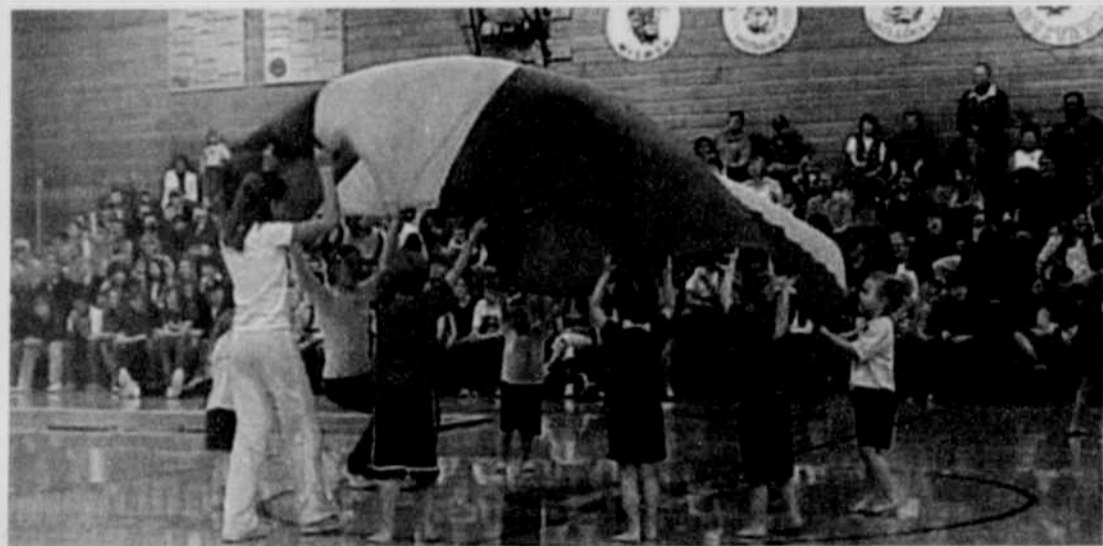


Banner Bank donates jewelry to Fair and Rodeo Court



Banner Bank donated jewelry sets to the 2005 Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court. (L-R): Queen Jessica Wainwright, Kate Close with Banner Bank, and Princess Heather Yocom.

Tiny tumblers provide halftime entertainment



Cindy Sumner's tumbling students performed for the halftime entertainment Friday, Jan. 21, during Heppner High School's home game against Weston-McEwen.

Dohertys celebrate 50 years



Philip and Bettie Doherty on their wedding day in 1955.



Philip and Bettie Doherty

Philip and Bettie Doherty of Heppner celebrated 50 years of marriage on Jan. 8. They were married in 1955 at St. Mary's in Pendleton.

The couple celebrated with a family dinner in Lexington furnished by Philip's sisters and with a gathering sponsored by the Catholic Parish and friends where everyone enjoyed cake and punch.

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HHS announces honor roll students

Heppner High School has announced its semester one honor roll students in grades seven through 12.

Grade 7: Jodessa Chapa (4.0), Emily Thompson (4.0), Ashley Wolff (4.0), Lane Wright (4.0), Jordon Hatfield, Jared Huddleston, Jessica Hughes, Kellee Jones, Zachary McCarl, Brynna Rust and Lacie Wagoner.

Grade 8: Maggie Armato (4.0), Matthew Holland (4.0), Spencer Palmer (4.0), Sherilyn Peck (4.0), Jordan Shepherd (4.0), Luke Young (4.0), Joseph Pranger, Kathryn Moore and Grant Smith.

Grade 9: Baillie Keithley (4.0), Whitney Matthews (4.0), Sean Murray (4.0), Nathan VanCleave (4.0), Kelsie Fox, Katie Kilkenny, Megan Orr and Kelsey Wolff.

Grade 10: Sarah Price (4.0), Regina Seitz (4.0), Aaron Allstott, Justin Delveaux, Mahaley Huddleston and Quinn Peck.

Grade 11: Jessica Brandt-Drury (4.0), Noah Fleischer (4.0), Laurie Murray (4.0), Daniel Basile, Chelsey Betsinger, Lynan Bingham, Kyle Carlson, Nichole Gibbs, Krystal Nairns, Heather Rill and Heather Yocom.

Grade 12: Madison Bailey (4.0), Kylee Disque (4.0), Shanna Rietmann (4.0), Jessica Wainwright (4.0), Emily Bergstrom, Kassandra Gaines, Lindsey Hodges, Kyle Huddleston, Blair Keithley, Cara Kennedy, Joshua Lankford,

Births

Hailey Christine Elizabeth Wenberg- a daughter, Hailey Christine Elizabeth, was born Jan. 10, 2005 at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Sheena Marie Shank and Peter Nils Benjamin Wenberg, both of Heppner.

Cameron Dalton Campbell- a son, Cameron Dalton, was born Jan. 11, 2005 at the hospital at the Bangor Naval Base, to Derek Campbell of Ione and Nicola Moore of Silverdale, WA. Cameron weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce and was 19 inches long. Grandparents are Kelly and Debra Campbell of Ione and Joe and Hazel Moore of Silverdale. Great-grandparents are Rose Baker of Ione and Dick Campbell of The Dalles.

