

The Heppner Gazette-Times

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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8 PAGES



Weather

by the City of Heppner

	High	Low	Prep.
Tue., July 9	99	57	
Wed., July 10	91	55	
Thurs., July 11	90	56	
Fri., July 12	90	51	
Sat., July 13	85	50	
Sun., July 14	92	55	
Mon., July 15	92	55	

Youthful workers contribute much to county's grain harvest



Christopher Rea unloads bank-out wagon

Much work remains before rural fire district becomes a reality

Ione Fire Chief Harvey Childers and Assistant Chief Ashley McCabe have spent their spare time during the past several months trying to get a rural fire district on the fall ballot.

As they began working to form a district with Ione at the center, McCabe says that they discovered that a rural fire district had been formed in 1952 which both Morrow County and the state of Oregon say is still valid. Thus far, with a list of property owners in the district, they have been trying to get a letter out stating their intentions to form a district, ask for support, and recruit more people.

In order to get a measure on the ballot, McCabe explains, it will be necessary to form a board of directors and a budget committee to determine the amount of money needed to get the district started and to keep it operating.

For a rural district, it will be necessary to purchase another fire truck. The town currently has only one truck and it is not permitted to leave city limits. More turn out gear—boots, coats, and pants, will also be needed for the additional volunteer firefighters needed.

Currently, says McCabe, four firefighters in addition to himself and the Chief attend the regular training sessions the first and third Wednesdays of each month. "Others show up when the fire whistle blows, but they need to train regularly with the crew to be effective during an actual

fire. Three of the volunteers work outside of Ione, so more help is needed for the city fire district, especially if a fire should occur during the day, or on weekends.

Both McCabe and Childers have current EMT certification and are able to handle other emergency situations as well as fires.

McCabe says that they believe a rural district would help the community because currently the only fire protection is provided by farm equipment and water which farmers keep on their trucks.

McCabe says that so far informal inquiries indicate that people in the area support the idea although some say they want to reserve judgment until they see how it will effect their property taxes.

Indications are also that they will need a pumper truck for buildings and a tanker truck for brush fires. McCabe points out that by the time a pumper truck could arrive at a fire ten miles or so from town, they might not be able to save the surrounding buildings.

We have been trying to recruit more firefighters says McCabe because they are the also necessary for the new district. We are fortunate to have an excellent training association in this area and anyone who would like to volunteer is urged to attend one of the regular training meetings or contact any of the volunteers, Childers, McCabe, Tom Gates, Dennis Thompson, Jim Boor and John Ekstrom.

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Richard Allen, 35, Spray, was officially hired as the new principal at Ione Schools at the Monday, July 15 school board meeting. Allen, the board's first choice from among 37 applicants, will be "on the job" in Ione on Monday, July 22.

Allen and his wife Janie have two children, Steve, seven, and Elizabeth, four. He has been the principal at Spray schools since 1979. Prior to that he taught grades six through eight, English, reading, math, and P.E. at Fossil. He also did some coaching during his five years there. From 1972 to 1974, he taught grades five and six in the Salem school district.

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Spray principal hired at Ione

Having done some undergraduate work at Eastern Oregon State College, Allen received his Bachelor of Science degree in education at Oregon College of Education in Monmouth in 1972. His Masters degree in education was awarded by Portland State University in 1982. Since that time, he has continued his education by doing some course work at the University of Oregon though not officially enrolled in a doctoral program.

Allen replaces Chuck Starr who, after serving nine years as principal of Ione Schools, has recently been hired as Assistant Superintendent of Morrow County Schools.

Stevens, 48, has been on the board since 1982, is a personnel manager for Lam Weston in Hermiston, is married and has four children. The board also elected Randy Hughes as vice chairman. In other action, the board learned that recently appointed assistant superintendent, Chuck Starr, does not have enough classroom credits to qualify for a superintendent's certificate. Starr will apply for a "restricted" certificate until he is able to finish up the necessary classes, McCaslin said. Starr was hire last month to replace John Edmundson, who resigned as assistant superintendent.

received resignations from teachers Stan Scott, elementary PE teacher at A.C. Houghton and Sam Boardman, Curt Weiss, speech and language therapist in North Morrow County and Theresa Rudd, language art teacher at Riverside High. appointed Sue Proudfoot to the district budget committee, replacing Gay Harshman.

learned that because of low water in the irrigation ditches at Irrigon, the school found it necessary to switch to more expensive city water. It expects to switch back to irrigation sometime this week. hired the following teachers: Cara Costa for one half year grade four at Heppner; Linda Dutcher, from Spray, for language arts at Heppner High; Barbara Hayes, Heppner, as librarian Heppner High; Robert Isted, Medford, for elementary band and chorus. Joy Krein, Heppner, for grade two at Heppner; Cheryl McNutt, for special education at Sam Boardman Elementary school; and Lee Block for math and computer science at Heppner High.

