

FLASHBACK

Roberts Field reestablished as a civilian airport in 1946

100 years ago

Feb. 24, 1921 — City Jail Capacity Is Doubled; \$1.75 Assures Comfort

Something had to be done. Redmond ordinarily has had but few prisoners in the city jail, but last week four were registered and taxed accommodations so heavily that some conveniences had to be borrowed for the night.

So the matter has been fixed. Albert Julian, city marshal, and M.A. Cuning, city recorder, were in attendance at an auction sale and bought a double bed and springs for \$1.25 and paid fifty cents cartage. This was upon their own responsibility, but the council Tuesday night placed the "okeh" on the transaction and ordered the \$1.75 be paid.

With the equipment in place today the jail is able to accommodate double the former capacity permitted by two single beds.

75 years ago

Feb. 28, 1946 — Airport Entry Granted

It's Roberts field again. The city of Redmond received right of entry Tuesday afternoon to Redmond army air field, and within an hour flying activities had been moved from the CAP airport four miles west of town to the big base. Piloting his Fairchild PT-23, Mayor T.J. Wells made the first landing on Roberts field, his passenger being J.R. Roberts, in whose honor the city's municipal airport was named.

The army engineers in Portland received authority Tuesday to grant an interim permit to the city, Roberts was advised by telegram from E.W. Barnes, chief of the sub-office. Barnes stated that Capt. Olson of Portland army air base will be in Redmond this afternoon or Friday morning to deliver possession of buildings and equipment.

Dick Ballantine, who has operated Redmond CAP airport since August, 1944, immediately moved his planes and operations to the army field. Calvin Butler, who also will operate from Roberts field, flew his Piper Cub there from Prineville later in the afternoon. The Civil Aeronautics administration was notified and designation has been removed from the CAP airport, which attained nation-wide publicity when it was built and used the same day through the efforts of Redmond squadron of the Civil Air patrol and Redmond townsfolk.

At present five planes are in one of the gigantic hangars, the Wells Fairchild, Ballantine's two Interstates, Butler's Cub and Al Miller's Taylorcraft, but it is expected other aircraft will be there soon, including a plan to be used by the CAA safety regulations district office to be opened, with J.T. Feeney as senior inspector.

Until Friday, permits will be required to enter the field, Mayor Wells has announced. This will be for business purposes and may be obtained from J.R. Roberts or Wells. Arrangements for telephone, water and lights cannot be made until Capt. Olson arrives to deliver officially possession of buildings and equipment.

Roberts field has two 7000-foot paved runways, two large hangars which formerly housed B-17 bombers and later fighter planes, taxiways, parking aprons, scores of buildings and other extensive operational facilities. With L.E. Davis in charge, the CAA already has a communications office on the field, which takes weather observations.

50 years ago

Feb. 24, 1971 — COCC to sponsor first intercollegiate rodeo at Madras

The First Annual Central Oregon Community College Intercollegiate Rodeo will be held April 2-4 in the Madras indoor arena, according to Valerie Holt, Redmond-area chairman.

The National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association event is



Damon Folk, left, and Crystal Attenberry with art project at Redmond High School in 1996.

expected to draw participants from Oregon State University, Eastern Oregon College, Treasure Valley Community College and possibly Oregon Technical Institute and Southern Oregon College.

Teams, composed of six boys and three girls, also will be competing from Washington, Montana and Idaho. Stock for all events will be provided by Ronnie Raymond of Double R Rodeo Co.

Boys will compete in bare-back riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, ribbon roping, bulldogging and calf roping. For girls, there will be barrel racing and the special female versions of goat tying and breakaway calf roping.

Buckles will be given in each event, plus special buckles to all-around boy and girl, and a high point team trophy.

The Friday performance will begin at 7:30 p.m., with Saturday and Sunday shows scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Highlight Saturday night will be a rodeo dance.

25 years ago

Feb. 28, 1996 — Art students study human character

Some unusual and even startling art projects are popping up at Redmond High School.

The life-sized cardboard figures of people often get second and third glances as they stand quietly between bookshelves or near counters.

