

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 Publisher  
Betty MacTavish Editor

All 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 \$4.90 per column inch. Cost for classified ad is 50¢ per word. Cost for Card of Thanks is \$10 up to 100 words. Cost for a classified display ad is \$5.50 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).

For Obituaries: Obituaries are published in the Heppner GT at no charge and are edited to meet news guidelines. Families wishing to include information not included in the guidelines or who wish to have the obituary written in a certain way must purchase advertising space for the obituary.

For Letters to the Editor: Letters to the Editor MUST be signed by the author. The Heppner GT will not publish unsigned letters. All letters MUST include the author's address and phone number for use by the GT office. The GT reserves the right to edit letters. The GT 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 \$10.

On the HEPPNER WEBSITE: [www.heppner.net](http://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!

**St. Patrick's Senior Center news**

For the first senior center meal of 2006, meat loaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, peaches, corn bread, rolls, cupcakes and ice cream will be served. Members of the Christian Life Center will serve the lunch.

The writer has not yet received the official 2006 list of churches whose members and constituents volunteer for serving and clean-up each week. It does give an opportunity for the center's board to extend its appreciation for those special people who appear promptly and are gracious in their reception of guests. Their presence each week is a sign of a spirit of cooperation established by the center in its effort to fulfill its mission. At each mealtime these volunteers add to the atmosphere of hospitality typifying the kind of support the center offers to members of the community.

Chairperson Corol Mitchell reports that more than 70 people were served Christmas dinner at the center on Christmas Day. Participants came early to enjoy hors d'oeuvres and visit with one another. Many stayed late to enjoy the conversation. Volunteers assisted with set-up, serving and clean up.

The children of Bill and Winifred Cox, in memory of their parents who were among original organizers and supporters of this fine addition, provide the main entree for this special meal. The Willow Creek Bakery furnished the rolls for the Christmas Day dinner.

**Obituaries**

**Eleanor Virginia Blevins**

Eleanor Virginia Blevins, 66, died December 19, 2005 at her home in Ukiah.

A graveside funeral service was held Friday, December 23, 2005, in Ukiah.

Mrs. Blevins was born September 29, 1939, in Heppner to Ed and Eleanor Gonty. She was a 1957 graduate of Heppner High School.

She married Terry Blevins after graduation. The couple moved to Ukiah in 1964 where they owned and operated two service stations. Mr. Blevins preceded her in death in 1982.

She was employed by the Battle Mountain Store and the U.S. Forest Service. She was an active member of the community and served on the school board for 10 years.

She is survived by daughters, Pat Brady of Lake Stevens, Washington, and Pam Arbogast, Ukiah; brothers, Ray Gonty of Seattle, Tom Gonty, Heppner, and Charles Gonty, Chantilly, Va.; and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Ukiah Quick Response, P.O. Box 57, Ukiah, 97880

Burns Mortuary of Pendleton is in charge of arrangements.

**Leland Edward Kestler Sr.**

Leland Edward "Lee" Kestler Sr., 76, died at his home in Irrigon on December 21, 2005.

A graveside service was held on Tuesday, December 27, 2005, at the Hermiston Cemetery.

Leland Edward Kestler Sr. was born on August 2, 1929, in Stockville, Neb., to Leslie and Edith Dehut Kestler. He was raised in Nebraska and lived there until moving to the Willamette Valley in the early 1950s.

He was united in marriage to Deloris Whitehead on March 7, 1953, in McMinnville. They settled in Morrow County in 1975 where they have lived since.

Mr. Kestler was a farmer and cut custom hay for many years. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and enjoyed horses, tractors and most of all, time with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Deloris Kestler, Irrigon; daughters, Sally Kestler, Irrigon, Melanie Dieter, Boardman and Tassie Pullen, Irrigon; sons Roger Kestler, Irrigon, Leland Kestler Jr., Stanfield, Bruce Kestler, Salem, and Rodney Kestler, Umatilla; brothers, Kenneth Durner, Canby, Keith Durn-

er, Monterey, Tenn.; sisters Rose Hagen, Silverton, Maxine Greer, Salem; 26 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Mr. Kestler was preceded in death by his parents, daughters, Kally Rae Kestler and Melody Kestler, son, Kary Kestler, and grandson, Leland E. "TJ" Kestler III.

