

The Official Newspaper
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
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David Sykes Publisher
Autumn Morgan 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.

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~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. 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.

Commending the MC Sheriff's Department on a job well done

To the editor:

I would like to commend the Morrow County Sheriff's Department. On December 26, 2008 at approximately 6 a.m. I walked outside to find that my pickup had been stolen. I called the Sheriff's office and I talked to Dispatcher Erick Patton. Within half an hour Undersheriff Steve Myren contacted me and by 9 a.m. my pickup was recovered. I again would just like to commend Erick Patton and Undersheriff Steve Myren for their professionalism and a job well done.

John Wenholz
Irrigon

Birth Announcement

William James McElligott - Ben and Lena McElligott of Ione announce the birth of their second son, William James McElligott, on Monday, December 29, at St. Anthony's Hospital in Pendleton.

At birth he weighed seven pounds, nine ounces and was 21 inches in length.

He joins a brother, Michael.

Maternal grandparents are Steve and Carolyn Gossett of Cornelius. Great-grandparents are Don and Marge Gossett and Vern and Peggy Fitz, all of Cornelius.

Paternal grandparents are Pete and Nancy McElligott of Ione. Great-grandparents are Larry and Joan Wade of Condon and Eunice McElligott of Ione.

Get A Healthy Start on The New Year!

At Pioneer Memorial Clinic



Our Staff of Caring Professionals are here for all your Family Medical Needs. Our providers are Ed Berretta, MD, Sheridan Tarnasky, PA-C, Betsy Anderson, MD and Russel Nichols, MD. Our nursing staff has over 50 years of combined experience.

- Some of our services include:
- Well Baby/Child Exams + Women's & Men's Health Exams + Cardiac Stress Testing + Acute and Chronic Disease Management + Smoking/Tobacco Cessation**
 - Colonoscopy + Endoscopy Testing**
 - Diabetes Management + Vasectomy + CDL Physicals Allergy Shots + Sports Physicals**

We accept most major insurance plans including Tri-Care

130 Thompson Ave., Heppner, OR 97836
Call 541-676-5504 for Appointments 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Pioneer Memorial Clinic is part of Morrow County Health District

Obituaries

Mary L. Rhea Ashbeck

Mary L. Rhea Ashbeck was born on June 15, 1918 on Rhea Creek in Heppner to parents, Curtis C. and Cecil Alice Rankin Rhea. She died on January 4, 2009 at her home on Little Buttercreek in Echo at the age of 90 years.



Mary L. Rhea Ashbeck

The Rhea family moved to the Stanfield Meadows in 1924. Mary attended school in Stanfield, graduating in 1936. She worked in the telephone office in Stanfield for four years.

Mary was united in marriage to Leo Ashbeck on November 23, 1946 in Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church in Hermiston. To this union four sons were born: Mitch, Alvin, Calvin, and Melvin. They purchased their farm on Little Buttercreek in 1963 where she has lived since.

Mary was a member of Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church in Hermiston. She loved baking for her children and grandchildren. Mary enjoyed bowling, word search puzzles, crossword puzzles, and cherished family gatherings.

She is survived by: her sons, Mitch and wife Tag, Alvin and wife Julie, and Melvin Ashbeck, all of Echo, and Calvin and wife Karen Ashbeck of Pendleton; sister, Alice Buckley of Echo; brother, Bob Rhea of Ukiah; eight grandchildren, Angie, Rob, and Shelly Ashbeck, Jodie Swanson, Jennie Benedict, Andy Ashbeck, Kelli Brooks, and Corey Ashbeck; 11 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Mary was preceded in death by: her husband of 58 years, Leo in 2004; her parents; sisters, Sophronia Kirkham, Jo Liesegang, and Marie Hedrick; and a brother, Carl Rhea.

Recitation of the rosary and a funeral mass will be held on Friday, January 9, 2009 at 10 a.m. at Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church in Hermiston.

Burial will be at the Echo Cemetery in Echo.

Those who wish may make contributions in Mary's memory to the Pioneer Memorial Hospice at P.O. Box 9, Heppner, OR 97836.

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

Valerie A. Doherty

Lexington Mayor Valerie A. Doherty, 55, of Lexington, died Wednesday, December 31, 2008 at Kadlec Medical Center in Richland, Washington.



Valerie A. Doherty

She was born August 28, 1953 in The Dalles, the daughter of Mel and Anita Rice Boyer. The family lived in Moiser until 1963 when they moved to Lexington. She started school in Heppner where she graduated in 1971. She then attended the University of Oregon in Eugene, graduating in 1975. She began work in family

services but then returned to college where she graduated in 1979 from Willamette University School of Law at Salem.

Following graduation she returned to Heppner and began practicing law with the Winter and Sweeney Law Firm. She married Tony Doherty of Heppner. The couple was married for a brief time, they later divorced. From 1987 until 1997 she worked as council for Morrow County. She then went into private practice for herself.

She was a member of the Oregon State Bar Association. In addition to serving as the current Mayor, she was a former council member for the City of Lexington. She loved animals, and particularly enjoyed raising horses.

Survivors include: her brother, John Boyer and his wife Kelly of Lexington; niece, Brooke Kates; and nephew, Tyler Boyer. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A memorial service for Ms. Doherty was held at 11 a.m. on Monday, January 5, at the Ione Grange Hall.

Memorial contributions in her memory may be made to the Lexington Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 416, Lexington, OR 97839.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

Donna M. McCurdy

Donna M. McCurdy, 87, of Heppner, died peacefully at her home Friday, January 2, 2009 following a courageous battle with cancer.