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harvest. His wheat isn't ready, so one of his combines is also cutting in the field.

Keith estimates they should be done with the harvest at the first of next week "with the help of my neighbor."

Meanwhile down the road, working in a Morrow County Grain Growers elevator in Lexington, is Bill Kenny, a local man who is in his third year running elevators during harvest.

One of the many seasonal workers hired during harvest by the co-op Kenny says it's hard work, but a good way to make money for college.

The son of Bill and Marge Kenny, he is a graduate of Oregon State University, and is presently a teacher at Albany high school.

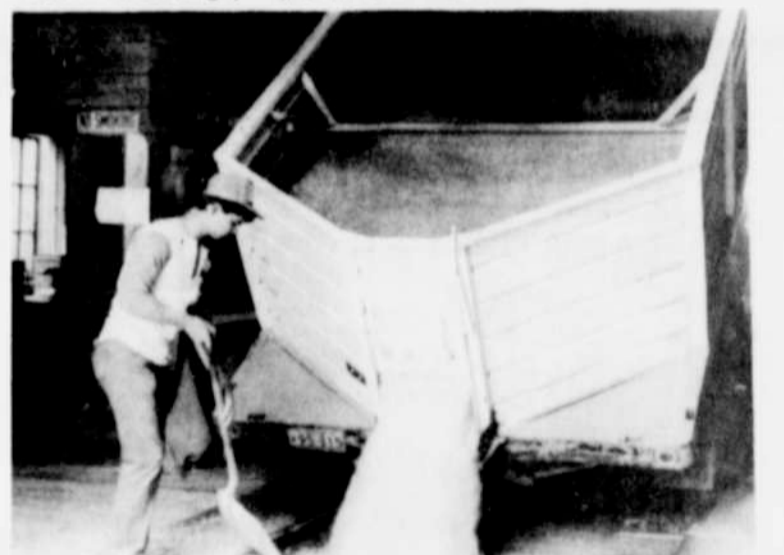
"It really helps out on expenses a lot," he says of working in the harvest. "You make quite a bit of money because of the overtime." You really don't have much time for anything else, though," says Bill, who works 14 hours a day, six and seven days per week.

So far he's worked at the McNab, Ruggs and now the Lexington elevators, where his duties include weighing and unloading the trucks, keeping the records, and testing and sampling the grain. "A lot of shoveling too," he adds.

Bill, who got out of school in Albany on a Friday, and was at the elevator to start work the next Monday, says he may use some of the money he earns this summer to go back to college and get his masters degree.



Marvin Padberg (left) and Keith Rea direct the harvest crew



Bill Kenny shovels wheat at M.C.G.G. elevator in Lexington



Sue Robinson watches Bill Kenny record her load of barley

New administrator arrives



Deirdre and John Hempel

John Hempel, 30, Idaho, and his wife Deirdre, have moved to Heppner where he assumed the duties of administrator of Pioneer Memorial Hospital Monday, July 15. He was a Navy hospital corpsman on duty with the Marine Corps and ran a hospital in Oklahoma prior to coming to Heppner. Both he and his wife have degrees from Idaho State University.

Hempel told the Chamber of Commerce Monday that he likes the northwest and that is "one reason we came here." He says that he had been "favorably impressed with Heppner and when it (the adminis-

trator's position) came open, we jumped at it... We came from a small town and like small towns," he emphasized.

He says that it is much easier to work in a community which has the years, as Heppner has. It's his wish, he says, to cut the amount of dependency on the tax base and for the long term, to make the hospital as free of tax support as possible.

Hempel describes Pioneer as a "good hospital with a good staff," and is confident that together they can provide quality health care to the community.



Joe Stevens

Expected wheat crop down 20% from 1984

Oregon farmers are expecting to harvest 52.8 million bushels of winter wheat in 1985, 20 percent less than 1984, according to the Oregon Crop and Livestock Reporting Service. If realized, this will be the smallest winter wheat crop since 1979. Planted acreage was off nine percent 1.03 million acres, of which 960 thousand acres are intended for harvest as grain, nine percent fewer than a year earlier, eight bushels less than last year's record yield because of drought conditions statewide.

Oregon's spring wheat acreage is up in 1985. Ninety thousand acres were planted, 29 percent more than a year ago, while 31 percent more, or 85 thousand acres, are intended for harvest as grain.

Despite drought reduced yields, Oregon's 1985 barley crop should be 10 percent more than the 1984 crop with a total of 19.1 million bushels. Seventeen percent more (340,000) acres were planted, and 18 percent more (330,000) are intended for harvest, for the largest acreage since the early 70s. Yields are expected to average 58 bushels per acre, down from 62 bushels in 1984.