

# Heppner Gazette Times

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## Special Levy To Be Asked For Hospital Addition

November Voters will be asked to approve a special five mill tax levy for one year designed to raise funds for the construction of an additional bedroom wing at the Pioneer Memorial hospital in Heppner.

The decision to ask for the levy was reached at a recent meeting of the board of trustees of the hospital and the county court in which all members concurred in the plan.

The need for the extra room space has been obvious for some time as hospital records show a very high rate of occupancy. During the past year the rate has been climbing steadily with the average during July reaching 89 percent. According to reports, nationwide hospital occupancy figures are about 65 percent. The trustees report there have been several times during recent months when the hospital has been operating at over 100 percent of capacity, and for the past year it has been operating in the "black" financially.

County Judge Garnett Barratt stated that the court hopes to obtain federal aid for the project through Hill-Burton fund money and application is now being made for these funds.

The wing will house 14 additional hospital beds on the upper floor and plans call for the extension of the nursing home facilities on the lower floor which have also been seriously crowded.

The cost of the new wing per room would be considerably less than was the cost of the original building as all present surgical, technical, heating and kitchen facilities were designed to serve the extra wing when it could be built. Economy of operation would be increased also, it was pointed out, as a small increase in personnel could handle nearly twice as many patients.

Though no definite estimate of construction costs are yet available, the court feels the approximately \$70,000 raised by the levy will adequately cover the cost of the building and necessary room equipment.

The five mill levy, if approved, which will run for one year only, will not be effective until the 1953-54 tax year which means that it would be next July before construction could start. It is not set up as a bond measure.

The new wing would be built on the south end of the present building and would match in style the short wing on the north end completing the building in the form of a "U". It will bring hospital bed capacity up to 30 beds, not counting the present or additional nursing home beds on the lower floor.

## County Picnic Attracts Big Crowd

Over two hundred persons were in attendance at the annual Morrow County Picnic held Saturday noon at the Courthouse park. Queen Kathryn Campbell of the Heppner Rodeo and her Princesses, Rieta Graves, Grace Miller, Wilma Dalzell and Shirley Myers and their chaperone, Miss Martha Campbell were guests of honor along with visiting royalty from Umatilla County and Grant County Fairs and the Ukiah Rodeo. Judge Garnett Barratt was master of ceremonies and in his brief talk during the luncheon paid tribute to the Morrow county pioneers who were present as well as those who have gone. Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Normoyle of Ione entertained with several vocal solos and the Quackenbush Orchestra played several numbers.

Considerable work has been done on the park. A three foot concrete retaining wall has been built along the west side with steps leading down to the parking area located between the courthouse proper and the grounds. The parking area has been finished with blacktop. Along the east side, a similar wall will be installed and in this a large fireplace and barbecue pit is to be built. These are gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Duvall.

Assisting with the serving at the picnic were Sheriff and Mrs. C. J. D. Bauman, Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Rosewall, Mrs. Maud Casswell, Miss Martha Tapanainen, Mrs. Frances Mitchell, Miss Colleen Connor, Miss Joyce Buschke and Mrs. Grace Nickerson.

Mrs. Mabel Hughes, Mrs. Elsie Lassiter and Mr. and Mrs. George Waldron of Milton-Freewater were here Saturday to visit with friends and attend the Morrow county picnic.



**WATER**— what was a neat barnyard and driveway at the Floyd Jones Rhea Creek ranch looked like this after a wall of water swept down the narrow canyon between the house and barn Saturday afternoon. The pickup shown was washed downhill until it struck the truck in the background which held it from further movement. Boulders, grass and topsoil completely cover what was a fine gravel drive. Equipment damage was considerable but did not compare with the topsoil loss suffered where the downpour hit Jones' summerfallow a mile up the canyon. (GT Photo)

## Rhea Creek Grange Wins Sweepstakes In Fair Parade

One of the longest and best managed parades ever shown to fair and rodeo crowds was watched by several thousand persons who lined downtown streets in Heppner last Saturday.

Grand sweepstakes winner for the Rhea Creek Grange and this float is pictured elsewhere in this paper. Especially notable was the great increase in horses entered this year with nearly twice as many being shown as participated last year.

Winners in the order of their award were: juvenile organizations, Heppner band, Ione band, Lexington boy scouts, Adult organizations, Rhea Creek grange, Jaycee-Elte Kindergarten, chamber of commerce, Businesses, Heppner Cleaners, Pacific Power and Light, Baker Plumbing.

