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Apologies to County Commissioner candidate Walt Thompson (R) who is running for position No. 3 from Harbor. It was Walt who was third from the left in last week's photo of candidates that appeared at the chamber rally here on April 19, not commissioner Les Williams (D) who is seeking re-election to the same position. Matter of fact, Williams could not attend the event because of a meeting commitment.

In addressing the rally audience, Thompson said he was concerned about and would be dedicated to getting back to the basics in the operation of county government. He would favor no subsidies, he said, except in extreme cases. Thompson is not opposed in his bid for the Republican nomination.

Bruce Bobo is a Democrat seeking position No. 2 on the board of commissioners, a seat being vacated by Glen Hale who declined to seek another term. The county road department is of prime concern to Bobo, who is also opposed to the increase in costs for services. Bobo said that if he was elected he would seek citizen input, advocate open communication and be willing to supply complete reports of county business.

Another Democrat seeking Hale's position is Ed Crowder, now employed by the assessor's office. Crowder told the audience that he felt there was a "lot of fat" in the county budget and that the county is about broke and has no reserves. Curry is one of the richer counties, the candidate remarked, but has no thought for the future. "Everything in the county is poor," he claimed.

The only woman seeking election, Rose Kennedy (D) said she was asking for the position No. 2 nomination because she felt a woman should be on the board to help administer woman-child related services. She advocated a realistic evaluation of all spending, and zoning of the coast by coastal residents.

Buz McCully (D), also seeking nomination for position No. 2, said he favored a county car pool, realistic health and welfare programs for senior citizens. Logging, fishing and tourism are major sources of county revenue, McCully told the crowd, and should receive more concern. "I have the business experience that is vital to the job," McCully said.

Three Republicans are seeking nomination for position No. 2.

Bill Crook of Pistol River said he had been asked to run by people who were concerned that the county was at a crucial point. Truth in budgeting and an open, responsive government would be prime goals if elected, Crook said, along with a complete evaluation of every county department. Crook promised that he would serve, not just hold office, and that he would open the courthouse doors and keep 'em open.

Mike Fitzgerald, Brookings, said he felt that a condition prevailed to keep doctors out of the county by Dr. Williams and the county hospital board. The board had never answered a list of questions submitted to them by county budget member Brownie Coldiron and that situation should be cleared up, he said. Big problems are of local nature, he noted, and the biggest single threat is creeping bureaucracy.

Port Orford mayor Leon White offered a four point program to improve conditions in the county: economic growth, open government, efficient government, and lower property taxes. He said his four-year record as mayor qualified him in dealing with those matters. White also said he was of the opinion that the LCDC could be made to work if L.B. Day was removed from office. Another matter that concerned him, White pointed out, was an ultraconservative movement in the county that he felt might hinder progress. He accused Fitzgerald as being right in the middle of the group because of his affiliations with and backing from the Curry County Citizens Council and the Posse Comitatus, and his "friendship" with Council president Dorothy Brown.

Fitzgerald, given a chance to respond, denied being members of those groups and that he knew Dorothy Brown as the result of having been involved in a successful campaign to retain a gasoline bulk plant in Gold Beach some time back. His denial of backing was substantiated by Mrs. Sherry Rorex, who is a member of the council.

—P—

I said some unkind things about the county budget

LETTERS to the Editor

TO THE EDITOR:

Port Tax Base Increase

Taxpayers in the Port of Port Orford District: The Port Commission is proposing a tax base increase of 1400 percent. If you are a concerned taxpayer, why not attend the next Port meeting and find out what the funds are needed for.

Perhaps a citizen attending could come up with a new resource to help fund needed improvement to our Port. (Next Port meeting Monday, May 17, 7:00 p.m.)

BRICE WAGNER

TO THE EDITOR:

Lester Wheeler Superintendent-Clerk Intermediate Education Dist. Gold Beach, Oregon

Dear Les:

As I informed you during our telephone conversation today, we received a telephone call regarding Curry County's Federal Forest receipts. Realizing the financial impact for the schools, I wanted to get this information to you as quickly as possible.

Because the Federal Agencies are going to an October fiscal year beginning this year, we will have a September payment and then a one-quarter payment in January, 1977. Federal Forest receipts will be received in January of each year after this.

In September 1976, we will receive approximately \$1,350,000.00 and in January, 1977, we will receive approximately \$750,000.00. By law, the County Road Fund receives 75 percent of these funds and the County School Fund receives 25 percent.

