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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner
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Autumn Morgan Editor

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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.

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Obituary

Keith B. Gregory

Keith B. Gregory, 72, of Alfalfa died Monday, December 31, 2007, of natural causes.

A graveside service was held Friday, January 4, at Powell Butte Cemetery.

Mr. Gregory was born February 23, 1935, in Hensler, ND, the son of Burton and Iva

(Peterson) Gregory. He married Barbara Shilley on April 27, 1957, in Tacoma, WA.

Mr. Gregory served in the U.S. Army artillery during the Korean War. He owned a farm and worked for Jeld-Wen, retiring in 1998. He enjoyed telling jokes, dancing and spending time with friends and family. He moved to Alfalfa in 1985.

He is survived by: his

wife; a son, Alan, of Heppner; a daughter, Jean Landon, of Alfalfa; three brothers,

Bryan, of Spanaway, WA, Loren, of Fall City, WA, and Don, of California; a sister, Lois Walters, of Canada; and six grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, three brothers and three sisters.

Memorial contributions may be made to Central Oregon Home Health and Hospice, 2698 N.E. Courtney Drive, Suite 101, Bend, OR 97701 or the American Lung Association.

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



Keith B. Gregory

Applications being accepted for Planning Commission position

The City Council of Heppner is currently accepting applications to fill a vacancy in the Planning Commission. This position is a four year term commencing February 1, 2008 through December 31, 2011. This position will be filled by Council appointment.

Applications are available Monday through

Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1-5 p.m. at City Hall. Applicants must reside within the city limits of Heppner.

The City of Heppner Planning Commission meets on the first Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at City Hall. For more information call Les Paustian at 676-9618 during business hours.

Annual awards *continued from page one*

Mills is also known throughout the Heppner area as the "Voice of the Mustangs," announcing football games each year. He is also the emcee for many parade and rodeo events.

Whitney Matthews, a senior at Heppner High School, was selected student of the year. She has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout high school while taking challenging advanced college prep and honors courses. She has been active in student government, acting as the vice president of Heppner High School's National Honor Society and as the business manager for the associated student body.

She is not only a scholar, but also an athlete, playing Mustang varsity volleyball for four years and also playing four years on the Mustang softball team as a varsity pitcher. In between these seasons she has been the volunteer assistant coach for the junior high girls' basketball team and filled in as a stat keeper for the varsity

boys' basketball team.

She is active in the 4-H livestock program and volunteers at the fairgrounds during clean up to help prepare for fair. She has been a Tupper counselor "to the delight of the Heppner Elementary Outdoor School," said presenter Kim Cutsforth. She has volunteered at The Willow Creek Assisted Living Center, Pheasants Forever, the Neighborhood Center, the Pendleton Cowboy Christmas ball gift wrapping, STARS and many other community fund raisers.

"She is a dedicated student and community member," said Cutsforth. "I have had the opportunity to work with Whitney on several community projects and know her personally as a friend of my family. I am happy to give her a reference and I am confident that she will be successful in anything she decides to pursue."

Whitney's plans will take her to Boise State this fall where she will study in the medical field.

Commissioner position

continued from page one

Alvin (Alvy) and Prudy (Holcomb) Casebeer of Heppner.

Rea graduated as class valedictorian at the Lone High School in 1959. Directly out of high school she married her high school sweetheart Jerald Rea. They have been married for 48 1/2 years. They moved to Heppner and lived for five years. They then moved to Condon, where Jerald was a partner in a John Deere dealership. They lived there five years and then moved to Lexington and started farming. The Reas lived just out of Lexington for a couple of years and then moved to the farm located on Bombing Range Road. They were on the farm for about 13 years before moving to the Boardman area when Jerald went to work for the Port of Morrow. Leann spent six years working for the Irrigation District in Irrigon.

Rea has four grown children, sons Rick and Terrell Rea and daughter Darla (Rea) Wishart, all of Boardman, and son Robert Rea of Island City. She has eight grandchildren and two step-grandchildren and currently resides on a small farm about three miles East of Boardman.

Currently Rea is the district coordinator for District 14 (Morrow, Umatilla, Grant, Wheeler, and Gilliam Co.) for the AARP Tax-Aide Program, a volunteer position.

Rea's past employment experience consists of: Irrigation District Bookkeeper/Manager for West Extension Irrigation District, Stanfield Irrigation District and Westland Irrigation District; engineer's assistant for an engineering firm; paralegal for a water rights attorney; licensed tax preparer; farmer's wife/farm bookkeeper and equipment operator; parts person for a farm equipment dealership; grocery store shelf stocker and clerk in a small grocery store; assistant postal clerk in the Lexington Post Office; and she

also worked in the 1990 and the 2000 U S Census process.

