

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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David Sykes.....Publisher

Bobbi Gordon.....Editor

Giselle Moses.....Advertising

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.

NEW BOARD MEMBER

-Continued from PAGE ONE

Silver Creek Construction for replacement of the Pioneer Memorial Clinic retaining wall for \$22,000. The budgeted amount was \$16,732.

-received a report from Houck, who was out of town for a family emergency, that two RNs, Doris Harper and Brandy Bommersback, and CNA Sage Ferguson will join the staff as per diem nurses for Pioneer Memorial Hospital. Houck reported that RN Sacha Pogue has resigned to relocate to New Mexico with her family.

-learned from Houck that per new regulations, a Personal Protective Equipment Safety Committee has been created at the hospital to “ensure PPE transparency.” Houck reported that the total number of PPE, as well as the burn rate, must be sent to all staff once a week. “If there is ever an issue with PPE, the PPE safety committee will help with resolution,” she said. Houck reported the district “currently has more than a 30-day supply of all PPE required to treat COVID-19 patients.” “We will continue to monitor our supply closely,” she said.

-received the following profit and loss statement for July: \$1,389,722 in gross patient revenue, \$6,927 in total revenue deductions, \$185,460 in tax revenue, \$7,958 in other operating revenue for \$1,576,212 in total operating revenue: \$1,356,528 in total operating expenses, and \$52,122 in a non-operating gain for a \$271,806 gain.

-received the following reports: Pioneer Memorial

Hospital had seven acute admissions for July, one swing bed (skilled) admission, 14 admissions for observation, one hospital respite admission, 892 total outpatient admissions with ER, 84 emergency room encounters, 2,127 lab tests, 109 x-ray/ultrasound tests, 55 CT scans, one MRI scan 49 EKG tests, three lower endoscopy procedures, 17 respiratory therapy procedures; Home Health had 166 patient visits; Hospice had two admissions and two deaths; pharmacy had 3,041 drug doses for \$115,087 in revenue; Pioneer Memorial Clinic had 382 patient visits with eight new patients, 30 seen by a nurse and 13 no shows; Irrigon Medical Clinic had 530 patient visits with 29 new patients, 376 seen by a nurse and 53 no shows; Ione Community Clinic had 46 patient visits, 12 seen by a nurse and zero no-shows; Heppner Ambulance had 40 page-outs with 30 transports for \$47,267 in revenue; Boardman Ambulance had 52 page outs with 26 transports for \$51,483 in revenue; Irrigon Ambulance had 36 page-outs with 16 transports for \$26,487 in revenue; Ione Ambulance had two page outs, but no transports; there were 13 life flights.

-held an executive session to discuss the employment of public officers, employees and agents.

The next meeting will be held September 28 at the Port of Morrow Sand Hollow Room, Boardman, with other options of meeting places being Irrigon City Hall or the Pioneer Memorial Clinic conference room.

Death Notices

Tricia “T.J.” Jeannine (Hunt) Robinson – Tricia “T.J.” Jeannine (Hunt) Robinson was born on January 9, 1952 in The Dalles, OR. She died on August 29,

2020 at her home in Pendleton at the age of 68 years.

A private family burial will be at the Lexington Cemetery in Lexington.

Please share memories

Obituaries

Constance G. “Connie” (Papineau) Jones

Constance G. “Connie” (Papineau) Jones was born on August 14, 1952 in Heppner to parents, Ray and Gloria (Orwick) Papineau. She died on August 28, 2020 at her home in Lexington at the age of 68 years. Connie was raised and lived her entire life in Lexington.

She was united in marriage to Kenneth “Kenny” Jones on September 5, 1992 in Lexington. Connie was a member of the Heppner Elks Lodge. In her younger years she was a jockey at the race track. She enjoyed golfing, traveling, playing cards, hunting, camping and most of all cherished time spent with her family. Connie enjoyed watching her sons and daughters-in-law rodeo and grandchildren junior rodeo as well as watch their sporting events.

She is survived by her husband, Kenny Jones, Lexington, OR; children, Shawn (Chandra) Eng, Stanfield, OR, Shane (Rebecca) Eng, Benton City, WA, Bruce (Barbara) Eng, Pennsylvania, Michael C. Jones, Pasco, WA and Christopher Jones, Redmond, OR; parents, Ray and Gloria Papineau, Lexington, OR; brothers, Curtis Papineau, Lexington, OR and Calvin Papineau, Pasco, WA; sisters, Candace Gates, Lexington, OR, Carmen Wilson, Lexington, OR, Crystal Dale, Hamilton, MT and Cammie Jones, Hamilton, MT; 12 grandchildren; four great grandchildren; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

2020 Chronicles released



Doris Brosnan (left), Morrow County Chronicles Editor, and Kay Proctor, Historical Society President, discuss the 2020 Chronicles while keeping a safe COVID distance apart. -Photo by David Sykes.

