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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 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 ~

Why no women in Hall of Fame?

Having lived in the Lone/Heppner area from 1969 - 2002 I know for a fact that Lone has had and continues to have some dynamic, dedicated women involved in their community. Surely the committee could have nominated at least one woman from 1922 - 1960.

Even more ironic is the fact that the banquet contact people are two women!

Karen Beck
Warrenton

Health Department readies for H1N1

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such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen

Smith also said the Department should be getting more seasonal flu (non H1N1) vaccine around the middle of November. When the vaccine comes in the county will be rescheduling all previously cancelled clinics.

**From the 1957 archives of the
Heppner
Gazette-Times**

**Heppner students given holiday
when flu empties most classrooms**

61% missing from high school Monday

Flu, colds and other related illnesses last weekend laid low such a great number of Heppner High and grade students that school officials, after taking one look Monday morning at the empty seats called a halt to classes and dismissed all students until Tuesday, November 12.

A count of drippy noses in the high school Monday morning showed there were only 52 students present out of an enrollment of 134 - an absenteeism of over 61 percent, and many of those who showed up shouldn't have been there, it was reported.

Across the street in the elementary school 112 students were missing out of an enrollment of 365, not such a heavy percentage as in the high school except that in some of the 5th and 6th grade classes there were only five or six students.

Joining the students on sick list were four teachers, including one who had been in the hospital for several days with pneumonia.

The Heppner schools had been lucky during past weeks in dodging the flu epidemic which has struck in many parts of the state, but last Friday the disease began to make inroads on attendance. That morning over 50 students were absent, but by afternoon another 30 or more had given up the fight and went home to bed.

The Friday epidemic seriously affected the high school's annual homecoming celebration and led directly to Stanfield's 30 to 0 shellacking of the Mustangs that night at the rodeo field. Only 18 football boys were suited up for the game and two or three of those who did get to the field probably shouldn't have been there. The normal football turnout is about 34 boys.

School officials said this week that it will not be necessary to hold classes later in the spring to make up for the five days which will be lost this week inasmuch as the state allows schools 10 days off their regular planned schedule due to emergency.

The epidemic has not been confined just to school youngsters during the past several days as there have been a great many adults stricken since last weekend. There has still been no laboratory report received here as to whether the disease is actually Asian flu or some other variety, but whatever the type is has taken its toll in the Heppner area.

At the present time no other county schools are reporting any great number of cases, county health officials reported. Lexington and Lone Schools report only a normal absentee list for the past week or 10 days.

Obituaries

Agnes Leonnig

Agnes Leonnig passed away on October 13, 2009 in Hillsboro at the age of 88.

She was born to Swiss immigrants Clemens and Catherine Hurliman on May 28, 1921 in Woods. She had seven brothers and sisters.

On December 30, 1941, she married Ronald M. Leonnig in Tillamook. They raised a family of seven children. They resided in Tillamook, Beaverton, Heppner, and McMinnville, Oregon over the years.

Agnes has resided in McMinnville since 1968. She was an active member of St. James Catholic Church. Agnes worked in

the family-owned businesses of nightclubs, and as a school cook for 25 years. She also worked for Wal-Mart for seven years.

Family has always been her most devoted focus. She kept up with all of her children and their families, communicating via telephone and letter writing. Holidays were always spent at her home enjoying a wonderful, traditional turkey dinner. Her brothers would come for visits and their conversations would include some of their Swiss language and they never left without a loaf of bread or one of her home baked Swiss cookies or pastries. She enjoyed sharing her love through her delicious

foods.

Agnes was preceded in death by: her husband Ronald in 1981; her grandson Tony Leonnig in 1984; son Ronnie Leonnig in 1988; her parents; brothers, Marcel, Leo, and Tony Hurliman; and by her sisters Mary Suter and Margaret Tone.

