

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

Heppner
GAZETTE-TIMES
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Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper
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David Sykes.....Publisher
Autumn Morgan.....Editor

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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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Correction

In the story "Teacher sentenced in book thefts," found in the February 18 issue of the Heppner Gazette-Times, the plea agreement for the McKinnis' theft charge was incorrectly described. The article should have stated that the theft charge was reduced under the plea agreement from a Class C felony to a Class A misdemeanor. The Heppner Gazette-Times regrets the error.

Boardman Urban Renewal Agency appoints new officers

Tuesday night the Boardman Urban Renewal Agency appointed the Boardman city manager to serve as the agency's executive officer. Commissioners also appointed the city's finance director, to serve as the agency's budget officer. The Urban Renewal Agency was created in August of 2008 and these appointments are the final organizational steps needed to get the agency started in the right direction. Both the city manager, Karen Pettigrew, and the city's finance officer, Tom Kligel, are full time employees of the city. Their appointments will add to their city duties, and eliminate the need to hire additional employees. The Boardman Urban Renewal district boundary encompasses approximately 164 acres in the area to the south of Interstate 84 and on both sides of South Main Street, or about 6.4% of the city's total size. The

main objective in the Boardman Urban Renewal Agency is to provide infrastructure improvements to facilitate development over the next 20 years. Urban Renewal Districts allow for the use of tax increment financing, the amount of property taxes generated by the increase in total assessed values in the Urban Renewal Area from the time it is first established, to pay for Urban Renewal projects. In other city news, city councilors adopted two budget resolutions, one appropriating funds for the Urban Renewal Agency and the other is a budget transfer for increased expenditures. Councilors also agreed to schedule a workshop session to review the city's Strategic Action Plan. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Boardman City Council is Tuesday, March 3, at 7 p.m. at Boardman City Hall.

Real Estate
By DAVID SYKES
REALTOR

CLOSING DATE AND INTEREST

One old wives tale has it that if you schedule a closing date for late in the month, you'll pay less interest. Not so. You pay interest starting with the settlement day and ending with the day the mortgage is paid off. In spite of a general impression to the contrary, the settlement of your home purchase can take place at any time of the month without having any effect whatsoever on the overall amount of interest you pay. What appears to be a "saving" is the amount you pay at settlement for items that must be prepaid. An end-of-the month closing requires less cash because the prepaid items include mortgage interest (which is due for however many days of the month remain between closing and the first of the next month). Therefore, at a January 31st settlement, you'd pay only one day's interest. A January 15th closing, you'd pay 16 days interest. In the long run, you pay the same amount of interest regardless.

SYKES REAL ESTATE Property listings are available at www.sykesrealestate.net

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Obituaries

Robert Norman Templeton

Robert Norman Templeton, 73, died Sunday, January 18, 2009, at St. Dominic Memorial Hospital in Jackson, MS. Norman "Snort" Templeton was born on July 28, 1935 in Spray. He was the oldest child of the late Marion and Lavina Templeton. A graduate of Spray High School, he continued his education attending Portland State University. He accepted a position in accounting with Siemens (formerly Allis-Chalmers) in Portland. In 1988 he was transferred to Jackson, MS and retired there in 2001 after 36 years as a cost accountant.

He enjoyed working in his yard and loved watching and feeding the birds and squirrels, numerous inhabitants of his Mississippi yard. In earlier years he liked hunting and riding motorcycles.

He is survived by: his wife, Sandra Templeton, of Brandon, MS; son, Bob Templeton of Hillsboro; daughter, Brenda Sharman of Portland; grandchildren, Toby Templeton, Crystal Sechtman, Colton and Carley Sharman; numerous great-grandchildren; sister, Jeri Wight, of Heppner; and a brother, Joe Templeton.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Audine Anstead, of Milwaukie.

A memorial service was held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, January 24, in the chapel of Wright & Ferguson Funeral Home in Ridgeland, MS.

Memorials may be made to the American Liver Foundation, 75 Maiden Lane, Suite 603, New York, NY 10038.

James H. Blake, Sr.

On February 6, 2009 James H. Blake, Sr., son of Roy Blake and Grace Leathers, passed away peacefully in Menlo Park, CA.

He was born in Heppner in 1921 and grew up in nearby Kinzua where he lived until he enlisted in the US Navy in 1939. He served as a Chief Mineman in the Navy until the end of World War II, earning a Bronze Star for heroism during the Okinawa campaign.

After graduating in 1950 from the University of Washington with a degree in engineering, he worked

all over the world as a civil engineer, including Morrow County. An avid hiker and photographer, he took beautiful pictures of scenery, especially mountains, wherever he went, but no matter where he traveled, he always loved eastern Oregon the best. In 1995 he returned to Heppner where he lived for several years before moving to California.

He is survived by children from his marriage to Illa May "Molly" Gilliland: Katy Blake of Copalis Beach, WA, Teresa White (Rob) of Spokane, WA, James H. Blake, Jr. of Redwood City, CA, and Regan Harrington (David) of San Francisco, CA; as well as six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Pamela Whitt, and their beloved son, John Roy Blake.

Virginia C. Jepsen Wood

Virginia C. Jepsen Wood, 73, died Wednesday, February 4, 2009.

