

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836
Phone 676-9228

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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That Giant Leap

"A small step for man, a giant leap for mankind." As Americans ponder those words of Neal Armstrong, the first man to set foot on the moon, it is heartwarming to sit back and realize that that small step may hopefully be the first step in unifying the world.

Some people still may not believe it. It is indeed difficult to realize, but we saw it, and we know that this task has been accomplished.

The impact of Armstrong's, and Edwin Aldrin's feat should be much greater than just, "We put a man on the moon."

It should make us see that there is hope here on earth to solve our problems. If man can reach out into the heavens, he should be able to end poverty, hunger, war, hate and racial discrimination.

The mission of Apollo XI seems to have already unified Americans. It may be purely coincidental, but there is less racial violence this summer than last year.

Let us put our eyes on the moon. But let us keep our feet on the ground, and work toward solving these less complex problems that exist here on the earth.

This morale-boosting moonshot should help.

Farm Safety--A Year-Around Job

That this week is Farm Safety Week brings into focus a little more sharply the job Morrow county farmers have in keeping their ranches and farms free from accidents.

"American agriculture has advanced more in the past 50 years than in all our prior history," President Richard Nixon says in a proclamation of the week. "Our abundance is a powerful force for world peace."

According to the President, the dollar cost to the nation approaches \$2 billion annually. The toll of accidents continues.

Our Morrow county farmers seemingly have few accidents. But each one of the few reminds us that there is danger in working around the farm, and that every measure against accidents should be taken.

There's no reason to put it off until after harvest. By then, we'll all forget about Farm Safety Week until next year. Instead, let's make safety a year-around job. We don't need to lose a local rancher through an accident that could have been prevented.

It is Enough

The East Oregonian, in an editorial the other day, says the "establishment" will be pleased with the results of an editorial in the Corvallis Gazette-Times which stands up for defense spending.

According to the Pendleton paper, "The (Corvallis) G-T acknowledged that the annual rate of defense spending has reached \$81 billion but emphasized that in terms of percentages of the gross national product, defense spending is at its lowest point since World War II."

Then, says the E-O, "The G-T closed with this clincher: 'Those who claim we could solve much of our poverty and underprivileged problem with the money spent in Vietnam should realize that if the money were distributed among the 26 million Americans estimated to be living under the poverty line each would get \$3,115.38. Hardly enough to pull oneself out of economic chaos permanently.'"

That last statement is not any clincher. If a man, his wife and three children were living under the poverty line, by the Corvallis paper's method, each would get the \$3,000, making a total of \$15,576.90. There are a lot of Morrow county people with three children who would like to make that much money annually.

We don't feel that \$81 billion is going for a good purpose. That is not to say the money should be distributed among the poor of this nation.

But the fact that many Americans could be so much better off if the money were not spent in Vietnam provides powerful ammunition against any further escalation of defense spending.

The Rhyming Philosopher

ULTIMATUM

This is now that silly season
Which for some reputed reason
They call summer -- It's the time to just relax.
Like go camping by the seashore
Which is nice, but can you be sure
That the picture really fits in with the facts?

You can dream, like dreams are made for,
But there's things that must be paid for,
And you'd better fix the roof before the rain.
So there's little time for wishing
You could pack up and go fishing;
Maybe next year this is something you'll attain.

Now the bathroom needs re-doing
Though you'd rather go canoeing.
Someone has to paint the fence around the lot.
And the chimney must be reamed out,
While the cesspool must be cleaned out,
So you look around to find what help you've got.

For the lawn still keeps on growing
And the weeds require some hoeing,
And who will take your place as mortgagee?
Who will buy the meat and parsley?
It's a good thing that you asked me --
Take a look into the mirror and you'll see!

HARRY W. FLETCHER

PROPERTY TAX FAX

If you have a question concerning real or personal property please state all the facts as briefly as possible and mail it to Joyce Rich, Morrow county special assessor, under the name "PROPERTY TAX FAX". Please ask only one question per sheet. Then watch this column for the answer.