She was born October 2, 1921 in Waseca, MN, one of nine children born to Joseph and Palma Everson Nelson.



Donna M. McCurdy

She grew up and attended school in Waseca, MN becoming the first in the family to graduate from high school which she did in 1940. Donna lost her father at an early age and in the sixth grade began working out of the home to help provide for herself and the other family members.

Following high school, she worked as a bookkeeper in Waseca until moving to San Diego, CA in 1942 with her mother and brother to work in the Rohr Aircraft factory in material control. There she met her future husband, Harlan McCurdy Jr. from Heppner who was serving in the United States Army at Camp Roberts. Harlan and Donna were married in San Diego on November 2, 1943.

When Harlan was sent overseas in 1944, she moved to Heppner with their infant daughter, Diane to stay with Harlan's parents until his return. After a series of moves to Ukiah, Ione, Portland and Pomeroy, WA she returned to Heppner and resided there until her death.

Donna and Harlan raised three "wonderful girls," as she described them, Diane Moyer and her husband Bruce of Lolo, MT, Karen Dubuque and her husband Doug of Heppner and Janet Currin of Pendleton. She was very close to her grandchildren, Randi Moyer, Cyndi Meyer,

Brian, Casey and Joel Currin and her three great grandchildren, Taylor and Ryan Stemple and Chaise Meyer. The last few years, all of the family enjoyed an annual celebration for Donna's birthday at Randi's houses in Spokane, WA.

Over the years she's enjoyed many trips across the country and Canada and particularly enjoyed a trip with the entire family to Hawaii in 2006 and to Arizona in 2007 and 2008. She kept in close contact with family members in Minnesota attending reunions on a regular basis. She last attended with Diane, Karen and Janet in 2007.

She was very active in the Lutheran church, serving for many years in various capacities for Hope Lutheran in Heppner. She was greatly appreciated for her contributions and service.

She is survived by: her children, Diane, Karen, and Janet; five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; sister, Phyllis Spittler and her husband Bill of Waseca, MN; and brother Warren Nelson and his wife Audrey of Sun City, AZ. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Harlan in 1990, six brothers and one sister.

A funeral service for Mrs. McCurdy will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, January 9, at Hope Lutheran Church in Heppner. Concluding service and interment will follow at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pioneer Memorial Hospice, PO Box 9, Heppner, Oregon 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

Thomas W. Wicklund

Thomas W. Wicklund, 57, of Heppner died Thursday, January 1, 2009 at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend.

He was born June 27, 1951 in Oregon City



Thomas W. Wicklund

the son of Bob and Arlene Snyder Wicklund. He was raised and attended school at Molalla where he played football and wrestled. He graduated from Molalla High School in 1969.

On June 12, 1971 he married Shannon J. Maben at Molalla.

He entered the United States Army in 1971, serving in Vietnam for one year. He was then stationed at Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, CO until his honorable discharge in 1974.

Mr. Wicklund worked at Staff Jennings boat marina in Portland before moving to Heppner to help run a family business, Court Street Market, until its closing in 2000. He also worked at the co-generation plant in Heppner for a time before working as a maintenance technician at Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

He started volunteer work with the Heppner Fire and Rescue in 1984 and then started driving ambulance in 1985. He became an Emergency Medical Technician in 1999. He was always at the rodeo and football games with the ambulance; he loved his work and being able to help people. Tom

also coached little league baseball and loved hunting and trips to the mountains.

Survivors include: his wife, Shannon Wicklund of Heppner; daughter, Rebecca Swearingen and her husband Dan of Prineville; son, Jered Wicklund of Heppner; parents, Bob and Arlene Wicklund of Oregon City; brother, John Wicklund and his wife Sandee of Oregon City; sister, Margie Gregory of Molalla; brother-in-laws, Greg Maben and his wife Trish of Heppner, Jeff Maben and his wife Kathy of John Day; mother-in-law, Ruth Maben of Heppner; granddaughters, Julie and Whitney; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for Mr. Wicklund was held 2 p.m. Sunday, January 4, at the Heppner Elementary School Gymnasium.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heppner Volunteer Fire Department, PO Box 743, Heppner, OR 97836 or to the South Morrow County EMT Association, PO Box 9, Heppner, OR 97836

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

Hazel Reid

Hazel Reid, 83, of Heppner died Saturday, January 3, 2009 at her home.

She was born October 26, 1925 in Tellico Plains, TN, the daughter of Luther and Ora Ellis Spivey.



Hazel Reid

She was raised in Baker City where she graduated from high school in 1945.

She met her first husband, Mark Kandle and they were married in 1948 and had three children. Mark died in 1974. She then married Robert Reid in October of 1977 and the couple settled in Heppner where they have been residents for the last 20 years. Robert has four children. Mrs. Reid enjoyed fishing, hunting, crocheting, and spending time in her garden.

She is survived by: her husband Robert of Heppner; eight children, Ricky Lee Kandle, Bruce Kandle, Loraine Wilson, Roberta Conlee, Raymond Reid, Melba Mitchell, Janie Keppner, and Judy Walstrom; brothers, Claude Spivey, Roy Spivey, Clyde Spivey, and James Spivey; sisters, Blanch Pearce and LaVella Jellick; 23 grandchildren; 48 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by: her parents; her first husband Mark Kandle; a son Duane Kandle; brothers, Earl Spivey and Glenn Spivey; and a sister Edna Springer.

A funeral service for Mrs. Reid was held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at the Heppner Elks Lodge in Heppner. A graveside service was held at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Baker City.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pioneer Memorial Hospice, PO Box 9, Heppner, Oregon 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.