

FAMILY FOODS

-Continued from PAGE ONE entering military service with the U.S. Army.

"I got a special invitation, so I had to go," he quips.

He got out of the service in 1972 and went to work for Fred Meyer, where he worked for the next 11 years. He started at the bottom, working freight. He then went through the company's management school, becoming a Fred Meyer manager in 1975.

After Fred Meyer, he worked for a time for Associated Grocers, based in Seattle. He worked in store development, which in-

cluded building new stores, remodeling stores, store layouts—"Anything to do within the four walls of a store," he says.

In 1985 he went to work for Independent Grocer, owned by Keith Edenborough and based in Gig Harbor, WA. During his time there, the company went from owning seven stores to owning 32 stores spread from Everett to Kelso/Longview, WA. Houweling himself wore many hats while with the company, everything from store merchandiser to advertising.

"I did a lot—too much,"

he remembers.

In 1999 he left that company to launch out on his own, buying the Central Red Apple grocery store in Heppner.

"I want to thank everybody for the last 17 years of supporting me, supporting the store. I hope they'll continue to," he finishes. "I want to thank all of the employees for their dedication and hard work."

Now, though, it's time for another change. He says he wants to spend his time visiting his kids, seeing old friends and traveling. He also says he has no plans to move from the area.

"I gotta keep coming down here, irritating them all the time," he jokes.

At the same time, he says he knows he's leaving Heppner Family Foods in good hands.

"I've known Kirby for a long time," he assured the Gazette. "They'll take better care of the store than I ever did."

He also says Kirby has no plans to change anything, including staff—all the employees will be staying on.

"Everything stays the same except me. And that's okay," he says.

Car charging station has first user



The newly-installed electric vehicle car charging station in Heppner experienced its first user this past Sunday. Pat Campbell and wife of Vancouver, WA, stopped by Heppner on a return trip to their home city. The retired couple had been to Pendleton, and seeing the new charging sites on their PlugShare phone app, decided to cruise the Scenic Blue Mountain Byway through Heppner on their return trip. The couple said their Nissan LEAF made the trip quite comfortable. -Contributed photo

GUTIERREZ RETIRES

-Continued from PAGE ONE with MCGG, a position he's held ever since. He continued his tradition of working with large machines. While the Lexington office was home base, his experience was often more needed out in the field—literally.

"I've spent a lot of time in the field," he says. "I'm a combine mechanic, so I travel a lot during the summer."

It was working out in the field with his customers that was both the worst and the best of his job, he says.

"There were some really terrible break-downs, and getting home at 11:30 at night I won't miss," says Gutierrez. "I won't miss the ache in my hands from the arthritis."

"It's time," he adds.

At the same time, while his work was with the machines, he says he'll miss the people.

"I've had some really good people for customers. I enjoyed working for 'em. They were good to me," he says. "They weren't

just customers; they were friends."

He says he has big plans for retirement, though., beginning with a couple of little tykes.

"My grandkids haven't figured out how to raise me yet," he jokes. "We're gonna get that done."

He says that he took up a hobby a couple of years ago, making walking sticks out of burls, so he'll make a few of those.

"My wife has lots of jobs for me, I'm sure, and

I'll do lots of fishing and hunting.

"I've had customers call up and ask if they can call me, and I've said, 'I'll answer, but I may be landing a fish first.'"

Morrow County Grain Growers will give everyone a chance to give Gutierrez best wishes with an open house at the Lexington store Aug. 31. Refreshments and cake will be available from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for those wishing to help Gutierrez celebrate his retirement.

The View from the Green

Over the Tee Cup

It was sunny and warm for the 21 women who teed off at the Willow Creek Country Club ladies play day Tuesday, Aug. 16. Low gross of the field went to Virginia Grant, with low net of the field to Shirley Martin.

For Flight A, low gross went to Nancy Propher, low net and KP to Pat Edmundson, and least putts to Karen Thompson.

For Flight B, Betty Burns took low gross, Judy Harris low net and KP, and Karen Haguwood least putts.

For Flight C, Sue Edson had low gross, Lorrene Montgomery low net and KP, and Mary Riggs least putts.

In other events, the long putt went to Pat Edmundson.

WCCC men's shootout results

The men's shootout was held on Sunday, Aug. 21, at Willow Creek Country Club. This was a two-man event played over 27 holes. The formats used were a scramble, scotch ball and chapman. The results are as follows:

Gross—1st, Charlie Ferguson/Duane Disque, 2nd, David Allstott/David Gunderson.

Net—1st, Larry Runyon/Stacy Wilson, 2nd, Dave Mitchell/Bob MacDonald.

KP—Dave Pranger.

The next Sunday play will be on Aug. 28. Larry Runyon, Stacy Wilson and Charlie Ferguson will host.

Veterans, families invited to free Portland zoo event

VA Portland Health Care System (VAPORHCS) will honor veterans and their families by hosting a welcome home celebration at the Oregon Zoo in Portland with a day of free admission and food. Veterans are invited to learn about VA benefits and services and enjoy a day at the zoo with their families on Sunday, Sept. 18.

