

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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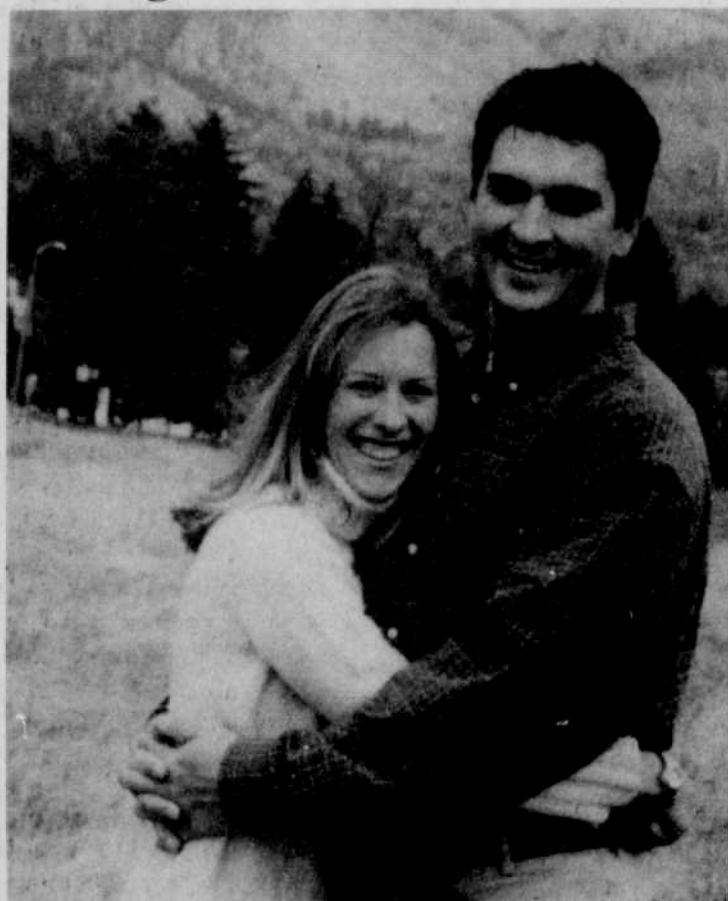
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**Engagement
McElligott-Sarfino**



Bridget McElligott and Derek Sarfino
Together with their parents, L. J. and the late Maryan McElligott of Ione and Greg and Joan Sarfino of Bethesda, MD, Bridget McElligott and Derek William Sarfino wish to announce their engagement.

The bride-elect graduated from Ione High School in 1995 and graduated from Regis University in 1999 with a bachelor of arts degree in Communication Art. She graduated from the University of Colorado with a bachelor of science degree in Nursing in 2003. She will graduate in May 2005 from the University of Colorado with a doctorate degree in Nursing. She is employed at the VA Medical Center in Denver, CO, as a surgical intensive care nurse.

Derek Sarfino graduated from Walter Johnson High School in Bethesda in 1996. He graduated from Regis University with a bachelor of science degree in Business Administration in 2000. He is now obtaining an Elementary Education degree from Metropolitan State College of Denver. He will obtain his master's degree from the University of Colorado in 2005.

The couple will be married in Evergreen, CO, on July 30, 2004 and will reside in Denver, CO.

Misty Creek in Heppner

The bluegrass band Misty Creek plays in the Valley service Club and funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District. Bring chairs or blankets and be prepared for an engaging and rewarding time.

**ENGAGEMENT
OPEN HOUSE**

for
*Bridget McElligott
and
Derek Sarfino*

Saturday, July 3rd
starting at 7 p.m.
at L J McElligott's home
Highway 74, Ione

Bring a bottle of wine for the newlyweds!

MC Health Distric to seek tax levy

continued from page one

patients exceeded the amount reimbursed. They also sold a clinic building in Boardman and are attempting to create a swing-bed program, which would provide some long-term patient care with a better reimbursement rate to help boost the bottom line. Clinics in Heppner and Irrigon have qualified for rural health clinic status and Pioneer Memorial Hospital has received the "critical care access hospital" designation, both of which increase their Medicare reimbursement rates. "We have done about everything we can to reduce expenses and increase reimbursement rates," said Vander Does. Last year a \$300,000 gift to the district from an estate virtually erased the deficit, but such gifts, especially ones so large, are an unreliable source of income.

Also at the meeting, the board decided to forgo a three-percent cost-of-living increase for employees for the time being, hopefully only until the levy passes. The increases would have cost the district more than \$78,000 a year. A cost-of-living increase for Dr. Robert Boss will go ahead as per his contract, as will cost-of-living increases for other contracted employees.

The board approved a resolution adopting a \$6,615,774 budget for fiscal year 2004-05 and imposed taxes of \$.6050 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for operations. That amount includes a \$50,000 ending fund balance. The general fund includes \$2,739,218 for personnel services, \$1,456,251 for materials and services, \$734,634 for revenue deductions and bad debt, \$1,199,762 for contingencies, \$280,000 for capital purchases and \$155,909 for capital lease and long-term loan reduction for a fund total of \$6,565,774.

Of the total \$6 million-plus budget amount, only around \$600,000 of that is received from taxes.

**Friends of library receive
Marsha Sweek memorials**

The Friends of the Heppner Library have received several memorials on behalf of Marsha Sweek. Memorials received so far are from Erin Clem, Roger Leonnig and Dennis O'Donnell, Heppner High School Class of 1967; Gail Burkenbine; Coos Country Assessor's Office; Carolyn Willey; Bob and Joy Krein; Kuhn and Spicer; Jim and Barbara Hayes; and Steve and Lisanne Currin.