Best mounted cowboy, Archie Murchison; best cowgirl, Mrs. Bill Barratt; older cowgirl, Mrs. Bill Smethurst; oldest cowboy, Lote Robinson; youngest cowboy, Greg Jones; youngest cowgirl, Erna Lyn Winchester.

Winner of the best organized riding club was the Evergreen club of Ukiah with the Heppner Wranglers taking second. Best family group, Oscar George family; best comic, Lois Winchester; juvenile float winners were Jimmy Farra, McCurdy and Gilliam and Bobby Hager; best pet, Joyce Parent, Bobby Monohan; Juvenile cowboy, Bob Irby, Billy Irby, David Grant; juvenile cowgirl, Sandra Eubanks, Judy Shearer, Linda Halvorson; best characterizations, Larry Smith, Carolyn McDaniels, Shirley Gaines.

## School to Remove Old Houses From Lots

The board of the Heppner school district has called for bids for the sale and removal of two houses and other outbuildings located on school property immediately north of the present school buildings.

The buildings are to be sold and removed from land which will be used for future school construction. Complete information can be obtained from superintendent Leonard Pate at the school.

## Rains Hit County, Some Welcomed—Some Cussed!

The rains came to Morrow county over the weekend and though they hit too hard in some places, the water was welcomed by most residents.

Showers Monday evening and Tuesday morning brought a total of 8.1 inches to the Heppner area according to Leonard Gilliam, the weather recorder. Leonard Carlson, Gooseberry, weatherman checked .88 inches for the same period.

Some sections received considerably more water than they wanted Saturday afternoon when thunderstorms caused a regular "waterspout" on the Floyd Jones ranch on upper Rhea creek. Considerable damage resulted when the wall of water rushed down the narrow gully near the house washing out considerable farm equipment and installations and depositing an array of big boulders over the entire driveway and barnyard. Considerable damage resulted as the water reached the bottom of the canyon but heaviest loss was to Jones summerfallow where a great amount of topsoil was washed away.

Several other ranches in the area suffered minor damage but the storm jumped around considerably with some of the water bringing a torrent down the canyon directly south of Heppner. Several gardens in the area were decidedly messed up by the water.

During the storm some rain fell in Heppner during the Saturday afternoon rodeo performance, but it didn't much more than settle the dust.

## 35 Lightning Fires Reported in Heppner District in Week

Mother nature went on a rampage last week for what forest rangers hope is her final fling of the year. The Heppner district of the Umatilla forest was on the receiving end of a lightning barrage Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 2, and again Thursday night, Sept. 4.

Some 35 fire reports were received and investigated and 23 actual fires were suppressed. The largest of these was about one-third acre in size. Numerous other fires occurred outside the National forest protective area and these were suppressed by the state organization and their co-operators.

## County Schools Show Slight Student Drop, Heppner Gains One

Total county enrollment figures compiled Tuesday, the second day of school, showed a slight decrease in the number of students from last year's opening day. To date 949 have returned compared to 987 at the same time last year. The number of students in all county high schools remained exactly the same with 279 having registered, the grades showing a slight drop from 708 to 670.

County school superintendent Leslie Grant stated that the drop in registration was not unusual and that probably the entire loss will be made up within the next week as the students return from

vacation trips and summer jobs. Heppner schools recorded a total gain of one student with 407 having checked in by Tuesday evening. The four high school grades showed an increase of 11 students with 134 now registered while the elementary grades dropped 10 to 273. The most of this loss was registered in the first grade where there are only 30 students this year compared to 42 last year.

Kindergarten registration in Heppner this year indicates that next year's first grade class will be equal or exceed last year. The registration at the Jaycee-Elte kindergarten is 27 this year compared with 15 children at the same time last year and it is normal to expect nearly double the kindergarten registration for the following year's first grade class. Kindergarten students are coming from as far as Lexington, Eightmile and Sand Hollow.

Following is a list of the county schools with the registrations. The first figure indicates grade school enrollment, the second high school:

- Boardman—94, 32.
  - Hardman—10 (grade only).
  - Ione—88, 45.
  - Irrigon—133, 46.
  - Lexington—72, 22.
  - Heppner—273, 134.
- A breakdown of the Heppner school showed the following registration by grades:
- 1st, 30; 2nd, 46; 3rd, 35; 4th, 41; 5th, 26; 6th, 30; 7th, 28; 8th, 37; 9th, 47; 10th, 30; 11th, 31; 12th, 26.

