

The Heppner

Morrow County's Home-Owned Newspaper

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Kindsfather is Conservation Man of the Year for 1987



Photo by Joyce Hughes

Bob and Josie Kindsfather shown with disc drills and part of the 12 miles of terraces they put in to win Conservation Man of the Year.

Bob Kindsfather with his wife, Josie, farm 2400 acres of his own land plus another 1355 acres he leases. The farm is located between 1500' and 2500' elevation in a 12 inch rainfall area near Lexington in Morrow County. The soils are predominantly Valby silt loam with from 12 to 20 percent slopes. The farm is quite hilly and the silt loams are difficult to prevent from eroding.

Bob and Josie moved to Oregon from Montana in 1979, selling a cattle ranch in Livingston. He has no regrets, saying "I like the climate here."

Since 1979, Bob has put in 12 miles of terraces in one field, and upgraded terraces in others. He has initiated a program of minimum tillage to leave crop residue on the surface for erosion control. Though he still discs occasionally, it's only

in fields with high residue and after wet years. He disc one field this year, and is not happy with the results. "The worst things you can do is disc here", he says.

Bob's usual practice is to spray weeds in the spring with Roundup and then chisel plow. He then rods weeds two or three times as needed to control weeds and to set a moisture line. This combination of chemical fallow and cultivation retains both soil moisture and surface residue.

At seeding time, Bob uses International 5500 disc drills on a seven inch base to seed with. He seeds in mid-October, and feels he gets better emergence with the disc drills than with a deep furrow type. He has 1000 acres seeded to Stephens wheat this year, dusting it in last fall, and will seed 1000 acres this fall for next

year. There are 1400 acres in the Conservation Reserve Program.

Bob is not afraid to try new techniques. He built a no-till drill a few years ago, but was not satisfied with it. "It was built on a too light frame", he says. Asked if he has plans to no-till in the future, he says no, but continues to look at new technology.

Bob is a conservation minded farmer who understands that successful and economic farming depend not only on good yields today, but on long term husbandry resulting in good yields tomorrow. His success is dependent on efficient use of available resources, a good fertility and residue program, and weed control. Bob and Josie Kindsfather are excellent examples of farming for the future.

Medical board has new member

Dick Wilkinson was appointed on March 23 to take the place of Frank Pearson on the Morrow County Medical Board. Frank resigned due to personal reasons, it was announced by the County Court. Dick will complete Frank's term which runs three more years.

Dick has served on the Columbia Basin Board of Directors for 23 years, Federal Land Bank Board for 21 years, was a Charter member of the Rural Fire District, is a member of the Elk's Masons and Shriners.

Dick says he would "like to see uniform medical awareness on a county-wide scale and stabilization of doctor and ambulance services in the county."

After attending his first meeting, Dick said the members of the medical board appear to be "thrifty minded."

He is looking forward to serving on the board and says he will do his best to serve the county in this capacity.



Dick Wilkinson

Engineering firm chosen for landfill study

CH2M Hill of Portland has been chosen as the engineering firm to do a study of the development of the city landfill. If the study proves feasible, the approximately \$10,000 cost of another trench to be dug at the site, will be placed before the voters

in June. Heppner must make plans to ship it's garbage to another landfill or dig another trench.

The council voted to procure a five-year lease agreement with Dail Turner for further use of the site if additional development is approved.

Work being done at Landfill



(L to R): Jim Buchanan, Long View Washington, apprentice; Dan Wicklander, Pendleton supervisor; Leo Merriweather, apprentice; mayor Cara Costa, and Dave Winters, City crew, inspect the city landfill.

Operating Engineers Local #701 was in Heppner at the city dump last week doing some work for the city. They dug a trench for Heppner as an emergency measure until an engineering study is completed by the city. Operating Engineers Local #701 is heavy and light equipment operators.

Three men were here, a supervisor and two apprentices. The apprentices are training in Boardman under the supervision of Butch

Shockman. The school has been in operation just over a year.

There are 15 to 20 apprentices in the program at one time, learning mechanics, welding and a working knowledge of a dozer, backhoe, loader, scraper and blade. Also required are one hour of classroom work per day, and two days of First aid and CPR. Before an apprentice can take the test to be a journeyman, he must complete 144 hours per year of instruction, with 6000 hours in the

field. Over 60% of the graduates of this school, enter into supervisory work. They have had approximately 80 people who have gone through this program from November through March of this year.

