



the HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

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High winds take down power poles causing outage

High wind Sunday and early Monday morning brought down power poles in South Morrow County, causing an outage that lasted most of the night and into mid Monday morning. Wind gusts for the Heppner area reported by NOAA ranged from 45 to 56 mph from 10 p.m. Sunday to 3:30 a.m. Monday.

"The high winds last night took four transmission poles down between Heppner and Ruggs as well

as ten distribution poles down on the other side of Franklin Hill," Brian Kollman, Operations Manager for Columbia Basin Electric Co-operative told the Heppner Gazette-Times Monday. "With the drifting snow limiting our ability to access these areas, we were not able to restore power as quickly as we would have liked to, and we still have some members out of power in the Big Butter Creek area. We hope to



A tree fell across the street in Heppner after high winds early Sunday morning.

have everyone back on by tomorrow (Tuesday) evening," he said.



Deep snow drifts were reported on Sand Hollow Rd (left and above) by the Morrow County Road Department. The main arterial roads are cleared first, then the crews begin working on the secondary roads. According to Public Works, the crew is smaller than previous years and some of the equipment is down waiting for parts. Travelers are reminded to stay safe, check conditions prior to traveling and allow extra time. -Contributed photos.

Heppner's December warmer than normal

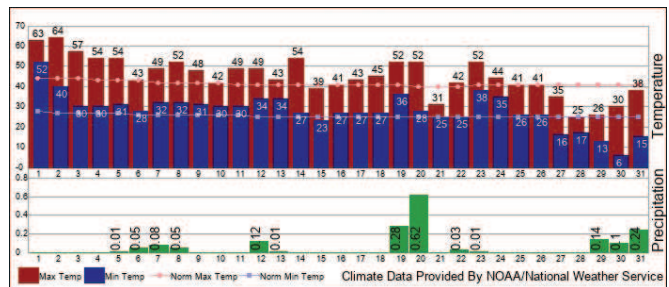
According to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton, temperatures at Heppner averaged warmer than normal during the month of December.

The average temperature was 36.6 degrees which was 3.1 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 45.1 degrees, which was 3.7 degrees above normal. The highest was 64 degrees on the 2nd. Low temperatures averaged 28.1 degrees, which was 2.6 degrees above normal. The lowest was six degrees, on the 30th.

There were 22 days with the low temperature below 32 degrees. There were four days when the high temperature stayed below 32 degrees.

Precipitation totaled 1.74 inches during December, which was 0.42 inches above normal. Measurable precipitation, at least .01 inch, was received on 13 days with the heaviest, 0.62 inches reported on the 20th.

Precipitation in 2021



totalled 9.60 inches, which is 4.40 inches below normal. Since October, the water year precipitation at Heppner has been 4.10 inches, which is 0.04 inches above normal.

Snowfall totaled 16 inches with at least one inch of snow reported on four days. The heaviest snowfall was 6.0 inches reported on the 31st. The greatest depth

of snow on the ground was six inches on the 31st.

The outlook for January from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for below normal temperatures and above normal precipitation. Normal highs for Heppner during January are 43.6 degrees and normal lows are 26.7 degrees. The 30 year normal precipitation is 1.47 inches.



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Heppner kids build Olaf the snowman



Deacon Turner and Evan Moore, Heppner, enjoy the snow by building "Olaf" the snowman. Deacon's parents are Cidney Coster and Damion Turner, and Evan's parents are Brittany Boothe and William Moore. -Contributed photo.

Chamber invites entrepreneurs to display wares

The Heppner Chamber of Commerce is seeking local entrepreneurs to display their wares in the chamber office in 2022. Chamber Director JoAnna Lamb is asking, "Are you an artist, crafter, author or creator of something you would like to explore more as a possible side business option for 2022? If so, the Heppner Chamber of Commerce is creating a space for you."

"Inside our office, we will be utilizing all this space that we have to become a micro storefront for chamber members or potential chamber members to sell their products," Lamb continued. The chamber is excited to bring new items to shoppers and build new relationships with potential entrepreneurs and their new clients.



Contact the Chamber at chamber@gmail.com for 541-676-5536 or heppner- additional details.

Chamber Director JoAnna Lamb (above right) has added display cases (left) in the chamber office to display the wares for local entrepreneurs.

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