Space is limited and passes will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. Veterans must RSVP for the event by Sept. 12. To RSVP, email the VAPORHCS Transition and Care Management (TCM) office at welcomehome@va.gov or call at 503-273-5075 or 1-800-949-1004, Ext. 53062.

Parking is limited and at the participant's own expense.

For those who RSVP, registration is from 9 a.m. to noon near the entrance of the zoo the day of the event.

-Emergency dispatch was advised of a single-vehicle accident on Hwy. 74, Ione. One patient, trapped in the vehicle. MCSO, Heppner fire, Heppner ambulance, Ione fire, Ione ambulance, Oregon State Police and Gilliam County units along with their ambulance responded. Life Flight was dispatched to Arlington.

-Heppner ambulance and Heppner fire responded for a Life Flight at Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

-A female in Heppner reported fraudulent charges on her credit card.

-A caller advised he found an injured dog at the top of Coal Mine Hill on Western Route Road; it ap-

peared the back legs were broken.

-A person at Irrigon Shell reported that a female at the location wanted to speak with police. The caller was unsure what was going on, as every time he tried to talk with her she started to cry. She was saying something about drugs.

-Richland, WA police advised MCSO that they arrested Howard Bancroft on an MCSO warrant for failure to appear on possession of a controlled substance II and disorderly conduct. Subject was lodged at Benton County Jail in Washington.

-Continued on PAGE FOUR

MCGG GRANT

-Continued from PAGE ONE coming to markets in the Pacific Northwest from the Midwest or other areas. The expanded facility would then be able to reload this grain to barges for export or to supply the increasing demand for feed grain to local dairies and feedlots.

Other approved projects range from adding rail spurs in Elgin to improving moorage in Astoria, from constructing a new multi-use path in Milwaukie to improving an airpark in

Vale.

ConnectOregon focuses on improving connections among modes of travel while supporting Oregon's economy. Dedicated to non-highway projects, ConnectOregon was first approved by the Oregon legislature in 2005 and has funded more than 180 marine/ports, aviation, public transit, bike/ped and rail projects around the state with more than \$380 million in funds generated by lottery-backed bonds.

For ConnectOregon VI, 75 applications, requesting a total of \$88,402,249, were evaluated by modal committees and regional committees before going to the Final Review Committee. ConnectOregon includes grants for private sector applicants, municipalities, cities, counties, governing organizations, and other transportation-related entities. Considerations for qualified projects include reducing transportation

costs for Oregon businesses, economic benefit to the state, critical links connecting transportation modes, readiness for construction, project cost borne by the applicant, and project useful life expectancy that offers maximum benefit to the state.

To see details about the program and the projects, visit the ConnectOregon website at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/Pages/ConnectOR.aspx>.

Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice of the Peace Ann Spicer has released the following Justice Court report:

-Hayden Patrick Martin, 19, of Heppner was found guilty of Violating the Basic Rule (VBR) 90/55

and was fined \$435.

-Barbara L. Cutsforth of Heppner was found guilty of Driving While Suspended and was fined \$260.

-Christopher L. Fritz, 37, of Heppner was found

guilty of Driving Outside Restrictions and was fined \$160.

-Ronald Hubert Matthews, 60, of Heppner was found guilty of VBR 77/55 and was fined \$260.

-James E. Roy, 58, of

Heppner was found guilty of Following Too Closely and was fined \$160.

-Lani L. Prior, 43, of Heppner was found guilty of VBR 78/55 and was fined \$260.

Sheriff's Report

July 8 (cont.): -Dispatch received report of a semi truck pulling a trailer with a tractor loaded on it stuck between the lanes of traffic on hwy. 74, Heppner. The call was cancelled before law enforcement could respond.

-Irrigon Justice Court advised MCSO that someone at the location reported an assault. An officer responded and took the incident under investigation.

-MCSO received report of a vehicle missing from Irrigon; the owner did

not know how long it had been missing or in which direction it was travelling, but advised there were no weapons in the vehicle and it had about 3/4 a tank of gas.

-MCSO received report of the theft of a \$16,000 sewing machine from a location in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of a female subject at a residence on Hwy. 74, Ione, stating it was her property. MCSO responded and trespassed the female from the property.

-An individual on Hwy.

206 Condon-Heppner reported that his vehicle had been backfiring, so he took some parts out and noticed some unusual devices, possibly for making meth. MCSO made contact with the individual at the sheriff's office.


-A woman in Heppner advised MCSO of a lost cell phone.

-A female in Gresham requested a welfare check on her mother at a Heppner location. She advised her mother has a psych issue and had hit her head at the daughter's house the day before yesterday. The daughter advised she hadn't heard from the mother since the day before yesterday but had been under the impression she was driving straight home.

July 9: -Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Boardman PD and Boardman ambulance responded to report of a physical fight in Boardman.

-A female called from Threemile campground, Boardman and advised a car was playing loud music. Further into the call she started second-guessing having someone respond, saying she didn't want the people to be mad that she called the cops. She advised she would call back later if she needed someone to come out.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
EVINRUDE
AUGUST 24TH**



April 1979

←

"Although spectators were somewhat sparse at the Spring Lumberjack Show in Heppner last Saturday, local contestants got in the midst of activity. John Healy makes a run for it in the choker race."

"MAKING A RUN FOR IT" SINCE 1955!

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