

## Nine retire from Morrow County

The Morrow County Courthouse, the Morrow County Road Department and the Morrow County Sheriff's Department lost nine long-time employees to retirement on June 30.

Shirley McCarl, office manager for the Morrow County Clerk's Office; Pauline Winter, chief civil deputy and office manager at the Morrow County Sheriff's Office; Sharon Timms with the Morrow County Planning Department in Irrigon; Angie Pedro with the Irrigon Justice Court; Ed Struthers, Morrow County computer technician; and Guy VanArsdale, Sam Schmidt, Cap Gentry and Ray O'Neal, all with the Morrow County Road Department, retired from their respective duties at the end of June.



**Shirley McCarl**

Shirley McCarl started with the county clerk's office in 1987 after a year's training. McCarl was office manager and worked in elections, recording, juvenile restitution, issued marriage licenses and passports and submitted bills.

McCarl, 64, was born in Heppner and lived in Lexington all of her life. She graduated from Lexington High School in 1952. She and her husband, Morris, have three children, Barb Coiner, Sharon Morris and Lee McCarl, all Lexington, and six grandchildren.

She says that she has "nothing special" planned for retirement, but hopes to have time to enjoy her kids and grandkids and maybe do a little traveling.

Bobbi Childers has been hired in the clerk's office.



**Pauline Winter**

Pauline Winter has worked for the Morrow County Sheriff's Department for 25 years, always as chief civil deputy and office manager. In that capacity, Winter processed summons and complaints, small claims, subpoenas, civil processes and sold real and personal property at sheriff's auctions.

She says that when she first started work with the sheriff's department, one daytime employee took care of

everything. But then the north county area started growing and numerous other employees were hired to keep up with the growth.

Born in Washington, D.C., Winter lived in Seattle and various places in Oregon before moving to Heppner from Salem in 1962.

She attended college at Willamette University at Salem and Lewis and Clark College at Portland.

Winter, 65, plans to take her motor home and head to the East Coast in September for visiting, sightseeing and genealogy research. She jokes that she plans to come back in the spring "when the grass needs watering."

Judy Chastain, sheriff's dispatcher for the graveyard shift for the past 10 years, has been hired to fill Winter's position.



**Sharon Timms**

Sharon Timms has worked as office manager and associate planner for the past 11 years at the Morrow County Annex Building in Irrigon. In that capacity Timms issued building permits and zoning notification, handled land use issues, took minutes for the planning commission, budgeted line items and handled rural addressing.

Timms, 57, was born in Chicago and graduated from high school at Cardinal Stritch High School, a Catholic school in Chicago. After high school she worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture for two years in the federal crop insurance program.

Timms met her husband-to-be at her sister's wedding. She was chosen to be her sister's maid of honor. Her sister and her sister's fiancé, who was in the Marines, decided that Sharon and the best man, also in the Marines, should get together. Apparently the suggestion took, because she and her husband Brian were married in 1962.

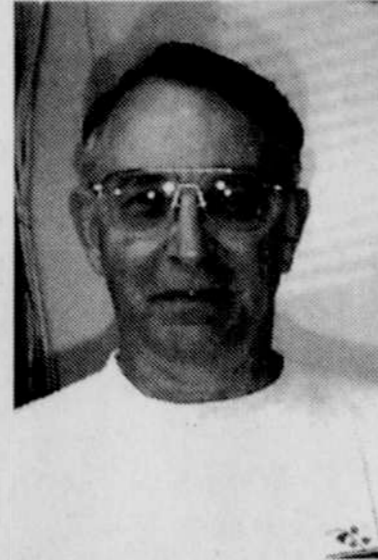
Five months later, he was transferred to El Toro, CA, so the couple moved to California. After his discharge he finished his schooling in California and then the couple moved to Baker, where his father owned a machine shop. At Baker, Timms worked part time for the Soil Conservation Service and then full-time for BLM. The economy was slow in Baker, however, so they moved to Portland for better job opportunities.

Her husband was employed with PGE in Portland and at the Trojan Nuclear Plant and Sharon stayed home with their children until their eldest was a junior in high school.

They moved to Irrigon when he began working at the Boardman Coal Fired Plant. She worked for three years for a contractor who built the Irrigon fish hatchery. She then substituted as a rural route carrier for three months before accepting the job with the planning department.

Since she has retired, Timms plans to catch up on some things around the house, such as gardening, and plans a trip to the East Coast this fall, since her mother and sisters still live in Chicago. After helping out with transition at the planning department, she may look for a part-time job, since her husband won't retire for a few more years.

The Timms' daughter, Dawn Wagner, lives in Hermiston, and their son, Scott, lives in Vancouver.



**Ed Struthers**

Ed Struthers was hired by the county in 1985 as a groundskeeper and vehicle and building maintenance person. He began working in his present capacity as computer manager in 1993.

