

Obituaries

Charlotte Irene Parker

Charlotte Irene Parker, 83, a three-year resident of Hermiston, died Friday, April 23, 2004, at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston.

A private family graveside service will be held at the Pioneer Cemetery between Tygh Valley and Maupin later. Disposition was by cremation.

Mrs. Parker was born March 9, 1921, at Wamic, to Martin Luther and Nina Elizabeth Chastain New.

She has been a resident of the Hermiston the past three years and had formerly lived at Bellevue, WA, for 20 years, in California for 10 years and in Seattle.

She had been employed as a purchasing agent for yardage by several retail fabric stores for many years.

Park was an ordained minister of the Christian Awareness Church of Seattle, and was involved in the Silent Unity Missionary prayer ministry of the Unite School of Christianity of Missouri.

She enjoyed sewing and crafts.

Survivors include a son, Joe Clark in Arizona; daughter, Cheryl Jayne of Boardman; sister, Lorraine Chastain of Vancouver, WA; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, by brothers, Luther, Ray, Rex and Robert and by sister, Fay.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

Sandra J. Blair

Sandra J. Blair, 43, of St. Helens, formerly of Heppner, died Tuesday, April 27, 2004, at her home.

Funeral service was held Monday, May 3, 2004, at Sunset Park Community Church in St. Helens. Committal service and vault interment was held at Amity Cemetery in Amity.

She was born on August 3, 1960, in Portland, to Harry and Lorene (Latimer) Sieler. She attended schools in Portland for a couple of years, then the family moved to Sandy where she completed her schooling.

She lived Portland for a number of years and in Heppner until moving to St.

Helens in 2000. She worked at Columbia County Mental Health for the last year as a janitor, also at Burgerville, but mostly as a homemaker.

She enjoyed reading the Bible, listening to music, watching T.V., and spending time with her family and children.

Survivors include children Natasha and Stephanie Hamblen of St. Helens, Harry and John Blair of Cottage Grove, and Melanie Hamblen of Tillamook; mother, Lorene Johnson of Nampa, Idaho; siblings, Linda Kenny of Heppner, Ron Sieler of Gladstone and Gary Sieler of Wilsonville. Her father, Harry Sieler, preceded her in death.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Columbia Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Eleanor Ann Gonty

Eleanor Ann Gonty, 87, of Heppner, died Friday, April 26, 2004, at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

A memorial service will be held Friday, May 7, 2004, at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Heppner.

She was born December 26, 1916, at Olney, Illinois, to Charles and Stella Ochs Hemrich. The family later moved to Oregon where she attended schools at Pendleton and Beaverton, graduating from Beaverton High School.

On July 4, 1936, she married Edmond E. Gonty at Beaverton. The couple moved to Heppner where they owned Gonty's Shoe Shop on Main Street. They sold radios, records, Westinghouse appliances and shoes, retiring in 1977.

Mrs. Gonty was a member of the Heppner Garden Club, Degree of Honor and Soroptimist Club. She was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church and belonged to the church Altar Society. She served as a volunteer at the Heppner Elementary School for 18 years and also volunteered at the Heppner Neighborhood Center and Heppner Senior Center.

She enjoyed visits to the family cabin at Penland Lake.

Survivors include daughter, Eleanor Virginia "E.V." Blevins of Ukiah; sons, Raymond Gonty of Seattle, Thomas Gonty of Heppner and Douglas Gonty of Chantilly, Virginia; grandchildren, Patricia Brady, Pamela Arbogast, Ramona Rafferty, Russell Gonty, Rick Gonty, Sophia Gonty and Nicole Gonty; seven great-grandchildren; and brother,

Charles Hemrich of Longview, Washington. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edmond; a sister, Eunice Altshain; and a brother, Ray Hemrich.

Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of choice.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

Elizabeth Fae Trump Grabeel

Elizabeth Fae Grabeel, 52, of Heppner, died Thursday, April 29, 2004, at her home.

A private graveside committal service was held Saturday, May 1, 2004, at the Hermiston Cemetery. A memorial service was held Saturday, May 1, 2004, in the chapel at Burns Mortuary of Hermiston. A reception and luncheon followed at the First Christian Church in Hermiston.

A daughter of Harry and Erma Stubblefield Trump, she was born June 7, 1951, at The Dalles, into a family of two sisters and two brothers.

It was said she was the "fun one" in the family and that she truly enjoyed her years in school. She was a cheerleader in junior high and high school, always had a large group of close friends and was active in softball and church. She graduated from Hermiston High School in 1969.

On May 20, 1972, she married Charles Grabeel.

She had a special love of children, and had a home day-care for several years. She worked in the Stanfield School District and drove school bus for 10 years. The past 15 years, she had lived and worked in the Heppner area as a produce manager for Red Apple Market.

She was a member of the First Christian Church of Hermiston.

Survivors include her husband of nearly 32 years, Charlie Grabeel, at home; sons, Shane Grabeel and wife, Cheryl, of Clarkston, Washington, and Cory Grabeel of Hermiston; daughter, Staci Harrison and husband, Ben, of Hermiston; step-daughter, Kellie Metz of Grants Pass; grandchildren, Joshua Grabeel, Zoe Grabeel, Cabot Metz, Kristin Metz and Alexander Harrison; her father, Harry Trump of Hermiston; sisters, Susan Brooks and Lori Royer, both of Hermiston; brothers, Gary Trump and David Trump, both of Kennewick, Washington; foster brother, Will Vasquez; and numerous other relatives. She was preceded in death by her grandparents and her mother.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston was in charge of arrangements.

