

GTE requests \$24.7 million rate increase

On June 26, 1981, General Telephone Co. of the Northwest filed its first rate increase request since 1975 with the Public Utility Commissioner of Oregon. The amount being requested is \$24.7 million.

Jay Sherar, vice president and general manager, in testimony prepared for the Commission, stated that increasing costs of attracting capital, rapid growth, an expanded construction program and service improvement activity during the past six years were the reasons the company is seeking the 23 percent increase in state revenues.

As a part of the filing, the company has requested interim relief of \$4.4 million in revenues to recover changed accounting regulations enacted by the Federal Communications Commission relating to installation of the customer's premise wiring equipment

and changes in depreciation rates.

"The relief that is being requested is necessary," said Sherar, "in order for the company to remain financially

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sound and improve it's recently lowered bond ratings. During a time of high interest rates, double-digit inflation and increased operating costs, we must be able to attract external capital at the most reasonable rates in order to finance continued construction programs and to maintain a high quality of service."

If approved by the Commissioner, basic one-party residential rates for

General Telephone customers would increase in the range of \$.97 to \$5.05 per month. Individual rates would vary across the state, depending on the size of the exchange involved, the local calling availability and the type of service being provided.

Kudos to Rep. Davis on capital punishment

To the Editor:

Just when a few members of this legislature had the whole state believing that capital punishment was a dead issue, we see that it is alive and kicking.

Oregonians applaud Rep. Drew Davis and his committee members; Rep. Larry Campbell, Rep. Robert Harper, and Rep. Caroline Magruder, for their courage in getting a capital punishment bill to the floor of the House.

Rep. Davis and his committee are now coming under severe criticism for their bold attempt. Opponents of capital punishment legislation are upset because now all representatives will have to go on record as either supporting the mandate of the people or voting their own opinion instead.

Sometime during the week of June 28, procedural moves will be made to block this bill (SB 598). The bill merely seeks to refer this issue to the citizens of Oregon for the May 1982 primary election. Those attempting to block SB 598 will really be saying, that they do not want to let the citizens of this state have a choice.

Everyone should be listening when the roll call is taken. Oregonians will have an accurate record of the position of every representative.

Well done, Rep. Davis and committee. We need more like you!

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announcements

Kay Batty, a 1977 graduate of Vernonia High School, recently completed her four year program at Eastern Oregon State College in LaGrande. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Economics. Kay graduated Magna Cum Laude and was awarded the EOSC Student Academic Award in Accounting.

Kay is currently touring Europe for six weeks with a student study group from college. She will be visiting, England, Belgium and Germany. Her tentative plans for the coming year include a job in Bend, Oregon with the IRS.

Kay is the daughter of Joe and Sharon Batty, teachers in the Vernonia school system.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Chip Bubl, the Columbia County Extension Agent, will be in Vernonia every other week starting Friday, March 27. He can be reached from 9:30 am - 12 noon at the West Oregon Electric Co-op. The afternoons will be reserved for farm visits. If you would like more information call 397-3462.

MEETING NOTICE

The Columbia Education Service District Board will meet in regular session Wednesday, July 8, 1981, 7:30 pm in the Columbia Education Service District office, 1290 Deer Island Road, St. Helens, Oregon.

There will be a meeting of the Columbia County District Boundary Board that same evening beginning at 7:30 pm.

SWAP WOOD FOR SHOES

Norman Davis, local Mason shoe representative, is willing to trade a pair of quality Mason shoes for a cord of wood donated to the Senior Citizen Center. For more information call 429-5805 before 11 am and after 2 pm.

newcomers...

Simon Peter Acton

Judy and Wayne Acton are proud to announce the birth of their son, Simon Peter, born on June 25, 1981 at 2:53 am. Simon was born at Dr. Bour's birthing cabin in Forest Grove and weighed in at 9 lbs. 10 oz.

Simon will be joining his brothers Jason, 6, and James, 2, at their home in Vernonia.

Fire dept. thankful for generous donations

To the Editor:

Northwest Natural Gas Company recently donated a 1969 Chevrolet step van, one ton to the Vernonia Fire Department, to replace the 1953 Ford half-ton van. John Dotter and Mike Dotter gave up their Memorial Day weekend to do the body work and paint the van. Don Huss donated his shop and some of the materials. Brunsman Hardware donated some lights and sold the fire department much of the materials below retail. Dennis Dobson donated his time to do the lettering. The Vernonia Ambulance Association donated a lighting system. Roy Sanders, Lanny McDonald and family, Lyle Barker and family, Greg Port, and Don Webb donated their time and expertise to put the van into service.

The Vernonia Fire Department would like to thank everyone for their help in getting the job done.

We would also like to thank the following individuals with their recent help remodeling tanker 456:

Norm Warwick
Gary Everett
Terry Schaumburg
Norm Hamnett
Don Webb
Lyle Barker
Dennis Weller
Crown Zellerbach
West Oregon Electric
Hillsboro Fire Dept.
Lanny McDonald

Lanny McDonald
Fire Chief
V.V.F.D.

4-C's lending library open

The 4-C (Columbia County Children's Commission) Lending Library has just completed its yearly inventory and is now opened for members to check out toys and resource books.

This service is available free of charge to the day care providers that are registered with the 4-C office. Persons living in Columbia County may purchase a toy lending library card for a fee of \$3 per year, which entitles them to check out toys and resource books. There are toys available for all age groups.

More information can be obtained by calling the 4-C office at 397-5442 or in the toy library located upstairs of St. Helens City Hall, Room 9, just above St. Helens Public Library.

Sally Navarro has joined the 4-C staff for the summer months and will be in charge of the Toy Library. The library is open Monday through Friday from 9:00-5:00, closed from 12:00-1:00 daily.

Ladies golf news

Tuesday morning the Ladies Golf Association was host for a group of players from the St. Helens club. There were 24 players in all. Fifteen from St. Helens and 9 from Vernonia. After the match a delicious buffet was served by Irmi Brown. Everyone enjoyed the day.

Nine women also attended regular play that night. Vesta King with a total of 16 putts was the winner for the least putts.

Vernonia Freedom

Published weekly in Vernonia Oregon, 97064, on Thursdays at 825 Bridge St. Serving The Upper Nehalem Valley. Phone 429-8111. Subscriptions, \$8 per year.

Deadlines for copy and classified advertising: Monday at 5 pm for the following Thursday's paper.

Deadline for display advertising: Friday for normal material and Monday for after-weekend copy.

Second-Class Postage Paid at Vernonia, OR 97064. Publication No. 474-690. POSTMASTER: send address changes to Vernonia Freedom, 825 Bridge St., Vernonia, OR 97064.

Dennis Dobson..... publisher-editor
Ann Dobson..... publisher-business manager

429-8111



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

THE N.V.R.P. (swimming pool project) and the Rebekah Lodge are sponsoring the Pancake Breakfast for this year's Jamboree. Six teenagers are needed for waitressing. They will be paid for just two hours work. Several adults are also needed. Please call Mary Self at 429-4102 if you can help out.

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