**Patricia M. "Pat" Rufner**

Patricia M. "Pat" Rufner, 87, of Hermiston died Tuesday, December 15, 2005, at Good Shepherd Medical Center.

A celebration of her life was held December 28, 2005 at the Hermiston VFW Lodge, Hermiston.

Graveside service will be held on Thursday, January 5, 2006 at 1 p.m. at the Mountain View IOOF Cemetery in Goldendale, Washington.

Rufner was born on December 13, 1918, in Payette, Idaho at the family farm to Albert and Olga Reimers Adams. She was raised and attended schools in Huntington, Oregon.

She graduated from Huntington High School in the class of 1936. She then moved to Boise, Idaho where she attended cosmetology school and worked. In 1939 she moved Rio Tinto, Nevada.

She was united in marriage to Ralph Rufner on March 24, 1940 in Elko, Nevada. They lived in Rio Tinto, Nevada, until Ralph enlisted in the United States Army. She then traveled to Mississippi and Louisiana to be with Ralph until he went overseas. She then returned to Huntington, Oregon. After Ralph's honorable discharge he also returned to Huntington where they lived until 1960. They then moved to Hermiston, Oregon, where she has lived since.

Mrs. Rufner was a member of the United Methodist Church, the Red Hat Society, VFW Auxiliary, and the Eagles Auxiliary. In her younger life she enjoyed being a mother, always supplying cookies for every school and church event.

After retiring she enjoyed visiting with her kids, bingo, reading mysteries, shopping, traveling, growing tomatoes, cooking, cards, and playing board games. She took up oil painting and won the purple ribbon at the Umatilla County Fair for her painting. She experienced everything from horse and buggy to the computer age, using the computer to e-mail and play games.

Survivors include her daughter, Barbara Hutsell of Heppner and four grandchildren: Kristina, Mark, Bethany and Jorgen; three great-grandchildren: Lucy, Jack, and Celia; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ralph in 1997; son, Fredrick in 1993; her parents; two brothers, Buck and John Adams; two sisters, Eekie Moor and Billie Lou McLaughlin, and half sister, Helen Adams.

Those who wish may make contributions in her memory to the Hermiston Ambulance Program or the American Cancer Society c/o Burns Mortuary of Hermiston at P.O. Box 289, Hermiston, OR 97838.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, Oregon is in charge of arrangements.

**Lowell Lansing Gribble**

Lowell Lansing Gribble, 95, died Sunday, December 18, 2005, at Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living in Heppner.

A memorial gathering was held on Wednesday, December 21, 2005, at Willow Creek Terrace in Heppner.

Mr. Gribble was born July 2, 1910 at Aurora, the son of Lansing L. and Albertina M. Miller Gribble. He was raised and attended school at Aurora before attending high school at Woodburn, where he graduated in 1930.

He attended Willamette University and then Willamette Law School in Salem. Mr. Gribble lettered all four years at Willamette in baseball and football. He then played semi-pro ball for the Salem Senators and then the Albany Oaks in Albany, Oregon.

On December 31, 1934, he married Dolores L. Mills at Salem.

Mr. Gribble was employed by General Petroleum for many years. He also owed a service station in Pendleton and then purchased the business of Shell Chemical Fertilizer in Heppner. He sold that business in 1968 and then started Ultra-Sonic Predictable Maintenance Inc., which became a very successful business venture.

Mr. Gribble served as justice of the peace in 1967-1968. He was a member of the Heppner B.P.O.E. #358, the Pendleton Masonic Lodge, and the Christian Life Center Church, although he was baptized at the All Saints Episcopal Church in Heppner.