Shelby Villie Hibbitts- a daughter, Shelby Villie, was born Jan. 12, 2005 at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Noemi Tania and Smokey Lee Hibbitts, both of Boardman.

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A view from the hill

By Doris Brosnan

A backward glance into December at Willow Creek Terrace spots several events, entertaining (caroling at each room by the staff, Christian Church caroling, HHS Spanish class caroling, Ol' Time Fiddlers, Shamrockettes, Rebecca Jepsen on harp and piano) and educational (Floss Watkins' beading class, Eve Ironhawk's angel-craft class). The month was also one for families as dinner guests, during the week of Christmas, on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day.

Ten residents had a close-up view of the holiday decorations around Heppner when they traveled about in the bus to judge the Christmas lighting displays. They all enjoyed the lights, but selecting winners for the contest was, they agree, "tough."

The New Year has begun with the familiar. The Sentimentalists are back with their singing practices at the Terrace, delighting the residents on Wednesday afternoons. Peg Willis's fiddlers are again holding jam sessions for the pleasure of the residents, on school-day Fridays, after school. Some residents have resumed bingo-playing at the downtown senior center on Tuesdays, thanks to drivers Jo Meligan and Skip Connor. And bingo, cards, games, jigsaw puzzles, movies and exercise sessions continue to give residents some other options during the week.

A first dramatic presentation occurred on Jan. 13, when Mary Ann Elguezabal's third-grade reading class performed the skit "Henny Penny." And the dining area was cleared for another type of action on Jan. 23. Residents enjoyed the swingin' and doseydoein' of the visiting square dancers. The residents enjoyed it all and hope for more.

A birthday party will close out the month of January at Willow Creek Terrace. On Jan. 30, Eva Griffith will celebrate 96 years of adventures, family ties, and friendships. Griffith was born at her parents' home in Clarks Canyon in 1909. Will and Mary Padberg had had a son, "Buck," nine years earlier and Griffith became his tag-along helper and "go-getter."

For years, Griffith rode horse- or mule-back five miles to the Social Ridge School. She fondly remembers a white dapple, "Ted," and "Johnny Mule." That riding expertise served her well when she reigned as the queen of the Heppner rodeo at the tender age of 14. When she was only a freshman, she drove the school bus from her rural area into Lexington. She continued her education at Monmouth Normal School and returned to the area as a schoolteacher two years later.

When Griffith somehow got the car she drove to the school stuck in the school barn, to her rescue came Mike Matthews and a young man who worked with him, JJ Griffith. JJ and Eva were married the following December, and Griffith left teaching to become full time wife and mother to JJ and their six children. Their first five children were born in the Padbergs' home, for Griffith would travel from her home in Spray to have her children, with her mom and Dr. McMurdo's help. Their youngest child was born in Enterprise.

The Griffiths moved there, where they owned a hotel, then to La Grande, Ephrata, and Redmond. After Griffith's husband died, she moved to Heppner and worked at the Blakes' variety store. She also helped Blakes with babysitting and cooking. Griffith became a cook at Heppner High School and served a long, long line of students that spanned 10 years.

Griffith and her canine companion of 10 years, "Missy," moved to Willow Creek Terrace a year and a half ago. Missy is the only non-human resident at the Terrace and Griffith is the only resident having a birthday on the 30th. The staff and Griffith's neighbors view both as very special.

Rep. Greg Smith announces start of email newsletter

Representative Greg Smith (R-Heppner) announced the start of his in-district email newsletter, which will be sent out to constituents on a weekly basis. Rep. Smith also announced his new legislative staff member.

"I am here to be the voice for the people of Eastern Oregon," said Rep. Smith. "Being so far away from home, it's helpful for me to communicate with my constituents as much as possible. Hearing from them helps me develop and implement policy that will help our area."

Rep. Smith will be serving this session as Chair of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Transportation and Economic Development. He will also be serving as a member of the full Joint Committee on Ways and Means and as a member of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on General Government.

"With the assignments that I have been given, information dissemination to the citizens in my district is so very important," said Rep. Smith. "I'm really looking forward to folks reading the

newsletter and then sending their thoughts back my way."

Rep. Smith also announced today the contact information for his office, as well as the staff he has hired for the session. Bev Denison has joined the staff and will serve as Legislative Director. "I have a great team on board this session to assist in my duties," said Rep. Smith. "Bev Denison will be the first point of contact for constituents when they call my office. She is a talented, helpful person and is here to help my constituents with anything they need."

The contact information for Rep. Smith is as follows: Rep. Greg Smith, 900 Court Street NE, H-280, Salem, OR 97301; (503) 986-1457, phone; (503) 986-1669, fax; email: rep.gregsmith@state.or.us; and Legislative website: www.leg.state.or.us/smithg

To sign up for Rep. Smith's weekly newsletter, send a message to his email addresses with your contact information.

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