiston, ID.

He started farming with his dad at Social Ridge out of Lexington. He also farmed in the Pendleton, Heppner, Lexington and Ione areas most of his life.

He was a member of the Heppner Elks Lodge.

Gray is survived by sons, Michael Lee Gray of Ione, Ronald Dean Gray of Pendleton and Merritt Harold Gray, Jr., of Portland; brother, Robert Eugene Gray of Springfield; and seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Maxine May Gray in 2002; son, David Eugene Gray in 1972; and two sisters, Viola Faye Ruhl and Florence Mildred Gray, both of Lexington.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

William A. "Bill" McCombs

William A. "Bill" McCombs, 80, of Irrigon, died Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2003, at his home.

A graveside service will be held at St. George City Cemetery in St. George, UT.

McCombs was born Oct. 28, 1923, at Wenatchee, WA, to Alma and Glenna Campbell McCombs. He grew up in Washington State and graduated from Chewelah High School.

He joined the Navy and served during World War II, returning to Washington State after his honorable discharge.

On Dec. 7, 1947, McCombs married Shirley Jean McIrvine at Kettle Falls, WA.

McCombs was employed as a lineman for Washington Water Power, living at Spokane, Tekoa and Palouse. He retired from Washington Water Power in the early 1980s as a district manager at Colville, WA. He moved to St. George, UT, for a short time, then resided at Sequim, WA, the Salt Lake City area, Knoxville, TN and then moved to Irrigon two months ago to be near family.

He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints where he served as a bishop on the High Council and in the Stake presidency. He enjoyed

farming, woodworking, building houses for himself and his children, and he loved his family.

Survivors include sons, Tom McCombs and his wife, Diane, of Irrigon; Ed McCombs and his wife, Ruthann of Tsaila, AZ; Dennis McCombs and his wife, Joanne, of Las Vegas and John McCombs and his wife, Jennifer of Spokane; daughters, Jeannie Flynn and her husband, Cortney, of West Valley City, UT, and Susan Gentry and her husband, Rob, of St. George, UT; brothers, Dick of Irrigon, Calvin of Spokane, Andrew of Bellevue, WA and Roger of Kennewick; sisters, Glenna Hoffman of Irrigon and Bertha Kristiansen of Sacramento, CA; 21 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. McComb's wife, Shirley, died in 1991, and he was preceded in death by his parents, by brothers, Pete, Doug and Dee, and by sisters, Alma Ward, Audrey Stecker, and infant sister, Sylvia McCombs and grandson, Joseph McCombs.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Latter-Day Saints Church Missionary or Education fund.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

St. Pat's Senior Center news

What Medicaid can do for you, wills, trusts and other pre-planning procedures, which offer guidelines for crisis, to prevent turmoil during unexpected circumstances, were two successful seminars held at St. Patrick's Senior Center.

Future seminars will move into the planning stage immediately. These will take place in early 2004. Subject matter will include how to detect elder abuse and scams meant to entice and prey on the elderly, as well as others who may be vulnerable. Anyone who has a particular issue or question is invited to speak to any St. Patrick's board member to get the issue on the agenda for inclusion in the next sessions. Other resource persons are being contacted to assist.

Ed Baker announces that the senior bus will leave Heppner for Condon on Thursday, Nov. 20 at 2:30 p.m., from the Main Street entrance to the Center. The sign-up sheet is in the Center office and is on the front table on meal day. This bus trip is for those who wish to attend the CBEC annual meeting at the Gilliam County Fairgrounds.

Seventh Day Adventist volunteers will serve the Thanksgiving menu on Nov. 19. Roast turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, squash, mixed vegetables, hot rolls and pumpkin pie is the order of the day.

The St. Patrick's Board of Directors will meet in regular session on Nov. 19 at 12 noon. Preparations for the annual meeting and election of new members of the board are underway.

Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Exec. Dir.

Heppner Chamber welcomes Melissa Anderson, Mary Kay consultant. Hunter's wives sometimes have enough of the woods so they call the Chamber to learn where they can be in the hands of competent beauticians who will create a new woman. Visit the Chamber website at www.Heppner.net/chamber where both the member and business directory will give this information and more.

The Willow Creek Economic Development group will be holding an Entrepreneurial Workshop on Nov. 20, at 6 p.m., at the St. Patrick's Senior Center. The Small Business Development Center, as well as other experienced entrepreneurs, will lead the workshop. If you've thought at all about starting your own business, this is the place for you. The Chamber encourages participation. It's about growing business in the Willow Creek Valley.

Another 250 plus requests for Heppner information have arrived, as a result of the recent Portland Oregonian ad. The Chamber is very appreciative of the volunteer time given by Barb Struthers, Adine Stone, Velma Wight, Billie Lacey, Daisy Collins, Marian Brosnan and Doris Brosnan. There was a tremendous amount of envelope stuffing last week at the St. Patrick's Senior Center.

The Chamber Annual Christmas Tree Auction is in the works with co-chairpersons Nancy Gochbauer and Nancy Snider planning for a two-day event. Tree entry forms are to be to the Chamber by Nov. 14. Trees are to be set up by Dec. 1 for the public to view during Stroll Heppner and the Light Parade on Dec. 4. The auction will take place at a gala function on Friday, Dec. 5 in a transformed Shoe Box, thanks to Jerry and Joyce Kay Holloman. A special People's Choice plaque will be presented that evening to the creator of the community's favorite tree, while others will go home with the tree of their dreams. Mark your calendars. Music, wine and cheese, and punch and cookies will be part of the event.