Scholarship Trust winners announced

The South Morrow County Scholarship Trust has announced the recipients of the trust's 2004 scholarships in the amount of \$500 each. Recipients are Luke Murray, Natalie McElligott, Paul Neiffer and William Gates.



Luke Murray

The four students were selected out of 14 applicants on the basis of academic achievement, chosen field of study, financial need, school participation, degree of effort the student has made in seeking sources for college, and personal characteristics for success and school citizenship.

Luke Murray is the son of John and Ann Murray of Heppner. He attends Heppner High School and is planning on attending Willamette University or University of Portland to study pre-med or pharmacy. Luke is active in sports, playing varsity football, basketball and baseball. He was all star second team receiver, all star honorable mention and team captain for basketball and on first team all CBC basketball. He served as student body business manager and president of National Honor Society. He was in Mid-Columbia Honor Band and St

Patrick's Youth Group. Luke has volunteered for many events in the community.

Paul Neiffer is the son of Duane and Linda Neiffer of Ione. Paul received the perfect attendance award for three years, physical science award, integrated math III award and physical conditioning award. He was active in sports, receiving honorable mention 1-A all state defensive line, East Oregonian all area first team defensive line, most inspirational football player and most improved tennis player. Paul is considering Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and the University Evansville in Evansville, Indiana. He plans to double major in chemistry and psychology.



Paul Neiffer

Natalie McElligott, the daughter of Jeri and Joseph McElligott, attends school in Ione where she is active in school and community functions. She has served as class officer and volunteered



William Gates

for the yearbook for four years. Natalie is active in sports, playing varsity volleyball and varsity basketball for four years. She was all state track for three years. Natalie has been on the honor roll for four years and scholar athlete 2001-2004. She will be majoring in agricultural business and management at Oregon State University.

William Gates is the son of Tom and Arlynda Gates of Ione. He plans on attending Pacific University in Forest Grove studying media arts/communications. His major will be journalism with a minor in business/economics. William played varsity football, varsity basketball, and varsity baseball four years of high school. He has been a member of National Honor society, Ione High School International Club and Drama Club. He has been active in the community as well as school participation.

The board of directors of the scholarship trust include Bill Rietmann, president; Barb Hayes, vice-president; Del LaRue, treasurer; Sharon Harrison, secretary; and Missy Cutsforth, Martha Munkers and Carri Grieb.



Natalie McElligott

Shenanigans to give free concert



Shenanigans

On Friday, May 14, Shenanigans will present a free concert to the community. Much of the music will be new - things the group has not performed before. Doors will open at the new elementary school gym at 6:30 p.m. The show begins at 7 p.m. Mulligan Stew, another fiddle band comprised of members from Morrow, Gilliam and Umatilla counties, will open the show.

Drawings for two raffle items will be held at the end of the evening. Tickets for the digital camera and a jewelry set designed and made by Marsha Sweek of Heppner are still available from Shenanigans members and may be purchased at the concert also.

Shenanigans has recently recorded a second CD, entitled "Ireland to Morrow County." The CDs sell for \$12 and will be available at the concert.

The group includes Alex Carlson, son of Clint and Sarah Carlson, Kara Clay, daughter of Paul and Terri Clay, Eric Jepsen, son of Bill and Nancy Jepsen, Kate Kendrick, daughter of Dave and Deborah Kendrick, and Brynna Rust, daughter of Tim and Shannon Rust.

Members of the group are all from south Morrow County - an area with a rich Irish heritage. Many of the early settlers in this area came from Ireland - and County Leitrim in particular. Willis would like to hear from Morrow County people who are descendants of those early settlers, before they leave on their trip. It is hoped that the group can meet with some extended family members who are still in the Co. Leitrim area. Willis may be reached at 541-276-0350 or fiddlepeg@oregontrail.net.

Two years ago they were just children with \$125 and a dream. Today, they are practically grown up and busy packing their suitcases, ready to fulfill that dream.

July 14 is "D Day" for Shenanigans, who will travel to Ireland to attend an Irish fiddling school. The Joe Mooney Summer School in Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim, runs July 19-24, allowing the group some extra time for

sightseeing. They will return to the US on July 28

The group members have worked together to raise their own money for the trip (although parents who are going along will be paying their own way). For the past two years they have been busy earning money in a number of ways. They have conducted several raffles - and two more items will be awarded to lucky winners on May 14. The group has also performed extensively. "Generous donations have come from the St. Pat's Committee and a number of other groups," said Peg Willis, the group's director. They have also sorted and returned about "a million" pop cans, bringing in almost \$1,500 from that source alone.

"Community support for this south Morrow County group has been fantastic!" says Willis. "It feels so good to be a part of such a supportive community. And it's been a wonderful opportunity for the kids to learn to work hard for something that's important to them."

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I will maintain self-control and do not have the capacity for anger. I will never persecute anyone. I will be fair and just at all times. I am in favor of law enforcement. My professional conduct will deserve respect from all.

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Friends of John Geer & Wright Chevrolet, Inc. are cordially invited to his RETIREMENT PARTY, Saturday, May 22 from 3-6 p.m. Isobel Edwards Hall, Fossil

Potluck side dishes requested.
Barbecue by the "Slow Waltz Cookers" of Condon.
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