

Woods, Spicer file for Justice of the Peace

Former Morrow County District Attorney Earl Woods has filed to run for Morrow County Justice of the Peace.

Woods was born in Klamath Falls in 1943. He grew up in the John Day and Mount Vernon area, and then moved to West Linn where he graduated from high school in

1962. From there he went to Washington State where he worked as a logger before entering the Army from 1963 to 1967. He spent the last year in Vietnam where he was an Army Ranger in Special Forces.



Earl Woods

After his service in the Army, Woods attended the University of Washington where he received a degree in economics. He then went on to the University of Oregon Law School where he graduated with a law degree in 1974.

In his law experience he was Coos County DA from 1976-1981 and then went into private practice for 10 years. From there he came to Morrow County where he served as DA from 1991 to 1998. He then went back into private practice in Hermiston. He worked with the Lincoln County DA's office for three years before returning to the area and going to work with the Umatilla DA until September of 2009. He has since retired from the active practice of law.

Woods and his wife, Cheryl, have two children, a daughter who

is a captain in the Army's 82nd Airborne and a son who works as an overhead wireman in the Portland area.

Long-time Heppner attorney Annetta Spicer has filed for the Morrow County Justice of the Peace position. Current JP Charlotte Gray has announced her retirement.

Spicer and her husband, Bill Kuhn, also an attorney, moved to Morrow County in 1976. In law school at the time, Spicer moved to the county the following year. They purchased their law office in Heppner in 1985.



Annetta Spicer

Spicer was Morrow County District Attorney from 1980-82 and was deputy DA before that. Kuhn and Spicer are currently city attorneys for Heppner, Lexington, Stanfield, Echo and Irrigon.

"I'm committed to this community," said Spicer. "We have lived here going on 33 years. I think my background gives me a really good basis for working as JP."

Spicer grew up on Indian reservations throughout the west as her father

was employed with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She graduated from high school in Toppenish, WA, and from Portland State University in Portland in 1972 with a degree in education. She taught special education for two years and then attended law school at Lewis & Clark in Portland where she graduated with a JD in 1977. She and her husband married that same summer. They have two grown children, Phillip, who is practicing law in Spokane, and Paula, who is pursuing a degree in special education with an emphasis on autism. When Paula's studies are complete, she will have a certificate in applied behavioral analysis.

Spicer has been a chairman of the Oregon Trail Library District and has been on the board at least 15 years. She was a 4-H leader for many years while her children were young. She serves on the board of directors for Domestic Violence Services and is on the board of the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce. Kuhn and Spicer have also had a law office in Hermiston for the past 10 years. She has also been a member of various bar committees over the years.

Fr. Condon, cast, & crew named Grand Marshals for St. Patrick's Celebration

Grand marshals for this year's St. Patrick's Day Celebration are Father Gerry Condon and the entire cast and crew of the dramas he has written and put on over the years, the St. Patrick's Day Committee has announced.



Fr. Gerry Condon

There have been six different plays and an estimated 60 people have participated in their production over the nine years they have been put on.

"I have enjoyed getting people together and putting on the productions over the years," says Fr. Gerry Condon of St. Patrick Church in Heppner. He says he started writing the dramas when a member of the congregation suggested doing a drama about the life of St. Patrick. He says when he went to Ireland he checked with 10 bookstores and could not find a book about St. Patrick. He then went to the national library and found no musicals there. "That's when I thought, maybe I can do that myself," he recalls. "So I wrote the play, and the people of Heppner seemed to enjoy it." It was the first drama he had ever written.

He says it usually takes six to seven rehearsals to get each play down for production during each year's annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration. He says this year's production will be something different; it will be a variety program rather than a drama. He says the music was arranged Area teams competing in state play

Basketball teams from Heppner and Lone will be competing this week in state tournament action.

Heppner girls' basketball team will play tonight, Wednesday, March 3, at 6:30 p.m. against Portland Christian in Pendleton.

Lone boys' basketball team will play on Thursday, March 4, at 8:15 p.m. against Mohawk in Baker City.



Pictured is a scene from one of Fr. Condon's plays, From Cenacle to Calvary.

by Joe Lindsay and it will involve a lot of music and humor.

The productions he has written over the years are: St. Patrick, Patron Of Ireland, St. Bridget, Patron

ess Of Ireland, St. Columcille, The Masterful Monk, Emigration To Happiness, From Cenacle To Calvary, and Homecoming (co-author - Joe Lindsay).

Heppner man dies in skiing accident

Nate Arbogast, 39, of Heppner died Sunday afternoon, February 28, from injuries sustained in a skiing accident at Anthony Lakes Ski Area.



Nate Arbogast

According to the Union County Sheriff's Office, Arbogast collided with a tree and died from injuries. The Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol initiated first aid and CPR on scene. At the time, Arbogast was chaperoning a Heppner High School Outdoor Club ski trip.

Arbogast, a 1989 graduate of Monument High School, moved to Heppner in the mid-90s after graduating from college to work for the Morrow County School District. He later opened Wind Wave Communications to help bring high speed internet to the area, especially for the benefit of rural schools.

