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HEPPNER

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VOL. 122 NO. 25 10 Pages Wednesday, June 18, 2003 Morrow County, Heppner, Oregon

New city water rates start June 23

Below rates will show up on bills received in August

Minimum for 0 to 1,999 gallons	\$8.75 per month
2,000 to 3,749 gallons	\$17.50 per month
3,750 to 5,624 gallons per month	\$26.25 per month
5,625 to 7,500 gallons per month	\$35.10 per month
Usage over 7,500 gallons	\$35.10 + .90 per 1000 gallons over 7500

Commercial, industrial and multifamily (3 or more dwelling units) will have a minimum monthly charge of \$35.10 for up to 7,500 gallons, plus, a minimum charge of \$8.75 for each dwelling or business unit over one. Usage over 7,500 gallons for the first unit and 2,000 gallons for each additional unit is 90 cents per 1000 gallons.

Outside the city limits for residents, businesses and industrial services shall be charged a right of service fee of \$20 per month in addition to the charges outlined above.

The city of Heppner will implement new and higher water rates (see table) June 23 that will show up on July bills citizens receive the first part of August. The city council approved the new rates at its last monthly meeting Monday June 9.

The new rates will pay for a \$6 million water upgrade project for Heppner.

Some council members expressed apprehension about having to raise water rates, but finally admitted there was no other way to pay for the needed repairs to the city water system. "The Dalles, Stanfield, Ione, all upped their water rates," said council member Tom Wolff. "Our rates have been lower than normal. Now we will be higher than normal. And we might have to go up again," Wolff said. "But this rate schedule is fair and it is something we have to do," he said.

"I don't want to do it, but it is something that has to be done," echoed council member Kay Robinson.

In other business the council learned that the city contract with the county sheriff's department would increase more than anticipated. Sheriff Verlin Denton was at the meeting and said that because of increased vehicle maintenance, insurance costs

and a salary increase in the department this year's city/sheriff contract will be up more than he thought last year. The city paid the sheriff department \$150,840 for services last year and has budgeted \$171,261 for the next year's services.

"I have positive feedback from the public about our relationship with the county sheriff, and I recommend we adopt the resolution (to hire them again for the year)," Wolff said.

Merle Cowett was appointed to fill a vacancy on the city council. Cowett is a former city police officer.

The council discussed how to charge the little league for water usage on three fields in the city. The Hager Street Park uses about 2,992,896 gallons per year and the Riverside parks use 796,720 gallons per year for two fields. The council agreed that they have to work out an agreement with the little league about water usage and encourage water conservation on their playing fields.



Merle Cowett appointed to council

Staying cool

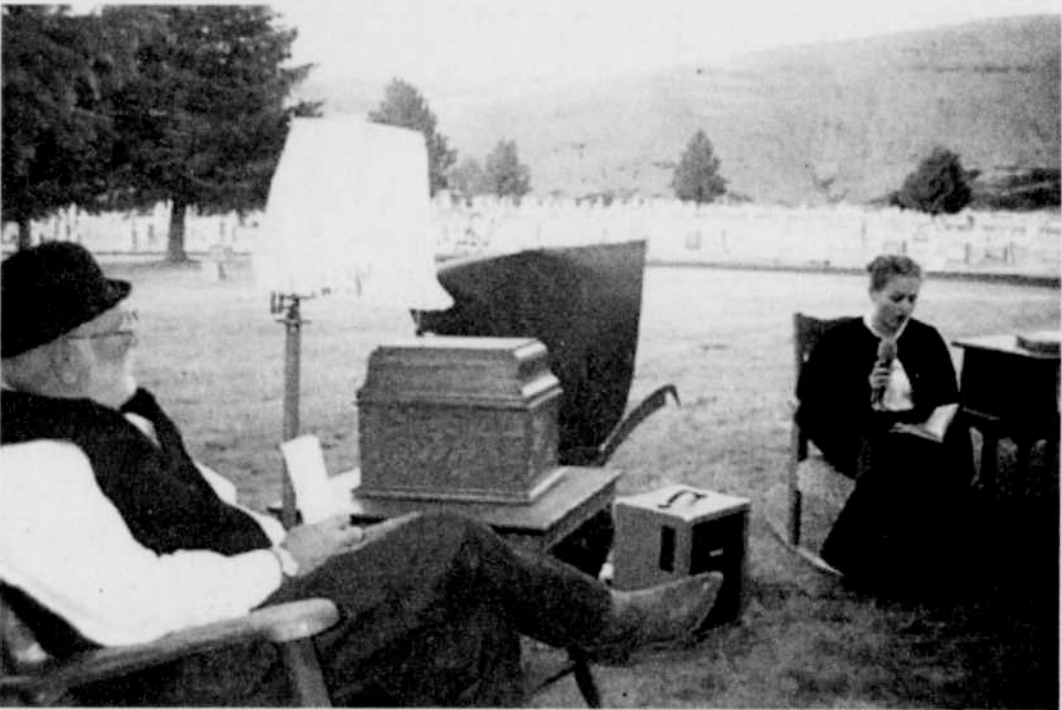


Nineteen-month old Gavin Hanna found a cool way to beat the 90 degree heat Tuesday with the help of his dad, Jason Hanna of Heppner, and an inflatable wading pool.

