

The Official Newspaper
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES**

U.S.P.S. 240-420

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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David Sykes
Katie Foster

Publisher
Editor

News and Advertising Deadline is Monday at 5 p.m.

For Advertising: advertising deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Cost for a display ad is \$4.75 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$7 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$5.35 per column inch.

For Public/Legal Notices: public/legal notices deadline is Monday at 5 p.m. Dates for publication must be specified. Affidavits must be required at the time of submission. Affidavits require three weeks to process after last date of publication (a sooner return date must be specified if required).

On the HEPPNER WEBSITE: www.heppner.net

- Start or Change a Subscription
- Place a Classified Ad • Submit a News Story
- View Real Estate for Sale • City Council & Planning Minutes
- Local Businesses • County Park • Willow Creek Park Reservations
- Free Digital Postcards • Senior Housing • and more!

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.)

Support changes to Social Security that will benefit you

To the Editor:

The time has come to change the social security government IOU "pay as you go" system into your own personal savings and investment program.

Currently social security pays no interest on the money deducted as FICA on your payroll checks.

If you die early (or before you retire) the government keeps the money. Your beneficiaries receive nothing.

Politicians borrow that money for their special projects and pork barrel spending. They write an IOU to be met sometime in the future.

We think there is a better way:

All new workers entering the workforce would have their FICA deductions deposited in their own 401 K or Roth IRA or a similar pension fund.

Everyone now in the system could be given the choice to opt out or stay.

Everyone who chooses to stay in the government program would be guaranteed their retirement checks.

BMCC to offer art class in Ione

Blue Mountain Community College will offer a mid-winter class, Exploring Art, in Ione starting Feb. 7.

This class will offer students a chance in a "hands-on" setting to sample several different areas of art including clay modeling, acrylic painting and sculpture. Mark Bruno of Ione is the instructor. The

This is how Chile designed their program over 20 years ago. They calculated it would take 25 years to move most people out of the government system. Because of compound interest most retirees opted out and the transition took less than 10 years.

Another huge benefit in addition to your owning your hard earned money (your property), you would eliminate the growing deficit in social security (remember it is currently only IOU's) and that money would be in the private sector providing much needed capital for small businesses to grow and provide jobs.

At the very least, ask for the same retirement program your federal workers and Congressman have designed for themselves.

Check the following websites for more information: www.fullemployment.org and www.pensionreform.org (s) Jerry and Deanna Dyksterhuis Monroe, OR

class is set to run for six Monday night sessions from 6-8 p.m. at Ione High School, Room 1. The cost is \$30, which will go towards supplies.

Interested students are urged to contact Anne Morter, BMCC Coordinator, at 422-7040 as soon as possible. Pre-registration is required.

Obituaries

Dorothea Darlene Mae Bisbee

Dorothea Darlene Mae Bisbee, 80, died Saturday, Jan. 22, 2005, at her home in Boardman.

A celebration of life gathering will be held at noon on Friday, Feb. 4, at the Boardman Senior Center, 305 S.E. Olson Road. Disposition was by cremation.

She was born Jan. 12, 1925, at Foacher, OK, to Jim and Jessie Anderson Boyd.

She had been a longtime resident of Hood River where she and her husband were orchardists before coming to Boardman in 1993.

It was said she was kind and generous and had a delightful sense of humor and cheerful nature.

Bisbee was a member of Greenfield Grange 579 and the Boardman Senior Citizen's since 1998.

Survivors include her children, Judy Evans of Woodstock, GA, Smokey Berquist of Mesa, AZ, Doris Aleksich and Bill Berquist, both of Boise, Linda Albrecht of Boardman and John Berquist of Grays Harbor, WA; 12 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren; sisters, Myrtle Hazelton of Nampa, ID and Loretta Gugin of Pendleton; and brother, Raymond Snodgrass of Hood River. She was preceded in death by her husband, LeRoy Allen Bisbee.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

Kermit E. Hanson

Kermit E. Hanson, 85, died Jan. 26, 2005 in Berthoud.

