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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES

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David Sykes.....Publisher
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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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Boyer-Kates wedding announced



Brooke and Jon Kates

Mr. and Mrs. John Boyer of Lexington, OR, announce the marriage of their daughter, Brooke Boyer, to Jon Kates. The couple were married on September 5, 2008, at Calimegos Ranch, Malibu, CA.

Brooke is a 1999 graduate of Heppner High School and a 2004 graduate

of Boise State University with a B.S. in nursing. She has worked as a travel nurse for the past four years.

Jon is a graduate of Loyola Marymount College of Los Angeles, CA. He is employed with Stricker Instrument Surgical Division.

The couple make their home in Palm Springs, CA.

Senior Center Menu

St. Patrick's Parish members will serve the senior lunch on Wednesday, November 19. The menu will include: pork chops, roasted potatoes, sauerkraut with caraway seeds, applesauce, hot rolls and tapioca.

United Methodist Church members will serve the senior Thanksgiving lunch on Wednesday, November 26. The menu will include: turkey, mashed potatoes with gravy, dressing, green beans, cranberry sauce with orange, hot rolls and pumpkin chiffon cake.

Obituaries

Samuel Arthur Backman, Jr.

Memorial service

and entombment for Samuel A. Backman, Jr., was held Sunday, November 9, 2008, at Finley



Sunset Hills Memorial Park in Portland, Oregon. Mr. Backman, 77, of Ione died Tuesday, November 4, 2008 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

Mr. Backman was born December 15, 1930, at Centerville, Utah, the son of Samuel A. and Margaret Pareson Backman. He was raised at Centerville where he graduated from high school.

On February 2, 1949, he married his high school sweetheart, Ida Gonnuscio, at Centerville, Utah. The couple raised three daughters and three sons. The family moved to Oregon, where he worked as a longshoreman for the I.L.W.U. Local #8. They lived in the Beaverton - Hillsboro area for 35 years, before moving to Ione in the late 1980s.

He was a life member of North American Hunting Club. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, the railroad and camping. He was passionate about baseball and trains. Mr. Backman loved road trips and planning all the stops. His children and grandchildren were his pride and his dog "Max" was his best friend and companion. His wife of 59 years describes him as the love of her life.

He is survived by his wife; Ida Backman of Ione, Oregon; daughters, Cathy Roberts of Boardman, Oregon, Lori Fisher and her husband, Joe, of West Linn, Oregon, Jennifer Martyn and her husband, Mike, of Durham, Oregon; sons, Michael Backman and his wife, Rosa, of Cornelius, Oregon, Wally Backman and his wife, Sandy, of Prineville, Oregon, and Paul Backman of Irrigon, Oregon; brothers, Herb Burk of Madras, Oregon and Donnie Burk of Salem, Oregon; sisters, Lola Nestor and Bonnie Butler, both of Ocean Park, Washington; 18 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Doernbecher Children's Hospital, 3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, Portland, Oregon 97201.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of local arrangements.

Melvin and Nancy Dixon

A combined memorial service for Melvin and Nancy Dixon will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 23, at Riverside Community Church of God in Cottage Grove with a reception following.

Melvin Dixon died November 1, 2008, at the age of 91 following many years of illness. He was lovingly cared for by his wife, Nancy until she suffered a hip fracture and serious illness that led to her passing on September 18, 2008, of this year.

Melvin Dixon was born August 20, 1917, in Shandong Province, China, of missionary parents, Stanley and Eva Dixon. He married his wife, Nancy, in May of 1942. He received B.A. and Masters of Divinity degrees at Pasadena College in Pasadena, California.



The Dixons' first pastorates were in Santa Barbara, California, and Breckenridge, Michigan. They continued pastoring Methodist churches throughout the state of Oregon (Shedd, Medford, Heppner, Cottage Grove, and Milton-Freewater/Weston) until retirement in 1980. After retirement he continued as long as he was physically able to provide pastoral assistance to various denominations including United Methodist, Lutheran, and Church of God.

They are survived by two daughters, Sharon Dixon of Springfield and Marra Dixon of Creswell.

Birthday party planned for Alberta Johannes



Alberta Johannes

A birthday party open house for Alberta Johannes will be held this Sunday, November 16, from 1-3 p.m. at the St. Patrick's Senior Center in Heppner. She will be 91 years "young".