Her current and prior governmental experience consists of: Morrow County Planning Commission for 12-1/2 years, the last three as commission chair (appointed); Morrow County Budget Committee for nine years (appointed); Morrow County Health District for three years (elected); Morrow County Fair Board (appointed); chair on the Solid Waste Management Plan Advisory Committee; numerous sub-committees ranging from transportation plans, mobile home siting standards and subdivision plans.

Rea's other community involvements consist of the following: OSU Extension Advisory Board for around 15 years, currently as board chair; Umatilla/Morrow County Farm Bureau Board of Directors for nine years; Oregon Water Resources Congress for four years; Umatilla Basin Water Shed Council for six years, serving as secretary for two years; Lower Umatilla Basin Ground Water Management Area task force, and as co-chair with Art Kessler for the rural/residential component of the plan; Willow Creek Local Advisor Committee; and was a 4-H leader in sewing and cooking.

"When elected I will work to make Morrow County more livable, to attract more family wage businesses, to encourage the growth and development of our current industries and businesses, to work in a cooperative manner with the Port of Morrow and the communities in our County. I will also strive to work cooperatively with Judge Tallman and Commissioner Grieb. As I believe if we work together we can make great things happen for Morrow County. I will make every effort to be available to every resident in Morrow County, regardless of their place of residence," Rea said.

Annual meeting *continued from page one*



Merilee McDowell of the Morrow Soil & Water Conservation District, presents Duane Neifer with cooperators of the year award at the annual program last Thursday.



Torri Lovgren and Bubba Wainwright give program on their trip to FFA National Convention

were only 200 cougars left in Oregon. By 1993 the population had grown to 3,000 and in 1994 the law banning dog hunting was passed. The state went to a seven-month season at that time, and then in 2001 that was expanded to 10 months. He said in 2006 there were 5,100 cougars in Oregon, and a corresponding increase in cougar problems.

He said ODFW has come up with a plan to have a minimum population of 3,000 cougars throughout the state, an amount that seems to balance the population and also keep livestock, human and big game problems at a minimum.

He said the number of cougars will go up and down, based on problems. Cherry identified reduced numbers of deer and elk in the Heppner unit for the decision to reduce the cougar population by 30 cats per year for three years.

In the Heppner Unit and Blue Mountain Zones, the cougars must stay around 900 cats. Cherry said that 75 percent of elk calves killed before the management plan started were killed by big cats. He said the past year was the worst year ever for elk calf survival. The elk population was the lowest level ever and ODFW realized the cougar population had to be reduced.

After the removal program started, 40 percent of the cats taken were adult females, and although there was a target of 30 cats in the first year, only 20 were killed. Two hunters have been hired to take the cats in the Heppner unit and \$15,000 has been paid the past year. In the first year, 11 females and nine males were taken out in 83 days.

So far this year (winter 2007-08) seven females and seven males have been harvested, Cherry said. He, as well as several ranchers in the area, say there is already improvement in the

elk calf population.

Cherry said trapping has also been used, but is not as effective as paid hunters. Regular hunters have also taken out 12 cats in the Heppner unit the past year.

Cherry gave a description of how the cougars kill their prey, mainly by grabbing the calf on the back on the neck, breaking the bones there. "Cougars are very strong," he pointed out, and they can easily kill a 100-pound calf. "A cougar kill is very easy to recognize," Cherry said. "They leave big hole in the neck." He said they will kill about once per week, but females with cubs will kill more. Cougars are very territorial and, "The biggest problems come from immature males coming into an area where they haven't been before," he said.

Applications available for Heppner City Council position

The City of Heppner announces an opening for City Council position No. 4. This position is to be served for the remainder of 2008 and will be filled by Council appointment.

Applications are available Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1-5 p.m. at City Hall. Applicants must be qualified electors within the meaning of the State Constitution and must have resided within the city limits of Heppner for one year prior to appointments. Applications must be turned in to the City Council by 5 p.m. on Monday, February 4. Applications can be delivered to City Hall or mailed to City of Heppner, P.O. Box 756, Heppner, OR 97836.

For more information contact Mayor Les Paustian at 676-9618 during business hours.

Senior Center Menu

St. Patrick's Parish members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, January 30. The menu will include scrambled eggs with assorted meats, hashbrowns, stewed apples, tomato juice, biscuits and gravy, and cinnamon rolls.

HEPPNER LITTLE LEAGUE REGISTRATION
February 6 - 7 - 8
from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
at the Heppner Neighborhood Center
Boys - ages 5-12
Girls - ages 5-14
are eligible to enroll to play
T-Ball, Minors & Majors Baseball,
and Softball
Cost: \$30 per participant or \$60 for family
Questions or concerns,
call Sandi Putman
(541) 676-8469 home
(541) 240-1761 cell phone

MCGG OPEN HOUSE
Friday, February 8th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Barbecue Lunch • Door Prizes
Factory Representatives will be present
Morrow County Grain Growers
Lexington 989-8221 • 1-800-452-7396 For farm equipment, visit our web site at www.mcgg.net

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