A private family memorial service is scheduled.

He was born in Aitkin, MN, on Nov. 19, 1919.

He worked as a machinist and welder in Portland during WWII and was a dairyman and diesel mechanic, retiring in 1974 from San Diego County.

Since retiring in 1974, Hanson enjoyed traveling by train or car throughout the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. His greatest pleasure was eating breakfast out every day, teasing the waitresses, drinking coffee and swapping stories with the



Kermit Hanson

locals. When he found a town he liked, he'd stay a while, learn the history of the area and explore the countryside by following roads just to see where they went. He was legendary for taking people on a "short ride" to show them something of interest, which would take hours, or even days, on a few occasions.

He loved the outdoors and enjoyed camping, fishing, and hiking. He gave generously to charities that protected the environment and encouraged learning and education for the underprivileged. He loved to read non-fiction and history books. He loved people and kids, especially his grandchildren.

He was a simple man with simple tastes, always content with what he had, giving to others if they needed it, whether it was a possession or money. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends, especially the twinkle in his eye and smile on his face, as he was getting ready to tell a joke or a funny story.

Survivors include children, Wayne Hanson and wife Jeannie of Sacramento, CA, Dale Hanson and wife Carol of Rockfall, CT, Bruce Hanson of New Haven, CT and Christy Kerr and husband Mike of Loveland, CO; sisters, Rosalyn McFarland of California, Jeanette VanSlyke of Washington; brothers, Don, Warren and Ken of Oregon; seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please, plant a tree in his memory through www.americanforests.org. Look for the on-line memorial at www.mem.com.

Justice Court report

The Justice Court for Heppner and Irrigon received \$28,951.66 in receipts for the month of December 2004. Those funds were distributed with the state receiving \$8580.50, county receiving \$20,036.16, and restitution of \$335 being paid.

In December, the court had 141 cases filed. Those cases consisted of 111 traffic citations, two game citations, 18 misdemeanors, four civil claims and FEDS and six DUIs. The court also handled 14 pre-trials, four orders to show cause, issued 50 warrants, ordered 25 suspensions, had five DUI Diversion filed, had 10 warrants returned from the sheriff's office and sent 77 accounts to collections. The court also held seven minor hearings (traffic).

Recent citations given include: Kory Daniel Paullus, 18, Heppner, Minor in Possession-Alcohol, fine \$159.

WCVEDG

annual meeting
continued from page one

owners of existing businesses (gap financing)

Task #2: Provide assistance to local businesses

a. Provide information to businesses about funding options, i.e., GEODC, Morrow Development Corporation, Morrow Equity Fund

d. Support improvements to Willow Creek County Club

Sykes also spelled out some of the accomplishments of the group from 2004 including:

-Developing a site to construct a 5,000 sq. ft. metal manufacturing building on property leased from the Port of Morrow.

-Sending out 10,000 business recruitment mailers that generated over 40 responses from prospective businesses.

-Working with a glue lam business that has expressed interest in moving to the Heppner area.

-Hosted program with GEODC for business retention.

-Began attending Port of Morrow and County Court meetings on a monthly basis.

-Attended Gorge Research business conference

-Acquired a grant writer for industrial park spec. building.

The board of directors elected for 2004 were: Nancy Snider, Marcia Kemp, Sharon Lewis, Jerry Breazeale, George Koffler and Howard Mullins.

Membership in the economic development group is \$25 per year and is open to everyone. Those wishing to become members can contact any board member.

Sheriff's Report

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) reports handling the following business:

Jan. 25: MCSO received a report from Hermiston PD that Vernon Lee Piel, Jr., 43, was arrested on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Driving while Suspended.

-MCSO arrested Roberto Lopez Barajas, 22, for DUI.

Jan. 26: MCSO received a report from Hermiston PD that Vernon Lee Piel, Jr., 43, was arrested on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Driving while Suspended.