Everyone is invited to attend

Artifactory Craft Fair set Saturday

The Artifactory Craft Fair will be held this Saturday, November 15, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Heppner Senior Center.

School District

continued from page one

District and the Ione School District for tennis, golf, softball and baseball.

-rescinded policy on board members' conflicts of interest and approved the first readings on board members' ethics and conflicts of interest and board members' ethics and nepotism.

-learned from Burrows that the district enrollment is up 22 students from September reports and up nine students from this time last year. "It's still fairly flat, but at least we're not losing kids," said Burrows. As of November 3, enrollment at A.C. Houghton Elementary in Irrigon was 346; Heppner Elementary, 182; Heppner High School, 233; Irrigon Elementary, 120; Irrigon High School, 330; Riverside High School, 396; Sam Boardman Elementary, 310; and Windy River Elementary, Boardman, 230; Morrow Education Center-Morrow County School District, 81; Morrow Education Center-Umatilla School District, 25; total-2254.

-approved an attendance variance for a Hermiton High School student to attend Morrow Education Center.

-scheduled a Dec. 1 executive session at Windy River Elementary beginning at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the superintendent's evaluation.

City Council

continued from page one

now be responsible for their sewer line from the home to the mainline in the street. Apparently the previous policy was leaving the city open to insurance claim liability.

"The public should be aware that it is their responsibility for sewer lines from the property line to the mainline," said Paustian.

In other business the council read an email from city manager on leave David DeMayo who said he would be back on the job soon. "I will be departing Iraq at the end of the third week in November," DeMayo wrote. "I expect to be back in Heppner ready for work on December 1, 2008," he said. DeMayo has been deployed to Iraq with the Army Reserves and interim manager Steve Bogart has been filling in for him.

The council learned that the Oregon Department of Transportation will be giving a presentation at the December council meeting on the upcoming Court St. reconstruction project.

The council also heard that there have been some problems with the St. Patrick's Sr. Center remodeling project, but overall it is on schedule and on budget. Apparently some of the

Correction

In a story last week about the renovation of the St. Patrick's Senior Center apartments it was stated that it was a \$75,000 project. This was incorrect. The renovation is a \$750,000 project. The Gazette-Times regrets the error.

-scheduled a work session in conjunction with the Monday, January 12, regular meeting.

-approved resignations/retirements for Forrest McKinnis, Morrow Education Center alternative education coordinator; Tammy Lien, Heppner Elementary School special ed assistant; Tracy Caudron, Riverside High School migrant ed assistant; Pam Hancock, RHS ed assistant; Randy Barton, RHS head softball coach; Karen Brace, Sam Boardman Elementary Title I ed assistant.

-approved termination for Tracie Mendoza, Irrigon Junior/Senior High School/Irrigon Elementary English Language Learner ed assistant.

-approved extra duty contracts for: Jeromy Wilson, Heppner Junior High head boys' basketball coach; Jennifer Wilson, Heppner Junior High assistant boys' basketball coach.

-discussed scheduling a January 22 board retreat.

-heard the following announcements: Veteran's Day holiday, Nov. 11; Oregon School Board Association's fall convention, Portland, Nov. 13-16; Thanksgiving holiday, Nov. 27-28; next board meeting, Irrigon Elementary, Dec. 8, 7 p.m.

showers ordered were too large for the bathrooms, and there were other problems uncovered. "There are a lot of surprises," said Bogart. "But we have the money to fix them, and, as with any remodeling project, you are going to run into costs that you did not anticipate," he said. "But there is nothing that is too major. We have not had any significant problems," he told the council. The remodeling project is costing \$750,000, not \$75,000 as incorrectly reported in last week's Gazette.

The council was told there were only two juvenile incidents last month. The council had been concerned with an increase in juvenile crimes and delinquency around town which was discussed at last month's council meeting. The subject of activating Neighborhood Watch programs again was talked about. Neighborhood Watch is not part of city government and is organized and carried out by citizens. It was announced that anyone wanting to start a Neighborhood Watch should contact Deputy John Bowles of the Morrow County Sheriff Dept. who will help with advice in setting one up.

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Heppner's Mortgage Division staff (from left):
Arlotta Arnspiger, Construction Account Representative
Melissa Lindsay, Vice President and Mortgage Manager
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Christy Wizner, Mortgage Loan Processor

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