

# 'Courthouse Cat' brushing up to visitors

Visitors to the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner should be warned not to be surprised if they are standing in the courthouse and they feel something brush up against their legs.

It is probably only "Madison—the courthouse cat."

Not too many courthouses can boast of having their own

"watchcat" but Morrow County can.

The cat actually belongs to Judy Barber, who lives next to the courthouse. But since Judy and her husband Donald are at work during the day, Madison almost daily goes over to the courthouse to have some company.

The employees at the courthouse have taken a liking to

Madison and they have adopted her, at least during the day.

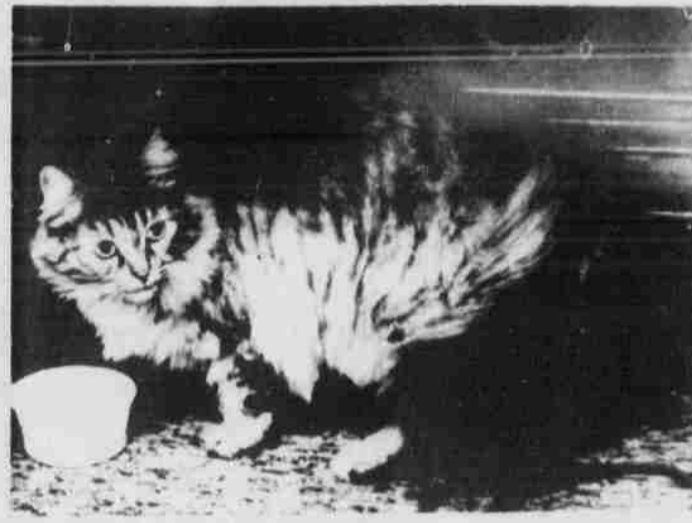
Judy Barber named the cat Madison because she found the cat while she was working as a lookout on Madison Butte about three years ago. Madison kept her company while Barber was watching out for fires.

"There is so much food over there and they spoil her so bad that we can't keep her home," Barber said. "She likes it there because they baby her and there are a lot of people around."

Barber said she does not worry about Madison when she is at the courthouse. Madison did run away a few years ago for about six months but she did return and she was pregnant, Barber said. The only other time she has turned up missing was about a month ago.

"She was gone for about a week when officer (Donald) McGee found her in Boardman," Barber said. "Someone had to have taken her. Maybe someone in the courthouse got tired of her."

Barber said even though Madison likes to be around



Madison visits the planning office where food is kept for her.

people, she does not like to be petted.

Madison can often be found in the Planning office and the Sheriff's office. According to County Planning Director Deane Seager, Madison has been coming to the courthouse regularly for about a year.

"She loves the juror's box but the circuit court judges do not like her in there when the court is going on," Seager said. "When she was being potty trained, she used to have to wear diapers. Madison was mad after she was swiped a few weeks ago so she did a bad thing in the tax collector's office so I don't think they like her too much in there."

## Court says 'no' to road petitions

In Morrow County Court last week in Irrigon, Commissioners Dorothy Krebs and Warren G. McCoy and newly appointed Judge Don McElligott denied a petition for a way of necessity and denied a petition for a road closure.

Jacob A. and Harriett Mardis, Dwayne E. and Jessie C. Christman, Beverly Norton, Henry and June Wolff, Robert and Pauline Shaw, Robert and Sally Diehl, Vernon L. and Fay Rank, John Winget and Clarence Gandy petitioned for a way of necessity and it was denied because a circuit court had ruled that the persons were in an illegal subdivision. A way of necessity cannot be granted to an illegal subdivision according to Oregon Senate Bill 769.

The court also denied the petition to close county road number 307 called Toll Rock Road. The court toured the road, the roadmaster investigated the matter and a public hearing was held. The court found that the road has no evidence of off-road damage caused by its use, it has no evidence of knapweed infestation and no evidence that users of the road were presented to any undue danger because of its condition.

On the contrary, the court found the road to be a convenient link between two public roads and that it continues to benefit the community by remaining open.



Madison grabs a quick "catnap" at the Sheriff's office next to the typewriter.

## Police Report

The following cases were handled by the Morrow County Sheriff's office for the week ending Oct. 30.

Marvin R. Padberg, Rhea Creek near Ione, reported a Winchester shotgun missing from an unlocked garage. The gun is valued at \$300.

Jerald Vogel, Box 45A Box 18 Room No. 31-A at the PGE man Camp in Boardman, reported \$150 missing from his dresser. He said the thief apparently picked the lock to his apartment.

