

Artist designs Tupper T-shirt



Photo by Sandy Matthews

Madison Bailey, Heppner High School graduating senior and counselor at the Tupper Outdoor School this spring, and Jannie Allen, Heppner Elementary teacher and Tupper coordinator, model the Tupper T-shirt designed by artist Vicente Navarette, nephew of Mary Ann Elguezabal, also a Heppner Elementary teacher.

Dean Robinson named 1A athletic director of year

Ione Community School's athletic director, Dean Robinson, was recently named Oregon 1A Athletic Director of the Year. Robinson was nominated for the award by athletic directors in the Big Sky Conference and was selected by an OSAA committee of athletic directors. He was honored and received a plaque at the Oregon Athletic Directors Association banquet on April 25.

Robinson has taught fifth through eighth grade language arts and coached middle school football and track at Ione since 1987. He also coached middle school and junior varsity boys' basketball. He has been an Outdoor School teacher and director and has served on the Ione Site Council. He has been middle school and high school athletic director since 1997.

In 1999 Robinson was selected Oregon Athletic Coaches Association Middle School Coach of the Year. He was named Heppner Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year in 2000 and received the Grant Rigby Memorial Teacher of the Year Award at Ione in 2002.

Robinson's contributions to programs at Ione School have been extraordinary. He helped to expand the Cardinal Booster Club from just supporting athletics to focus on academic needs as well. He helped raise funds for and design the high school gym remodel project. He also organized building a track practice area. He brought volleyball tournaments to Ione at the middle and high school levels. The annual Basketball Bonanza Tournament held in

December is largely organized by Robinson. He was instrumental in starting the recognition of businesses for their contributions to the school. The booster club now provides sack meals to visiting teams thanks to Robinson. He is currently establishing a Hall of Fame to recognize past athletes and coaches from Ione.

"I am amazed at the energy and devotion Dean has to his many jobs. Dean is the kind of athletic director that will do everything he cats to make the coaches' jobs easier," said head girls' basketball coach, Ryan Rudolf

"Working in a small,

State all star baseball players named



Jode Coil



Nick Christman



Kory Paullus



Josh Gutierrez

Jode Coil, a Heppner High School senior, was named to the 2A baseball all star second team as an infielder.

Senior Nick Christman, Ione, was named to the third team utility.

Kory Paullus, outfield, and Josh Gutierrez, designated hitter, both Heppner seniors, received honorable mention.

rural school requires Dean to wear many hats, which is not a task many can do successfully. Just when I am sure his plate is full, he will volunteer to help with or spearhead another project for the betterment of our school and community," notes ISD Superintendent Bryn Browning. "Dean is a

high energy, extremely positive person who believes he can make a difference in the lives of each and every one of his students. He is completely committed to the importance of education and believes that all students should have an opportunity to achieve success whether large or small."

A view from the hill

by Doris Brosnan

Residents of Willow Creek Terrace look back on several June activities with pleasure and can see that July is going to hold some special events that will keep them busy.

In addition to their ongoing monthly activities - including Bingo, crafts, games, Ol' Time Fiddlers' music, exercise classes, and weekend matinees - the group welcomed three special June affairs:

Four residents traveled to Heppner Elementary School in June, to see the mural painting on the gym wall. The artist who did that work was at Willow Creek Terrace in March to give some art lessons to residents.

The Lexington Rebekah Lodge and the Odd Fellows Lodge hosted a salad dinner on June 16. Each person drew a number from a hat and then sat at the corresponding number at a table. In this way, the residents and hosts had an opportunity to visit with some new faces, and the conversations seemed to easily fill the evening.

The Nazarene Church men's group hosted their second annual Father's Day barbecue on Saturday 18, treating the male residents to hamburgers with all the fixin's and strawberry shortcake for dessert.

That dessert came from the strawberries that several residents had pitched in to help the staff clean. Most of the berries became freezer jam, some of which will be entered in the Morrow County Fair.

And speaking of "entering," several Terrace residents will be making pies for the pie contest during "Celebrate Heppner." Volunteers will be needed on July 28, to help those bakers with their pie-making. Anyone willing to assist is asked to notify George at 676-0004.

July 4 will find several residents in Ione for that community's celebration and fireworks.

Celebration is a priority at Willow Creek Terrace, and the staff and residents celebrated two birthdays as June turned to July. Francis Circle is 97 years old on June 30, and Lowell Gribble will be 95 years old on July 2.