Now is the time to nominate people and businesses for the Town and Country annual awards. The forms are very simple and this is an opportunity to recognize individuals and businesses that go that extra step for the community. You see them every day quietly making a difference. Please take a moment before the hustle and bustle of the holidays to nominate them. Call the office of Kuhn and Spicer for a nomination form. Town and Country is set for Thursday, Jan. 15, 2004.

Thought for the Week: "If you don't like something, change it; if you can't change it, change the way you think about it."

Elections held at HES



HES Student Council: (Back Row L-R): Fourth grade representatives, Zach Hintz, Justin Pranger and Justin Bailey, Publicity Manager, Wacy Coil, Vice-President Jared Huddleleston and President Emily Thompson; (Front Row L-R): Treasurer, Brynna Rust and Secretary, Jessica Hughes.

After an absence of several years, politics have returned to the halls of Heppner Elementary School. Student Council elections were held Tuesday, Nov. 4, complete with campaign posters, speeches by candidates and secret ballots.

The first step in the process was the nomination of candidates in the three fifth and sixth grade homerooms. The list of prospective politicians included: President: Catherine McElligott, Ashley Wolff and Emily Thompson; Vice-President: Jared Huddleleston, Jared Hedman and Chance Day; Secretary: Jessica Hughes, Ian Murray and Taighler Dougherty; Treasurer: Mark McCabe, Torri Lovgren and Brynna Rust; and Publicity

Manger: Wacy Coil, Erin Price and Araceli Zavala.

In addition to these offices, the fourth graders nominated room representatives and voted for them in the homerooms. The prospective representatives were: Chance Raver, Zach Hintz, Carrie Haguewood, Justin Bailey, Justin Pranger, Logan Wanous and Natalie Rauch.

On Nov. 4, students in grades three, four, five and six and several candidate family members met in the gymnasium for the speeches. The candidates were very professional both in appearance and presentation and everyone in attendance was impressed by their efforts. Following the speeches,

students returned to their classrooms for voting by secret ballot.

When the numbers were tallied, the winners were: President: Emily Thompson; Vice-President: Jared Huddleleston; Secretary: Jessica Hughes; Treasurer: Brynna Rust; Publicity Manager: Wacy Coil; and Fourth Grade Representatives: Justin Bailey, Justin Pranger and Zach Hintz.

The first action taken by the HES Student Council was to decide the theme of Nov. 14's Freaky Friday. The decision was made to have Sports Day.

President Thompson says, "We are very excited about serving HES, and have many great ideas for the coming year."

Ione Youth hold successful food drive



Youth participating in the food drive were: (front row l-r): Paul Neiffer, Billy Gates, Billy Ross, Sara Peck, Tyler Raible, Johnny Collin and (back row l-r): Natalie McElligott, Emily Key, Abby Key, Kayla LaRue, Barbara Holland, Stephanie Holland and Tina Tuzarova.

The Ione Youth Group members conducted their annual food drive on Monday, Nov. 3. They went door-to-door in the Ione area collecting food to donate to the Heppner

Neighborhood Center. The food will be used for holiday baskets for the needy of South Morrow County. The collected food was

transported to Heppner by Jannie Allen.

Anyone who missed the food drive may still donate by taking nonperishable food items to Laurel Cannon's home.

Mural artist to be at dedication

Robert Walton of Leavenworth, WA will be in Heppner for the dedication of the Mural of Heppner as it was in the early 1900s.

Walton, who is well known for his mountain paintings, was a mountain climber himself at one time. His paintings of historic looking houses and barns have led him

into doing murals at Toppenish, WA. He is now working on his largest mural undertaking, this being the town of Heppner, the Railroad Depot and sheep ranches. Walton will be doing the sketch of the railroad depot the week of Nov. 18, weather permitting.

Come see the painting of the next part of the mural, Nov. 18, after the 5:15 p.m. dedication of the Heppner town mural at John's Place. Dinner tickets are \$16 per person.

Mural prints on canvas orders will be taken of the next part or any part of the mural you have an interest in. No extra prints will be made.

Heppner prints framed and unframed are still available at Klamath First through Sharon Harrison, or by calling Betty Carlson at 676-5302 or Betty Mills at

676-5546. All funds for these murals are by donations, so please help us tell the story of early days in Morrow County. If enough money is raised, the painting of the mural will start next spring.

Mural dedication will start at 4:45 p.m., on Nov. 18 at the site on River St. The young fiddlers will open the program and a brief town history and introduction of family members of businesses in early Heppner will follow.

Riverside St. in front of the mural will be closed from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

M.C.C.G. Morrow County Grain Growers Inc.
 LEXINGTON, OREGON
 1-800-452-7396 • 989-8221
 WASCO, OREGON
 1-800-824-7185
 www.mcgg.net

SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY AND PROVIDING:

- * PROPANE SALES AND SERVICE
- * FARM EQUIPMENT SALES, PARTS AND SERVICE
- * ATV SALES, PARTS AND SERVICE
- * FERTILIZER AND FARM CHEMICAL SERVICE
- * FARM SUPPLIES AND LIVESTOCK EQUIPMENT
- * DIESEL AND GAS SALES

POLARIS CASE IH Kawasaki
 Let the good times roll.

November is National Home Health & Hospice Month

HOSPICE OPEN HOUSE

Monday, November 17
from 3 - 7 p.m.
at the Home Health & Hospice Office

We Print Business Cards

Heppner Gazette-Times
 676-9228