The moneys received (over \$400 thus far) will be used to purchase mystery books, Marsha's favorite genre. As books are purchased, the Friends will submit articles describing the books. Each book will have a bookplate denoting it as part of the Marsha Sweek permanent collection.

The Heppner Friends are preparing for

their annual fundraiser, the Book and Bake Sale, which will take place July 31 in front of the Heppner Branch from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The purpose of the Friends group is to support the library and supply those extras that make the library a stronger part of the community. Anyone wishing to donate books should deliver them to the Heppner Methodist Church or the Kuhn and Spicer offices by July 16. If you would like to donate baked goods, please contact Sally Walker at 676-9112 or drop them off at the library before 10 a.m. July 31.

received a letter from Dr. Robert Boss indicating that in the event Columbia River Community Health Services opens a federally-funded migrant clinic in Boardman, he will close his privately operated Boardman Health Care Center and "consider the mutual obligations between me (Dr. Boss) and the district immediately satisfied."

received the May financial report which showed a \$30,558 loss. -learned of an increase in the number of days accounts are in accounts receivable, because of an error on the part of Blue Cross. The error has been corrected.

received the following statistics for May: Pioneer Memorial Clinic had 363 patients with 12 new patients and 43 patients seen by a nurse; Irrigon Clinic had 184 patients with 25 new patients and 62 seen by a nurse; Pioneer Memorial had 17 inpatients for a total of 60 patient days, 428 outpatients and performed 1085 lab tests, 127 x-ray procedures, 26 C-T scans and 29 EKG tests; Dr. Robert Boss and his physician's assistant saw 381 patients; Heppner Ambulance had 11 runs; Boardman Ambulance had 23 runs and Irrigon Clinic has eight runs.

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

HHS baseball team, a great representation of Heppner

To the Editor:

For the past four seasons I've had the privilege of being associated with the Heppner High School baseball program.

As you all know, HHS baseball has traveled into the state playoff's series the past few years with teams. The enthusiasms and excitement it has generated on the field of play and in our community has been awesome.

But this didn't just happen- or did it just come about this past year.

The teams have been blessed with some great talent, which came together

at the right time and at the right place.

The right place has been under the coaching of head coach Rick Johnston and his staff of Rick Paullus, Jim Kindle and John McCabe. These guys have dedicated their time, energy, resources, talent and heart into nurturing the young men of HHS into a winning program on the field and off the field that should make us all proud.

I was fortunate to have traveled with the team to Gaston this year and the remarks made by outsiders on how well mannered the young men conducted themselves and what a joy it was to be around them was great to hear.

Heppner always fields a team to be reckoned with- they challenge their opponents with great baseball skills and sportsmanship like conduct. These attributes are imbedded in our team by a coaching staff who are committed to developing young men into responsible citizens.

My cap is off to these coaches and administrators of Heppner High School for their commitment to the baseball program.

(s) Dick Sargent
Heppner

Obituaries

Arthur Norman Doubledee

Arthur Norman Doubledee, 84, of Boardman, died Sunday, June 20, 2004, at his home.

A private family memorial service will be held later.

Doubledee was born Aug. 29, 1919, at Henryetta, OK, to Will "Bill" and Winnie Plaster Doubledee. He grew up and attended schools in Henryetta where he spent a lot of his time with his grandfather, John Plaster, working on his farm.

In 1940, he married Frances Lanora Dunlap at Independence, MO.

He served with the military during World War II then went to work for the U.S. Government in the Weather Bureau Division, retiring from the Weather Service in 1967.

The Doubledees moved to Boardman in August 1968.

Doubledee worked for various companies, including Dunn and McClannahan, for several years.

His hobbies included leather tool work, gardening, landscaping, cabinetetry, fishing, horseshoes and golfing.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Frances Doubledee in August 1986.

Survivors include his children, Norman Keith Doubledee of Redmond, Susan Godshall of Walla Walla, David Arthur Doubledee in New York State, Donna Kay Murray of Hermiston and Jan Leah Shoemaker of Boardman; nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

Morrow County to receive monies from PILT Program

Secretary of the Interior Gale A. Norton announced that Oregon will receive \$6,245,153 under the Payment In Lieu of Taxes Act to compensate county governments whose jurisdictions contain tax-exempt Federal lands. Morrow County will receive \$39,924 for 149,960 total acres.

"These important dollars help states offset the loss of tax revenues to counties that contain federal lands," Norton said. "This money helps pay for essential services such as firefighting, search-and-rescue operations and a host of other badly needed on-the-ground services."

The Bureau of Land Management in Oregon and Washington has responsibility for 16 million acres of public lands and about 23 million acres of sub-surface federal mineral estate in the two states. The BLM is an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior. BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural and other resources on the public lands.

Over the Tee Cup

Thirteen ladies gathered in hot weather at Willow Creek Country Club for their weekly Over the Tee Cup play.

Shari Stahl took low gross of the field. Low net of the field went to Corol Mitchell and Luvilla Sonstegard. Lois Hunt and Bernice Lott tied for least putts of the field.

In flight A, Stahl had the long drive.

In flight B, Lynnea Sargent took low gross; Juanita Martin took low net; Lorrene Montgomery took least putts; and Sonstegard took long drive.

In flight C, Jackie Allstott took low gross; Donna Crawford took low net; Dorris Graves took least putts; and Joyce Dinkins and Allstott had the long drive.

**GET YOUR
CUSTOM
BANNERS
HERE**

Heppner Gazette-Times
676-9228

**HAPPY 80th BIRTHDAY
ROLAND BERGSTROM!**

From
Your
Four
Girls