

The Heppner Gazette-Times

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8 Pages



Weather

by the City of Heppner

	July 8 - 14		Precip
	High	Low	
Tues.	84	53	.0
Wed.	78	52	.00
Thurs.	71	49	.14
Fri.	78	51	.00
Sat.	78	46	.00
Sun.	81	44	.00
Mon.	77	37	.0

Court postpones contract approval

Morrow County Court last Wednesday postponed signing contracts between Drs. Thiessen and Koznek and Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Negotiated between the hospital board and the doctors, the proposed contracts guarantee the doctors net salaries of \$60,000 and \$70,000 per year respectively over the next two years. Because the hospital receives taxes levied by the County Court to supplement its revenues, the Court must approve the hospital budget including major expenditures.

The court needs time to review the contracts, have its attorney read them, and would like to have the hospital board explain the contracts before approving them, Commissioner Jerry Peck said. The Court meets again today.

The Court also heard an update of the Courthouse renovation from Architect Bob Smith. Weatherstripping has arrived, and installation of windows he expected installation to begin July 14 and be completed in approximately two weeks.

Fugitive arrests have increased, but total arrests have decreased from last year, Sheriff Roy Drago told the Court in his six month report. The Sheriff's Office handled 285 cases in the first six months of 1986 compared with 505 cases for the entire year of 1985, he said.

The sheriff's office has begun recording miscellaneous services such as animal problems, occupant checks, messages delivered, disturbances, etc. as well as assists to other agencies, he said, which gives a more complete account of how the department uses of its time.

Last year the department drove an average of 620 miles each day with a 14.6 miles per gallon average fuel consumption. Based on the first 181 days this year, the department has driven 650 miles per day with an average 15.6 miles per gallon.

Sheriff Drago also told the Court that he had appeared at the Heppner City Council and, at their request, presented a tentative cost estimate, \$63,028 per year, to provide two deputies and one vehicle to the city

for 24-hour protection from the sheriff's department. "We're not trying to undercut the Heppner Police Dept.," he said. The city is looking for ways to cut costs, and contracting service from the sheriff's office is one possibility.

The Court agreed to a request from Charley Daly of the Morrow County Fair Board for Road Dept. assistance on the bridge at the fairgrounds.

In additional business, the Court received a monthly report from Morrow County Justice Court for May 1986. The Court handled 471 cases, 83% at the Irrigation Court and 17% at the Courthouse in Heppner.

approved an additional \$500 for the Irrigation Rural Fire Dist. 911 emergency equipment budget. The Court had already approved \$2000; the fire district expected to spend \$4,200 for beeper-type equipment.

approved maternity leave for an employee in the assessor's office. considered and approved claims.

Local 4-H'er returns from Canadian exchange

There's not a lot of difference except the farms are little and there are trees everywhere, is the way Shannon McLaughlin described the Nanaimo area of Vancouver Island.

The 16-year-old daughter of Bob and Bette McLaughlin, Heppner, is recently returned from a 10-day 4-H exchange to British Columbia, Canada. She and 4-H'ers from Condon, Fossil, and Moro traveled with Fossil Extension Agent Ken Killingsworth and his wife and stayed with 4-H families on Vancouver Island.

McLaughlin's host family were Dennis and Janet Limin and their daughter Karen who is also 16. They have a small farm of about 15 acres, some hay, and 10 cows, said the Heppner 4-H'er. Mr. Limin works away from the farm, at a pulp mill. Mrs. Limin is an assistant leader for a beef 4-H club.

Most of the men, McLaughlin said, work away from home and do the milking at 4 a.m. before going to work and again in the evening. The wives do the majority of the farm work, she said. Farms average 15-20 cows.

The Limins were a good family to visit, she said; they were interested in the way we lived and the things that are different here. They were surprised that ranches here are so large.

While staying with the Limins, McLaughlin said she often went to the beach, visited a dairy farm, the Parliament buildings in Victoria, and the Butchart gardens. She enjoyed the huge sunken gardens with every flower imaginable and fountains. Though everywhere was crowded, shopping was interesting, she said.



Shannon McLaughlin (left) with her host sister Karen Limin.

Although she didn't buy much, she admits to purchasing some candy bars that we don't have here.

Prices were mostly lower, she said, except food is more expensive, and Levis are \$40 a pair.

She enjoyed her trip because it was both a learning experience and a vacation, but mostly, she said, because it was a chance to visit another country. It was different to see so many trees everywhere and not be able to see for miles like you

can here, she said.

The McLaughlins will host a 4-H'er from Canada later in August, she said. Karen Limin, her host sister, will not be coming to the United States because so many are in competition for the few chances available.

Those 4-H'ers who are in high school and think they might be interested in going to Canada next year should contact the Morrow County Extension office.



Center honors volunteers

Center volunteers, from left: Helen Dyer, Eleanor Gonty, Neola Mackey, Betty Tanner, and Camilla Samples.

Volunteers were recognized at a July 9 dinner for their service to the Heppner Neighborhood Center during the last year.

Neola Mackey, Helen Dyer, Betty Tanner, Eleanor Gonty, Camilla Samples, Irene Swanson, Verna Brinda, Alena Anderson, Maxine Grey, Martha King, Adelle LaTrace, Babe Harris, and Bob and Lorina Shuman were honored as the 14 volunteers who had donated the greatest number of hours in service to the Center during the past year. They were presented carnations and cactus gardens by Center Coordinator Pat Scott and Blue Mountain Economic Development Council program coordinator Sharon Carroll.

In addition, the ten volunteers with the greatest number of donated hours received certificates.