Jan. 27: MCSO received a report from Hermiston PD that Christopher Buffo, 19, was arrested on a Morrow County Circuit Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Possession of a Controlled Substance II.

Jan. 31: MCSO received a report from Coos County Jail that Craig Lee Hibdon, 28, was arrested on a Morrow County Sheriff's Office warrant for Failure to Appear/Possession of a Controlled Substance II. Hibdon was lodged at Coos County Jail.

-MCSO received a report from Clackamas County Jail that Lisa Luann Amme, 42, was arrested on a Morrow County Sheriff's Office warrant for Failure to Appear/Driving while Suspended.

Health District

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rather than an adaptable one, could cost in the neighborhood of \$350,000 to \$400,000.

-learned that monies for a new ambulance will be placed in next year's budget. The ambulance, which is estimated at around \$100,000 will go to Heppner, since Heppner currently has the oldest ambulance in the district. Irrigon received the last new ambulance and Boardman has the second oldest, Vander Does said.

-learned that x-ray technician Gaylin Fickel plans to resign from his position at PMH. Vander Does said that the district has received two well-qualified applicants for the position.

-noted that MCHD received the business of the year award at the Heppner Chamber of Commerce's annual Town and Country Banquet.

-learned that Pioneer Memorial Clinic had 414 patient visits in December, with eight of those new patients and an additional 36 patients seen by a nurse; Irrigon Clinic has 176 patient visits, with 34 new patients and an additional 69 patients seen by a nurse (for \$25,975 in monthly revenue by providers for the Irrigon and Heppner clinics); Boardman Health Care Center (Dr. Boss' clinic) had 264 patients seen by a physician's assistant and 145 seen by Dr. Boss; Heppner Ambulance had 11 runs, Boardman Ambulance had 19 and Irrigon Ambulance, seven; PMH had eight admissions to the hospital and nine discharges, 442 outpatients, 62 emergency room encounters, 1395 lab tests, 132 x-ray procedures, 19 CT scans, 27 EKG tests, 30 respiratory therapy procedures and 1021 drug doses distributed for \$58,850 in drug revenue; Home Health had 164 visits and other procedures.

Irrigon son completes basic training

Recruits begin their day with running and performing calisthenics. They also spend numerous hours in classroom and field assignments which include uniform regulations, physical training, combat survival, marksmanship, which he received rifle sharpshooter, expert grenade, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. He said he very much enjoyed the repel training.

Griffin was given the honor of being squad leader.

Upon completing basin training, Griffin had a short Christmas visit home and is now stationed in Fort Huachuca, AZ, receiving advanced individual training in unmanned aircraft.

Griffin is the son of Sam Griffin and Leora Svatonsky, both of Irrigon.

PV2 Corey Griffin

PV2 Corey Griffin has completed 12 weeks of basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C.

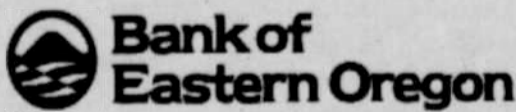
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PV2 Corey Griffin



We're Celebrating a Very Special Occasion!

In February, Bank of Eastern Oregon celebrates 60 years of being "Around the Corner, Not Around the State."

Join us in our anniversary celebration by stopping by during branch hours and register to win one of three great prizes!

Heppner* Arlington* Ione* Condon* Irrigon* Boardman
John Day* Prairie City* Burns* Fossil* Moro

Bank of Eastern Oregon
1945 - 2005



Member FDIC

**All Saint's Episcopal Church
SHROVE TUESDAY
PANCAKE SUPPER
Tuesday, February 8, 2005
From 5 - 7:30 p.m.
Everyone is invited!**

**Menu: Pancakes, Ham, Fruit,
Coffee, Tea, Juice and Milk.
All You Can Eat!**

**Adults: \$4.00
Students: \$3.00
Family: \$14.00**

**All Saints' Episcopal Church
460 N. Gale Street, Heppner**