

PRESERVING HEPPNER HISTORY



Rod Wilson displays how a piece of preserved tin will be refitted onto the clock tower once repairs are made. -Photos by Mallorie Jones

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Wood Products in Clinton, WA. The clock faces went to Hermiston Glass in Hermiston, OR; one, broken during the removal of the tower, will be replaced, and two will be re-stenciled.

"We sought out people who do the extraordinary things," says Wilson.

One of the most unordinary facets of the renovation will be the clockworks, which have gone to Eastern Oregon Correctional Institute (EOCI) in Pendleton, OR. There, Master Clockmaker Gary Kopperud of Pendleton will donate his time overseeing trained inmates in refurbishing the clockworks as part of their rehabilitation program.

Kopperud, now 67, was apprenticed to his father, a master and teaching watchmaker, at the age of 10.

"It was a trade that goes back three generations back of me in our family," says Kopperud. He says he started clockmaking because it was expected, but it grew on him.

"I ended up enjoying it, so, after 50 years of doing it I still do it," he says. Now, although he owns

back then had a watch, and the tower clocks were usually in the center of the community.

"At the time your clock was installed in Heppner there were only about eight tower clocks installed in the state of Oregon. Not very many. You get back east and there might be a town that has 20 of them depending on the types of buildings there were."

Kopperud says one of the challenges of the Heppner clock is that it has several parts missing. He says he has overcome that obstacle by obtaining a clock of the same model from an associate.

"We're going to use that plus what we have in Heppner, so we're going to have a complete clock to restore," he says. "With EOCI we have a complete paint shop. We have pinstripers who will put back the original pinstriping on the clock from when it was new. We have a machine shop to machine all the parts and, of course, we have a clockmaking shop. The next step will be that we'll come back out to Heppner and do all the installation in the building."

Kopperud says as many as 50 people at EOCI will be involved in restoring the clockworks.

One of the things that has both Wilson and Kopperud excited is the projected plans for the clockworks themselves. Currently, the county plans for the clockworks to be on display in the courthouse foyer. A pulley system will run up through several floors to operate the clock and ring the bell, Wilson says.

"Very seldom people get to see a tower clock because they're usually

up in the belfry with the pigeons and the bats," says Kopperud.

Wilson says they hope to have the tower, complete with clock and bell, returned to its home atop the Morrow County Courthouse this winter, though the timing depends on the pieces coming back together in time. South Morrow residents who have missed seeing the tower overlooking the town, or hearing the familiar chime on the hour, will certainly be happy to have their piece of history back in place.

"The clock has overseen everything in Heppner since 1902. It's run through two world wars and a century of time. Keeping that going is an interesting piece of history. I think it's going to add to the character of the courthouse. If we can make this all come together, this will be one more reason for people to stop and enjoy, and something for people to remember," says Kopperud. "It's something that's been part of the courthouse... that's a piece of time that's just gone by, and a lot of those things have been given up on and thrown away and packed away in a barn somewhere. When that clock was made it was the best of an era. To bring that back 100 years later is something I enjoy."

Wilson, in his quiet way, agrees.

"It's an interesting project. I have not ever and will not ever do anything like this (again).

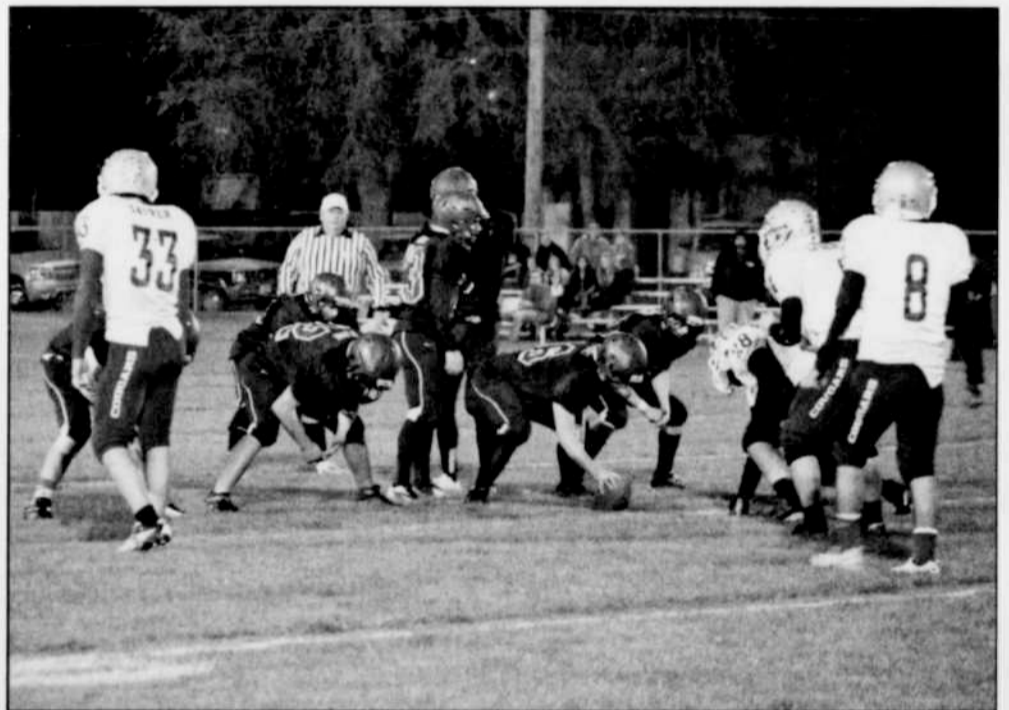
"It's pretty unique."