This will mean additional resource money for the schools for their 1976-77 budget year, and if we use the current County School formula of distribution the break-down would be:

District 2CJ—Sept., \$62,903.25; Jan., \$34,946.25; total \$97,849.50.

District 3C—Sept., \$61,583.63; Jan., \$34,213.13; total \$95,796.76.

District 4—Sept., \$2,048.63; Jan., \$1,138.13; total \$3,186.76.

District 12—Sept., \$10,465.87; Jan., \$5,814.37; total \$16,280.24.

District 16—Sept., \$5,133.37; Jan., \$2,851.88; total \$7,985.25.

District 17C—Sept., \$154,683.00; Jan., \$85,935.00; total \$240,618.00.

District 23—Sept., \$5,997.37; Jan., \$3,331.87; total \$9,329.24.

District UH No. 1—Sept., \$34,684.88; Jan., \$19,269.37; total \$53,954.25.

Totals: Sept., \$337,500.00; Jan., \$187,500.00; grand total, \$525,000.00.

Yours Truly,
 EVELYN M. MOIR
 Treasurer
 Curry County, Oregon

Timber Sold

District Ranger F.W. Burgess announced the sale of timber from an area on the Gold Beach Ranger District of the Siskiyou National Forest. The apparent high bidder for the Five Corners timber sale on May 4, 1976, was South Coast Lumber Company. The advertised price was \$72.74 per MBF for 760 MBF Douglas fir, \$99.35 per MBF for 180 MBF Port Orford cedar, \$34.90 per MBF for 50 MBF incense cedar and other coniferous species, \$126.51 per MBF for 50 MBF sugar pine, and \$45.63 per acre for 35 acres of all species subject to per acre pricing.

South Coast Lumber Company bid \$369.00 per MBF for the Douglas fir. All other items sold at a fixed rate as advertised. Other bidders on the sale were Hank Westbrook, R.L. Matthews, and Brookings Plywood Corporation.

committee last week after they dropped the annual \$2,000 allocation they've been giving to each county chamber to assist with local promotion programs. I'd like those nice gentlemen to know that I didn't mean a word of it. I just simply spoke in haste during the heat of a bad week and I shouldn't have been nasty. Besides, they put the money back.

Dunk Tank Is Being Built

The chamber of commerce Monday approved the purchase of materials for the construction of the tripping mechanism for a dunk tank to be used during the July 2-3-4 Jetty Jubilee bicentennial celebration. President Bob Sutton said he would build the device, and the volunteer fire department agreed to build the tank to hold the water.

"Those projects will be the easy part," Sutton remarked, "the hard part will be in talking postmaster Warren Jewell into sitting on the seat while scores of people throw softballs at the trigger."

It was also agreed to purchase programs, posters and handouts for use at the community church services and dedication ceremony planned for the morning of July 4 in the new community building.

In a unanimous vote, it was agreed to invite former Port Orford high school teacher and basketball coach Ruth Clark to serve as grand marshal for the Jubilee parade.

Sutton reported that the county budget committee had reinstated funds in the amount of \$2,000 to all three county chambers after they had been dropped in favor of the county using the funds to publish a county publicity brochure. The action was taken after Sutton and Gold Beach chamber president Bob Mathers appeared before the committee last Thursday in an appeal for return of the funds.

As another feature of the Jubilee, the chamber will sponsor a contest that will offer a portable AC/DC tv set as top prize.

Dement Takes McKenzie Spot

Sam Dement, Myrtle Point, has been appointed coordinator of the Mann for Treasurer Committee for Coos and Curry Counties. The announcement was made by Frank Day, Portland, chairman of the state committee.

Dement, a former state legislator, succeeds Rod McKenzie of Sixes as area coordinator. McKenzie advised Day his health wouldn't permit him to give sufficient time to the task.

Dement will direct the area campaign on behalf of Irvin Mann Jr., candidate for the Republican nomination for state treasurer. Mann, a rancher and businessman now living in Carlton, served four terms in the Oregon Legislature and was state director of agriculture for 3½ years.

Tax Payment Due Saturday

Third quarter taxes on 1975-76 tax year are due and payable on Saturday, May 15, according to Elaine Pommarane, chief tax deputy. Interest will be charged and collected on any taxes or installment thereof, not so paid, at the rate of one percent per month, or fraction of a month until paid in full.