The "people" are part of a study of color and human characteristics in basic design classes at the high school. Students created characters from all walks of life, including an unemployed police officer, a

hillbilly waitress and a flower child.

Students developed comprehensive biographies — with relatives and occupations — for their people. From those biographies came such details as balding heads, beards and crop tops for the characters.

Some, like Ivan Foster's group, went for more of a cartoon style. Foster worked on the waitress character, "Dolores." In addition to coffee stains and egg smears on her apron, she sports toothpick-thin arms and black combat boots.

For several students, adding color to the figures was their first attempt at painting. Nikki Holm learned, "it's really hard to make a good skin color," she said.

The distinctive "people" are now accepting visitors and can be seen in the school library.

Bentz named ranking member of House water subcommittee

BY GEORGE PLAVERN
EO Media Group

While Oregon's freshman Republican congressman, Rep. Cliff Bentz, has only been in office for less than two months, he will serve as the GOP's ranking member of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans and Wildlife.

The subcommittee oversees federal agencies in charge of managing water resources for irrigation, hydroelectricity, navigation and conservation — including the Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In a statement, Bentz said he will provide a "thoughtful check and balance to the Biden Administration and the Democrat majority in Congress," pushing back against burdensome regulations that have hindered farms and rural communities across the West.

"For more than half of my professional and political career I have stood up and fought for agriculture and communities that rely on our water resources and are feeling the effects of a real and regulatory drought," Bentz said.

Arkansas Rep. Bruce Westerman, the ranking Republican on the House Natural Resources Committee, said that while Bentz may be new to Congress, his experiences as an attorney specializing in water law have equipped him to be a strong voice on water issues.

"As we begin this new Congress," Westerman said, "I believe we have the best possible team ready to take on any challenge and show Americans that conservation is inherently conservative."

Bentz was elected to the House in November, replacing Rep. Greg Walden, who retired after 22 years in office. As Oregon's only congressional Republican, Bentz represents District 2, covering the majority of the eastern, central and southern portions of the state.

During his 43 years as an attorney in Ontario, Bentz said he represented numerous farmers, ranchers and small businesses that depend on a

thriving agricultural economy. "I understand their problems," he said. "They will have someone at the table to fight for what they need, if they are going to survive as families and communities."

Specifically, Bentz said the committee may be able to help fund additional water storage projects to provide greater certainty for farms feeling the effects of drought, while "hopefully not putting senseless regulations back in place."

"There are lots of Clean Water Act and ESA (regulations) that can be brought into play," he said. "To the extent that they are, it generally plays out badly for farmers."

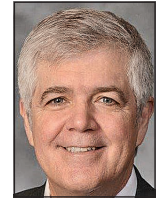
When asked about Idaho Rep. Mike Simpson's proposal to breach four dams along the lower Snake River as part of a plan to save endangered salmon runs, Bentz said he is generally opposed to removing dams, but looks forward to listening to communities and businesses that would be affected.

"Dam removal, it's community-changing, and many would say community-destructive," Bentz said. "I'm anxious to listen to what the people who would be most impacted want."

Agricultural groups in Oregon largely praised Bentz's appointment to the water subcommittee.

Barb Iverson, president of the Oregon Farm Bureau, said Bentz brings extensive expertise on water issues to the national level.

April Snell, executive director of the Oregon Water Resources Congress, which represents irrigation districts and agricultural water suppliers, said the committee will benefit from Bentz's knowledge of western water law. "Through his many years in the Oregon Legislature, Congressman Bentz knows first-hand the importance of bridging the urban-rural divide and supporting common-sense solutions regardless of party," Snell said. "His thoughtful and deliberative approach to complex policy is needed now more than ever and we are grateful to have him in Congress working on Oregon's behalf."



Bentz

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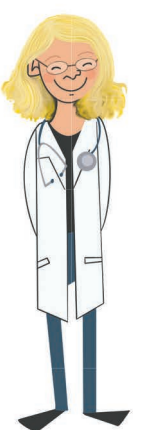
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