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Gazette
Times

VOL. 117 NO. 17 12 Pages Wednesday, April 29, 1998 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

Heppner community tree planting held



George Koffler (right) and Darrel Raver plant a tree on main street in Heppner Saturday. This tree was one of many trees and shrubs planted by volunteers as the final step in the Heppner downtown renovation project. Some of the trees, especially the larger maples, were showing signs of shock Sunday and Monday and it was speculated that there may be some that do not survive. It was reported that the trees may have been transplanted too late in the spring, however, they will be replace if they die.

Opposition to Heppner youth camp surfaces

A public meeting to ask for withdrawal of Heppner's application for the siting of the proposed Youth Accountability Camp in Heppner has been scheduled for Thursday, May 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the St. Patrick Parish Hall.

Organizers of the meeting say they hope the turnout at the meeting will "show our officials how we feel about this project".

A siting committee proposed Heppner as the place for construction of a 50-bed youth boot camp. The head of the

Oregon Youth Authority has until May 15 to accept the recommendation or call for additional proposals.

The siting committee called for public comments to be received by April 15 and made their recommendation on April 17.

Willow Creek Road construction status report

(Editor's note: The following construction report on the Willow Creek Road Coalmine Hill area was submitted by Robert G. Toops, project engineer with the U.S. Department of Transportation.)

Tidewater Contractors, Inc., from Brookings will be the prime contractor for the Willow Creek Road Coalmine Hill project. The revised start date for the project is the week of April 27.

Planned construction activities for the week are as follows:

A portion of the clearing limits have been established for the first portion of the project. On Monday, April 27, Tidewater's crew set some construction signs at the beginning of the project, near Cutsforth Park. They plan to set additional construction signs on Wednesday, April 29, and start clearing the trees and underbrush off of the slopes and decking the timber. They plan to start at the beginning of the project, which is near the south

limits of Cutsforth Park and continue to the top of the summit. They plan to waste the slash and debris at the location of the present private logging operation located immediately north of the project.

At this time the roadway will remain open to the public because of the existing timber operation in the vicinity and the detour through Shaw Mountain Road is not open because of snow depth.

Various pieces of survey and construction equipment will be working along the right-of-way, starting on Monday, April 27, and will continue through the week. Please be aware of the work in the area.

Federal Highways asks the public for their patience, consideration and cooperation during this construction season and hopes that the work will be completed with a minimum of delays.

Contact Robert G. Toops, project engineer, at 541-676-5904 in Heppner for additional information. If you need to contact Federal Highway by mail, use the following address: Federal Highway Administration, General Delivery, Heppner, Oregon 97836, Att: Robert G. Toops.

IHS prom set for this Saturday

The Ione High School Prom will be held this Saturday, May 2, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Ione Legion Hall.

The prom theme is "Welcome to the Jungle".

Tickets are \$10 per person or \$15 per couple.

NEWS DEADLINE

Monday 5 p.m.

Fire breaks out at Ione UCC



Firefighters pull down ceiling in IUCC



Ione United Church of Christ damaged in fire

The Ione United Church of Christ sustained smoke and heat damage in a fire which broke out around 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 23.

Ione Rural Fire District Chief Jim Boor said that the cause of the fire, which was investigated by the Oregon State Police and the Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms Division, is still undetermined.

Eighteen men from the Ione Rural Fire District and 11 from the Heppner Fire District, along with three pumper trucks and many pickups and brush rigs, turned out to fight the blaze. "The guys did an excellent job," said Boor. "We had enough people to get inside to attack the fire."

Boor said that the fire departments were first paged out at 4:18 p.m. He said that, when they arrived on the scene, fire was coming out of the upper portion of the building. Boor said the fire crews had the blaze out in around 20 minutes, but added that it took another couple of hours to mop up. Most of the fire fighters were out by 8 p.m., he said, but two stayed and put out flare-ups which occurred around 8:30 p.m.

