

~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. 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.

## Clean-up has no connection to renovation

To the editor:  
I would like to inform the community that from previous communications with the city of Heppner there is no connection between the Gilliam-Bisbee renovation and the city's extreme desire to have my lot clean.  
Prior to last week's letter to the editor from my mother I had no chance to proof read and request some comments be omitted.

Please consider this letter as an attempt to clarify and rectify any negative responses caused by said letter.  
As stated in mom's letter, I am still working on clean-up operations and also continue to process multiple car repairs with some to no help at times.  
Please be patient. Brannon's Auto will finish.  
Thank you,  
Marvin Brannon

## Cyanobacteria (harmful algae) blooms

The Oregon Health Authority recently issued a recreational use health advisory for Willow Creek Reservoir in Morrow County due to the presence of a cyanobacterial (harmful algae) bloom and cyanotoxins (harmful algae toxins) above recreational guideline values for human exposure.

People should avoid swimming and high-speed water activities, such as water skiing or power boating, in areas of the lake where blooms are identified. Although toxins are not absorbed through the skin, people who have skin sensitivities may experience a puffy red rash.

People are encouraged to visit Willow Creek Reservoir and enjoy activities such as fishing, camping, hiking, biking, picnicking and bird watching. Boating is safe as long as speeds do not create excessive water spray, which could lead to inhalation risk.

**Drinking water.** Drinking water directly from areas of the lake affected by a bloom is especially dangerous. Toxins cannot be removed by boiling, filtering or treating water with camping-style filters. Contact campground management or the local health department with questions about water available at nearby campgrounds or day use areas.

People who are not on a well or a public water system and draw in-home water directly from an affected area are advised to use an alternative water

source because not all private treatment systems are proven effective in removing cyanotoxins.

**Children and pets.** Children and pets are at increased risk for exposure because of their size and level of activity. People who bring their pets to a lake with areas affected by a bloom for recreation activities, regardless of whether a recreational use health advisory is in place, should take special precautions to keep them from drinking from or swimming in these areas. Dogs can also be exposed to cyanotoxins when present by licking their fur, licking cyanobacteria off rocks or eating cells from a bloom.

**Fishing.** Fish caught from areas where cyanobacterial blooms are present should have fat, skin and organs removed before cooking or freezing, as toxins are more likely to collect in these tissues. Fillets should also be rinsed with clean water.

**Symptoms.** Exposure to cyanotoxins can be serious and result in a range of symptoms, from those similar to food poisoning such as stomach cramping, diarrhea, nausea and vomiting, to more serious symptoms like numbness, tingling, dizziness and shortness of breath that may require medical attention.

For health information or to report an illness, contact Morrow County Health Department at 541-676-5421 or the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) at 971-673-0482.

## Community lunch menu

Hopeful Saints volunteers will serve lunch on Wednesday, October 23 at St. Patrick's Senior Center. Lunch will be baked fish, white rice, parmesan roasted broccoli, mixed vegies and cobbler.

Milk, coffee and tea is served at each meal. Suggested donation is \$3.50 per meal. Menu is subject to change.

### Haunted Heppner

This year the Haunted Heppner Trick or Treat Event will be held on Thursday, October 31st from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. Heppner businesses will offer treats to costumed children that come by the stores, banks and offices. The participating store fronts will display an orange sign that says "Welcome to Trick or Treat".

Please come in to City Hall or call 541-676-9618 to request a sign or if you have any questions.



## Clifford Michael "Mike" Adams

Clifford Michael "Mike" Adams, 60, of Heppner died Monday, October 7 near Summerville, OR. A graveside service was held October 12 at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery, with a reception following at the Heppner Elks Lodge.



Mike Adams

Mike was born October 1, 1959 at Heppner, the son of Clifford Reon and Patricia Rae Sibert Adams. He was raised in Spray, OR where he graduated from Spray High School in 1977. He was a timber faller for 42 years until his death.

On September 20, 1980 he married Tonia K. Widner at Pendleton. The couple lived in Spray before making their home in Heppner in 1986, where they raised two children, Trisha and Brad.

Mike enjoyed snowmo-

biling, hunting and fishing with his friends and family, especially his five grandkids.

Survivors include his wife Tonia; children, Trisha Eckman and her husband Jared, Bradley Adams and his wife Katelyn; his mother, Patricia Reed; siblings, Barbara Collin and her husband John, Sherrill Cossitt and her husband Steve. He is also survived by his five grandchildren, Carter, Jack, Casyn, Lanie and Cameron. Preceding him in death were his father, Clifford R. Adams and a brother, James Adams.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heppner Booster Club, PO Box 917, Heppner, OR 97836.

The online condolence book is available at [swee-neymortuary.com](http://swee-neymortuary.com).

## Chamber Chatter

Thursday, October 17, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Zombie Scavenger Hunt at the Heppner Library. The teens are asking people to donate personal items to be given to the Neighborhood Center and distributed to those in need in the area. Anyone who can donate deodorant, razors, shampoo, hair conditioner, soap or laundry soap is asked to contact the Heppner Library to arrange for pick up at 541-676-9964. Those wishing to have items picked up are advised teens may be dressed up in costumes.

Friday, October 18, 7:15 p.m. and Saturday, October 19, 2:15 p.m., SAGE Center Movie Event. Disney Pixar Toy Story 4 will be shown; Admission is \$4 per person, including free popcorn. Bottled water and concessions available for cash purchase.

