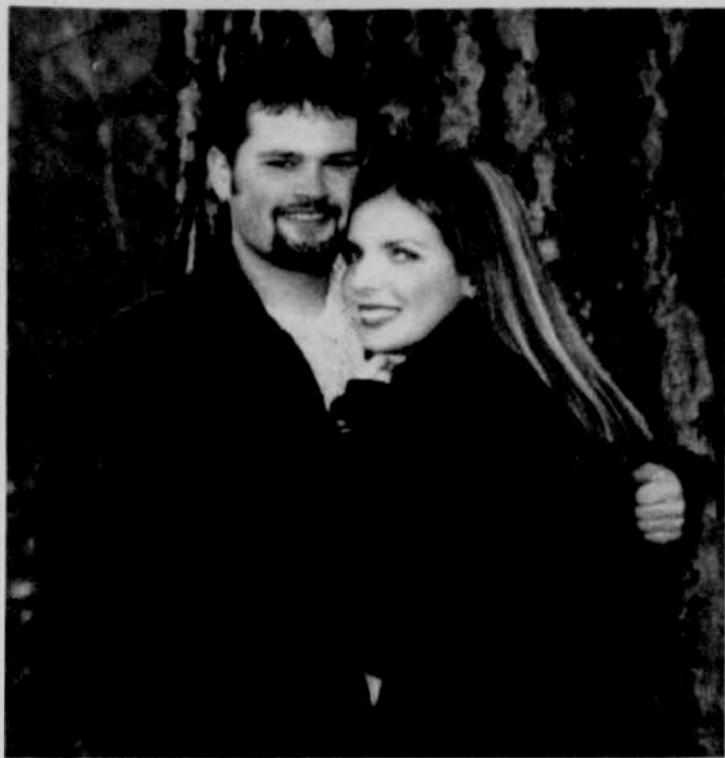


## Engagement

### Coiner - McElligott



Josh Coiner and Melissa McElligott

Joe and Jeri McElligott of Ione announce the engagement of their daughter Melissa to Josh Coiner of Heppner.

The bride-elect graduated in 1996 from Ione High School. She received a bachelor's degree in elementary and special education from the University of Nevada, Reno in 2001. She is currently a fifth and sixth grade teacher in Stockton, CA.

Coiner is the son of Barb Coiner of Heppner and Dan Coiner of Sacramento, CA. He graduated from Heppner High School in 1997 and earned a bachelor's degree in rangeland management and crop and soil science from Oregon State University. He is a riparian conservation specialist for the Gilliam Soil and Water Conservation District in Condon.

The couple will be married on Oct. 9, 2004 in Heppner.

### One man killed in crane accident at Port of Morrow

On Sunday afternoon, April 25, the Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Boardman Police Department and Boardman Fire and Ambulance responded to the Port of Morrow for the report of an accident involving a new crane.

Two operators from the Kaverit Steel and Crane Company of British Columbia, Canada, were attempting to test the newly assembled crane at Tidewater. The crane collapsed killing one of the operators, identified by the crane company as Mile Obradovic, 48, of Vancouver, B.C. The man was trapped inside the operator's cabin of the crane and due to the instability of the damaged crane his body could not be recovered until Monday afternoon. Representatives from the crane company responded from British Columbia to assist in the recovery.

### Heppner Garden Club to hold monthly meeting

The Heppner Garden Club will be holding their monthly meeting Monday, May 3 at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Senior Center in Heppner.

Host for the evening is Jeanette Padberg.

Bill Ewing will be addressing the group. Ewing has been teaching in Heppner schools and is currently teaching young people about forestry and taking care of our forests.

## Chamber Chatter

By Claudia Hughes, Exec. Dir.

Today is "Chamber of Commerce weather." "Oh, really," you say. "Now the Chamber is also taking credit for the blue sky, sunshine, warm weather?" Not so, but that's the kind of answer we most often want to be able to give to people who call to inquire about Heppner's weather. And, you would be surprised by the number of folks who want to know how much snow there is, if the wind blows a lot, how hot it gets. My reply is not, "I don't have a crystal ball." They get my Chamber answer, "The great thing about Heppner is we have four seasons which offers a variety and four different kinds of beauty." It's all Chamber of Commerce weather.

