

Morrow County Fair & Rodeo starts Aug. 13

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Weather

by the City of Heppner

	High	Low	Precip
Tues., July 31	95	59	Trace
Wed., Aug 1	90	51	Trace
Thurs., Aug. 2	86	52	
Fri., Aug. 3	85	52	
Sat., Aug. 4	86	55	.07
Sun., Aug. 5	82	49	
Mon., Aug. 6	81	48	

Total precipitation for July was a trace, normal is 31 inches

County donates lot for Sr. Services Center



View of tax lot no. 2603 from the road near Heppner elementary school

Representatives of the Morrow County Court announced to senior citizens at the Heppner meal site at the Morrow County Fairgrounds annex that the county would donate

tax lot no. 2603 located adjacent to the Heppner elementary school grounds. According to Bob Harris, president of the Senior Service Center of Heppner a non-profit corporation.

The senior group had petitioned the county for a lot on which to build a senior services center. The county considered the matter and after deciding that they had no use for the

lot in the foreseeable future, the Court decided to donate the land and \$41,000 which has been placed in a trust fund account at the Bank of Eastern Oregon. Harris says that donations for the future center can be made at the bank or through committee members Paul Jones, Bill Cox, Clayton Ayers, Norma French, Suzanne Jepsen or himself.

The building is still in the planning stages, says Harris, but after an architect and engineer are contacted the corporation will go to the City Planning to get approval for the building. Thus far, the committee is considering a building similar to one built at Umatilla with a main meeting hall approximately 60'x40' which would be the dining area used for the senior meals. Harris says that the group wants a building which will be used for other occasions such as weddings, lectures, and meetings and associated services. Not a building which will sit vacant most of the time.

Harris says that the lot is an ideal quiet location out of the flood plain which can be easily accessible with the extension of Quaid street.

At this point, Harris says the committee wants to let everybody know that they exist and are looking for input and volunteer help.

Council aspirants file by Aug. 30

August 30 is the filing deadline for the lone city council positions which will come up for election on November 6. Three four-year council positions will be on the ballot. The positions are currently held by Laurel Cannon, Cleo Childers, and Dorothy Stephani who have not yet decided if they will file for re-election.

Incumbent mayor, Linda LaRue, however, has announced that she will not seek re-election to the two-year mayor's position.

Nominating petitions for all four positions are available by contacting Diana Starr, lone City Recorder.

TV news program to feature Dam

Northwest Illustrated, the channel six news magazine program out of Portland, will air a piece about the Willow Creek Dam on television Sunday, August 19, according to the producer Doug Crombie.

A news team has been in Heppner the past 3 days interviewing residents and shooting footage of the dam, Crombie said.

"We're doing a follow up story because we did a story on the dam once before and we want to know what the people are saying and feeling," he said.

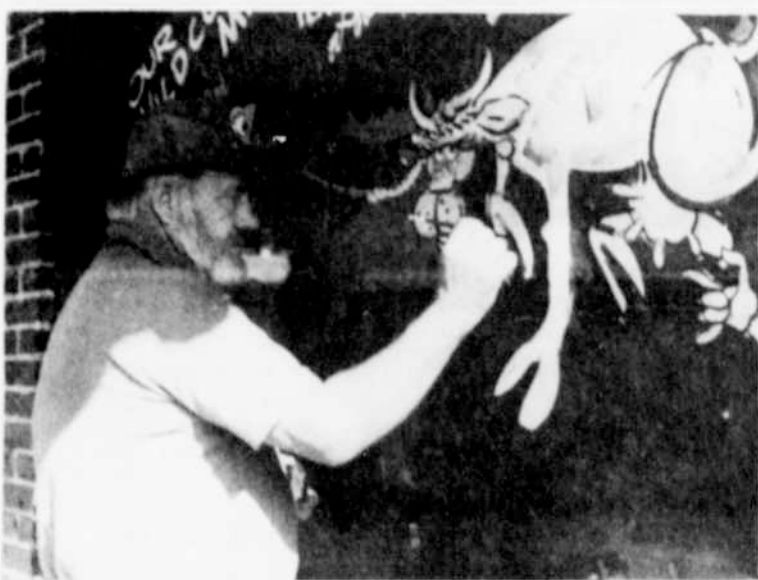
Crombie said the piece would last about 10 minutes.

'Sprucing up' for Fair & Rodeo



Heppner City crew washes down the streets in preparation for Fair & Rodeo week.

He paints the town



Big Tom puts finishing touches on cow milking cartoon

Tom Simonton—his business card reads, Big Tom Simonton, Window Painting my Specialty, Magic Tom, Show Cards, Santa Claus, Banners, Cartoon the Clown, Silk Screening—has been coming to Heppner to paint rodeo cartoons on windows of the local businesses for the past ten years. For longer than that, he has been painting windows promoting the Pendleton Round-Up. He also does the windows for the National College Finals Rodeo in Bozeman Montana, the High School Finals Rodeo at Redmond, and the Caledonian Days at Athena.