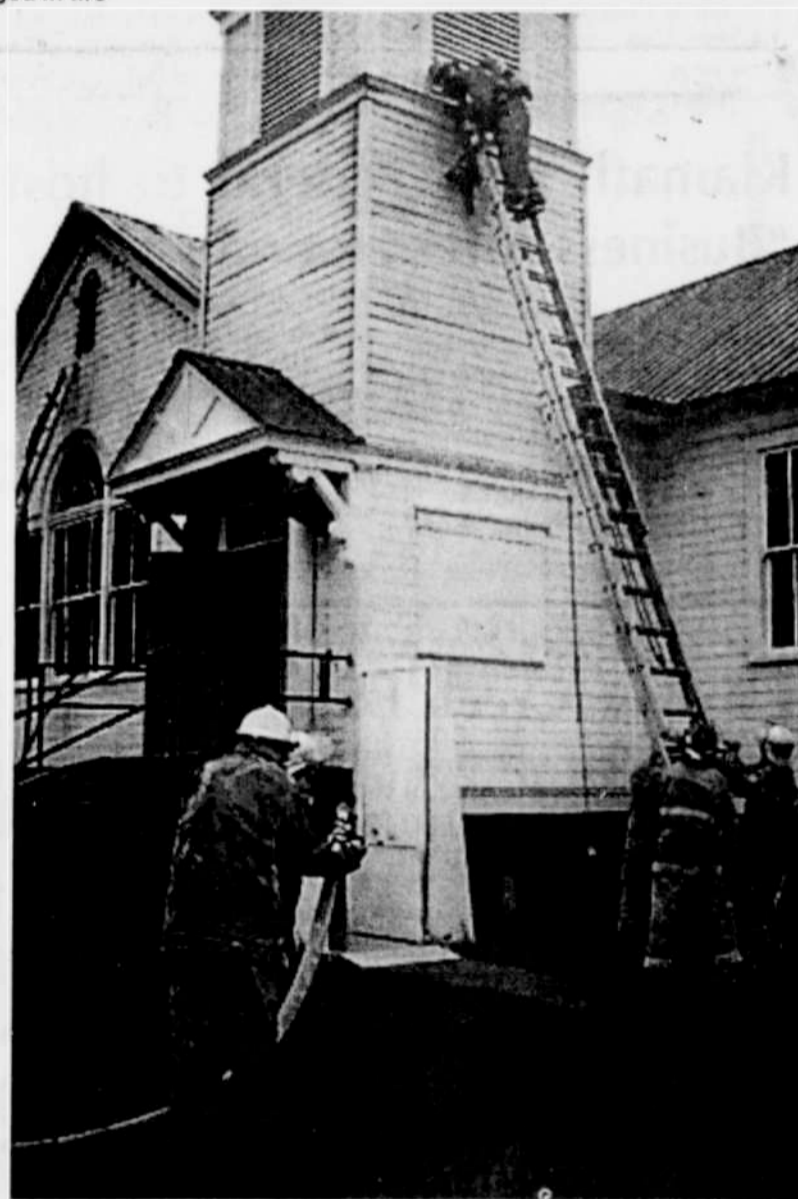
Fire fighters had to pull the ceiling of the church down and used "Scott Airpaks" to get inside the building.

An insurance adjuster has been to the site to estimate the damage, but no report has been made.

The fire drew members of the Ione community, many of whom helped with saving items in the church.

Car wash set in Ione

The Ione Elementary School fifth-grade class will have a car wash/bake sale this Friday, May 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dave's Gas Station in Ione.



Fireman checks out belfry at IUCC

Ione Council adopts new city charter

In Nov. 1997, the Ione City Council created a four-member city charter committee to review the 1973 city charter. Upon review, they determined that because of changes in state law, some provisions of the existing charter were obsolete. Because of the number of changes that were needed, the committee decided that developing a new charter would be preferable.

The committee studied state

laws and charters from other cities, met and developed a new charter for voter consideration on the May 19, 1998 election ballot. The most important changes were to adopt state election laws and give the mayor a vote on council matters, said a council news release.

A copy of the revised charter may be reviewed at Ione City Hall, Ione Library and the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

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