Executions will be served after May 15 on judgments obtained by Curry County in Circuit Court for delinquent personal property taxes. These judgments are on a variety of assessments: mobile homes, restaurant furniture and equipment, commercial fishing boats, various inventories, logging and construction equipment and livestock. Personal property taxes are both a lien on the item assessed in addition to the individual, individuals of a partnership or corporation appearing on the tax roll as owning the property on January 1, 1975. The County Judgment docket is a public record maintained by the County Clerk. Those who believe they may be included in this process should contact either the District Attorney or the Tax Department; notices were sent on April 16, 1976 indicating the County would secure executions to collect these judgments. Liens have already been filed on real property owned by those with docketed judgments.

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Citizens Group Meets Tonight

The regular meeting of the Curry Citizen's Committee for Involvement will be held Thursday, May 13, (tonight), at the Courthouse in the Commissioner's Conference room, Gold Beach, at 7:30 p.m.

The group will be reviewing the recent Harbor-Winchuck Hearing and making further plans in accordance to the Planning Commission's work schedule.

These meetings are open to the public. For further information, call the Curry County Planning Department, Curry County Courthouse, 247-7011, ext. 227.

Obituaries

Verne Ratzburg

Verne L. Ratzburg, Sixes rancher, died May 8 in Gold Beach at the age of 60. He was born Aug. 5, 1915, in Gates and was a logger until he moved to Sixes in 1954 and began ranching.

Mr. Ratzburg is survived by his widow, Helen; mother, Edna Ratzburg of North Bend; brothers, Robert B. of Bend and Frederick of Oswego, N.Y.

Services were held Wednesday, May 12, in Rigdon's Mortuary, Salem, with interment following in Restlawn Cemetery, Salem. Local arrangements were by Gold Beach Funeral Home.

Victor Denn

Arrangements are pending by Bandon Chapel of Coos Mortuaries for funeral services for Victor J. Denn, 76, Sixes, who died Tuesday, May 11, at Curry General Hospital.

Common Stock Increase Up

State Treasurer Jim Redden announced today that the first quarter of 1976 saw the largest increase in the value of the common stock portfolio, for any quarter, in the history of the state's investment program.

In his quarterly report on all investments, Redden said that the stock portfolio portion of the investments had increased more than \$39.4 million during the first quarter and that the increase for the last 16 month period ending March 31, 1976 exceeded \$90.2 million.

Redden noted, however, that the earnings were "paper gains and must be evaluated in terms of the total number of investments over a long term basis."

The long term investments, other than those in the stock portfolio, totaled \$1.3 billion and earned approximately \$17.2 million. The Public Employee Retirement System makes up the bulk of this category. "Public employees can be proud of their system that is fully funded and ranks in the top quartile nationally in performance," Redden stated.

Redden's office had under management, for investment, a total of \$2.3 billion on March 31, 1975. This total amount included both state funds and trust funds. The state funds, including general fund and state agency dollars, totaled \$450 million. During the first quarter the investment of those funds earned \$7,507,309. "These are significant earnings, and they represent dollars now available for services from sources other than taxes," Redden explained.

Redden also announced earnings for the Local Government Investment Pool. The pool, developed by Redden, is designed to help local government invest their idle funds. During the first quarter, the pool had an average of \$273 million invested with a yield of 6.28 percent and a total earnings of \$4,351,474. "Once again, these earnings for the participating 165 local governments, provides services to taxpayers from a source other than property taxes," Redden stated.

Totally \$68.4 million were earned by the Treasurer's Office and the stock portfolio independent money managers during the first quarter of 1976.

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PIONEERS—Mr. and Mrs. Asa Carpenter of Carpenterville are the 1976 Pioneers of the Year in Brookings, and they will be honored during the Azalea Festival May 28-31. They were photographed recently at the Chetco Valley Museum in Harbor.

Local Economy Showing Gain

Employment was up and unemployment down on the South Coast in April. Both normal seasonal gains and real improvement in the local economy were evident in the increased hiring activity.

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

Wood products employment was up substantially in April as a major Coos Bay lumber mill reopened after a nine month closure, putting about 110 workers back on the job. Logging employment also picked up as fair weather prevailed through most of the month. Several mill spokesmen noted a slight increase in wood products demand, but production and mill prices remained relatively stable.