Agnes leaves behind to honor her life: her children, Leonore and husband Kay Corbin, Lorraine Leonnig, Roger and wife Marguerite Leonnig, Lindy and husband Tom Gilkey, Cindy Leonnig, and LaDawna and husband Brian Munks; 15 grandchildren, Kayla, Krista, and Brian Corbin, Jeff Leonnig, Kim Rea, Kelley Cofflem-

oyer, Michael Rea, Andy and Ryan Leonnig, Morgan and Jenna Hawkes, Stephanie, Ashley and Kristen Munks, and Torie Nguyen; and 13 great-grandchildren.

A recitation of the holy rosary was held on Monday, October 19, at 10:30 a.m. with Mass of Christian Burial following at 11 a.m. at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Tillamook. Interment was in Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery in Tillamook.

Memorial donations in Agnes's name may be made to a charity of choice.

Arrangements are in care of Waud's Funeral Home of Tillamook.

Marjorie Katherine Peterson Skuzeski

Marge passed away in a Portland Hospice Center July 5, 2009, after a short battle with cancer.

She was born in Lone to Henry and Adina Peterson July 2, 1924. She was raised on "the ranch" 20 miles south of Lone in the Goosebury area. As a little girl she learned the farm chores by helping mom in feeding chickens, collecting and washing the eggs, and lending a hand in the home, including meals.

Marge attended a one room Rocky Bluff school that taught grades 1 through 8. School was a mile and a half from the ranch, and often, including bad weather, rather than walk would ride her horse Babe to school. She had to join Lone 8th grade graduation for her diploma. She was popular and active in high school. Marge enjoyed band, choir, piano, 4-H, student body secretary, flirting with the boys and socializing with many friends.

After high school, she worked a short time in Heppner for an attorney and the county tax department before going to Portland to find work. During this time, Marge and a long-time friend, Jean Coleman, decided to join the Navy. They became the first women from Morrow County to do so. Marge was sent to Hunter College in New York for boot camp. There she trained as a telegrapher and served in Washington D.C. and Cleveland, OH. She was discharged in 1946.

The summer of 1946 was the beginning of her relationship with John. It began when John asked Marge for a date to the dance. A year later they were married in Heppner on June 28, 1947, in St. Patrick's Catholic Church. Just recently Marge and John celebrated their marriage of 62 years. In the

beginning, Marge worked on the OSU campus during the three years of John's schooling. Their oldest son, Steve, was born during last term of school. Their second son, Tom, was born in 1951 in Portland.

Marge was a homemaker taking care of two small boys, which was no small task. The family remembers Marge as a good cook from her Swedish recipes, homemade Christmas candies, and good gravies. Grandpa Henry would come to Portland for a family seafood feast. Marge and her dad would buy shopping bags of clams, crabs, etcetera. One year John came home from work to find the two had made Lute Fisk in the house. The smell was so bad John asked to remove the meal to the garage to get the smell from the house.

Marge was a loving, devoted mother. She taught Bible study at St. Marks and was a room mother for Steve's first grade class through high school. The graduating seniors at Marshal High School gave her a plaque at their final assembly recognizing her for all those years with them. Tom remembers mom was not only nurturing, but sewed their clothes, took care of them when sick, and was the one person they could go to for understanding and comfort when they got into trouble with dad. Tom says, "she did these things and many more because she was my mom."

Marge was a dearly treasured grandma. She only had one grandchild, Nicole, and they spent a great deal of time together. Marge babysat regularly when Nicole was a baby, took Nicole every Tuesday after school all the way through middle school and spent the summers together. They en-

joyed RV trips to the coast, vacations to Kah-nee-tah, and they shared a love for shopping and animals. They were inseparable and teamed up on grandpa when it came time to go places and allowing dogs on the couch. Nicole was reminded recently she preferred to be with grandma than home. Nicole remembers grandma as witty, kind, ever forgiving, and the best grandma a girl could ask for.