Operating Engineers has also done work for the Port of Morrow. They dug a 20 foot well, with only fuel for pay. This is also the agreement with Heppner. They are allowed to do this emergency assistance for municipalities with no funding.

Emergency plan for UAD and Morrow County

The Umatilla Army Depot has the responsibility of destroying chemical agents such as mustard and nerve gas. They have until 1994 to complete this process, which includes building an incinerator, so this can be done locally. No date has been set, says Romey Brooks.

Romey Brooks, of Schneider, which specializes in Emergency Planning and Management Services, of Harrisburg, Penn., was asked to help update a plan for the Army Depot in regard to this project. This is a bi-county plan for Umatilla and Morrow County. Morrow County was very supportive of this plan and meetings with key figures in the county were set up to begin the coordination of this plan. The first phase of this plan will be submitted to the Army Depot by the end of May. "A pre-comprehensive plan needs to be in place before the incinerator can be built," says Brooks.

The "Immediate Response Zone" for which this plan was made, is a 10 kilometer zone around the Army Depot, and also includes the city of Irrigon. The city of Irrigon is implementing a plan that will coordinate with this emergency plan. The City of Irrigon Fire District has divided the city into four quadrants. Each residence will be given a four-

digit number to replace their addresses. This will be the identification the fire district uses to locate an emergency situation, in place of the address.

South Morrow County will benefit from this plan in the respect that it will be implemented in the north end of the county, but the south end will benefit in the fact that the hospital, schools, and sheriff's office, county court and others will have access to this information and be able to apply it. This will be very helpful in the event of any natural disaster that may occur, such as flooding and fire, or war caused disaster such as a nuclear attack or fallout. This plan points out the needs of our community such as emergency response vehicles, preparedness of doctors and EMT upgrading. This plan will work in the event of any natural disaster.

The State of Oregon requires an emergency response plan to be in place by October 1988. Morrow County actually began working on an emergency plan 14 years ago and was just completing their plan when the incinerator plan came up in association with the Umatilla Army Depot.

Under this new plan, any agency involved in the planning, received

"Hazard specific appendices" with the information they are to adapt and use for their individual areas. These areas are all coordinated by the County Court in the Heppner area.

To the extent possible, the Morrow County Emergency Operations Plan describes the actions to be taken by Morrow County government officials in concert with it's municipalities and private organizations who have agreed to assist Morrow County in protecting the citizens during a disaster. This plan spells out the emergency organization and functional responsibilities that normally are operational during an emergency.

In the event of fallout, the government believes each local government should rely on it's own capabilities and resources for up to a period of two weeks. In the event of a chemical accident at the U.S. Army Depot, the U. S. Army would assist Morrow County in it's responsive activities, as specified in the plan appendices which relate to the Army Depot.

"By the end of May, Schneider Engineering will present the first phase of the emergency plan to the Umatilla Army Depot," says Mr. Brooks.

Story Hour

Debbie Royer will be the storyteller this Thursday, beginning at 10:30 a. m. at the Heppner Public Library. The theme for this week's story is "Helper's in our Town".

Weather Report

By City of Heppner

April 5 - 11			
	High	Low	Prec.
Tues.	69	44	.0
Wed.	67	32	.09
Thurs.	49	28	.01
Fri.	56	29	.0
Sat.	63	35	.0
Sun.	71	43	.0
Mon.	78	48	.0

Market Report

Compliments of the Morrow County Grain Growers

Monday, April 11			
Soft White			
Apr.			\$3.33
May			\$3.34
June			\$3.35
July			\$3.36
Aug.			\$3.37
Sept.			\$3.39
Barley			
Apr.			\$84
May-Forward			\$85
PIK			101.5%

Bids opened for hotel project

April 14 is the day bids will be opened for contractors seeking the \$1 million dollar Heppner Hotel remodeling project.

Max Koeper, project architect, met with interested bidders recently to review the specifics of the project which will convert the hotel into a

senior citizens apartment complex and senior center.

A 99-year lease will be signed with the Senior Citizens board for use of the first floor of the building as a place to conduct senior functions. The operational costs will be based on an hourly usage.

BOB & JOSIE KINDSFATHER

*Congratulations
Conservation Award
Winners*

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MEMBER F.D.I.C.