

JUST THINKING



If you noticed the little item at the bottom of page one of this issue, you will have discovered that we have no coverage of the city council meeting until next week. The notice of course, is rather cryptic. "Due to the holiday..." doesn't really say much. But it means a lot.

There was no one to cover the meeting last night. We were all down here slaving away because most of our news wasn't received until Tuesday afternoon. This was in part due to the three-day weekend; but the icy roads played their part, also. Mail was late from Portland because of poor road conditions and folks were straggling in last night as late as 9 p.m. with items that had to go in, they said. Well, we try to please.

So next week we will have the council story. Hope this doesn't inconvenience anyone.

Speaking of icy roads—did you go to work Tuesday? Lots of people didn't I understand. Even this morning (Wednesday) roads in the Gresham-Troutdale area were still in bad shape. I had trouble just getting to the car yesterday and I was glad it was my son driving and not me. What a way to end a holiday weekend!

If you get a chance, be sure to read the commissioners report; especially the part

about sheep killing. Seems it contains some valuable information that many of us didn't realize. Such as the fact that the clerk's office must be notified in person or by mail less than ten days after the discovery of loss of livestock due to predators which includes dogs roaming at large. I gathered from the report that the form is actually an affidavit and must be notarized. Norm Davis tells me he left some forms at the local police station for anyone who has lost livestock, fowls, etc. to predators—but even though a form is filled out here, it must evidently be notarized then mailed back to the county clerk's office in St. Helens with a postmark within the ten-day range.

You can learn a lot by reading those commissioners reports. They keep you up to date on what's happening on the other side of the hill. I found one little nugget that I didn't know. All the information I received on Trojan from the anti-nuclear people implied that the worse danger from the plant was due to the storage of nuclear waste. Thanks to the commissioners report, I have since found out that at present no nuclear waste at all has been stored at Trojan. So here I am, still looking for that imminent danger.

COLUMBIA COUNTY BOARD

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners met in regular session December 21 with Chairman Robert Hunt presiding, Commissioners Cleo W. Horn and A.J. Ahlborn, county counsel John Hunnicutt, and board secretary Gloria Salvey (deputy clerk) present. Also in attendance was Fred Schall, candidate for commissioner.

The minutes of the meeting of December 7 and those of the public hearing on the VanEeten appeal heard November 3, were approved.

Werner Stork, together with George Carter, manager of the visitor information center at Trojan, met with the board regarding a previous request for the board to sign a resolution regarding spent fuel storage at Trojan. Carter presented photographs of the existing spent fuel storage area, and showed how the racks would be increased to increase storage space. He stated that PGE is in the process now of installing the different racks, pending approval by the NCR, because of the fact there is no spent fuel stored at the present time, thereby eliminating any possibility of problems in changing the racks after the spent fuel has started to be stored. Carter noted the storage capacity increase was necessary because of a change in federal regulations, which has eliminated the planned storage area until 1985, with no provisions having been made for storage at any other places than the nuclear sites until that time. Following Carter's presentation, Commissioner Horn moved and Commissioner Ahlborn seconded a proposed resolution prepared by Stork be approved, following the

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Letter to the Editor

To the editor:

Will the person or persons responsible for the dumping or spilling of oil into street drains please call a halt to this practice as of now. In the last several weeks oil has reached Bear Creek Creek through these drains in considerable amounts and has, of course, made its way on downstream into Rock Creek.

The amount of oil involved rules out the possibility of it being merely a washing of the streets by heavy rain.

Aside from the obvious dangers of dumping combustible fluids into our storm sewers, dumping or allowing oil to escape into our streams carries a heavy penalty. Used oil filters have also been thrown into Bear Creek which also causes a considerable oil slick to develop. We in the Izaaks have always been concerned about water pollution of all kinds, and are now asking the people of Vernonia to help in keeping our waters clean for the benefit of all.

Rob King
Chairman - Fish & Waters
Committee
Nehalem Valley Chapter
Izaak Walton League

To The Editor

To the editor:

My husband and I were among the Senior Citizens invited to Washington Grade School for Christmas dinner.

It was very delicious and there were plenty of seconds for everyone.

Our waitresses were really something and we did appreciate the good service.

The school should be highly commended for such a meal. To top off the dinner we were invited upstairs to the auditorium and heard the origin of the Christmas carols, the wonderful band music, and the beautiful singing by the students.

We did enjoy the play put on and sung by the kindergarten students and others.

It was a very wonderful day and we want to thank each and everyone who had a part in it.

Sincerely,
and Happy Holidays
John and Ida Kudrna



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