When we have an opportunity to attract visitors or people who wish to relocate or start a business, we want to give them the image of a perfect day, a "Chamber Day." In other words, it's the kind of ideal situation anybody would wish for when we want to show off our town.

We try to think about how we appear to outsiders and how we can improve to generate business and create jobs. As a rural community outside the box (no interstate, no airline, no bus, no train), we are in much the same boat as all the other rural communities when it comes to bringing jobs to town. What have we learned?

-We have to paddle our own canoe (take charge of our own destiny), so to speak. (This takes lots of mailing, marketing and tooting our horn.)

-Government can't solve all our problems. Locally, government employees also volunteer because Heppner is their home and they feel pride. Outside grants assist on projects, but basically we have to work together; no one can do it alone.

-A community can't be revitalized from the outside. Rural communities and the people in them (that includes those with Heppner zip) want control over what happens.

-The desire for change must come from the people.

-Negativism doesn't grow healthy communities or individuals or friendships. Mistakes are made and mistakes are forgiven.

-Communicate, communicate, communicate.  
-And, finally, listen, learn and laugh. Life is too short to do otherwise.

All who are taking time to plan for Heppner's future, with a focus on making Heppner a healthier more positive community, be it looking for jobs, running a business, growing food, recreation for kids, creating visitor events, teaching, preaching, waiting on customers, building, plumbing, fundraising, cleaning up, welcoming newcomers, brainstorming, listening, learning, helping, are to be commended.

Thought for the Week: Life is a great journey and we don't even have to pack a suitcase.

### Al-Anon meetings to start in Heppner

Al-Anon meetings will begin in Heppner on Wednesday, April 28, at 7:30 p.m., in the United Methodist Church basement.

Al-Anon is a worldwide organization that offers a self-help recovery program for the families and friends of alcoholics whether or not the alcoholic seeks help or even recognizes the existence of a drinking problem. Members give and receive comfort and understanding through a mutual exchange of experiences, strength and hope. Sharing of similar problems binds individuals and groups together in a bond that is protected by a policy of anonymity.

Al-Anon is not a religious organization or a counseling agency. It is not a treatment center nor is it allied with any other organization offering such services. Al-Anon Family groups, which include Alateen for teenage members, neither express opinions on outside issues nor endorse

outside enterprises. No dues or fees are required. Membership is voluntary, requiring only that one's own life has been adversely affected by someone else's drinking problem.

For more information you can contact Dan D. at 676-8204.

### WCCC Family BBQ results

Twenty-four golfers enjoyed the first family BBQ of the new golfing season on Sunday, April 25. Participants enjoyed perfect weather and course conditions.

Low gross scramble teams were: 1<sup>st</sup>- Bob Jepsen, Eric Jepsen, Jim Hayes and Earl Norris- 29; 2<sup>nd</sup> tie- Earl and Peggy Fishburn, Ray French, Jerry Condon; and Dave and Carol Mitchell and Dave and Deborah Kendrick- 30.

Low net teams were: 1<sup>st</sup>- Ralph and Sally Walker and Louis and Betty Carlson; 2<sup>nd</sup>- John and Pat Edmundson and Jim and Cam Wishart; and 3<sup>rd</sup>- Clyde and Jackie Allstott and Rusty and Cyde Estes.

The Jepsen/Hayes/Norris team also won the closet to the pin- second shot special event with Eric Jepsen sinking an eight-foot putt to garner the event on Hole #2.

## 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 thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$7.)

### All programs at BMCC are important

To the Editor:

In response to Rick Drake's angry letter of April 21 about the BMCC music program, may I offer the following comments:

BMCC's Board of Directors includes me, a teaching colleague of Rick's who has frequently sung with him. I respect him as a musician and I trust the feeling is mutual. Information on all seven board members is easily found on BMCC's excellent website, www.bmcc.cc.or.us. As far as I know, none of us lives in a cave.