Names from the past...

The Morrow County Courthouse clock tower was removed July 23, 2013 for cleaning and repair. Names and dates inscribed inside the Morrow County clock tower were copied by Robert Harrison in August 2013 and are:

- "Repaired and Cleaned" written on the clock face.**
8-1955, Aldrich ABWest shop, Ione, OR
8-1974, Everett Keithley
On Walls and ceiling:
No date, Miles F. Potter
6-14-1903, Red Hicks
10-17-1903, Dick Wells-Allen Wells
11-27-1903, Bishee V. Klum
5-14-1904, R.D.
8-14-1906, Thampton-Heppner, Oregon
10-22-1906, Bert P. Bleakman
1908, B. Salter
6-11-1908, J.T. Jenkins
6-14-1908, Peter Nash
1-24-1909, Oreurtt Cox-New Flag-Pole Clerk
1909, Carsol Hole-G.M. Hallen- L. Depo-Shoryly
1-22-1910 Rob Hicks & Hazel Hale & Peck Harnton
1911, Dalorn Cox
1-28-1911, Delwin Cox -Dalorn Cox - D. Cox - George M. Peck
1-9-1912, Orian Wright
3-1913 - 9-1921 - 3-1923, Lucille McDuffee
10-14-1916 -2-9-1918 - 6-23-1919, Jack Howard
10-15-1916, Suley Patten
2-9-1918, Finlay Polber
9-29-1921, Melba Chidsey (age 13) - Mary Lane
4-22-1923 - 4-27-1933, Dutch Alrich
1925, Bob Perlick - F.L. Haywood (Jeweler)
3-13-1926, Narsen B. Nelson
3-13-1926, Ethel E. Moore 3:40 p.m. Class of 1927
1930, Mike H.
3-5-1930, Gay Anderson
3-25-1930, Earl Thomson
1-21-1931, Marian Howard
1933, John Bill
5-28-1937, Earle Bryant
1937 - 1957, Buddy (Bud) Batty
9-1-1940, Colleen Miller
9-29-1940, Betty Lovgren
4-19-1942, Erielegm Mc Tearim
1964, Rosie Denten
1-23-1973, Everett Keithley
1-23-1973 - 8-4-2013, Robert Harrison
10-16-1982, Dan James
5-24-1986, Ken Nairns
1986, K.C. Hicks
3-11-1986, D.NN B.
9-1-1986, Ed Struthers
4-30-1987, Donna Bergstrom - Maintenance Person
1-24-1992, Jerry Peck and Ray French
1992, Chris Mayen, Bend, OR
1992, Tim Hedman
10-10-2012, Tony Clement

Cardinal football ends season on upswing



Cardinal players get ready for a play in the team's final game for the 2013 season. Pictured are (L-R): Ione senior Dalton Hughes (behind Echo # 33), freshman Cord Flynn and senior Luke Jobes discuss the play with senior Bailey Haguewood. Cardinal senior Zane King, who played well all season at defense and offense, is at center placing the ball for the hike; freshman Donald McElligott and senior Joel Stillman are in the second line as running backs. -Photo by Paula Emmel

Cardinal football ended Echo. of #25 with a 3-6 overall its season with another win The 76-28 victory gave record and 2-3 league last Friday, this time against the lone team a 1A ranking record.

NRCS announces local EQIP application cutoff

Local farmers and ranchers interested in financial and technical assistance for conservation measures on their working lands have until Dec. 20 to apply for Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for the federal fiscal year 2014.

"EQIP is a voluntary conservation program to help farmers and ranchers improve and enhance the condition of water, soil, wildlife habitat, and other natural resources on private working lands," says Kacey Lathrop.

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) accepts

applications for EQIP year-round. Funding decisions, however, are made at cutoff points during the year, with the current ranking period closing on Dec. 20 for the following counties: Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Grant and Wheeler.

There are set priority areas, so interested parties should contact the office to see if they are located within the areas in which NRCS will be working. Conservation priorities in Morrow County include practices that address rangeland health, such as grazing management, stock water developments, cross fencing, herbaceous weed

control of annual grasses and broadleaves, rangeland seeding, and wildlife habitat improvements. On private forest lands, funding is for practices that target forest health and wildfire prevention, such as thinning and slash treatment.

Interested parties should contact the Heppner USDA-NRCS service center located at 430 Linden Way.

For more information about EQIP, including local ranking information, enrollment requirements and program payments, visit the Oregon NRCS web site at <http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov>.



As You Plan For Your Next Growing Season, Keep Us In Mind For Your Financing Needs

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