Receiving an extra gift for their service were the six volunteers who led the list: Neola Mackey with 1,405 hours, Helen Dyer with 1,036 1/2 hours, Theta Lowe with 1,002 hours, Betty Tanner with 891 hours, Eleanor Gonty with 878 hours, and Camilla Samples with 747 1/2 hours.

A special award was presented to Bob and Lorina Shuman for the hours they have spent helping with cheese distribution, Christmas baskets, repairing toys, and collecting commodities donated by businesses and merchants.

Guests at the recognition dinner were Sarah Powell and Hy Compton, BMEDC board members; Marge Shade and Dorothy Irish, Heppner Advisory Council members; and Clara Courtney and Murma Toll.

Robin Mattison, Phil Esberg, and John Ferrell with the Center's Youth Training Program waited tables and helped clean up after the dinner.

New manager at Schwab's



Mike Procter

Mike Procter, 31, from LaGrande is the new manager at the Heppner Les Schwab Tire Center. He was assistant manager of the tire center in LaGrande for 3 1/2 years and at Hermiston for four years before. He has been with Les Schwab for 7 1/2 years.

He and his wife, Kay, have two daughters.

Procter grew up in Irrigon. He replaces former Heppner manager Dale Thompson.

207 pre-aps received

Two hundred seven pre-applications have been received for the proposed elderly housing project at the Heppner Hotel.

Heppner Mayor Cara Costa and City Attorney Bill Kuhn and others interested in the project took the pre-applications to a meeting with the state housing division in Salem Tuesday. The pre-applications were needed to show state housing officials that there is local interest in the project.

The city is now in the application stage in attempting to get a \$600,000 loan from the state housing division to use in conjunction with a \$500,000 federal block grant already awarded the city for development of a 28-unit elderly housing project at the Heppner Hotel. If the city does not get the loan, it will lose the block grant.

In the application stage, the city

must show that rent income will repay the loan and will cover costs of maintenance, upkeep of the building. The city also expects to try to verify that proposed construction costs are reasonable, said a spokesperson.

If the city advances through the application stage and if money is available, it will get the loan, concluded the spokesperson.

Accident Victim dies Tues.

Dennis Campbell died Tuesday, July 15 at St. Mary's Medical Center in Walla Walla. He had been in intensive care there since a July 5 car accident near Ruggs.

Arrangements are pending at Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner.

Conservation Program effects more than farmers

The federal conservation reserve program has the potential to drastically effect Morrow County.

The program "takes farmland that probably should not be farmed anyway out of production for 10 years," says Judy Buschke of the Morrow County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. Morrow County has approximately 400,000 acres of crop land, one-fourth of that land may be bid into the CRP.

Bidding the land, does not guarantee that it will be accepted, said Buschke. The Soil Conservation Service determines if the land is acceptable for the program by determining its soil loss, rainfall, slope length, tillage practices used, and other pertinent data are considered in the formula to determine soil loss.

Land with high soil loss is accepted in the program at a maximum of \$50 per acre. It must then be seeded to grass which may not be grazed for 10 years. The government will reimburse 50% of the cost for seeding grass.

The government also has impos-

ed a \$50,000 payment limitation. For example, five partners in a ranch could each receive the maximum payment, but a corporation could receive only one maximum payment.

During the first signup period, Buschke said 8,083 acres were offered and 7,000 were accepted. 29,619 acres were offered during the second signup period with 27,000 accepted.

For an average Morrow County farm of 700 acres, Buschke said, if the entire amount were acceptable in the CRP, the farmer would receive a \$35,000 payment each year although half of the land would normally be summer fallow. It's almost as if he were to receive \$100 per crop year for the land, she said.

The economic impact on the county may not be that great if only 34,000 acres are in the program, but if the maximum 110,000 acres are seeded to grassland, all farm-related businesses cannot help but feel the impact. "Farmers are having a hard time," she said; "the program is designed to help them, but it seems when you help out one group, it

always has an effect on another."

Larry Mills, manager of Morrow County Grain Growers said that although it's a little early to speculate, grain storage, fertilizer, chemicals, machinery parts and service, equipment sales, fuel, all aspects of their business may be effected proportionally to the acres in the CRP.

"The program is so attractive, it will be difficult for farmers to pass up because the payment is more than he can net on most ground in the county," Mills said. "The business community needs to be aware that the CRP could have a detrimental effect (on their businesses) because with less land farmed, ranchers may not need to hire as many people."

Judge attends meeting

Morrow County Judge Don McElligott left last Wednesday afternoon to attend a National Association of Counties Conference. He will return to the county Tuesday and is presiding at the County Court meeting today.

Some of those hired helpers may leave the county which would effect banks, insurance businesses, and all other businesses where those people now spend money.

Skip Pettyjohn of Pettyjohn Oil Co. also said that all businesses which supply fuel or equipment to farmers will be effected by the CRP, depending on the amount of acres which are eventually accepted for grassland. "Some recreational businesses may benefit," he said.

Market Report

Compliments of the Morrow County Drain Growers

Tues., July 15	
Soft White	
Deliveries this week	\$2.81
Balance July	\$2.77
Aug	\$2.74
Sept.	\$2.76/\$2.78
Oct.	\$2.80/\$2.82
Nov	\$2.84/\$2.86
Dec	\$2.88/\$2.90
Barley	
July/Sept.	\$71
Oct.	\$72
Nov.	\$73



Putting out the flames

A pickup fire was out shortly after the Heppner Fire Dept. arrived on the scene Thursday evening, July 19. A pickup belonging to Frank Wilson apparently caught fire while driving up Gilmore St. said Assistant Fire Chief Rusty Estes. Cause of the fire is under investigation.

The fire caused major damage to the motor and everything under the hood requiring that the pickup be towed away, Estes said.