His favorite hobby was golf, so much so, that he helped start the local golf course, Willow Creek Country Club in Heppner.

Survivors include Barbara Diggins of Pendleton; sons; Doug Gribble, Centralia, WA, and Stuart Gribble, Issaquah, WA; six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife in 2003, his parents and an infant daughter.

Memorial contributions may be made to Willow Creek Terrace Assisted Living, 400 Frank Gilliam Drive, Heppner, OR 97836 or to Pioneer Memorial Hospice, P.O. Box 9, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

**Marriage License**

The Morrow County Clerk's office has issued the following marriage license:

**Dorothy Patton**

Dorothy Patton, 91, died Thursday, December 22, 2005, at her home at Sun Terrace in Hermiston.

A public celebration of life service will be held this spring.

Dorothy Patton was born on April 12, 1914 in La Grande,

to parents, Victor and Bernice Hogan. She was raised and attended schools in Washington and Oregon.

She was united in marriage to Richard Patton on September 5, 1931. They lived in Idaho and later moved to Wallula, Washington in 1937. In 1952 they moved to Cecil, Oregon and lived there until 1986 when Richard preceded her in death. She then moved to Hermiston, where she has lived since.

She was a member of the Methodist Church in Hermiston. She enjoyed traveling, flowers, playing cards, cooking, sewing, and quilting.

Survivors include her son, Edward Patton of Irrigon; daughters, Esther Dixon of Mitchell, and Donna Winson of Seattle; brother, Floyd Hogan, Hermiston; 13 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

Her husband, Richard, her parents, one brother, and three sisters preceded her in death.

Memorial contributions may be made to Sun Terrace, 1550 N.W. 11th St., Hermiston, Oregon 97838.

Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in charge of arrangements.

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Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner was in charge of arrangements.

The Morrow County Clerk's office has issued the following marriage license:

December 23: Mark Randolph Rickards, 24, Kennewick and Ashlie Lela Cain, 21, Kennewick.

**Justice Court report**


The Justice Court has released the following information: David Corniola, 65, Tucson, Violation of the Basic Rule, 62/45 and a Passing Violation, fine \$288. Steven Arbogast, 35, Pendleton, Violation of the Basic Rule 77/55, fine \$180. Michael Marsh, 19, Otis, No Resident Upland Game Bird Validation, fine \$159, Shooting From a Public Roadway, fine \$189, Exceeding Bag Limit of Pheasants, fine \$159. Tiffany Greenup, 26, Lexington, Violation of the Speed Limit 49/30, fine \$108. Elogbi Mustafa, 54, Portland, Violation of the Basic Rule 37/25, fine \$108. Susan Proudfoot, 55, Ione, Violation of the Basic Rule 80/55, fine \$108. Norbert McManns, 79, Portland, Unlawful Taking of a Cow Elk, fine \$159.

**New Year's Eve card party planned**

Are you trying to think of something different to do on New Year's Eve?

Everyone is invited to the Odd Fellows Hall in Lexington for an evening of cards. Cost is \$5 per person and is open to the public. Play will start at 7 p.m. with refreshments served throughout the evening. Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

*Happy  
New Year  
from everyone  
at  
Peterson's Jewelers  
Gayle, Judy, Carmen,  
Bonnie, Marlene,  
and Randall*



Member of America, Inc. 676-9200

**HEPPNER ELKS 358**  
676-9181 "Where Friends Meet" 142 North Main

**- Saturday, December 31st -  
NEW YEAR'S EVE  
PARTY**

**Ham and Crab Feed Dinner  
starting at 6:00 p.m.**

**Music with Matt Howard  
starting at 8:00 p.m.**

**Party Favors!  
(for current Elks members only)**

**PRIME RIB  
BUFFET**  
at John's Place, Heppner

Friday and Saturday  
Dec. 30th & 31st  
5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Spend New Year's Eve  
with us!