QUESTION:
In computing my household income when applying for a senior citizen's exemption on property taxes, can I deduct my church contributions in order to reduce the household income below \$2,500?

ANSWER:
The answer is no. The legislature provided clear standards by defining income (in part) to mean "adjusted gross income" as defined under the income tax law ORS 316.035. Those items deductible from adjusted gross income for personal income tax purposes (such as church deductions) must be included in the household income.

Social Security Taxes Due for Household Help

Housewives who pay someone \$50 or more for household services during any three-month calendar quarter must report these payments and pay the Social Security taxes due to the Internal Revenue Service, A. G. Erickson, District Director for Oregon, said the report for the April, May and June calendar quarter is due July 31, 1969.

The Social Security tax on household wages is 4.8 percent for the employer and 4.8 percent for employee. When the quarterly report is filed, a check or money order representing 9.6 percent of the cash wages reported for the period should be included with the return.

Form 942, Employer's Quarterly Tax Return for Household Employees, is used to report the Social Security taxes due. After the first one is filed, a copy of Form 942 is mailed to every employer in time for the next quarterly report.

Erickson said that anyone who hires a maid, cleaning woman, cook, governess, housekeeper, caretaker, gardener or chauffeur will be liable for Social Security taxes if cash wages of \$50 a quarter are paid to one employee. Money given to employees for carfare is to be counted in total wages paid. However, the value of meals is not included.

Failure to pay Social Security taxes can delay payments and decrease the amount of benefits upon retiring.

IRS then has to secure delinquent returns, Forms 942, from the employer, sometimes covering several years with a substantial amount of taxes and penalties due.

No taxes are due on amounts paid to persons who are independent contractors and not household employees. Erickson said this exempts payments to painters, plumbers, repairmen, carpenters and others who provide household services as independent contractors.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

MORROW COUNTY PICNIC
Annual Summer Picnic for former and present residents of Morrow County
Laurelhurst Park, Portland
Sunday, August 3, noon
Coffee served, Bring friends.

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER
Center open Friday afternoon, July 25, to Senior Citizens and friends of area.
Social time together, from 2:00 p.m.
Gilliam and Bisbee Building

RHEA CREEK GRANGE SUMMER PICNIC
Sunday, August 17, noon
Anson Wright Memorial Park
All Grange members and families

4-H HORSE SHOW
Sunday, August 10, from 9:00 a.m.
County Fairgrounds
All day competition for 4-H club members

PRINCESS DANCE
Honoring Janet Palmateer
Music by The Spring Rain of Pendleton
Saturday, July 26, 9:30 p.m.-1:00 a.m.
Fair Pavilion, Heppner
Sponsored by Willows Grange of Ione

SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY
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Heppner



Salem Scene

By Everett E. Cutler

Form, Rate Changes Simplify State Tax

"I got the April 15 blues. From my eyebrows to my shoes."
—Traditional American refrain.

Paying state personal income taxes is not expected to be any less painful, but thanks to the 1969 legislature Oregonians now will have an easier time figuring out their shares.

Effective retroactively to January 1 this year, House Bill 1026 simplifies Oregon's complex tax law by relating state and federal taxable income. It is considered to be the most significant change in Oregon's personal income tax in its 40-year history.

It does not mean that state taxes will be assessed as a flat percentage of federal taxes paid, as is done in some states. It does provide that federal taxable income as defined in the Internal Revenue Code and reported on federal returns, plus certain deductions and plus some additions, is taxable income for purposes of Oregon's personal income tax.

Allowable deductions from federal taxable income in arriving at state taxable income include:

—Amount of any federal income taxes actually paid by the taxpayer during the taxable year less the amount of any refunds or abatement of federal taxes paid or credited to the taxpayer.

—Certain retirement incomes.
—Interest or dividends on obligations of the U. S. and its territories and possessions exempt from state taxation.

—Additions to federal taxable income include:

—Amount of any Oregon income taxes deducted on the taxpayer's federal income tax return for the taxable year, less any refunds or abatement of Oregon income taxes paid or credited to the taxpayer.

