

Bechdolts chosen royal couple for Morrow Fair & Rodeo

Morrow County has gone through a number of changes since Adrian Bechdolt was a farmboy on his family ranch near Hardman.

"I can remember seeing three or four teams hauling lumber or freight going down Toll Rock Road towards the John Day Country," he recollected recently.

His wife, Belva, is a descendent of the Hardman family, the namesake of the southern Morrow community, and a long-time grade school teacher in the county. The couple now lives in Pendleton.

The Bechdolts will be spending a considerable amount of time in Heppner during the coming weeks, since they have been chosen this year's Morrow County Fair and Rodeo King and Queen.

Duties for the honorary posts will include appearances at Family Fun Night, the annual parade, and serving as general goodwill ambassadors during other fair and rodeo activities.

During his years in Morrow County, Mr. Bechdolt farmed a family owned tract of land near Boardman (now buried beneath the Columbia backwaters) and the home ranch near Hardman. He left farming at different intervals to teach math, geometry and commercial subjects at Boardman, and to try his hand at accounting in Portland.

While a student at an Oregon State summer session, he met his future wife, then a California girl. A romance was kindled, but it was not until more than 15 years later that the two became married.



Mr. & Mrs. Adrian Bechdolt

"It was at the depth of the depression that we met," said Bechdolt. Belva remained in California, teaching in Sacramento elementary schools, while Bechdolt stayed in Oregon. "We stayed engaged most of the time during that period," he said, adding that "we really got to know each other by the time we got married."

After moving to Oregon, Mrs. Bechdolt taught a class of three children at a schoolhouse at Rood Canyon—quite a change from Sacramento—then two years at Boardman and 27 in Heppner.

Bechdolt was a member of a three-person graduating class at Hardman High School. He was class president.

Both Bechdolts have enjoyed attending past Morrow County fairs and rodeos, which have traditionally provided county residents with a site to relax from harvest worries and to catch up with visiting. Mrs. Bechdolt recalls having helped put up a number of school exhibits at previous fairs.

Mr. Bechdolt possesses a county fair ribbon his father won in 1912 for a wheat exhibit.

Straub to dedicate new fish hatchery

Dedication of a new \$3.2 million McKenzie River Fish Hatchery will take place Saturday, August 12, at 11 a.m. Oregon Governor Bob Straub and Colonel Harvey L. Arnold, Jr., district engineer with the Corps of Engineers, are scheduled speakers after a welcoming address by Fish and Wildlife Department Director Jack Donaldson.

The new facility was constructed on the site of the former McKenzie Hatchery and will rear 1.2 million spring chinook smolts or 160,000 pounds each year. Expected annual return is 4,000 adult salmon. The first release from the hatchery took place in the spring of 1977 when some 2.4 million young salmon were released. Adults from this release will return at four and five-year-olds in 1979 and 1980.

Dorris Graves

reappointed to

head SWCC

Governor Bob Straub recently announced the reappointment of Dorris Graves, Heppner, to a four-year term on the Soil and Water Conservation Commission, as well as the appointment of Henry Kaiser, Monmouth, to a four-year term.

Graves, 67, is a retired rancher in the Heppner area. She is presently head of the Morrow County Planning Commission. She helped plan a mini-college at Eastern Oregon State College in La Grande, and has worked with the Oregon Wheat League and Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

The \$3,200,000 construction costs were split with about half funded by the Corps of Engineers to mitigate for salmon habitat losses and passage problems caused by Cougar Dam. The other half was paid by the Fish and Wildlife Department. Crown Zellerbach Corporation and PGE also contributed \$165,000 as part payment for passage problems at Willamette Falls.

In one location or another the McKenzie River Hatchery has been operating since 1905. The first hatchery was built in 1902 on a small stream just east of Vida.

Harvest

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A strike by Columbia River grainboat deckhands last week, while only several days in duration, "cost us a week to ten days of barge time," according to Mills. Barge traffic was beginning to gear up to normal levels on Tuesday.

The strike forced Morrow County Grain Growers to dump a large quantity of wheat on the ground, since elevators were full to capacity.