## Shriners Planning Auction and Dance

Heppner Shriners announced this week they expect to have everything from chickens to elephants (white, that is) and doll buggies to farm equipment to auction off at their second annual Shrine benefit auction sale to be held at the fair pavilion in Heppner, Saturday, September 20.

The auction in the afternoon and the dance that night is a part of the money raising program of the club to aid the Shrine hospital for crippled children in Portland. The auction is scheduled to start at 1:30 in the afternoon with auctioneer Bob Runnion crying the sale. The evening dance will be to the music of Claud Bird's orchestra, popular Willamette valley music maker from Salem, and is to start at 9 o'clock.

Co-chairmen for the auction are Bob Runnion and W. C. Rosewall, and the dance committee is headed by Bob Grabill and Mervin Leonard. The auction committee announced that Shriners in all sections of the area will contact residents for merchandise donations and that anyone having items they wish to give may contact either of the co-chairmen and arrangements will be made to pick up the donations.

At the last auction and dance the club raised over \$1,700 for the hospital.

## Heppner Graduates To Attend Colleges

Out of the 25 graduates from Heppner High school in the class of 1952, 14 are planning to go to school this fall. They have chosen eight different colleges.

Those going and the schools they have chosen are to Oregon State College at Corvallis, Marilyn Bergstrom, Mickey Lanham, Rieta Graves, Junior Stout and Kenney Turner; to Oregon Tech at Klamath Falls go Lynn Bill, Elwayne Bergstrom and Keith Connor; Eastern Oregon College of Education at La Grande goes Bud Wagner; Pacific University at Forest Grove is the choice of Gary Connor. Those choosing out of state schools are Nancy Adams to Mills at Oakland California; Eleanor Rice to Stephens at Columbia, Missouri; Jim Smith goes to Stanford at Palo Alto, California and Don Blake will attend University of Washington at Seattle.

Miss Kay Walton of Dole spent the weekend in Heppner visiting with Mrs. Katie Currin.

## Social Security Guidance Available

Part-time and temporary workers sometimes think they do not need social security numbers, Vernon Welo, manager of the La Grande social security office, said today.

Actually, he explained, the length of employment is not a deciding factor. Those who work in industry or trade must have an account number card even if they work as little as an hour or two.

Once a social security number is assigned, a person keeps the same number throughout his life. The social security number is the key to his old-age and survivors insurance account on which both retirement and death benefits are based.

No charge is made for account number cards or for helping retired workers apply for social security benefits.

Anyone who wishes further information about social security may see the social security representative, Ben Kantner, who will be at the City Hall in Heppner on Thursday, September 18th, from 9:00 a. m. until noon.

## REVIVAL MEETINGS SET

Starting Monday, September 14 a series of special revival meetings will be held each evening except Monday at the Assembly of God church in Heppner, Rev. Nels Fast announced this week.

Street meetings are also planned for each evening at 7 p. m. prior to the start of the regular services. The public is invited.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Doolittle returned Tuesday from a fortnight's vacation at Moffett's Hot Springs near North Bonneville, Washington. They also visited their son, Paul, and daughter, Margaret, in Portland.

**SWEEPSTAKES** winner in the float division of Saturday's parade was this entry of the Rhea Creek Grange which topped all others and won the grange a total of \$125 in prize money. The colorful entry was just one of the many in the mile-long parade.



**HARDLY** classified as a float, nevertheless this parade entry of the Heppner Cleaners won first place in the business division and brought many laughs from the crowds. Signs proclaimed this as the "cleanest parade ever" and efforts of the cleaning crew bore out the statement. Head "Scoop-uppers", though considerably camouflaged, appeared to be Bill Collins and Hank Rauch who were ably assisted by female members of the cleaners' organization.



**SOME** of the top horseflesh in the Wranglers sponsored horse show held last Friday were these blue ribbon winners in the lot on mares and produce. Shown left to right are registered half-Arab 2-year old filly owned by Marilyn Robinson and shown by Raymond McDonald; registered half-Arab colt owned and shown by Altha Kirk and thoroughbred mare owned and shown by Marilyn Robinson.



**CHOW LINE**—pictured are just a fraction of the 450 persons who enjoyed ham and eggs, hotcakes, fried potatoes and coffee at the Wranglers Cowboy breakfast Sunday morning on the clubhouse grounds. Always a top fair and rodeo attraction, this year's feed was well prepared by Wrangler members and was enjoyed by all comers. (All GT Photos)

## Rattlesnake Sneaks Up On Carnival Man

Charles Carr, Dallas Texas, who is traveling with the Davis Bros. carnival, was bitten on the leg by a rattlesnake Sunday.