Simonton began working as a carrier for the post office in Pendleton in 1946 and moonlighting at a local drustore. He relates that one evening the manager asked him to paint a rodeo cartoon on the window to help promote the Pendleton Round-Up and that this was the first time the Pendleton Round-Up had rodeo cartoons. He says that he learned cartooning in school, "it was what I did in school instead of study. The teachers told me that I wouldn't amount to anything..."

"Everywhere I go, I've been invited to come. Heppner is just the right size of town. I can park my car and walk to almost everywhere I go," he says.

He has also painted windows in Heppner for two years now for the March 17 St. Patrick's Day celebration. He says that his rodeo cartoons are different from those of other rodeo cartoonists because he tries to tie them in, not only with the event he is promoting, but also with the business on whose windows they appear.

Heppner is one of my favorite places to go to, he says because he feels that he knows most of the people. "I'm at somewhat of a disadvantage, though, because they all call me by name. I feel like the 'Pied Piper.' Kids follow me here more than in the other towns. Scott (Scott Johnston) here has been with me since I started coming."

Rodeo cartooning was an avocation until seven years ago when he discovered that he had Multiple Sclerosis and was retired from service to the post office. He was a rural postal carrier for 15 of the 32 years he worked at the post office.

"It was a fun occupation," he says and says he has many stories to tell about his experiences including the one about the winter during a snow storm when his car became stuck in a deep powder snow. He walked three-fourths of a mile to the nearest farm, and found that the farmer was not home, so he started up his wheel tractor to pull his car out of the snow and managed to get the tractor stuck too. In the meantime, the farmer returned home and pulled both the tractor and the car out of the ditch.

Simonton and his wife Vera have two sons, Rick and Ross, and a daughter, Gerry Lynn, and three grandchildren, Jon, 7, Jim, 16, and Tracy, 18. They also had numerous foreign exchange students living with them through both the Rotary and American Field Service Exchange programs.

He and his wife have recently returned from a two and one-half month trip to Brazil where they visited two of their former exchange students, Gilson and Cassio. "It's a beautiful experience, he says to have had young people come to visit and to have gone to visit and to have been part of their families. When you go to their country, you see what they want you to see through their eyes."

They have also hosted students from Spain, Germany, and Finland, France and Greece, and have gone to visit some of their homes.

Their trip to Brazil was a wonderful experience he says. He visited Brasilia, swam in the Amazon, visited the warm palm tree spotted beaches of the northern coast and bought some magic tricks from a shop. The shop's proprietor demonstrated the tricks to him, but the instructions were all printed in Portuguese.

Chairman Daly extends invitation to the Fair



Charley Daly

The annual Morrow County Fair & Rodeo kicks off seven big days of entertainment and activities next

week, beginning with the 4-H horse-show Sunday and concluding with the final event in the open rodeo the following Sunday.

In between fairgoers will find much to do at the fairgrounds in Heppner, including a family fun night, Boardman-Irrigon day, exhibits, a livestock sale, and of course three big days of rodeo next Fri., Sat., and Sun. (see schedule of events, and special insert in this week's paper for complete information on dates and times.)

Fairboard Chairman Charley Daly invites everyone out to enjoy the fair, and says the board and many volunteers have been working hard to put on a good fair this year.

"We've been trying to keep the fairgrounds up to date, and we think we've been doing a pretty good job,"

Daly told the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday.

He said a new sewer line at the grounds will be operational in time for fair, thus eliminating problems which occurred during last year's event.

"The fairgrounds is owned by the county and run by the fairboard, and anyone can use the grounds during the year," he added.

Daly said there is a small charge for groups wanting to use the grounds for activities during the year, but said "Just get a hold of us and we'll see if we can get you on the calendar."

"The fair is good for the community, and we thank you for all your support," he said.

Look for special Fair section inside

Included in this week's paper is a special insert containing information, schedules and articles about this year's Morrow County Fair & Rodeo in Heppner.

The Fair & Rodeo runs August 13 through 19. Pull out the special section and take it with you so you won't miss any of this year's activities.

Rep. candidates to meet public at Co. Fair, Heppner Elks Lodge



Bob Smith

Fair goers can come meet some of the local candidates and enjoy wine



Ray French

tasting sponsored by a local winery, next Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 13, & 14.

Representatives Bob Smith will attend the Morrow County Fair on Monday, August 13.

The public will have a chance to meet District 30 Senator Gene Timms and District 59 candidate Ray French on Tuesday, August 14 at the Heppner Elks Lodge beginning at 3:30 p.m. Stafford Hansell, LCDC board chairman will be on hand to represent the Dave Frohn-mayer, attorney general campaign.

La Casa de Vin, a Boardman winery will provide a wine tasting at the gathering.

Timms and French will also attend the Family Fun Night activities later that evening at the fairgrounds.

The Morrow County Republican Central Committee is sponsoring the informal event. Ken Turner, chairman, welcomes everyone to attend.