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of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

Heppner

GAZETTE-TIMES

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David Sykes.....Publisher
Andrea Di Salvo.....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 \$5 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 \$5.75 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.

Chapa named to WOU President's Honor Roll

Kolleen Chapa of Heppner has been named to the Western Oregon University President's Honor Roll for spring term 2015. Students named to the WOU President's Honor Roll must achieve a 4.0 GPA for the term.

Chapa is the daughter of Jodi Segreaves of Heppner.

"You are among a special group of students, those who have earned the highest grade possible in each course they took," wrote university President Mark Weiss in a letter in which he also quoted Isaac D'Israeli: "It is a wretched waste to be gratified with mediocrity when the excellent lies before us."

Dougherty named to Arizona State Dean's List

Ryan Rochelle Dougherty, daughter of Cliff and Dawna Dougherty of Heppner, and a Heppner High School 2014 graduate, has been named to Arizona State University Dean's List with a 4.0 GPA.

"It is a pleasure to inform you that you have made the Dean's List of the School of Nutrition and Health Promotion for Fall 2014 and Spring semester 2015. We are exceptionally proud of each student who achieves this academic distinction and of the hard work and dedication to study that it reflects. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement. My best wishes for your continued success in your academic career," wrote Keith D. Lindor, Executive Vice Provost and Dean, Arizona State University.

Marriage Licenses

The Morrow County Clerk's office has released the following report of marriage licenses:

July 15, 2015: -Jessica Angelica Adams, 22, of Irrigon and Ashley Ann Sorrell, 23, of Irrigon.

-Richard Lee Dawson Jr., 49, of Heppner and

Kristal Iris Harrison, 46, of Heppner.

July 16, 2015: -Charlotte Ann Jeffries, 52, of Boardman and Scott Merrill McBride, 52, of Boardman.

-Brenda Zamora Velasco, 28, of Boardman and Pioquinto Ramirez, 21, of Stanfield, OR.

Chamber lunch meeting

The next lunch meeting of the Heppner Chamber of Commerce will be an all entities report on Thursday, Aug. 6, at noon in Heppner City Hall conference room.

Also at the meeting, the Heppner Chamber Board of Directors will go over a three-year strategic plan it has been working to develop.

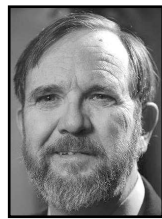
Cost of lunch is \$10; Murray's will cater.

Chamber lunch attendees are asked to RSVP at 541-676-5536 no later than the Wednesday before to guarantee a lunch.

Obituaries

Alvin 'Al' James Vinson

Alvin 'Al' James Vinson, 65, of El Centro, CA passed away at Kadlec Hospital in Richland, WA on June 26, 2015 after a brief illness. Services will be held in October 2015 at the Elks Lodge in Heppner, with more details to follow.



Alvin 'Al' James Vinson

Al was born to Delbert Ted and Suzanne B. Vinson on October 30, 1949 in Heppner. He graduated from Heppner High School in 1968. He went to work for Lott's Electric in Heppner during his junior and senior years of high school. After graduation he went to work at USG in Pilot Rock, OR and lived in Pendleton, OR.

On Sept. 30, 1972 he married Alma E. Dile and they moved shortly thereafter to Heppner, where he went to work for Kinzua Corp. in the lumber industry. He had many different jobs and worked his way up to the Co-Gen 10 Meg Steam Plant, where he ex-

celled in operating the power plant. In 1988 he moved to Yuba City, CA to be on the start-up crew building a power plant utilizing the LM5000 jet engine to produce steam. In 1991 he was moved to Holtville, where the company took over the geo-thermal wells. In 1993 he started working for the Imperial Irrigation district in El Centro as an auxiliary operator at the power plant. He continued to work there, working himself up the ranks to become a Journeymen Power Plant Operator at the time of his death.

He was involved with many organizations, including Heppner Elks #358 and Pendleton Eagles #28, had more than 50 foster children, and was a host parent to many foreign exchange students through American Field Service (AFS). In 1999 he joined the Optimist International organi-

zation with the Sunrise of Imperial Valley club. He was also a member of the DVOO's club in Ocotillo, CA, where he held many positions at both the club and district level, including Club President; Honor; Distinguished; and Outstanding Lt. Governor and Outstanding Governor 2013-2014, CALSO #41. He was also a life member, Builder of Excellence for helping start a new club, Finance Committee Chair for District 41 and District Foundation Rep for California South #41. He obtained the Level 10 PGI, which was to be awarded at the international convention in New Orleans July 9, 2015.

He loved traveling, reading and working Sudoku puzzles.

Al was preceded in death by his parents, Delbert and Suzanne Vinson; his sister, Dorothy Wilson; nephew, Mark Vinson; and numerous aunts and uncles.

