

Pet poisoning is on the increase

For about the past three months residents in the vicinity of Union and Riverside streets have been complaining about their pets being poisoned.

Nothing has been said about the number of pets lost until Mrs. Mike Saling, 335 W. Union, Heppner, found her cat having convulsions and rushed it to Dr. Jim Norene, veterinarian, who found the cat had been poisoned by strychnine.

This was not the first cat Mrs. Saling had lost, but the third.

A check of the area revealed many residents of the area use various types of pesticides for

the control of mice, rats, gophers, and other pests, but none of the pesticides used contain any strychnine. In fact, no strychnine has been purchased in Heppner for the last year. Federal law provides that a purchaser sign his name for the amount to be purchased and the reason for the purchase. To date no one has purchased strychnine, primarily because it has not been available to the pharmacists for distribution.

The only type pest control containing strychnine which can be purchased without signature is used in the control of either gophers or moles. None has been purchased here recently.

Handlers of pesticides all reported the chemicals they use do not contain any strychnine, which leads to only one of two answers to the poisonings:

Someone is purposely poisoning cats and other pets, or the pets have come in contact

with a lot of gophers already poisoned in their holes, and the cats have found them all. The second theory doesn't quite explain the reason a number of dogs have been found dead in their own yard.

As one home owner reported, "Our dog was always kept in the back yard, in his own place. He was never free to wander or bother anyone. One morning I saw the dog sleeping near his house and called to him, and he didn't move. I found him as stiff as a board, another victim of a pet hater. We assumed he had been poisoned, as we found small pieces of hamburger scattered throughout the yard."

"The loss of our pet was a great shock to us, but after a short time we thought, what if we had some small children playing in the yard and they came across the deadly hamburger and decided to share some with man's faithful friend."



One of the most unusual show windows this holiday season is this one at Peterson's Jewelry. Three-foot high figures of mother and son, in full animation, are trimming a Christmas tree. Peterson's second window contains an animated figure of Santa, in bed, snoring under his coverlets.

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Needy rely on the Army

Bill Siewert of the local Salvation Army Service Extension committee announced today that the annual Christmas Appeal Letter is being mailed this week.

"Motivating this appeal," he said, "is the fact that Christmas means caring for and sharing with others. The Salvation Army has been at work more than 100 years of trying to spread the 'Spirit of Christmas' through the year."

The local Salvation Army committee helps the needy with food, shelter and clothing. During Christmas a special effort will be made to see that no child, or family in need, goes without.

Food, clothing and toys are the principal items provided at Christmas time to brighten the holidays for the less fortunate. The Salvation Army requests that contributions be in the form of cash or checks since there are no facilities for collecting and handling goods. Also, money can be used to purchase the items best suited to the needs of the individual families.

Money remaining after Christmas is used for the continuing welfare program of the local Service Extension committee which provides some 23 different services, such as care for unwed mothers at The Salvation Army facilities, emergency assistance for transients, fire relief, food orders and medical assistance.

The local committee matches needs with gifts, giving of its time and talents in service to less fortunate. Contributions for the Christmas work of The Salvation Army in the local area should be sent to Bill Siewert, Salvation Army Treasurer, Bank of Eastern Oregon, Heppner, Oregon 97836.

CB cuts energy usage

A recent report on internal use of electric power has shown substantial curtailment by Columbia Basin Electric Co-op.

At the Heppner office - warehouse, the cut has been 15 per cent for July, 71 per cent in August, 14 per cent for September, 72 per cent in October and 44 per cent for November usage; compared to the same months in the previous year. This has amounted to 59,000 kwhs less in consumption or enough saved to nearly supply the average needs of four homes on the Columbia Basin system for an entire year.

At the old Condon - warehouse, the curtailment has been 19 per cent for July, 27 per cent for August, 25 per cent for September, 49 per cent in October, 45 per cent in November; compared to the same months in the previous year. This has amounted to 4,880 kwhs saving.

Columbia Basin employees saved 13 per cent on the electric usage in October compared to the previous year and 3,385 kwhs for employees residing at same residences as last year.

Seven members of the Columbia Basin board of directors were able to cut their electric usage 8 per cent or more for October 1973 compared to October 1972.

Outdoor education program explored

John Edmundson, principal of Ione Schools, has sent a questionnaire to parents of 6th grade students to determine parental feeling about an outdoor education program.

The program would be held in the spring and would be similar to that as the one done by Heppner Elementary last year.

Students would stay five days and four nights at Tupper Guard Station under the supervision of their teachers and trained high school counselors.

The programs would include a study of: orienteering, map reading and compass courses; geology, land formation and rock identification; soil study,

soil formation and plant growth; wild life, habitats and habits; plant life, identification, uses values, and age; outdoor survival, fire and shelter building, food and cooking; recreational activities, archery and hiking.

The program would cost about \$25 per student and would need to be provided by individual student tuition charges or by a combination of school and parent sponsored fund raising projects. No school funds have been budgeted by the school board for the current year for this type activity.

Ione 6th graders would participate in the program with students from A.C. Houghton.



Jerry Huff, new loan officer at the First National Bank of Oregon has not yet completed his move to Heppner, but hopes to do so within the next few weeks. Huff and his wife Debbie, and their two children lived in Merrill, Ore., prior to moving to Heppner.

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