POLICE BLOTTER

Burglars entered the Evergreen Terrace apartment of Heppner resident Delano Hodgeman by kicking in the front door Monday, making off with a shotgun, a rifle, two scabbards, and a jar containing coins, according to police reports.

Value of the items stolen was estimated at more than \$555.

On Tuesday, Heppner police received word that law enforcement authorities in Alameda County Calif., were

questioning a suspect believed to be in possession of one of the stolen guns. Further details were not immediately available.

City police arrested Walter A. Crook, 23, of Heppner, on a charge of negotiating bad checks.

Appearing in a hearing in Heppner Justice Court earlier

this week, Crook pleaded not guilty to the charge. He was lodged in jail in Hermiston in lieu of \$1,005 bond.

Auxiliary being formed to aid operations at Pioneer

Memorial Hospital

On the evening of Thursday, Aug. 3, an organizational meeting was held in the conference room of CBEC to explore the need for a Pioneer Memorial Hospital Auxiliary.

There were 17 interested individuals who met with Administrator Bob Byrnes and others to discuss the functions and activities of a Hospital Auxiliary, and the role that an Auxiliary and volunteers can play in the Hospital.

It was the conclusion of the group that a Hospital Auxiliary and volunteers can play an important role as integral parts of the community health care team, and that the organizing activity should go forward.

After spirited debate the Rev. John Maas and Carley Drake were elected Co-Chairmen of a steering committee to proceed with details of

organizing a by-laws committee, nominating committee for Auxiliary officers, and any other necessary matters.

BMCC holds

course for EMTs

A 10-hour Emergency Medical Technician review course will be held Aug. 15-17 from 7 to 10:30 p.m. at Blue Mountain Community College.

The course meets requirements for annual renewal for all Emergency Medical Technicians. Fees for the class will be \$10.

Pre-registration should be made no later than Aug. 8.

More information may be obtained by calling extension 205 at BMCC.

Humane Society plans Heppner thrift shop to raise money for animal shelter

The Morrow-Umatilla Humane Society is attempting to locate a thrift shop in Heppner, as part of a fund-raising effort to construct a county animal shelter.

Chapter members Edna Posey and Mary Wilson were in Heppner on Monday to check into renting store space for the thrift shop, which would be operated similar to an existing shop in Hermiston.

Mrs. Wilson noted that the town of Irrigon has donated land on which to build a county animal shelter. The nearest such facility is currently located in Hermiston.

At present, there are no animal shelters available to Morrow County residents for handling stray pets, hosting immunization clinics and neutering clinics, and other services such facilities provide.

Without such a shelter, "there is really no purpose for the laws and ordinances that have been passed to deal with stray pets," Mrs. Wilson noted.

The Humane Society is hoping to build the shelter with funds from both local donations and from the national organization. Preliminary plans call for hiring a consulting veterinarian to hold immunization and neu-

tering clinics at the facility, and handle emergency calls.

Some thought has been given to building a "mini-shelter" facility in or near Heppner, where animals could be held until they could be transported to Irrigon.

Persons seeking more information on the Humane Society's Morrow County project, or wishing to donate labor or money, are urged to call 567-2961 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Ione CF chairman named

Mrs. Howard Crowell has been named chairman of the 1978 Breath-of-Life Campaign for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in Ione, according to Pat Straub, Breath-of-Life Campaign Chairman.

Volunteers will be out in full force, soliciting donations and distributing information among friends, neighbors and

the business community on the nature of cystic fibrosis.

Volunteers are needed to make the local campaign a success, said Mrs. Crowell. For more information call 422-7171.

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<p>Kraft Velveeta Cheese Spread</p> <p>2-lb. \$2.39</p>	<p>Bananas</p> <p>6 lb. /\$1</p>	<p>Local Tomatoes</p> <p>29c lb.</p>
<p>Blue Bell Potato Chips</p> <p>Keep Fresh 2-Pak 69c</p>	<p>Western Shores Bathroom Tissue</p> <p>69c</p>	<p>Large Cantaloupe</p> <p>55c Each</p>

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