Struthers was born in Idaho and grew up in Condon, graduating from Condon High School.

After graduation he enlisted in the Navy and trained as an electronic technician. He spent three years in the Navy in Maryland where he met and married his wife, Marie, a Wave in the Navy from California.

The couple moved to Pendleton where he got a job working for the television company. He then went to work for Columbia Basin Electric as a truck driver. In 1969 the Struthers family moved to Heppner where he started an apprenticeship as a lineman with CBEC and then became a staking engineer.

In 1978 he got a job as a staking engineer for Coos-Curry Electric, so the family moved to Brookings for a year. They then moved back to Lexington and he worked for CBEC for six years until the WHOOPS problems arose.

He began his stint with the county after that.

Struthers, 59, has done some computer consulting in Baker City and has also done software upgrades for a pavement management cost accounting program for the Association of Oregon Counties. The system is used primarily in the eastern side of the state. In the future, Struthers' job may also entail assessing the condition of roads using a global position system with the focus of getting more federal dollars for the area for improvement and maintenance.

Struthers also plans to work on the house he built in Heppner and do some landscaping. He and his wife would also like to visit Australia. Marie, who is employed with the state circuit court in Heppner, has been writing to a pen-pal in Australia for around 30 years and also has a more recent pen pal.

The Struthers have four children, Renee Kenison, Grandview, WA; Sophia Smith, Pendleton; Dan, Seattle, WA, and Pat, Pendleton; and five grandchildren.



**Guy VanArsdale**

Guy VanArsdale has been the Morrow County Public Works director for the past five years.

VanArsdale, 61, was born in Kearney, Nebraska, and grew up in Stockton, CA. He lived in California until coming to Oregon when he was 21 to work for Boise Cascade on road construction at Joseph. He was with Boise Cascade for four years and then followed various road construction around the state until 1965. That year, working with a contractor, VanArsdale built Coal Mine Hill Road for Kinzua. A timber sale got him in touch with Milo Prindle who talked him into going to work for Kinzua Corporation.

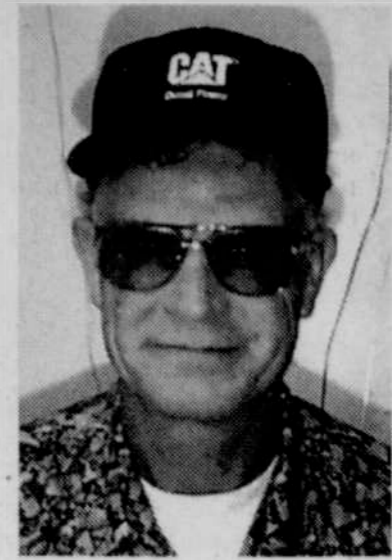
VanArsdale ran the Kinzua road department until 1973 when he purchased road construction equipment and then established a logging company. At the time, he ran three road construction sites and three logging sites. He built U.S. Forest Service roads and logging roads for various logging companies all over the state until joining the county.

VanArsdale says that he is looking at another business in the Hermiston area and he and his wife, Barbara, still operate a flying fire patrol service. Barbara, who he says has done most of the flying up until now, patrols the entire timber area west of Fossil, nearly to LaGrande and almost to John Day.

The Van Arsdales have also bought a winter home at Overton, Nevada, at Lake Mead, where they plan to spend some time and do some boating. He enjoys working on airplanes and old cars and likes to fly for fun, too.

VanArsdale has two children, Mike, who lives in Heppner, and Steve, who lives in Salem; and one grandchild. Barbara has two children, Chris, who lives in

Overton, and Jolynn Vernon, Susanville, CA; and two grandchildren.



**Sam Schmidt**

Upon his retirement June 30, Sam Schmidt had worked for the Morrow County Road Department for over 20 years--20 years and three months, to be exact.

Schmidt was born in Redmond and grew up in Fossil, but attended high school and graduated from Elgin High School.

After high school he worked in construction, building the freeway between Philippi Canyon and Ontario. After that

he worked for another road construction company. Between the two companies, Schmidt spent a total of around nine years in road construction.

Schmidt then got a job tending the dryer at the Kinzua plywood plant in Heppner, where he worked for two years before joining the Morrow County Road Department in 1979, the same year he married his wife, Cindy. He has worked as a heavy equipment operator for all of his years with the county. He has worked with numerous directors, first with Don Ball, who had just taken over after Doc Sherer retired.

After retirement, Schmidt plans to work on his house and hopes to spend time on his hobbies--metal detecting, hunting, fishing and raising llamas as pack animals for elk hunting trips. He says the llamas don't pack as much as a horse, but are "easier to get along with."

The Schmidts' daughter, Lana Dishner, lives in Tillamook. They also have one grandchild.

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