By Kay Proctor

The Morrow County Historical Society has recently released the 37th edition of the Morrow County Chronicles and editor Doris Brosnan shares, “It is a good one.”

With COVID affecting everyone’s daily lives, Ione resident, Bill Monagle, contributed an article about how Morrow County fared during the 1918/19 Spanish Flu Pandemic. An article to go with the cover photo of Lott’s Electric recently uncovered storefront explains how the 1884 building survived Heppner’s infamous flood in 1903.

There are 11 articles altogether, many with photos, ranging from local people or places from the 19th to the 21st century. This year’s

of Jeannine with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.



Connie Jones

ington, OR; brothers, Curtis Papineau, Lexington, OR and Calvin Papineau, Pasco, WA; sisters, Candace Gates, Lexington, OR, Carmen Wilson, Lexington, OR, Crystal Dale, Hamilton, MT and Cammie Jones, Hamilton, MT; 12 grandchildren; four great grandchildren; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Connie was preceded in death by her first husband, Louie “Tic” Eng and sons, Louie Eng Jr and Shad D. Eng.

A graveside funeral service will be held on Friday, September 4, 2020 at 11 a.m. at the Lexington Cemetery, following state guidelines.

The family asks those who wish to please make contributions in Connie’s memory to Pioneer Memorial Hospice, c/o Burns Mortuary of Hermiston, P.O. Box 289, Hermiston, OR 97838.

Please share memories of Connie with her family at burnsmortuaryhermiston.com. Burns Mortuary of Hermiston is in care of arrangements.

edition is dedicated to the late Anna Schwarzin, past Historical Society member.

The Chronicles are available for purchase at Murray Drugs, Heppner, and the Bank of Eastern Oregon’s Morrow County branches (Heppner, Ione, Boardman and Irrigon) for the cost of \$7.

The 2020 edition is also listed on eBay for \$9.90, which includes shipping costs. Search for “Booklet Morrow County Oregon History.” Future plans include selling previous year’s editions of the Chronicles online.

Guest Editorial

Encouraging employees to return to work

By Greg Smith

One of the biggest challenges many employers are facing is getting their workforce back on the job during the continuing COVID environment. There are many obstacles including the fact those collecting unemployment benefits received an additional \$600 per week, which in many cases amounted to more than their salaries. This benefit expired on July 31 and workers are beginning to return to their jobs. There are discussions about a lesser weekly benefit being introduced, but so far that has not been implemented.

A major issue is the fact schools in Oregon may not be open for much of the school year and parents have found themselves as teachers.

Others are sincerely frightened about the prospect of returning to work, questioning the safety precautions employers may or may not have put in place. This is especially true in cases where social distancing may be difficult in such workplaces as manufacturing or food processing plants.

Some people may have children or elderly relatives living with them with severely compromised health due to underlying conditions.

All of these are legitimate issues and concerns. So, what can employers do as they endeavor to resume operations?

-Some parents are finding individuals willing to supervise online learning while parents work, helping to ensure their children are on task and that a regular school schedule is established and maintained.

-Employers should provide detailed information about all the precautions being implemented, including exactly what the employee’s responsibilities are. The Center for Disease Control’s website, www.cdc.gov, outlines safety precautions and recommendations.

-Offering additional training and professional development opportunities is something attractive to employees and some employers are offering monetary incentives.

-On a recent webinar, an economic development specialist noted many employers are networking and finding qualified, enthusiastic employees from those companies which are having to downsize.

-Some companies are expanding the option for working remotely which is very appealing to many as they balance family and work. Clear communication and expectations must be given along with deadlines for projects to be completed. Establishing video platforms so employees do not feel isolated is proving to be beneficial for those transitioning to this model.

-Businesses may simply have to find ways to attract new employees. Join other employers in hosting a virtual job fair. There are many individuals whose former employers have closed their business. They may not have all the skills needed for a particular position, but with the right attitude and ample training, may be the perfect fit for the job.

Finding enough qualified employees wanting to work is something businesses will have to find creative and unique ways to address. Post your jobs to a variety of platforms and utilize the Employment Department’s database of job seekers. Employers may post a job themselves by clicking the employer tab “hiring an employee” at www.workinginoregon.org and by the old fashioned, low-tech way—by word of mouth.

In closing, utilize those entities which serve businesses including your local chamber of commerce, downtown and other business associations, economic development professionals and small business development centers.

Greg Smith is the director of the Eastern Oregon University Small Business Development Center located at 1607 Gekeler Lane, Room 148 in La Grande, OR. If you are seeking free, confidential business advising, please call 541-962-1532 or email eousbdc@gmail.com.

New Baby in Your Family? Engagement? Wedding?

We want to share your life events!

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Our office will be **CLOSED**
Labor Day; Monday, September 7th.
The news and advertising deadline
for the coming week is
Friday, September 4th at 5pm.