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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES

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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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USDA to collect and publish county-level data on land rental rates

As directed by the new Farm Bill, USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will, for the first time, collect and publish county-level data regarding the cash rental rates producers pay for cropland and pastureland.

"The Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the other USDA agencies rely on cash rent data to administer commodity, credit, conservation, disaster and loan programs," said Christopher Mertz, director of the NASS Oregon Field Office. "Until this year, NASS only published this information at the national and state levels. But there's great interest in the county-level data, which will be of particular use in FSA's administration of the Conservation Reserve Program, allowing their programs to adequately reflect the prevailing rental rates in each community."

Mertz explained that the demand for county-level cash rent information will require greatly expanded data collection effort on NASS's part.

"We will be reaching

out to producers in several ways," he said. "Questions will be included in four of our regular surveys: the January Cattle Survey, the January Sheep and Goats Survey, the December Agricultural Survey, and the annual Acreage and Production Survey. In addition, we have mailed a separate cash rents survey to some producers not covered by one of those other surveys."

To make it as simple as possible for producers to respond, NASS is offering several ways for them to report their information: by mail, fax, online or through a phone interview with a NASS field representative. Regardless of the method, the confidentiality of all responses is protected by federal law. NASS publishes only aggregate-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

NASS's target date for release of the cash rent data is April 2009. For more information, contact the NASS Oregon Field Office at (503)326-2131.

Red Hat Rowdies to hold luncheon

The Red Hat Rowdies will be having a "Fall Gathering" no-host luncheon at noon on Thursday, October 16, at Sweet Productions.

You do not have to be a member to attend. All interested ladies are welcome.

Obituaries

Mildred Fern Rauch

Mildred Fern Rauch went home to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at Good Shepherd Hospital in Hermiston with her loving family by her side. She passed away due to complications following hip surgery for an injury she sustained during a fall on Monday.



Mildred Fern Rauch

Millie was a beautiful wonderful person and was adored by all who met her. She was born in Stanfield on February 8, 1927 to Mary (Cross) and Dilazon Penney. Her childhood was spent in Echo. She graduated from Echo High School in 1945 where she participated in sports and played in the band. After graduation she attended Oregon State University. Millie married the love of her life Irvin E. Rauch in Pendleton on April 20, 1947. They were married nearly 58 years before his passing in 2005. Millie and Irvin shared many happy memories as dry land wheat farmers in Juniper Canyon raising thousands of bushels of quality wheat as well as three children, nine grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren, and a tumbledweed or two.

Millie was an avid sports enthusiast who was very athletic in her young life. She was a huge fan of the Portland Trail Blazers and most especially of the Heppner Mustangs. Her greatest joy was spent traveling and cheering on all of her kids at their sporting events.

She was a very creative and talented craft person over the years. She enjoyed learning to sew, paint, stencil leatherwork, embroidery, knit, crochet, and quilt. This became a great passion for her in her

later years. She designed and quilted amazing artwork for her family and friends.

Millie and Irv traveled extensively in their life together seeing the world's sights in places such as the Philippines, Mexico, and Europe, just to name a few. To Millie there was no place on earth she loved more than being home on the ranch near her loved ones.

Her devotion to her family and her strong faith will be treasured by each and every one. Millie was a wonderful woman of exceptional grace and character. She was one of the most generous and loving persons on the planet. She and Irv sponsored many charities and events throughout the community. She was always ready to give with a servant's heart. She served the Hope Lutheran Church in Heppner for over 50 years.

Millie is survived by: her three children, son Stanley (Jamie) of Moses Lake, WA, daughter Tana Jo (Stephen) Hill of Lexington, and son Chris (Kathy) Rauch also of Lexington; and nine grandchildren, Jeff, Jason, Jennifer, Dani, Josh, Brady, KayCee, Andre, and Natalie. Millie was also blessed with 10 great-grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Irvin, and her older brother Louis Penney.

Funeral services were held Saturday, October 4, at 2 p.m. at the Hope Lutheran Church in Heppner, followed by graveside services at Echo Cemetery in Echo. The Reverend Janice Johnson officiated.

In lieu of flowers, the family respectfully requests for contributions to be made in Millie's honor to the Irvin and Mildred Rauch Memorial Scholarship Fund c/o Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner for Heppner High School scholar athletes.

Burns Mortuary was in charge of the arrangements.

American Legion and Auxiliary to meet

The American Legion and Auxiliary will meet on Monday, October 13, at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Senior Center in Heppner.

Plans will be made for Christmas Gift Shop at The Dalles Veterans Home. Also, activities for 2008 and 2009 will be discussed.