—Interest or dividends on obligations or securities of any

foreign state or political subdivision of any foreign state.

—Interest or dividends on obligations of any authority, commission, instrumentality and territorial possession of the U. S. which by the laws of the U. S. are exempt from federal income tax but not from state income tax.

The revised law also enacts new rates for Oregon taxpayers, running on a scale from 4 per cent of taxable income under \$500 to a tax on income over \$5,000 of \$345 plus 10 per cent of the excess over \$5,000.

New rates are intended to collect the same total amount of revenues as under the previous law, according to State Department of Revenue estimates. There can be individual tax liability increases or decreases, however, even though the state says it will collect no additional revenue.

Estimated personal income tax revenue to the state in the 1969-71 biennium is expected to be \$455 million.

Another measure passed by this year's legislature, House Joint Resolution 3, will put a vote of the people at the November, 1970 general election. It would amend Oregon's Constitution to permit the legislature in the future to enact laws to automatically adopt changes in the federal Internal Revenue Code.

California Couple Welcomes First Son

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Foster, Alameda, Calif., are the parents of a baby boy born July 13. The 6 lb., 1 oz. infant was named Daniel Edan. He joins one sister, Nicky. Mrs. Foster is the former Mary Shannon, daughter of Mrs. Martha King, Heppner.

Mrs. Frank Ayers was visited by Mrs. Leslie Pruitt of Eugene July 16-20. While here she also saw Scott Furlong, her uncle, while he was at St. Anthony hospital in Pendleton.

Mazama Climbers Shoot Fireworks

Mount Hood resembled a re-activated volcano Saturday evening. Flares ringed the crater and fireworks shot from its center on the 75th anniversary of the Mazama's, a mountaineering club.

Tom Hughes, Bob Jepsen and his son, Bill, were present at the site, as were 200 other members of the club. At 11:15 p.m. Governor Tom McCall gave the starting signal just as the Apollo 11 astronauts came around the moon in orbit.

Four or five cases of fireworks were set off into the air and could be seen by all of Portland and as far south as Salem. A haze prevented East Oregonians from seeing the display.

Bob Abrams, also a member of the club, was prevented from going since he is recuperating from back surgery.

Mrs. L. E. Mikesell, Spokane, a house mother at Whitworth College, visited Mr. and Mrs. Buck Ruhl and other relatives July 19-21. Mrs. Mikesell's daughter and granddaughters, Mrs. Bob Jones, Lori and Terry, of Yakima, were also in Heppner visiting.

MEETING CALENDAR

Monday, July 28— Chamber of Commerce, Wagon Wheel Dining Room, 12 noon
Fire Department, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, July 30— Willow Lodge, IOOF Hall, 8 p.m.
Jaycees, 8 p.m.
Friday, August 1— Sans Souci Rebekah Lodge No. 33, IOOF Hall, 8 p.m.

Photo Session Offered at EOC

Anyone intrigued by developing and printing colored transparencies may develop technique during a colored photography workshop August 18-29 at Eastern Oregon College.

The workshop director, Dr. Richard A. Hermens, assistant professor of chemistry, said that enrollment will be limited.

Anyone interested may contact him personally from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday, at 212 Science building or by telephone at 963-2171.

Two hikes into the Willowa mountain wilderness for photographic assignments are on the schedule. On their return, the students will develop their colored film and make prints from those transparencies in a college darkroom.

Dr. Hermens pointed out that the capacity of the darkroom will limit the enrollment.

WANTED!

CARETAKER FOR MORROW COUNTY FAIR AND RODEO GROUNDS.

CALL THE SECRETARY AT 676-9143 AFTER 5 P.M.

DANCE



Honoring Princess

JANET PALMATEER

MORROW COUNTY

FAIR PAVILION

HEPPNER

MORROW COUNTY FAIR and RODEO

SATURDAY, JULY 26

9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

MUSIC BY

Spring Rain

PENDLETON

ADMISSION

\$1.50 Per Person