He is survived by his wife, Alma, of 43 years;

foster daughter, Bobby McGuire, Tonasket WA; nieces, Lisa (Gary) Green of Gold Bar, WA, Tammy (Ted) Fisher of Tacoma, WA, Melissa Martini of Portland, OR; nephews, James (Katrina) Vinson of Dallas OR, Perry (Patty) Wilson of Pullman, WA; brother-in-law Tom Wilson of Heppner; great-nieces, Amber (Curtis) Maddex, Heather (Garret) Ascherl, Megan and Erika McDonald; great-nephew, Garrett Vinson; great-great-nephews Corbin and Braden Ascherl; brother, Richard Vinson of Cody, WY; sister-in-law, Peggy Shuman; and his beloved dogs, Mollie, Dixie and Mannie.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to: Optimist International Foundation, 4494 Lindell Blvd., St Louis, MO 63108, www.oifoundation.org, to the Heppner Elks #358 scholarship fund, PO Box 494, Heppner, OR 97836, or to the charity of choice.

Letters from Iraq

Editor's note: Sheena Christman, lone native and graduate of Lone High School, volunteered this summer with World Orphans in northern Iraq. She sent home weekly updates to family and friends, which the G-T was lucky enough also to receive. This is the last of those letters. She writes:

Below are few stories and pictures from my final weeks in Iraq.

1. Returning Home.

As many of you know, I made it back to Salt Lake City at approximately 2 a.m. on July 14. My return

the passenger boarding bridge, severe thunderstorms, a car hitting the airplane during boarding (no joke!), and the FAA deciding to reroute the flight.

Despite the flight home, I had a great (and safe) time in northern Iraq. During my seven-week stay, I learned about how World Orphans and others are working to provide homes to those who have been forced to flee ISIS; I was able to practice my Arabic with the Shabuk Kurdish families; I joined the mayor of Soran and his family for a traditional Iftar meal (i.e. the dinner



Sheena Christman shows off the view from the top of Korek Mountain. -Contributed photo

be tricky. This is because each house has its own water tank, and water to fill these tanks arrives at each house only every other day. In addition, a pump is needed to move the water from the city pipes to the rooftop water tanks. This means that when the electricity is off or when there is only electricity from the community generator (which happens often), the pump either doesn't work or it doesn't work well.

3. **Visitors.** There were lots of visitors to Soran during my stay in Iraq. They came from Italy, Poland, Australia, and the United States in order to learn more about World Orphan's work in Iraq. Teresa and Magda spent two weeks in Soran, while Bettina, Kelly, and Gary had just one day to spare.

4. **The Neighbors.** Living next door to the Rays and Buxtons is a Sunni Arab family from Anbar province. We visited this

family on several occasions and learned that they fled north to the Kurdish region because of ISIS. Souad, the 19-year-old daughter, told us that her family has served in both the Iraqi military (e.g., her dad was injured in the Iraq-Iran war) and Iraqi law enforcement and, as a result, they have been targeted by ISIS. Souad's uncle, for example, was a police officer. He went missing over a year ago, and Souad's family believes that ISIS kidnapped and murdered him.

To learn more about the Buxton family (my hosts), visit: <http://flickerflame.org/>.

To learn more about The Refuge Initiative, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/refugeinitiative>.

To learn more about World Orphans and to support World Orphans' work in Iraq, visit: <http://worldorphans.org/iraq-emergency-fund/>.



Yazidi kids. -Contributed photo

flight was not as smooth as I had hoped it would be. I flew from Erbil to Vienna on Sunday (7/12), stayed overnight in Vienna, and then flew from Vienna to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport on Monday (7/13). I spent 10-plus frustrating hours at O'Hare before finally boarding my flight to Salt Lake City. My flight from Chicago to Salt Lake City was delayed due to numerous gate changes, mechanical problems with

when Muslims break their fast during Ramadan); and I enjoyed visiting with the Yazidi women. Overall, it was a great learning and growing experience, and I look forward to doing it again in the future.

2. **Living in Soran—Water.** Getting water for household use in Soran can

'Walk for Water' plans cool fun for a cause

Children and adults young and young at heart are invited to have fun and get wet for a cause with the Walk for Water 3K on Aug. 8 in Heppner.

Sign-ups for the walk/run begin at 9 a.m. at All

Saints Episcopal Church. Participants will then race around town, stopping at four obstacle points where they will choose a water obstacle and complete it to move on. The race will end back at All Saints.

Cost to participate is a suggested donation of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Proceeds go toward the Shared Ministry's next well-drilling mission trip to Haiti.

Kinzua Lunch Group

The Kinzua Lunch Group met at Service Creek July 17. Those attending were Jean Ann and OL Adams, and Bonnie Campbell, Heppner; Bruce and Dixie Hollomon, Hermiston; Windy Likptak, Condon; and Pat Hyatt, Rolene Allen and Marilyn Garcia, Fossil. The next lunch will be August 21 at 11:30 a.m. at Service Creek.

Beer & Wine Tasting
August 20th 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Entertainment & Food Available
Come see us out at the fair

Now accepting applications for part time positions: Counter/espresso, Floral. Contact Ann or Linda at Murray's Drug 541-676-9158 mrydrugs@centurytel.net.

MURRAY'S DRUG - 217 N MAIN PHONE 676-9158

Live, online weather spotter training next week

The National Weather Service will conduct a live, online weather spotter training at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29.

Registration details are at weather.gov/pendleton or by calling 541-276-7832 and asking for Doug Weber.

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