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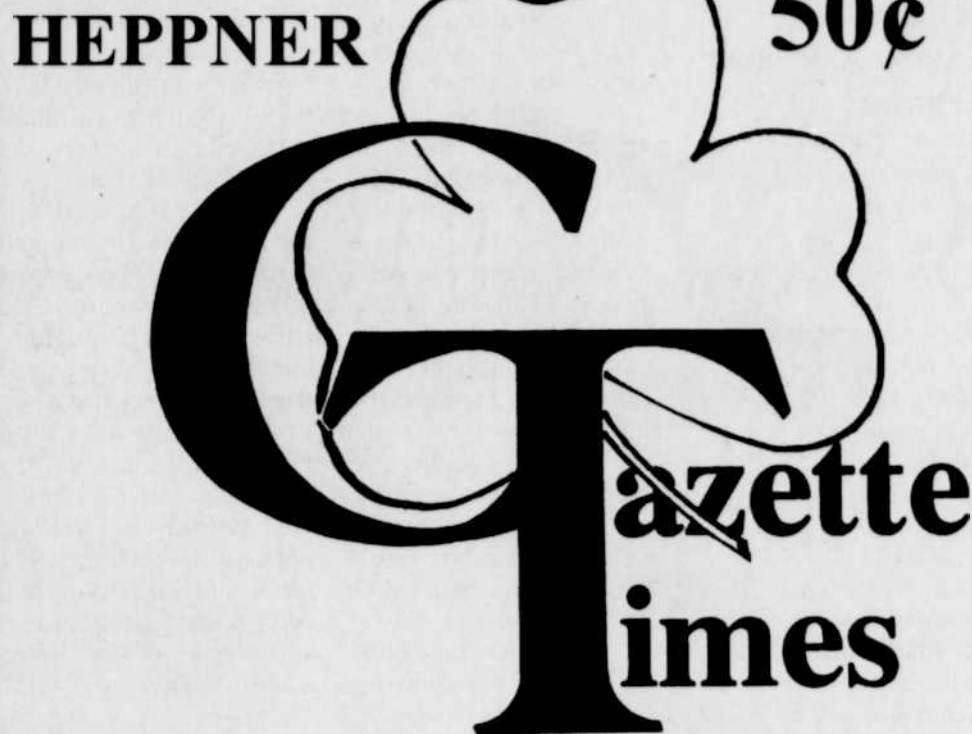
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Sex offender arrested living across from elementary school

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office has arrested Richard John Fisher, 50, for failure to register as a sex offender. At the time of his arrest, Fisher was living at 515 Elder Street in the Willow View Apartments, across from Heppner Elementary School.



Richard John Fisher

Sheriff Ken Matlack stated that the sheriff's department had developed

information that Fisher was a sex offender. The department checked his status and discovered that Fisher had not updated his status since December of 2008 when he was living in Eugene. Sex offenders are required to update their status within 10 days of their birthday or within 10 days of moving.

Fisher's arrest was a felony arrest since the

original charges against him were felony charges.

Fisher was arrested Monday, February 22. On Tuesday, March 2, a grand jury indicted Fisher on two felony counts and one misdemeanor count of failure to register as a sex offender. Union County District Attorney Tim Thompson is handling the case.

Fisher is currently incarcerated in the Umatilla County Jail. He will appear in court on March 4.

M. C. School District launches into social media

In an effort to strengthen communication between students, parents and the community, the Morrow County School District has become part of the social media, with accounts in Facebook and Twitter.

You can become a "fan" of the Morrow County School District on Facebook and "follow" the District on Twitter by clicking on the quick links on the District's Web site, www.morrow.k12.or.us. The District can be found on Facebook under "Morrow County School District" and on Twitter under "MorrowCountySD."

The community can now receive timely, up-to-date information via updates on Twitter and Facebook, including the latest news, school closure or delay information, event reminders and more.

"The use of Facebook and Twitter by our district is certain proof, that you indeed can teach an old dog new tricks. While I have not personally used social media in the past,

I'm elated that we now have new communication tools that will help us reach patrons that perhaps we've missed in the past," said Superintendent Mark Burrows.

HES celebrates Dr. Seuss' birthday



Heppner students celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday by reading Dr. Seuss books during an assembly at HES. -Photo by Megan Futter

Day and Coil win Heppner's first state wrestling championship medals

Mustang wrestlers Chance Day and Wacy Coil traveled to the Portland Memorial Coliseum to represent Heppner in the OSAA wrestling championship tournament. Day and Coil won the right to represent the team and Special District IV by placing in the top two at the district tournament on February 20.

About 2,050 bouts were contested between more than 1,200 wrestlers during the three-day tournament. Classes 1A/2A through 6A competed simultaneously side by side on 12 mats during the tournament before a cumulative attendance of over 25,000. Additionally, a girls' state wrestling tournament was held on Saturday morning. Going into the

tournament Day was ranked fifth at 152 pounds and Coil was ranked fourth at 171 pounds. But because seeding at the state tournament is done solely based on the previous years' state placing, both had the bad luck-of-the-draw to meet the number one seeded wrestler in the first round of the tournament.

Each wrestler lost his first match and needed to win the next two to make it to the medal round. With the pressure on, Day easily pinned his next two opponents in a combined 93 seconds, including a rematch of the previous week's district championship, which he had lost 9-0. Day's consolation championship bout was also a rematch with the pre-tournament number one

ranked wrestler and tournament first seed that had beaten him the day before. This time Day was dominant, nearly pinning his challenger as time ran out in the first round and then claiming the bronze medal with a 12-5 score.

Coil took a more dramatic route to the medal round. After winning the first must-win bout 13-8, he faced Giles Ellet from Irrigon to determine who would advance and who would go home empty handed. At the end of regulation, and through three overtime rounds, the score was tied 1-1. In the fourth overtime period, known as the ultimate tiebreaker, if the top man controls the bottom

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