

The Official Newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow




The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES
Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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5-day tribute to Viet-Nam Vets slated Oct. 23-27 at John Day

Grant County is the only host location in Oregon for the impressive touring replica of the Viet-Nam Veterans Memorial, the star attraction of "Oregon's Salute to Viet-Nam Veterans." It was announced recently by Marshall Goldsmith, Director of the Strawberry Mountain Center for Human Development in John Day. The Salute will be a five-day tribute to honor Viet-Nam Veterans and their family and friends, scheduled for October 23-27.

The memorial photo-mural replica is an exact, half-size copy of the actual memorial wall located in Washington, D.C. The replica, with its two 125-foot sections set in a V-shape, was built in 1983 by the Viet-Nam Veterans Project of San Francisco. All 50 states compete for the privilege of displaying the touring replica. It will be displayed in

the beef barn on the Grant County Fairgrounds on October 23rd at 6 a.m. and a 24 hour vigil begins October 25 for viewing and reading of the Veteran's names.

The memorial tribute is being jointly sponsored by the Strawberry Mountain Center for Human Development, Ellis Tracy Post of the American Legion, and the Viet-Nam Veterans of Oregon Memorial Fund (VVOMF).

The Salute, expected to draw people from throughout the Northwest, will open with a ceremony at noon, October 23. A parade is scheduled including a drum and bugle corps. A flyover by Huey or Chinook helicopters and F4 phantom jets is being negotiated for the parade. A banquet is scheduled for 5 p.m. on October 26, followed by a reunion for veterans of the Viet-Nam era.

Chosen applicants will read the names of the 58,000 veterans listed on the wall, during 57 designated hours throughout the duration of the Salute.

Military units from the Northwest, including the National Guard, will camp in the area. Members of the John Day community have cooperated in this effort by planning to provide daily homemade soup meals, open their homes to visitors, and donate campers and trailers for use during the week of the Salute. Recreational vehicles will be accommodated at the Fairgrounds for overnight camping.

Dan Kroy, Viet-Nam Veterans counselor at the Strawberry Mountain Center for Human Development, feels that the chance to have the touring memorial wall here will offer the same rewards he witnessed when the original memorial was unveiled in Washington, D.C. in 1982.

"The feeling there was of unity, healing, mourning and putting to rest some of the feelings that have been haunting us since we lost our friends and loved ones in Viet-Nam," Kroy said. Having the

memorial here in Oregon, Kroy said, can be even better than traveling to Washington to witness it because it provides a more intimate chance to see the names of those you knew, so they can be recognized for the sacrifice he or she made in Viet-Nam.

Any donations received during the memorial's visit in John Day will go to the VVOMF toward the establishment of the living memorial to Viet-Nam veterans which is to be dedicated in Portland on Veterans Day this year.

For further information contact Dan Kroy at the Strawberry Mountain Center for Human Development (503) 575-1466. For housing information contact the housing committee at 575-1462. For hotel accommodations contact the Chamber of Commerce at 575-0547.

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Hospital Notes

Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner reports admitting and discharging the following patients during the past week:

Florence Green, Heppner-admitted September 13, discharged September 16.

Lorene Montgomery, Heppner-admitted September 18, discharged September 21.

Robin Engleman, Ione-admitted-September 18, discharged September 23.

Kyle Moore, Long Creek-admitted September 19, discharged September 20.

Ola Mae Groshens, Heppner-admitted September 19, discharged September 23; and

Larry Bowton, Kennewick, Washington-admitted September 22, discharged September 22.

Patients who were still receiving care at the hospital Tuesday morning included:

L. E. Dick, Heppner-admitted September 20;

Ambrose Chapin, Heppner-admitted September 22; and

Robert Skaggs, Heppner-admitted September 23.

Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice Court at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner reports handling the following business during the past week:

Michael Edgar Palmer, Lexington - No Operator License, \$30 fine.

William Paul Zinter, Ione - Parking in Roadway, \$15 fine.

Arlethia Phyllis Brannon, Heppner - Exceeding the Maximum Speed (66 mph in a 55 mph zone), \$30 fine.

John Andrew Samskar, Pasco, Wa. - No PUC Permit, \$30 fine.

William Bradford Burroughs III, Bend - Suspended Operator's License, \$150 bail forfeited and seven days in jail with credit for five days already served.

Letters to the Editor

Heart in the right place, but . . .

To the Editor:

My hat goes off to Willie Nelson and all the performers that put on the Farm Aid program Sunday, Sept. 22.

I listened to most of it and was touched by the program, and anyone who wasn't has something wrong with him or her. My personal feeling is that Willie's heart was in the right place but to get the attention of the American people is to take away the food from their tables and the clothes off their backs. The American farmer drove their tractors on the White House lawn and that didn't work, they have held demonstrations and rallies that didn't work, they have blocked farm auctions and that too didn't work. I know this sounds harsh, but make him or her feel the pain like us, the American farmer has.

Willie raised a lot of money for the financially stricken farmer, I am against this and this is why, you can't pour good money after bad. All you have done is prolonged the agony. Take that money and create a market, one that he can get a fair price for his produce, one that he can make a fair profit on. Take the money, put it into a program where he can better manage his investment. You can't help the farmer when you haven't solved the problems.

Now I relate mainly to the wheat industry because that is what I raise and am familiar with, but I feel this way about the whole agricultural system. I would like to see Willie

take all that money and ship all the politicians, all the past and present wheat commission people, all past and present wheat association members and anyone else that associates himself with these people and ship them to Russia. They are the ones that have sold the American farmer down the road, sold the farm out from under him. All the trips abroad to, "so to speak," "promote wheat," all they are, are glorified vacations. Sure they built a big bakery in China with who's money? Sure we sold them wheat to operate the bakery for a short while, but ask them now who is selling China the wheat to keep that bakery going? Nice going guys.

I have no idea how Willie plans to use the money to help the farmer but my guess is 15 percent will go to put on the program, Farm Aid, 30 percent will go to administration and distribution, 40 percent will go to the big and corporate farmers which do not need it and 15 percent will go to the financially stricken farmer.

When America sees a picture of a farm all he or she sees is a big fancy farm with all new machinery, with all new vehicles, a big fancy house and buildings, with the owner going south to Phoenix and Palm Springs for the winter. These are not financially stricken farmers.

This might sound like I am bitter, well I am, and I have every right to feel this way.

(s) Alvin A. McCabe
Ione, Oregon

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