Furthermore, no one wants to cut music, or any other program at BMCC. But the college, like all public education institutions in Oregon, is in an economic crisis, as has been publicly discussed for years. I do not

know of a school in the state that has not had to reduce programs and staff. As a new teacher, Rick should be at least remotely aware of this.

Music is indeed a possible cut at the college, but we are trying to save it. Like other directors, I share Rick's passion for music, but I can't think of a program at the college that isn't important and worthwhile. It is much easier to complain about budget decisions than to make them.

After reading his letter, I asked Rick where funding could be reduced at the college without causing pain to anyone. He had no answer. When he or any other reader thinks of one, please let me know.

(s) Lea Mathieu  
Member, BMCC Board of Directors  
Ione

### Hill has experience and temperament to be Circuit Judge

To the Editor:

Dear Friend,

Please excuse me for writing rather than stopping by in person to talk with you. However, I did want to get the word out about Dan Hill, who is running for the Circuit Court Judge position being vacated by Rudy Murgo. I believe Dan is the right man for the job.

Dan Hill was born and raised in Umatilla County and has been a practicing attorney in Hermiston for nearly the past 14 years. Four years ago

he was appointed by the Oregon Supreme Court as the part-time Circuit Court Judge pro-tem. He also served as Municipal Court Judge in Hermiston for six years. He clearly has the experience and temperament to do a good job as our next Circuit Court Judge.

Please join with me in electing Dan Hill as Circuit Court Judge position number three.

(s) Jeff Wallace  
Hermiston

### Hill, sets goals and achieves them

To the Editor:

I first met Dan Hill when he was 11 years old and joined our Boy Scout Troop. Within a short time he came before me for a scoutmaster's conference. When I asked him what his plans were, he presented a schedule that amazed me.

He was going to earn his Eagle before he turned 14- goal achieved. He was going to earn all the merit badges in the book- almost accomplished. He was going

to go to Oregon State and then go on to get a law degree- accomplished. He was going to become an officer in the military- he did and is still advancing. He wanted to pursue a job in public service.

Now that Dan has made the commitment to pursue that goal, I believe we would be well served by electing him. He is the kind of public servant that we need.

(s) Carlisle Harrison  
Hermiston

### Senior Citizens wish speedy recovery to Snyder and Lambier

To the Editor:

Dear Officers Brian Snyder and Jeff Lambier,

We as a community never dreamed we'd have a tragedy in our midst. Monday, April 12, 2004 changed our thinking.

We are so sorry you two had to suffer, for us to wake up. We are so proud of you two and your fellow

officers, for keeping us safe, at your expense. Please know the undersigned wish you a speedy recovery and peace of mind.

We appreciate you and yours for a job well done. (s) Joe Wilson, Chairman, Stokes Landing Senior Center And 78 Morrow and Umatilla County citizens

### Hill will serve with distinction

To the Editor:

Dan Hill has 10 years of judicial experience and he is well prepared for this Circuit Court position. He has

practiced law for 17 years and is very well respected. He will serve this Judicial District with distinction. Please join me in voting for Dan Hill.

(s) Joe Burns  
Hermiston

**VOTE**



**BETTY BURNS**

**JUSTICE OF THE PEACE**

**MORROW COUNTY**

**MAY 18<sup>th</sup> ELECTION**

**"A VOTE FOR PROFESSIONALISM AND EFFICIENCY"**

PAID AND AUTHORIZED BY BETTY A. BURNS



**AIR ZILLER**  
was \$64<sup>95</sup> Now \$39<sup>95</sup>

**Air International**  
was \$89<sup>95</sup> Now \$49<sup>95</sup>

**AIR ARCHES**  
was \$69<sup>95</sup> Now \$39<sup>95</sup>

**Air Down Low**  
was \$74<sup>95</sup> Now \$44<sup>95</sup>

**Gardner's Men's Wear**  
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193 N. Main Street • Heppner

## WE LIKE MIKE!

Mike Sweek is leaving for Iraq.

Everyone is welcome to come help and send Mike off with good cheer, food, dancing, roasting, toasting and even singing, if you want!

Saturday, May 8th

6:00 p.m. - ?

Salad Potluck

Heppner Elk's Club

Any questions? Call 676-9759

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