1903 Heppner flood commemorated



Members of the Heppner 1903 Flood Commemoration Committee pose in period dress at the granite flood memorial at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery Saturday (left to right): front-Robin Krebs, Sharon Harrison, Doris Brosnan, John Edmundson, Claudia Hughes; back-Dan Dunnett, Pat Sweeney, Kathryn Hoskins and Cliff Green. Not pictured are Pat Edmundson, Bob Jepsen and Peg Willis.



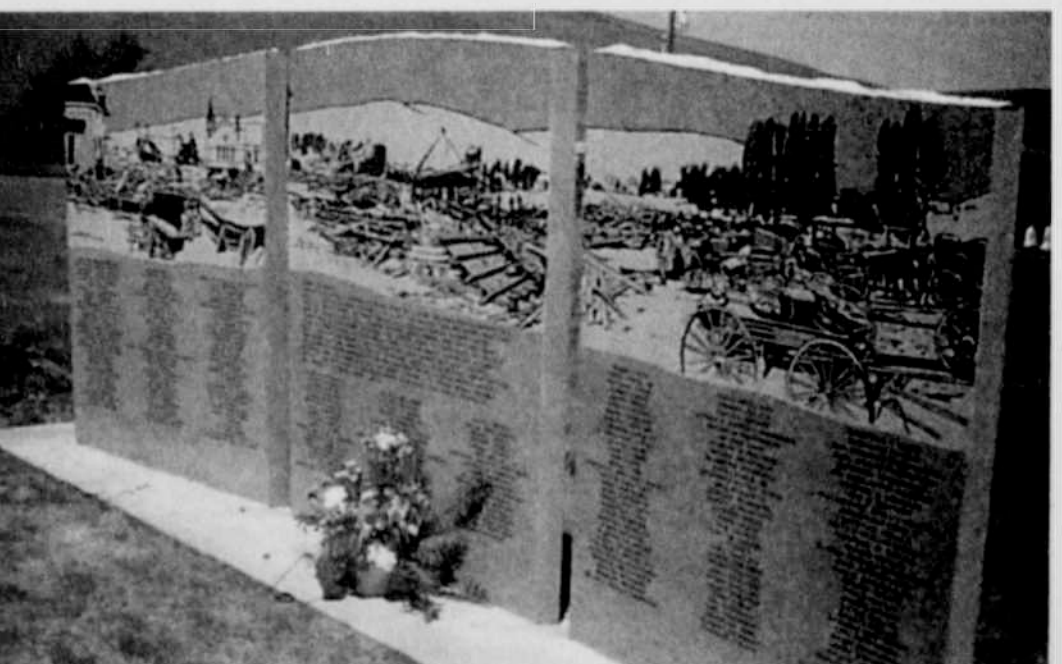
Dan Brosnan and Sarah Barrow portray individuals who survived the 1903 Heppner flood during the 'Dinner at the Cemetery' dinner theater Saturday. The event drew around one hundred people who enjoyed a lamb dinner, music by the Cascadia Folk Quartet of Portland and a dramatic presentation which included accounts of people who survived the flood, portrayed by local residents.



Descendants of victims of the 1903 Heppner flood pause for a photograph following the unveiling and dedication of the new granite memorial monument erected at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery on Saturday, June 14. Pictured (left to right) are Katie and Alice Currier, whose relative, J.L. Hockett, perished in the flood, Merlin Hughes, Heppner, whose relative, John Ayers, was a victim of the flood; Nonie Mathews-flood victims Frank, Myrtle and T.B. Harryman; Bob and Shawn Biggs-flood victims, Mattie Stroud Saling, William Saling and Sarah Morgan; Mark Stein-flood victim John Stein; Sharon Keithley Harrison and Tricia Keithley Sweeney-flood victim Julius Keithly and others; and Fran Jones-flood victims, James, Delitha, Amanda, Elsie, Lillie May, Pearl, Lester and Zelma Jones.



Left to right: Philip Spicerkuhn, Paula Spicerkuhn, Bill Kuhn and Ann Spicer, Heppner, enjoy the evening during the dinner theater, 'Dinner at the Cemetery' commemorating the 1903 Heppner flood.



This granite memorial monument unveiled at the Heppner Masonic Cemetery Saturday lists the victims of the 1903 Heppner flood.

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