Francis was born in Oklahoma to Delmer and Abby Circle, a boy with three sisters. While he was yet a wee one, the family moved to Kansas and then Oregon, first Eugene and then Roseburg. But Francis started school in a small school about seven miles from Wallace, Idaho. Soon the family was back in Roseburg, then Portland, and then Battle Ground, Washington. Francis remembers walking to school through areas with 10-foot snow banks. Finishing the eighth grade, Francis opted to get the rest of his education in the work-a-day world.

He "ran away from home" to a farm about one mile away. There, Francis worked for \$1 a day plus room and board, mostly driving a team of mules. Not long after that, he transferred that skill to the working of a team of six horses in Astoria. For two seasons, he maneuvered one of two teams, one at each end of the huge salmon net, to pull in the catch. He later ran another team of horses on the Columbia for three seasons.

But logging was the industry luring Francis into his future. His father taught him how to fall a tree, and he ended up working with one partner he especially remembers for five years near Riderwood, Washington. Later, Francis turned to trucking the logs and did so for 40 years. The last five-year leg of his career was spent with the Roseburg Lumber Company, where, to the age of 72, he continued to drive a chip truck.

During one of Francis's visits to his parents' place in Battle Ground, he attended a country dance that Mary Louise Higdon also attended. One dance led to another, and soon the couple wed, when Francis was 30 and Mary 20. They danced on for another 60 years of life together, and they had two children. Mike continues to live, with his wife, on the farm that his parents had before moving into a smaller facility. Monica and her husband, Jim Swanson, live in Ione, parents of Francis's two grandchildren.

Lowell Gribble was also an only son, born in Aurora, Oregon, to Lane and Albertina Gribble. He had an older and a younger sister. The family name still adorns a few locations in the area.

Lowell attended high school in Woodburn and served as the school bus driver for his area at the age of 16. He then went on to Willamette University in Salem. While there for two years, he sometimes went to the Elsinore Theater, just down State Street. One little usher often showed him to a seat, and one evening she asked if he would prefer a seat in the more expensive loge section, though his ticket was for the general seating area. He knew then that she maybe "had an eye for me." He and "Dee" were married and kept an eye on each other for over 68 years, until she passed away in December of 2003.

Lowell got "a real job" with Mobil Oil delivering fuels. He worked his way up to a regional manager position and then became district manager in Pendleton. This was over a period of several years and through the moving of the family almost yearly. The Gribbles had two sons, Doug and Stuart, and baby Barbara when the company wanted "Gribb" to move again, and he said "no more." Instead, he bought a station in Pendleton, and he introduced anhydrous ammonia to farmers in the area.

The family came to Heppner when Lowell bought the Shell Oil franchise, and he and a partner also did business in Condon. Always a reader of scientific literature, Lowell became intrigued with what he read about a Hewlett-Packard unit created to check bearings under load. That interest led to his Ultrasonic Predictable Maintenance business.

Not long after Lowell moved to Heppner, he and another "relocated Pendletonian" were at the Wishing Well Drive-In, which once stood near the present Willow Creek Country Clubhouse, discussing what they missed about Pendleton. They agreed on golf. Not long after that, Lowell spearheaded the successful effort to develop today's golf course, starting with three holes, increasing to five, then seven, and eventually becoming the nine-hole course it is today.

This man with proven foresight will see some of his children, his six grandchildren, and his 11 great grandchildren at his birthday celebration.

Their neighbors are delighted to see Lowell and Francis celebrating such milestone birthdays and view the pause for birthday cakes and well-wishes with pleasure.

Real Estate



By DAVID SYKES

REALTOR

CURB APPEAL

Curb appeal is an often overlooked term when it comes to selling a home, but a house that is prepared successfully will sell faster and for a greater value than the one that appears run down and in need of work. Just like dressing up for a fancy dinner, the same applies to a home when getting it ready to sell. That's not to say that a complete facelift needs to be done in order to bring a good price. In most instances, some very inexpensive but effective types of cosmetic improvements can make

a significant difference. Things like cutting and trimming lawns, installing a few well-placed plants, cleaning out garages and closets, eliminating clutter, painting outside trim, shampooing carpets, and cleaning or painting some outside walls can go a long way in presenting a home in its most favorable light. I can take an objective look at a home and give advice on what inexpensive touches would help in dressing a home for sale.

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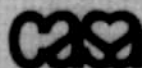


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