The accident happened along Willow creek, behind the fair grounds. Carr went to the hospital where he received treatment and was able to join the carnival before it left Heppner.

## PARADE DOLLARS AWAIT KIDS

All children who were in the parade should take their tickets to the county agents office to collect their dollar.

## GUN CLUB TO HOLD MERCHANDISE SHOOT

The Morrow county Gun Club will hold its first merchandise shoot of the fall season at the club house south of Heppner Sunday, September 21, officers of the club announced this week. A considerable quantity of fine prizes have been arranged for, they said.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Applegate had as their guests during the weekend, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Nash and her brother, Cpl. Bill Nash who has just returned from a tour of duty with the U. S. Army in Germany.

## Crowds See Fair and Rodeo; Murchison Wins Saddle

Heppner wound up its big fair and rodeo weekend Sunday after playing host to well over 2500 persons for the four day program of events.

While complete figures on attendance and financial outcome are still unavailable it is known that there were more than 2000 visitors at the fair booths and in excess of 2300 paid admissions to the rodeo. Both figures show a slight drop from last year, but the rodeo held nearly even with the past year's record though it only played two days this year compared to a three day showing last year.

Entries in all events, both fair and rodeo were higher this year with all commercial booths occupied in the fair pavilion and more than 20 additional names registered by participants in the rodeo events.

Among the top 4-H events was the Fat stock auction held Friday night with nearly all beef cattle bringing ceiling price. Grand champion winner was the Here-

ford beef raised and shown by Dickie Ekstrom of Ione which was purchased by the Morrow county Grain Growers for a total price of \$674.25.

Other 4-H members showing and selling choice beef were George Hermann, Lexington, Angus; Malcolm McKinney, Ione, Angus; Allen Hughes, Heppner, Hereford; Ned Clark, Heppner, Hereford; Jimmy Hayes, Heppner, Shorthorn; Shirley Peck, Heppner, Hereford; Richard Williamson, Heppner, Hereford; Marilyn Monagle, Heppner, Hereford.

Winners in other classes were: Lambs, Mardine Baker, Ione, grand champion and Leland McKinney, Ione, reserve champion. Swine, Eddie Bronsan, grand champion; John Bronsan, reserve champion. Dairy, Patsy Wright, reserve champion.

**Murchison Saddle Winner**  
Archie Murchison of Heppner won the hand made saddle donated by the Heppner Lumber company as winner of the Mor-

row county amateur calf roping and Paul Wagner, Boardman placed second in the same contest walking off with the bridle and breast collar made and donated by Joe Snyder, veteran Heppner saddle maker.

Pat Smith, Hermiston cowboy won honors as high point man of the entire rodeo and received, in addition to his day money, the sterling silver belt buckle given by the Heppner Hotel. Winner of the Farley Pontiac company trophy in the flag race was the Heppner Wranglers who were closely followed by the Pendleton Mustangs in second place. Other riding clubs participating were the Evergreen Riding club of Ukiah and the John Day Vaqueros.

Winners in other events were Calf roping, Gordon Davis, Templeton, Calif., and Vic Castro, Richmond, Calif. Cow Milking, Pat Emith and Elmer Wyatt, Walla Walla; Bulldogging, Francis Elmorini, Salem, Wayne Johnson, Condon; Bareback riding, Bob

Swain, Arlington, Jim Davis, Spurling, Portland and Numa McCoy, Sisters were the winners.

In the Saddle bronc riding, Jack Bull riding, Bill Avalo won on Saturday and no one could stay on top the critters Sunday. In the several classifications of pony race winners were Jim Steagall, Christine Swaggart, Larry Fetch and Alma Evans. Cowgirl race winners Saturday and Sunday were Barbara Steagall and Colleen Greenup. Cowboy race winners each day were Gus Matlock, and Al Fetch.

In the juvenile section Bob Steagall of Lexington won the silver bit made and presented by Walter Corley as the best all-around juvenile cowboy.

Officiating at the two day show were Fern Merritt, Toppensish, secretary and timer; Cecil Bedford and Vern Evans judges; Eldon McCoy and Herb Dunn pickup men; Bob Williams, Timer; George Prescott, announcer and Harold Erwin arena director.