



The 1978 Morrow County Fair & Rodeo was a highlight of the year past and from it came one of our favorite photos of the year (at left). Reigning over festivities were Queen Donna Palmer and Princesses Laurie Childers and Kim Pettyjohn, all of Ione.

Health care dims as summer arrives

John Nordheim, a recent Washington State University graduate, joined the Morrow County Extension Office staff as an agent in the 4-H and range management programs.

Marshall Lovgren, Heppner city recorder, was named city administrator in early June. The move gave Lovgren the authority to act as the city's purchasing agent, business manager and budget director, as well as expanding his authority in personnel matters.

Phil Oaks, a Mount Hood Community College physical education major was hired to direct Heppner's summer swimming competition program.

The Morrow County Junior Rodeo Court dominated the winners' circle during the Junior Rodeo itself in early June. Sharing all-around honors were Queen Cindy Dougherty and Princess Jana Steagall.

Morrow County's health care outlook took a plunge in mid June, when Dr. Richard Carpenter and Dr. Joseph Diehl announced to the County Court that they were terminating their practices in Heppner, in August. The following week, voters took the scalpel to a \$190,000 operating budget request for Pioneer Memorial Hospital, defeating the levy by a 460-568 margin.

During the same election, the Morrow County Court clearly proved that one vote

can make all the difference in the world. Voters reached a 513-513 tie over a \$246,655 levy request to fund county government operations. The tie remained in effect after a recount, forcing the county to trim its request even more and return to the voters later.

Heppner High School's Rodeo Club capped an unbeaten season by capturing the state rodeo crown in a championship showdown in Redmond. Janice Healy earned Oregon's all-around cowgirl honors and qualified for national high school rodeo competition in Huron, S.D., along with teammates Ron and Tony Curran, Lawrence Rice, Cindy Dougherty and Jana Steagall.

Lexington wheat grower Steve Peck was named chairman of the Morrow County Republican Central Committee during the last week in June. Peck had served as Roger Martin's local campaign director during Martin's bid for the GOP governor's nomination.

With only one month left before doctors Diehl and Carpenter met their August pull-out deadline, a Morrow County Doctor Search Committee was formed to attract new physicians to the area. Kent Goodyear was named president of the committee.

Ione aerialist Rick Peterson took advantage of the hot July weather to practice for the National Hang Gliding Cham-

ampionship. Peterson qualified for the national finals by placing high in regional competition. He was the only hang-glider from Oregon to qualify for the nationals, where he ended up finishing 13th.

The hot air currents which carried Peterson over the McNab area countryside also produced a number of severe thunder storms in July. A flash flood caused thousands of dollars worth of damage to the Harold Holtz ranch at Eightmile. The gullywasher wiped out Holtz's corral, damaged his shop and barn, and rolled one of his combines 50 feet downstream.

The following week, Rhea Creek and its normally dry side canyon tributaries spilled out of their banks from

Hardman to near Ione, damaging hay fields, blocking roads and drowning sheep.

Pioneer Memorial Hospital's co-administrator Ilene Laughlin retired in mid-July, the same time that Bob Harris moved to Heppner from Toledo, Ore., to open his Far Western Real Estate office.

Sen. Mark Hatfield made an appearance in Heppner in July, when he toured the new \$15 million sawmill and plywood operation at Kinzua Corporation.

During the same week, Balm Fork rancher Ralph Beamer was named Grand Marshall of the Morrow County Rodeo Parade, and members of Heppner High School's class of 1968 held a 10-year reunion.

Much of the news during

July was bad. Carty coal plant construction worker Loyal A. Vick was killed in an industrial accident, and Grant Weatherford was electrocuted while making repairs near Columbia Basin's main office in Heppner.

Late in the month, nearly everyone in Heppner was without water at one point or another, following a break in a 12-inch main line. It took more than two days for water pressure to return to some homes.

State police officer Tom Dixon and Sheriff Larry Fetsch began making a series of arrests in late July, as the marijuana growing season entered its peak.

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New Year's Eve DANCE
9 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Early Morning
Breakfast
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Dance to the rhythmic
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SUNDAY SPECIALS
PRIME RIB DINNER \$6.50
VIRGINIA STYLE BAKED HAM \$4.75

Beecher and his staff wish
you all a Happy New Year

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New Cheer For The New Year!

And what a great year it promises to be! We hope 1979 is packed with prospects for good fortune and joy. And, that's how we can help. Let us start your new year with FREE Gifts for Savings. Just open up a new account, or add to an existing account with the amount indicated, and our new year cheer is yours. Limited quantities. One Gift per customer please.



A. Tote Bag. A variety of colors available in this tough, weather resistant vinyl carry-all. A perfect way to carry important items all year round. Yours for a \$750 deposit.



B. Listen to this idea. AM Pocket Portable Radio, manufactured by Channel Master, is tiny enough to be carried in your pocket or purse. Yours for a \$300 deposit.



D. Automatic Plug In Timer. This handy item allows you to automatically turn on lights, coffee maker, air conditioner, electric blanket and more. Also helpful in protecting your home from burglars with its automatic feature to turn on lamps or your radio. Yours for a \$300 deposit.



C. A beautiful wool fringed blanket. The magnificent Faribo Blanket, 100% pure virgin wool. A bright, traditional expression of quality. Measuring 50 x 60 inches, this lovely blanket can be yours for a \$10,000 deposit.

OUR NEW HEPPNER OFFICE IS OPEN!

It's beautiful and we'd love to have you see it. Located at 274 Main Street, our new building is completed and our hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Open 5 days a week. Please stop in and see us, we have prizes and surprises to make you welcome.

Heppner Branch

Other Offices: Hermiston,
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