

The Official Newspaper  
of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

**Heppner**  
**GAZETTE-TIMES**  
U.S.P.S. 240-420

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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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 \$5.25 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 \$6.05 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.

**Obituaries**

**Donna Marie (Bellamy) Foster**

On the sunny afternoon of June 10, 2020, surrounded by family, Donna Marie (Bellamy) Foster left this earth and found peace. Donna was born June 10, 1956 to Don and Shirley Bellamy in Hermiston, OR



**Donna Marie (Bellamy) Foster**

From day one, Donna was a wild child always following her older brothers around the farm and eventually getting into 4-H with her pigs. Donna's love of animals and vivacious spirit attracted her to her partner of 40 years, Bruce Allen Foster, whom she married January 24, 1979. After traveling the world together, they settled in Randolph, TX out in the country and had Bellamy Ann and Sofia Chamile.

Wanting to be closer to family, they moved to Duvall, WA in 1989 and added to their family with Ariel Don. According to her family, Donna had a big heart and wanted the best for her family. She loved all her siblings, Bill, Penny, Tim, Sam, Ted, Kitty and Cameron. Donna continued that love when she became

a grandmother to Georgia, Aaralyn, Rhett, Henry and Austin.

Donna struggled over the last few years of her life with health issues and eventually succumbed to the effects of lung cancer.

Donna is survived by husband, Bruce Foster; daughters, Belle Porter, Sofia Foster and Ariel Christ; sister, Penny Puckett; brothers, Bill Bellamy, Tim Bellamy, Sam Bellamy, Ted Bellamy and Cameron Bellamy; grandchildren, Georgia, Aaralyn, Henry, Rhett and Austin. Preceding her in death were her parents and sister, Kitty Niles.

Due to the current state of the world, a memorial will be postponed until spring/summer 2021. If you would like to show condolences to the family, please donate through PayPal at donnafoster1. The family would also appreciate any stories anyone would like to share about Donna at rememberdonna2020@gmail.com.

**WilmaLee Bothwell Marlatt**

WilmaLee Bothwell Marlatt took her last breath and was called home to Him Monday, July 20, 2020 at the age of 78. "When we are born into this life God gives us only so many breaths, when we take that last breath, we go home to Him." WilmaLee was brought into this life on December 20, 1941 to parents Bruce and Vera Cowins Bothwell in Heppner OR. She was a wife to Wesley for 61 years and 13 days, mother of seven, grandmother of 10 and great-grandmother of six.



**WilmaLee Bothwell Marlatt**

Wes and Wilma were married July 7, 1959 in Lewiston, ID. She was a proud and active member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She was sealed to her husband and children for time and all eternity in the Logan Temple.

According to her family, her family meant everything to WilmaLee. She loved to tell the story of how she chose the names of her children. Melody was for the music in her life, Rosanna for all the flowers that she loved, Wesley Jr. (putter) for the love of her life, Lovena for the love she had for Wes and her children, Douglas Raymond was named after the other two most important men in her life, her father Bruce Douglas and father-in-law Thomas Raymond. Then came Starla for the stars in the Heavens and the last child, Alisha Amber for the final jewel in her crown. She loved her children and would say it was her true purpose in life.

Wilma loved and lived for her family and she had a great love of animals. It didn't matter what animal it was, she loved it, all of her dogs, cats, ducks, horses, pigs and anything with wings (she loved birds). She also loved plants and flowers, especially painted daisies and butterflies. She loved music of any kind, but her favorite was oldies of the 50's and 60's and old country. Her favorite singer was Don Williams. She loved food and her favorites were KFC extra crispy, strawberry/banana milkshakes, shrimp of any

kind and popsicles. She was very proud of getting her high school diploma from Heppner High School in 1960 with a three-month-old daughter. She was an accomplished speaker and she loved to talk.

WilmaLee is preceded in death by her parents, Bruce and Vera Bothwell; her beloved sister, Violet Lorraine and brother

Wade. She is survived by her husband, Wesley of Finley WA and seven children, Melody Marlatt, Santa Ana CA, Rosanna and Joseph Vandecar, Umatilla, OR, Wesley (Putter) and Sarah-Anne Marlatt, Irigton, OR, Lovena and Lee Clinkenbeard, La Grande, OR, Douglas Marlatt, Umatilla, OR, Starla and Larry Lozier, Finley, WA and Alisha Looslie, Pendleton, OR.; 10 grandchildren, Kaleb, AmyAnn, Isaac, Jared, Kelsie, Kaylee, Shayla, Andrew, Miles and the baby Karly Lawren; six great-grandchildren, Hayley, Maygan, Maddie, Leo, Skyla, and Ace; her sister, Joanne Kain of Pendleton, and finally her fat, fluffy, bobtailed calico cat, Angel.

"Mom passed from this earth peacefully of natural causes." The last words she said were, "I am so very happy, I love you." "We love you mom and miss you like crazy. You will live in our hearts forever. But this is not goodbye because we know we will see you again when we take our last breath and are called home you will be there to meet us."