Seafood processing employment also increased with the opening of commercial shrimp season. High winds continued to be a problem for fishermen, however, and most canneries indicated that catches would have been much larger had boats been able to stay out for more than one or two days. Bottomfish and some crab were being processed in addition to the shrimp.

Spokesmen for the retail trades and dining and lodging facilities all reported increased business as a result of the improving economic climate. "People seem to be more free with their money" was the way one store manager put it. The first signs of increased tourist activity were also noted, although it will be another month or so before summer hiring begins.

Increased shipping activity kept local longshoremen and even some out-of-town gangs busy throughout the month. The largest gains seemed to be in lumber and log exports, as the wood chip market continued slow.

Spokesmen for the con-

SCHOOL MENUS

MAY 17-21

Monday: Beef callop and mashed potatoes, green beans, jello, rolls.

Tuesday: Creamed tuna over biscuits, peanut butter filled celery, carrots, pudding.

Wednesday: Beef stew, cottage cheese, pears, hot rolls.

Thursday: Spaghetti, green salad, marble cake, garlic bread.

Friday: Barbequed weiners, french fries, corn, fruit, cinnamon rolls.

In ancient Rome, a boy was stationed at the door of a mansion to caution visitors not to cross the threshold with their left foot, which would have been an ill omen.

Cash Up For Child Care

Frank Kovalik of Gold Beach, chairperson of the Coos-Curry Child Care (4-C) Council announced today that the organization has been successful in obtaining an increase in funds for the fiscal beginning July 1, 1976.

"In the past Coos and Curry counties have received much less than their fair share of the state's child care funds," Ms. Kovalik stated. "Now, after many hours of effort on the part of the volunteer members of the 4-C Council who waged a year-long campaign, for the first time we will be receiving an equitable piece of the pie."

The Council will receive \$134,260 from the Department of Human Resources to provide child care subsidy for children of families who need child care because the parents are working, in a training program, or are temporarily incapacitated. The amount of subsidy any particular family receives is based on their gross income and family size; most families pay a part of the cost themselves.

"We are able to offer subsidy only to those families who are not receiving welfare payments and whose income does not exceed maximums set by the state. The idea behind the program, which uses a combination of state and federal funds and which

exists statewide, is to enable families to become or remain self sufficient. Most of the requests for subsidy come from single parent families who, if they couldn't get help with the cost of day care for their children, would have no option but to go on welfare to survive," Ms. Kovalik added.

The 4-C Council was first organized locally in 1974, and has provided service to 125 different children in the two counties since that time.

"This represents an average of 35 children at any one time; with our long-awaited fund increase we will be able to serve 80 children at a time. We will also be able to expand the number of locations where this subsidy is available. We have been serving children cared for at the Bandon Day Care Center, Myrtle Point Day Care Center, Gold Beach Day Care Center, Bay Area Child Care Center in Coos Bay, and Latch Key programs in Gold Beach and Empire. We now hope to extend service to Coquille, Powers, Lakeside, Charleston, Port Orford, and Brookings through the placement of children in family day care homes," Ms. Kovalik concluded.

Anyone interested in obtaining more information may contact the 4-C Council office in the Neighborhood Facility Building, Coos Bay, 888-3291.

Capital Ideas

WASHINGTON EVENTS AFFECTING OUR COMMUNITY

HELP: Many concerned Washington officials question why a subsidy for the United States Post Office is difficult to obtain, while a subsidy to the railroads or airline industry is part of our national policy. No one has officially suggested the railroads or airlines reduce weekend service rather than receive increased subsidies.



SELF-SUPPORTING? Many people who say the Post Office should pay its own way may not realize that most agencies do not. The Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the Department of Commerce, the Price Support Program of the Commodity Credit Corporation and the Federal Aviation Administration all receive government support.

ECONOMY: According to the National Association of Letter Carriers, unless a substantial postal subsidy, such as the legislation sponsored by Chairman James M. Hanley of the House Postal Service Subcommittee and Chairman Gale W. McGee of

establishment is going to go down the drain, causing a great deal of unemployment and harming the economy.

FAIR PLAY: Some people think the Post Office should pay its own way because it imposes specified charges on identifiable patrons. The Department of the Interior imposes specified charges on those who use our National Parks, yet those charges are not high enough to pay for the entire cost of maintaining those facilities at a break-even basis. If such a policy were in effect, the usage fee might amount to \$1,000 a person.