Members plan to attend as your support is greatly appreciated by our veterans and troops.

Students of the Month for September

Heppner Elementary School Students of the Month



Heppner Elementary School September Students of the Month
Kindergarten: Hayden Hyatt (not pictured) and Madelyn Nichols. First Grade: Evan Kollman and Cheyenne Shaw. Second Grade: Dakota Howard, Keegan Gibbs and Susie Teaman. Third Grade: Tarin Troxell and Sophie Grant. Fourth Grade: Logan Grieb and Demi Schmidt. Fifth Grade: Weston Putman and Rylee Kollman. Sixth Grade: T.J. Patton and Makenzi Hughes.

Heppner High School Students of the Month



Heppner High School September Students of the Month
(L-R): Shane Miles, 7th grade; Alex Smith, 8th grade; Cassi Day, 9th grade; Cory Silvia, 10th grade; and Spencer Palmer, 12th grade. (Not pictured is Cherisse Lemmon, 11th grade.)

Health grants to help with local hearing screenings

Two grants from local community health foundations will help fund equipment that will screen more than 4,300 local elementary school students for hearing difficulties.

The Umatilla-Morrow Education Service District's (UMESD) Speech-Language and Hearing department was recently awarded a \$7,767.64 grant from Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation and a \$3,883.82 grant from the Pendleton Community Health Corporation. Both of these grants will help fund the purchase of three portable audiometer and middle ear screeners, and otoscopes for testing local children, said Carol Clupny, director of the Speech-Language and Hearing department at the UMESD.

"As a result of this screening, we're able to identify difficulties in these local children and refer them to doctors for further treatment," Clupny said.

The new equipment will replace currently-used aging equipment, Clupny said.

This new equipment will better allow the UMESD's audiologist, Roxanne Hanel, and her audiology technicians to perform mass hearing screening and monitoring in Umatilla and Morrow counties. Each year during these mass screenings — which take place throughout the fall — more than 4,300 elementary school students are tested in the 12 Umatilla and Morrow county public school districts.

Throughout the remainder of the year, the audiology staff provides extensive audiological services to those students identified as hearing impaired. This is the second time that Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation has granted funds to the Speech-Language and Hearing department. A 2004 grant helped to purchase another hearing screener.

Jepsen, Schaffeld exchange vows



Amy and Tyler Schaffeld

Amy Joy Jepsen and Tyler Boone Schaffeld exchanged wedding vows on June 14, 2008, at the First Christian Church of Hermiston. The double ring ceremony was performed by the bride's uncle, Reverend Wade Duroe of Chippewa Falls, WI.

The bride is the daughter of Bill and Nancy Jepsen of Heppner. Tyler's parents are Hank and Pam Schaffeld of Hermiston.

The bride wore a white, A-line strapless gown overlaid with beaded lace detail. She carried a pink and white rose bouquet.

The bride was attended by friend and maid of honor, Barbara Holland of Ione. Her bridesmaids included sister Rebecca Jepsen of Heppner, and friend Holly Bolyard of Ellensburg, WA.

The groom was attended by his friend, Danny Hall of Hermiston, as best man. His brother Brian Schaffeld of Hermiston, and friend Andy Hall of Corvallis served as groomsmen.

Special music for the ceremony was provided by violin soloist Eric Jepsen and vocal soloist Joe Lindsay of Heppner. Both were accompanied by pianist Sue Nelson of Pendleton.

A reception was held at the Hermiston Conference Center. Dale Bates of Heppner was in charge of the sound system and the music.

Amy is currently a senior at Central Washington University. She will graduate in spring of 2009 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and a minor in music. She plans on continuing her education to become a pharmacist.

The groom is also a senior at Central Washington University and will graduate after winter quarter of 2009 with a degree in biochemistry. Tyler plans to continue his schooling to become an orthodontist.

After a honeymoon to Hawaii, the couple is currently residing in Ellensburg, WA, near the university.

Heppner Cub/Boy Scouts in need of donations

The Heppner Cub/Boy Scouts is currently taking donations of outgrown or no longer needed items of the Cub/Boy Scout uniform, clothing and books.

To have someone pick up your donations call Stephanie Linnell at 541-571-0651.

Senior Center Menu

Nazarene/Seventh Day Adventist Church members will be serving lunch on Wednesday, October 15. The menu will include beef stew with vegetables, fruit juice, hot bread, and flat apple pie.

MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

TOWN HALL MEETING

**Wednesday, October 15
7:00 p.m.**

Ione Legion Hall Meeting Room

Discussion on the upcoming vote to continue the 3-year Health District Operating Levy