In addition to being a wife, mom, and grandma, Marge was a Swede and let everyone know that. She was always asking others if they were Swedish too. Marge would make Krumkachas, a Swedish cookie for Christmas and give them to her friends. She would remind Nicole every time she came to visit of the brass candlesticks that came over with Marge's family from Sweden. She loved her heritage and would often tell stories of her Swedish roots. She held the Valby Lutheran Church dear to her heart.

Marge and John enjoyed 45 years of traveling in their RVs. She enjoyed the coast at Netarts and Nehalem where they had property. They spent 13 winters in Arizona with friends and many months in Santa Rosa, CA where their oldest son lived. Recently, Marge was asking John where they could get a new RV so they could get to the coast again. Two winters ago they lost one to a storm.

Most know and will remember Marge for her sense of style. Marge was always wearing the latest fashion, including earrings and bracelets. Always looking for an excuse to shop, she took advantage of John working for Jantzen to the point the Jantzen sales ladies would call her

every time a new line came into the store. When she watched Nicole the two would hit malls to the extent that the sales people would ask where Nicole was when Marge was shopping alone. Garage sales were also a love of Marge's. Garage sales are where she would find tole painting supplies, which she had a ton of. She had a talent for tole painting because she was able to interact with other people.

Marge was a social person. It was impossible to go anywhere with Marge without her stopping to talk with someone whether she knew them or not, especially if there was a baby or dog. In the 50s they moved into a neighborhood with neighbors that were the same age with children. Marge helped form a sewing club that met every Thursday at someone's house on the street. Not knowing how much sewing was done, the group did last some 40 years. She spent time socializing with Swedish pinochle club for 30 years.

Marge is survived by: her husband John; son Tom; granddaughter Nicole Grimes; and brothers Henry "Ted" Peterson of Portland and Herbert Peterson of Lone.

She was preceded in death by: her son Steven and brother Robert Peterson.

She was a devoted wife, loving mother, treasured grandma, and beloved sister. Through her friendship, kindness, sense of humor, love for others, and love of life, Marge's memory and spirit will live in our hearts and our memories.

Celebration of life services were held July 16, 2009 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Portland. Interment with military honors was held at Willamette National Cemetery.

Harold E. Kerr

Harold E. Kerr passed away on October 16, 2009 at his home in Corvallis.

He was born in Arbutle, CA April 22, 1935 to Dorothy and Ray Kerr. Harold was raised in Lakeview and was the eldest of five children.

He began his employment with Oregon State University in 1958 and worked for the university for 30 years. He worked as a 4-H agent in Crook County and a crops and livestock agent in Morrow and Wasco Counties. He served as an associate director for the OSU Extension Service in Corvallis for eight years.

He worked at Stahlbush Island Farms for more than 10 years following his retirement from the university.

He and his wife enjoyed traveling and spending time with friends. He served as a VOCA volunteer in Lithuania helping to develop a new extension service for the country. He has been a 4-H club leader for about 12 years. He truly enjoyed working with youth and everyone he met was a friend. He was a faithful Beaver supporter and a member of the president's club. He

was very active in Corvallis Kiwanis. He was an avid golfer and had a hole-in-one just a few years ago. He will be missed by his family and his many friends from children to adults.

Harold used to say "A stranger is a friend I haven't met yet." And so he lived his life. Although he had more friends than most can imagine, Harold was always looking for the next stranger to befriend. In his final hours, he was surrounded by his family.

He is survived by:

his wife Carol whom he married in 1959; a daughter, Cindy, and son-in-law Bill Roeser of Lake Oswego; and a son, Bryan, and daughter-in-law, Tami Kerr of Corvallis.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, October 26, at 1 p.m. at the Northwest Hills Community Church, 3300 NW Walnut Blvd., Corvallis, OR.

Remembrances may be made to Benton County Hospice or Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom, 305 Strand Ag Hall, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331 or <http://aitc.orestate.edu>.



Marjorie Katherine Peterson Skuzeski



Harold E. Kerr