Virginia Jepsen was born in Heppner on January 31, 1936. She was the sixth child of Matilda and Walter Jepsen and spent her young life on the Rhea Creek Farm, 12 miles from Ione. A guardian angel placed her in her first job as a teenager in the loving home of Helen and Fred Nelson. She graduated from Ione High School and Emanuel Hospital School of Nursing in Portland. She worked as a RN for Broadway Medical Clinic and Providence Hospital operating room in Portland.

She married Henry L. Wood on September 24, 1966 in Portland. She moved with her husband's job transfer to Skokie, IL north of Chicago. She was very active in the Trinity Lutheran Church in Evanston, IL. She was very dedicated, serving as a Sunday School teacher for 25 years. A note from her pastor states "Ginny touched the lives of hundreds of children. We will always remember her dedication and faithfulness."

She married Henry L. Wood on September 24, 1966 in Portland. She moved with her husband's job transfer to Skokie, IL north of Chicago. She was very active in the Trinity Lutheran Church in Evanston, IL. She was very dedicated, serving as a Sunday School teacher for 25 years. A note from her pastor states "Ginny touched the lives of hundreds of children. We will always remember her dedication and faithfulness."

She is survived by: her husband of 42 years, Henry Wood; eight brothers and sisters, Elsie Baca of Fallston, MD, Laura "Betty" Mault of Coos Bay, Robert "Bob" Jepsen of Heppner, John Jepsen of Ione, Mary Holtz of Federal Way, WA, Anna Larson of Portland, Frank Jepsen of Milton-Freewater, and Evelyn Elder of Eugene.

A memorial service was held on February 14, 2009 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Road, Evanston, IL 60203.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Trinity Lutheran Church.

Rick S. Smith

Rick S. Smith, 51, died Saturday, February 14, 2009 as a result of a motor vehicle accident near Heppner.

Mr. Smith was born in Portland on June 13, 1957, the son of Robert H. and E. Doreen Griffith Smith. He was raised and attended school in Hermiston. He began working as a cook in the Hermiston area before moving to California where he continued his passion for cooking.

Mr. Smith returned to Oregon in 1978, settling in Heppner where he worked for a short time at the Kinzua Mill. He then went back to work as a cook for the Heppner Elks Lodge. He managed Cal's Restaurant and Lounge in Heppner and then went on to Beecher's Café in Ione.

Rick married Joan Tanory and together they purchased the restaurant and lounge in Lexington and named it RJ's. The couple made their home at the Blake Ranch Addition south of Heppner. Joan preceded him in death in July of 2006.

He was a member of the Heppner Elks Lodge. Rick enjoyed being in the mountains. Survivors include: his mother, Doreen Parret and step-father Al Parret of Heppner; son, Rick and daughter Jaime of San Diego, CA; sister, Linda Schultz of Hermiston; brother, Robert H. Smith Jr. of Lexington; step-son; Rob Botefuhr of Heppner; step-daughters, Cheryl Mc Bride

of Heppner and Patti Gibson of Thorpe, WA; and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father Robert H. Smith.

A memorial service for Mr. Smith will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, February 28, 2009 at the Heppner Elks Lodge. A meal will follow at the Lodge.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heppner Elks Lodge #358 Foundation, PO Box 494, Heppner, Oregon 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

David W. Evans

David W. Evans, 54, of Heppner died Wednesday, February 18, 2009 at his home.

He was born March 22, 1954 at Brigham, UT. He was raised and attended school at Brigham, graduating from Box Elder High School in 1972.

He married Deborah King at Heppner in 2003. Mr. Evans favorite times were spent at the coast with his family. He was a loving husband and father and will be missed. At the time of his death he was plant manager at Barenbrug International, at their grass seed production and manufacturing plant in Boardman.

He is survived by: his wife Deborah Evans of Heppner; step-sons Michael Hawks and Skyler Hawks, both of Heppner, Cory Evans of Mesa, AZ; son, Rick Evans of Peoria, IL; sisters, Kathleen Wood and Sherry Belyn; brother, Russell Evans and his wife Marianne; one grandson and one granddaughter.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a younger brother Scott Evans.

A memorial service for Mr. Evans will be held 11 a.m. Friday, February 27, at the Christian Life Center in Heppner. A meal will follow at the church fellowship hall.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Beverly Howe fund at the Bank of Eastern Oregon, PO Box 36, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary of Heppner is in charge of arrangements.

Winter Dairy Farmers Academic All-State Program winners announced

The OSAA and Dairy Farmers of Oregon have teamed up for the 12th year to sponsor the Dairy Farmers of Oregon Academic All-State Award. This award recognizes excellence in the classroom throughout the state.

In boy's basketball, Heppner took seventh place in 2A with a 3.40 GPA and Ione took fourth place in 1A with a 3.53 GPA.

"On behalf of the

Heppner Garden Club to meet

John and Kathy Marick will host the Heppner Garden Club meeting at Willow Creek Diner at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 2. The meeting will be on organic gardening and will be presented by Kathy Marick. The public is welcome to attend.

With Joyful Hearts,

Randy and Barbara Anderson
along with
Barbara Sorenson
and
David and April Sykes
Invite you to the
Marriage ceremony uniting

Breana Lynn Anderson
and
Christopher David Sykes

on Saturday, the twenty-eighth of February
two thousand and nine
at 3 o'clock in the afternoon
Pendleton Free Methodist Church
17 SW 44th Street
Pendleton, Oregon

Reception Immediately Following Ceremony
Pendleton Elks Lodge

To place an ad in the Gazette, e-mail david@rapidsolve.net