

A View from the Hill Future of Umatilla Chemical Depot to be discussed at open house

By Doris Brosnan

Seems that the "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" have arrived on the Hill. Willow Creek Terrace residents and staff enjoyed a fairly calm, routine month in July, wondered with other locals where the smoky skies originated, but then tumbled into an August with some added traveling, celebrating and activities in preparation for the county fair.

Even the Fourth of July was a laid-back event at the Terrace this year, since the winds and high fire danger precluded fireworks. No one knows yet when the skies above the Terrace will light up in celebration of our independence. Readers, keep your eyes on the skies!

Weather finally allowed an outdoor picnic on the Hill when, on July 10, the residents acknowledged "National Teddy Bear Picnic Day" by dining on their patio at tables adorned with new red-check cloths.

Most of the other July days of special designations celebrated foods—apple turnover, fried chicken, several ice cream concoctions, hot dogs, chili dogs—which stimulated morning conversations and appetites. Others—cowboys (27th), parents (28th), fathers-in-law (30th)—resulted in nostalgic and more serious discussions.

Two birthdays sparked some enthusiasm in July, as two young ladies shared their special days with friends and family. Alice Rhea Buckley turned 101 on July 12. She was five years old when Velma Wight was born. Velma celebrated her 96th birthday on July 30.

Alice doesn't remember details, but she is positive that she attended

the first Morrow County Fair in her mother's arms. She and other residents can contribute their memories of participation in the fair over these many years when they help put together the booth that the Terrace will have at the fair. Readers are encouraged to stop by the booth to enjoy the history represented.

Individual residents will also have entries in the fair in a variety of categories, so most of the residents will go for a look and the fair atmosphere on Wednesday next week. Some may also choose to attend the parade on Saturday.

Several residents chose to attend the Music in the Parks in Boardman on July 15, enjoying the sounds of the Brata Steel Drums, and some traveled back to Irrigon just this past Monday, the 5th, for the Cale Moon Country Gospel group. A contingency of residents and staff also appreciated the first Music-in-the-Park presentation in Heppner on July 28, featuring Luke Basile and Jamie Nasario. They expect to return to Hager Park for the concert on August 25.

August will bring more national days of significance (who comes up with these and how do they become recognized?!). So residents will have another variety of topics to pursue during their morning conversations. And they will have their devoted volunteers and scheduled activities, their visitors, their summer-harvest donations from area friends, and their comfortable interaction with Terrace friends and neighbors. Maybe all this explains why the residents and staff view the Hill as a fine place to be during these dog days of summer.

An open house to discuss the future planning and zoning of the Umatilla Chemical Depot will be held August 12 from 4-8 p.m. at the Stafford Hansell Government Center in Hermiston.

The agenda will include an open house reception at 4 p.m. where attendees can view maps and draft plans, and have informal discussions with staff and

the consulting team on the planned zoning and future use of the now decommissioned chemical depot, which is located in both Umatilla and Morrow counties.

At 5 p.m. there will be a joint meeting of the Morrow County Planning Commission, with Chairman David Sykes, and Umatilla County Planning Commission with Chair

Randy Randall.

Also on hand will be Tamra Mabbott, Umatilla County Planning Director, and Carla McLane, Morrow County Planning Director.

Don Chance of the Land Reuse Authority, which oversaw the conversion of the depot from its former use, will give a historical background of the depot.

At 5:45 economist Jerry Johnson will present

his regional economic opportunities analysis, and at 6 p.m. Frank Angelo of the Angelo Planning Group will speak on the future planning and zoning and complying with the Oregon statewide planning program of the depot.

At 6:30 will be an opportunity for questions and answers from the public.

Collections care and recovery workshops planned

Volunteers or staff members of libraries, archives and museums, as well as collectors of historic items, are invited to attend free upcoming workshops presented as part of the state's Connecting to Collections project.

Day-long workshops presented in Eastern Oregon will take place in Baker City and Pendleton.

The first workshop, "Collections Care: Cleaning, Mending, and Housing," will be held Sept. 18 in Pendleton and Sept. 19 in Baker City.

The workshop will present basic and advanced information on caring for historical items that are found in libraries, museums and archives.

Randy Silverman, preservation librarian at the University of Utah, will be the presenter.

The second workshop, "Disaster Response and Recovery," will take place Oct. 14 in Pendleton and Oct. 15 in Baker City and

will deal with how libraries, museums and archives can best recover from a flood, fire or other disaster that damages or destroys historical materials.

The presenter will be Kris Kem from the Portland State University library.

While the workshops are free, pre-registration is required.

Workshop information and online registration are available at www.oregonheritage.org.

The Connecting to Collections project is administered by the Oregon Heritage Commission on behalf of several statewide and tribal organizations.

The Connecting to Collections project is funded in part by a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Oregon Heritage also invites readers to read and comment on their blog, Oregon Heritage Exchange, at <http://oregonheritage.wordpress.com/>.

Boardman club lends hands to greater service



One of the things 4-H clubs emphasize is reaching out and lending a helping hand of service, and the Boardman 4-H Community Club is no exception. The club recently chipped in to clean up the Boardman Cemetery. Pictured (L-R) are: Megan Gilbertson, Isabella Ganvoa, Miranda Taylor, Kirsten Taylor, Katelyn Taylor and Emily Taylor. Not pictured are Cheryl Taylor, Rex Nelson, Glaya Baker, Wendy Taylor, Malysa Smith, Rileigh McClure, Vizta Sifford, Taylor Hamby and Miranda Taylor. Club members also recently showed up to help with a senior center breakfast in their community. — Contributed photo

Section of Forest Road 23 closes for culvert installation

A three-mile section of forest road 23 (Wall Creek Road) will close Tuesday through Thursday, August 13-15, allowing contractors to install a culvert on Little Wilson Creek.

Forest road 23 will close from its junction with forest road 2128 to its junction with forest road 22. Alternate routes to the area include forest road 24 to the south and forest road 21 to the north. Travelers can expect to encounter construction traffic and are advised to use caution.

The Little Wilson Creek passage project is located in the Wall Creek Watershed on the Heppner Ranger District and is a

priority watershed for the Umatilla National Forest.

Replacing the Little Wilson crossing will provide an additional two miles of Mid-Columbia River Summer Steelhead spawning and rearing habitat within the Wall Creek Watershed.

This project is being funded through a grant from the EcoTrust Whole Watershed Restoration Initiative in partnership with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, the Prineville BLM, and the Umatilla National Forest.

For more information, contact the Heppner Ranger District at 541-676-9187.

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