WilmaLee was laid to rest in a family plot surrounded by all her relatives that have gone home before her in a graveside service on Saturday, July 25 at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pet Rescue-Humane Society of Eastern Oregon, 1844 NW Geer Road, Hermiston, OR 97838

Sweeney Mortuary in Heppner is in care of arrangements. The online condolence book is available at www.sweeneymortuary.com

**Cecelia A. Drake**

Cecelia Drake came into this world on August 8, 1946, a bundle of joy to her parents, Bob and Agnes Lovett. She passed away on July 25, 2020. She had the pleasure of living in six different states before she was 18 months old as her father pursued a career in sales. They eventually ended up in the New Orleans Garden District where Cecelia attended school until third grade. Along the journey, siblings Nancy, Rob, and twins John and Joe were added to the family.



**Cecelia A. Drake**

While working and partying in New Orleans, her dad received what can only be labeled as a "Call from God" to enter the ministry. He entered seminary at the Southern Baptist seminary in New Orleans. He quickly got an assignment to a "missions" church in Flatwood, LA and then Pineville Baptist Church in Pineville, LA where Cecelia graduated from high school. While serving these churches, her father would comment that his monthly liquor bill used to be more than his monthly salary as a pastor.

Cecelia attended Louisiana College in Marksville LA until her sophomore year when the family moved to Grandview, WA where her dad became pastor of the Grandview Baptist Church. She moved with the family and immediately enrolled in Central Washington State College (now a university). At Central, because of credits and grades, she was placed as a junior, graduating from Central in 1968. Immediately upon graduation, she entered the teacher certification program and pursued a career as an elementary teacher. She had told her mother at a very early age that if she couldn't be an angel, she wanted to be a teacher.

What a teacher she became. After a short stint in a Catholic private school, she went to work in the Granger School District as an elementary teacher. Within

a few short years, she became the head teacher for the elementary school and instituted the first all-day kindergarten program in the region.

Marriage to Bruce Dickinson and birth of son Brent in 1975 were a natural course of action only to be followed by the tragic death of Bruce when Brent was 18 months old.

This precipitated a move to Hermiston, OR to be close to family. Her father, Bob Lovett, had moved several years earlier to pastor Grace Baptist Church.

While in Hermiston, her dad felt another "Call of God" and in 1972 started Interfaith Christian Center, now known as Hermiston Christian Center. After meeting in different buildings in the area, they settled as a congregation the Carpenter's Hall in the Simmons Agency building at the intersection of Diagonal and East Main Street. Cecelia, true to herself, immersed herself in the activities of the church and raising Brent, but harbored a burning desire to continue her teaching career. With encouragement from her father and much council from Jane Baker, the three of them started Interfaith Christian School in 1978 in the basement of the Carpenter's Hall with Bob Lovett, Pastor/Shepherd; Jane Baker, Principal; and Cecelia, Head Teacher.

In the late summer of 1980, Interfaith Christian Center moved all of its activities, including the school, to their newly constructed, but unfinished, building at 1825 West Highland Ave. They expanded the school membership to include high school students. Cecelia continued as head teacher for the elementary with her primary focus on K-1, her first love.

While teaching at the new location, she met and fell in love with a member of the newly expanded staff, second and third grade teacher and worship lead-

er, Richard Drake (Rick). They were married in May of 1981. The couple moved into their first home on a dirt road just south of the new church/school building. As the road was yet unnamed, they were asked what they should call the road. Both Cecelia and Rick almost without hesitation said Alleluia Lane.

Because of their love for children, they almost immediately began to take in foster children, eventually having 30 children call 1820 Alleluia Lane home for a while. Cecelia continued teaching at the school but in 1986, the couple moved to Vallejo, CA. Cecelia, true to her love and calling, became the Sunday School coordinator for Hilltop Christian Center in Vallejo, a church with a membership of well over 600.

They moved back to Hermiston in 1988. Cecelia continued teaching as a substitute teacher in area schools and in 1999 the couple moved to Heppner. After a few years as a substitute teacher in area schools, Cecelia began working as a reading specialist at Riverside High School in Boardman until a stroke in 2009 forced her into early retirement. She continued to be active in school, accompanying Rick, who was teaching music, and working as a volunteer aid until continuing diminishing health

forced her to stay home. Cecelia was preceded in death by her parents, Bob and Agnes Lovett; sister, Nancy Stimson (Gene); brother, Joe; grandson, Brock Palmer and son, Brent Dickinson.

She is survived by her husband of nearly 40 years, Rick; great-grandsons, Blake and Brody; grandson, Bryce; daughter, Janet and foster son, Jeremiah; brothers, Rob and John Lovett; and foster brother, Johnny Hover.

"Cecelia, you will be missed by all who knew you well. Your beautiful voice, your twinkling emerald green eyes, your smile and most of all, your heart of compassion. We will see you in Glory," said a family member.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, August 1 at 11 a.m. at Heppner Masonic Cemetery. Please be considerate of others during the Covid-19 era if you plan on attending the service.

Contributions may be made to Vange John Memorial Hospice, 645 W. Orchard Ave, Ste. 300, Hermiston, OR 97838 or to the Heppner Methodist Church Memorial Fund, PO Box 733, Heppner, OR 97836.

Sweeney Mortuary is in care of arrangements. The online condolence book is available at www.sweeneymortuary.com.

**WCPD to meet**

Willow Creek Park District (WCPD) will hold their regular meeting on Thursday, July 30 at 5 p.m. at the Heppner City Hall.

Items on the agenda include an operating line of credit for the Water Park and the impacts of COVID-19 on services.



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**ELECT MARK PRATT MORROW COUNTY SHERIFF**

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