Edmundo Castro, P.O. Box 318 Tangent Drive in Brownsville, was arrested in Morrow County on a warrant for burglary from Dawson County in Montana.

## Ione Lions reports poor turnout for creek work

The Ione Lions Club had a poor turnout in its efforts to clean out Willow Creek in Ione, according to Bill Johnson, cleanup committee chairman, and many of the people who did help out are not the ones who are going to benefit from the work.

Johnson said that of the 16 people that worked on the creek last weekend, probably half of them do not live in downtown Ione and therefore their homes would not be directly affected if there is a flood. The group cleaned brush out of the creek so water will flow past Ione and there

will be less chance of a flood in the town. Johnson said not too many of the townspeople were there.

Johnson said he would like to thank all the workers who spent about six hours in volunteer work.

Participants in the clearing efforts were Jim Wishart and John Edmundson from Heppner. From the Ione area came Joe McElligott, Rollo Crawford, Tim Arends, Ron Palmateer, Bill Johnson, Wayne Hams, Elmer Holtz, Chuck Starr, Gordon Meyers, E.J. Akers, Virgil Morgan, Frank Halvorson and Bill Rietmann.

## OBITUARY

### Norah Agnes Hogue

Norah Agnes Hogue, 91, Heppner, died in Pioneer Memorial Hospital Monday, Oct. 29.

She was born Jan. 31, 1888 in Springtown, Ark., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Brannon, and had been a resident of the area since she was sixteen years of age.

Mrs. Hogue was a member of the First Christian Church of Heppner. Funeral services will be conducted today, (Thursday), Nov. 1, at 1 p.m. at the Sweeney Mortuary Chapel, with the Rev. Edwin Sikes officiating.

Sacred selections will be played by Betty Marquardt. Concluding services and interment will be at the Hardman Cemetery.

Casket bearers are Arthur Stefani, Jerry Stefani, Dennis Stefani, Bobby Grabill, Jeff Turner and Roland Bergstrom.

Mrs. Hogue is survived by a daughter, Cecil Stefani of

Ione; a son, Earl Hogue of Heppner; two grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Her husband, Tilman Hogue, preceded her in death in 1964, as did a daughter, Reba Grabill in 1957.

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A public hearing will be held at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 6, 1979 before the Lexington City Council at the regularly scheduled Council meeting.

Subject of the hearing is an application by Joyce West to annex 2.65 acres, Tax Lot 4501, located in T2 S, R 25 EWM, Sec. 34 to the City of Lexington.

The public hearing will consider both the question of annexation and amendment of the Lexington Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

City of Lexington

by Lois M. Allyn, Recorder

Publish Oct. 25, Nov. 1, 1979.

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

A public hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 12, 1979 before the Morrow County Planning Commission, in the North Morrow County Annex in Irrigon, Oregon.

Subject of the hearing is an application by Joyce West to annex 2.65 acres, Tax Lot 4501, located in T2 S, R25 EWM, Sec. 34, to the City of Lexington.

The public hearing will consider both the question of annexation and amendment of the County and Lexington Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Dorris Graves, Chairman

Morrow County Planning Comm.

Publish Nov. 1, 8, 1979

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## Justice Court

The following violations are from the office of Charlotte Gray, justice of the peace, for the week ending Oct. 26.

Donald Glenn Thompson, Rt. 2 Box 681 in Estacada—game violation—\$19 fine.

Timothy Edward Lentz, 206 S.E. 74th in Portland—illegal possession of a game animal—\$210 fine.

Robert Scott Harris, 7965 19th St. in Bay City—hunting violation—\$55 fine.

Michael James Harris, 9015 Bewley Creek Road in Tillamook—hunting violation—\$55 fine.

Paul Robert Britt, Rt. 1 Box 240 Space No. 17 in Umatilla—axle overload—\$44 fine.

Laura May Medine, Rt. 1 Box 3696 in Heppner—failure to transfer title—\$24 fine.

Bernard Alexander Genot, 4719 N.E. 33rd in Portland—game violation—\$24 fine.

Julie Anne Smith, 2401 Haig St. in Eugene—speeding—\$29 fine.

James Elbert Fraser, P.O. Box 628 in Pilot Rock—hunting during closed season—\$55 fine.

Bruce A. Worth, 503 Karen Place in White Bear Lake, Minn.—speeding—\$24 fine.

Donald Alvin Stevens, P.O. Box 13123 in Portland—hunting violation—\$19 fine.

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