

Capital punishment & housewives

To the Editor:

I am a country housewife, mother of three small children, and originator of a 21,000 member Citizen's Action Group for Capital Punishment Legislation.

adjoining rooms.

It was apparent some of our elected officials had made a personal decision on the issue without considering the facts presented by their constituents. As an example, several authorities cited studies showing the deterrent

Public Forum

I felt honored to give testimony on April 26, 1981 at a House Judiciary Committee/hearing in Salem on proposed capital punishment legislation. Our witnesses were well-prepared and included a panel of Oregon Bar Association members, a minister with a national radio program who has written a book on capital punishment, and a criminal defense attorney who has written a constitutionally-upheld capital punishment law.

During our time to speak and to represent our neighbors' viewpoints, it was obvious some of the voting members on the Judiciary Committee were less than interested. I had always imagined the legislature to be made up of men and women of integrity. I was shocked at the rudeness of the Chairman of the Committee as he chatted during testimony, including mine. Further, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee wandered from the room continually, pausing to chat with people in

effect of capital punishment and the fact untold lives could be saved. Rep. Hendrickson of Eugene preferred to concentrate on the idea of "vengeance". It was unclear how the definition of the word applied on the subject of the evening.

Some of the Committee members were attentive and interested. To say that every Committee member was rude would be wrong. We need legislators who represent our beliefs, such as Norm Smith, Ted Bugas, Tip Lombard and Peter Courtney. Even Dick Springer, who is on record as against capital punishment legislation, gave his undivided attention.

What is the reward an inattentive legislator should receive?...A Medal of Valor?... A Legislative Purple Heart? In my opinion, it is replacement in the very next election.

DeDi Streich
Concerned Oregonians For Justice
Sherwood, Oregon

The West Oregon Electric Coop and all other electric utilities in the country are required to set up rules and regulations to interconnect with consumer-owned generators to make use of wind and other renewable energy sources for generating electricity. As required by Sections 201 and 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policy Act (PURPA) of 1978, we will be holding a public meeting Wednesday evening, May 20, 1981 at West Oregon Electric at 7 pm to discuss the proposed rules for the interconnection of renewable energy sources.

The concept of connecting these dispersed, uncontrolled generators to our electric distribution system raises complex issues and questions which require thoughtful attention. One of the major questions is how do we assure safety and electric protection and avoid equipment damage and hazards to the public, line crews and owners of the generators.

As we enter an era of energy shortage, the concept of interconnecting any electrical energy source with our facilities has merit; however, the use of small electrical energy sources with an operating utility system is not as simple as it might seem. It is the UECA's intention to try to develop reasonable operating procedures for these small facilities. If you have been considering such a move, we welcome you to meet with our staff people to discuss the details of such a project.

George L. Smith
Manager

5-14

New city ordinances appall local dog lover

To the Editor:

As a dog lover, I was appalled to learn of the decisions reached by our city council with regard to the dog control problem. The objections I am stating, however, are strictly fundamental. I would like to make

three points:

1. \$500 is comparable to a fine that would possibly be imposed for driving while intoxicated.
2. The parents of delinquent, vandalizing minor children are not fined for their behavior.
3. \$500 is more than the fine for

possession of marijuana; or first offense for possession of small quantities of other drugs.

Can our dog control problem realistically be classified in the category of any of the above problems?

I find the city's plan ludicrous, AT BEST.

Ms. Patrice Lockrem
Vernonia

COLCO ride policy defined

To the Editor:

It is our policy here at COLCO Transportation to accept calls for rides that come in at least 24 hours in advance. As it is not only expensive to keep the vans running but gas costs are covered by donations as well, we use the following suggested donation scale: in town, fifty cents; out-of-town four miles or more, \$1; while trips further than four miles from town cost more. All donations go towards insurance costs and maintenance as well as gas.

Our nutrition program, SNAPP, is

also run entirely by donation. Meals provided under this program cost one dollar each with any surplus in donations going towards other center expenses. Meals will be served five days a week beginning June 1, until then we will continue serving meals at noon Monday through Thursday. Each donation, whether of time or money, is deeply appreciated as it is impossible to run the Vernonia Senior Center without them.

We thank you.

Gertrude Schalock
Vernonia Senior Center

Vernonia Freedom

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Property tax payments due May 15

The third and final payment of the 1980-81 Real and Personal property taxes are due on May 15, 1981. They must be paid at the tax office in the courthouse in St. Helens or by mail. If mailed the envelope must be post marked on or before May 15 to avoid interest of one percent on the delinquent amounts.

This is the first year that the taxes are payable in three installments, November 15, February 15 and May 15, previously the last payment was due on August 15.

Many taxpayers assumed when the state legislators changed the payment schedule in 1979 that the three payments were due every four months, this is not the case. The intent was to eliminate the August 15 payment in order for the taxing district to receive their portion of the taxes collected during the fiscal year of July-1 to June 30.

Taxpayer may call the tax office at 397-0060 if they have any questions regarding their taxes.

JUVENILE SERVICES

The Columbia County Juvenile Services Commission met on April 29 in the conference room of Columbia County courthouse.

Decisions were made to fund the following proposals for the 1981-1982 year:

Boys and Girls Aid expanded family services at \$32,780.

Scappoose Alternative School at \$25,000.

Alcohol and Drug Education in Schools and Youth Alcohol Information School at \$1250.

Parent Training Network at \$844.

These programs will be funded with State Juvenile Services Act funds.

The rough draft of the Columbia County Comprehensive Plan was reviewed and will be submitted to the County Commissioners for their approval at their May 6 meeting.

Do you really want to pay \$300,000 more PUD taxes?

Since 1940 the Columbia River PUD has levied taxes numerous times on citizen's property. In addition it received approval for a \$17 million bond issue — and you still haven't received one kilowatt of PUD electricity. Now they want you to approve \$300,000 more in taxes for lawyers and other costs — with still no power.

Haven't you had enough tax increases?

The only way you can stop it is by voting...

NO on the \$300,000 PUD tax levy, May 19th.

People Opposing PUD Debt Committee, Betty Applegate, Treasurer, 250 Belton Rd., St. Helens, OR 97051