Saturday, October 19, 6 p.m., Annual Booster Club Dinner and Auction at Heppner Elks Lodge. Doors will open at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., live auction will begin at 7 p.m. A great dinner of steak, potatoes, salad, bread and homemade dessert will be available for \$20 each. If you are interested in making reservations for a VIP table, contact Melissa Coiner at 541-701-7724. For more

information, or to make a donation, contact Brandi Sweeney at 541-256-0358.

Tuesday, October 22, 5:30 to 8 p.m., 15th Annual Soup Bowl Supper and Silent Auction at Sisters Café, 308 S. Main Street in Pendleton. It will be an evening of delicious food and drinks, games, auction and mystery envelope. Check out their Facebook page for more information. Call 541-276-3322 to make table reservations, seating is limited.

Saturday, October 26, 3-9 p.m., Fall Festival organized by the Heppner Outreach Committee and volunteers at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. There is a \$2 admission charge per person. There will be carnival games and crafts, tractor rides, vendor market, food, beer garden from 6-9 p.m. and live music with Dallin Puzey and Cory Peterson.

Saturday, November 16, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Ione American Legion Auxiliary Annual Craft Bazaar at Ione Legion Hall. Plan on coming by and checking out all of the crafts. Breakfast and lunch will be available for purchase. Vendor space is still available and the cost is \$10 per table. Contact Becky Rietmann before 10/31 at 541-720-2010 to reserve a space.

### COMMUNITY HALLOWEEN PARTY

TREATS  
GAMES  
HOT DOGS

**OCTOBER 31ST**  
5:30-8PM

AT ALL SAINTS PARISH HALL

FUNDED BY MORROW COUNTY UNIFIED RECREATION DISTRICT AND FACILITATED BY HOPEFUL SAINTS MISSION TRIPPERS

### The Country Rose

Frappe & Flowers  
An Evening of Crafty Hocus Pocus Making Witch Hats at Murray's Drug  
Thursday, October 24th, 6:30pm  
Youths 4 - 15 years of age, accompanied by an adult \$25.00




Wine & Design  
Something New!  
at the Fall Festival at Morrow County Fairgrounds  
Saturday, October 26th, 4:00 - 5:30 pm



217 North Main St.,  
Heppner, OR  
Phone 676-9158  
Floral 676-9426

## Ruby Ann (Rietmann) Rohde

Ruby Ann (Rietmann) Rohde was born on April 5, 1932, in Heppner to parents Victor and Vera Rietmann. She grew up on the family farm near Ione with two older brothers, Bob and Bill who named her after their favorite "Auntie Ruby."



Ruby Ann (Rietmann) Rohde

Ruby Ann graduated from Ione High School and Eastern Oregon State University in La Grande. She was teaching in Pendleton when she met and married Dean Rohde in 1958. After a few years on Dean's family farm they relocated to Kennewick, WA where she resided until her death on October 13.

Ruby Ann and Dean raised two children, Paul and Mary Jo. Ruby Ann spent those years as a stay at home mom and homemaker. She was always quick with laughter and had an amazing sense of humor. Always an optimist, Ruby Ann was able to look at most everything in a positive, upbeat way. Ruby Ann set an amazing example of facing the trials in life with strength, dignity, and of course, humor.

Ruby Ann liked to travel, garden, cook and get together with her bridge lady friends. Some of those friendships go back 50 plus years and were a source of such good memories for her.

Her greatest interest was perhaps watching high school and college sports of most any variety. She loved seeing young people and their enthusiasm for the activities they loved. She was especially fond of the Gonzaga Bulldogs basketball team and remained a loyal Cougar football fan. Ruby Ann also had a heart for the arts, music and theater, especially performed by young people. Her presence

was felt by her children and grandchildren as she supported all of their interests.

Ruby Ann was always willing to help those around her. She "nursed" several of her family members and even friends when help was needed. She was always loyal and dedicated to her family and friends.

Ruby Ann preceded in death by her parents, Victor and Vera Rietmann; her brother, Bob and her husband of 52 years, Dean Rohde. She is survived by her brother, Bill; son, Paul Rohde and his children, Jordan, Andy (with wife Saleena and son Dean) as well as Paul's wife, Susan and her daughters, Sarah, Alissa and Jessica. She is also survived by her daughter Mary Jo (Rohde) Lindquist, her husband, Chris and their three children, John, Katie and Julie Ann.

A graveside service is being held at Highview Cemetery in Ione on Monday, October 21 at 10:30 a.m. Refreshments will be served at the Ione Community Church following the service. Later that day, from 3 to 7 p.m. an open house reception celebrating Ruby Ann's life will be held at the Carousel of Dreams in Kennewick, WA.

In lieu of flowers the family suggests donations be made to Chaplaincy Hospice Care in Kennewick, WA or to the Dean Rohde Memorial Flag Fund through the American Legion in Ione.

The family appreciates their families and friends for their love and support during this time as well as Chaplaincy Hospice Care and Priority Home Health for their compassion, care and love.

The online condolence book is available at [swee-neymortuary.com](http://swee-neymortuary.com)

## HEPPNER BOOSTER CLUB DINNER & AUCTION

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19TH**  
HEPPNER ELKS LODGE

DOORS OPEN AT 5:00  
DINNER 6:00  
LIVE AUCTION: 7:00

STEAK DINNER \$20/person

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!  
LIVE AUCTION ♦ RAFFLE  
HEADS OR TAILS GAME  
CARD GAME ♦ SILENT AUCTION

Please come out and Support the Mustangs!

ALL NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENT DEADLINE:  
**MONDAYS AT 5:00 P.M.**

**Have a news story or photo for the Gazette? Email [editor@rapidserve.net](mailto:editor@rapidserve.net) call 541-676-9228 or stop by the office on Willow St., Heppner today.**