

Neighborhood Center asks for help

Rising food costs hit senior citizens

The rising cost of food is being felt by everyone, including the Heppner Neighborhood Center.

Center Director Pat Brindle is putting out a plea for food donations so that the meals for senior citizens can be continued.

Four meals a week are served in Morrow County to citizens 65 years of age and over. If the person is able, he can make a donation for his meal, but 90 per cent of those taking advantage of the program are not able to pay, Mrs. Brindle said. The center serves between 700 and 800 meals per month in its program.

The State Program on Aging pays the Neighborhood Center

60 cents per meal per person. "At one time we could serve a meal for that amount," Mrs. Brindle pointed out. "Now it costs over a dollar per meal. A week or so ago I bought round steak on sale and allowed four ounces of meat per serving. It cost 45 cents per serving for the meat alone. Our meals must contain one third of the minimum daily adult requirements, and now milk must be made available with the meals."

Jeanie Howell of Heppner has been volunteering her time to plan the menus for the center. Menus must then be approved by the nutritionist with the East Central Oregon Association of Counties in Pendleton.

Mrs. Brindle said that the remaining cost of the meals must be met by donated food. The center still receives abundant food but the last shipment was received five months ago and consisted of split peas, rice, oat meal, some corn meal and a small amount of cooking oil. Such things as cheese, canned meats and peanut butter are no longer included. "We certainly use everything we get in the abundant food program," Mrs. Brindle said. "But it just isn't enough."

A meal is served on Monday at the Lions' building in Irrigon, in the United Church of Christ basement in Ione on Wednesday and at the Heppner Elks Lodge on Wednesday

and Thursday. Some meals are delivered to shut-ins. Between 10 and 20 meals are delivered in Heppner each week alone. Others not able to attend are given transportation to the meals.

"For many of these people this meal is probably the best meal they will eat all week. These people are on fixed incomes and most of them live alone and cannot or will not fix a nutritious meal for themselves. Twenty-three per cent of our population is in the senior citizen bracket, and I think that number will grow. So I think the need for our program is going to grow," Mrs. Brindle said.

Mrs. Brindle said the center will take any and all kinds of

food donations. One rancher donated 15 sacks of potatoes, so the supply at the center is good right now. The center has a freezer and access to locker space, so storage is not a large problem. If people are cleaning out the old food in their lockers and would otherwise throw the food away, they are urged to bring the food to the center. Someone who has caught more fish than they can use can bring the extra fish to the center. Canned foods of all kinds are welcomed. Home canned foods, if well sealed, can be used. Mrs. Brindle said the senior citizens are especially fond of liver and heart, so anyone who is butchering who doesn't like liver or heart can bring those

two items to the center. Even wormy apples can be used by doing lots of peeling and cutting.

People to help as drivers to deliver dinners or pick up senior citizens are urgently needed. Other kinds of help in putting on the dinners can also be used. About 10 volunteers are working in the program in the county now.

An added need for food donations is arising. The center prepares Christmas baskets for needy families, baskets for senior citizens living alone, and a special Christmas dinner for senior citizens. Last year high school students made a drive in town for canned goods for the baskets. Mrs. Brindle said she

hoped this would be continued. All kinds of canned goods as well as small gifts needy families can give as presents are needed. Mrs. Brindle suggested perfume, handkerchieves, soaps and lotions; items she said, that one may have received and never used. For the senior citizens small loaves of bread, jams and jellies and small cans of fruit, chili beans, tuna fish, soups and diabetic foods are needed. These need to be items that require very little effort to prepare.

Mrs. Brindle suggested that any organization may take a family to prepare a basket for. This would include a gift for each member of the family and canned goods for Christ-

mas dinner. Toys in good repair, games and books are also needed. Toys requiring minimal repair will also be accepted. Bedding is also needed, and some people to put together some quilt tops.

The director expressed concern that requests for food by families in need could grow. Those families in an emergency situation, who cannot qualify for food stamps, may come to the center for assistance.

Mrs. Brindle said the Neighborhood Center is in the community to help those on low incomes, the handicapped and the senior citizens. But, she continued, it takes the help of everyone else to keep the program going.

First doctor to arrive Friday

Dr. Stan Bezek, now in his third year of family practice residency in Denver, plans to visit the Heppner area Friday, Nov. 29, through the weekend, weekend.

Dr. Bezek has expressed interest in serving as a doctor under the National Health Service Corps program. He is also interested in the tri-county approach to health care services being proposed for Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler counties.

Dr. Bezek will arrive in

Heppner Friday afternoon to visit with Dr. Wallace Wolff and Dr. L. D. Tibbles and to examine the hospital. He will then visit office facilities in Condon and Fossil and with the nurse practitioner now working under the corps program in Fossil. Dr. Bezek will leave the area on Sunday morning.

As the National Health Service Corps is paying for his trip, his wife will not be accompanying him on this trip. Dr. Bezek's wife is a

registered nurse.

Dr. Bezek, in telephone conversations with both Judge Paul Jones and Doctors' Search Committee President Liz Curtis, said he felt that NHSC had changed and was serving community health needs better now. He said the advantages of the corps program to doctors just setting up practice is that the doctor has a two-year period of guaranteed salary while he is becoming established.

Ed Bristow is the winner

The first two winners in the Mystery Person contest were from Ione, and so was the third week's winner, Ed Bristow.

Bristow had his name drawn from the box by Gregg Sweeney, but not before Sweeney had drawn his own name and was disqualified.

The winner received a check for \$27.50—\$20 for being the first to correctly identify the Mystery Person as Gerald Peck, Boardman, and \$7.50 for getting the correct number of clues, 11.

The clues: Zone 1 (the area Peck represents on the school board); 7 on a team (refers to the number on the school board); Calls the slots administrators county schools; What Peter Piper did the picked a peck—; How they dress in his business (board has say on dress codes); Has something in common with the Chief (this chief is Gerald Ford); Big spender (school has largest budget in county); Robert's Rules the abides by (ent); Propagandist, surveillance (the first alludes to education, the second to one who watches over); Clay is his hobby (Peck works in ceramics); Gas (part of his business); BSA (he's been a Boy Scout worker); Council (Peck was recently elected to Boardman city council).

Too easy? There's \$27.50 says you can't pick this week's Mystery Person!



Gregg Sweeney picks another Ione winner in the Who's Who contest. Last week's lucky winner was Ed Bristow, Ione.

Penland ruling due in 45 days

A hearing on the appeal of Lake Penland Corporation property appraisal for tax purposes was held Thursday before Frank M. Flinau, hearing officer for the appeals division of the Department of Revenue.

Flinau took testimony from Joe Green, certified public accountant, Pendleton, on behalf of the Lake Penland Corporation in which he is a director. The case for the county assessor's office was made by Charlie Patching, county appraiser.

A decision on the controversial assessment is not expected for another 45 days.

Joyce Bergstrom, county assessor, last year appraised the Lake Penland property for a total of \$71,560, or \$12.50 per lake front foot. She told the

Gazette-Times that this figure represented the cost of the "bare land" before the lake was built, and was not unreasonable.

The corporation appealed the assessor's finding earlier this year, contending that the appraised value should be \$29,800 because the property is an incomplete subdivision, in that the state has refused to permit the sale of lots until all requirements of the subdivision laws are complied with. Until the lots at Penland Lake are salable, L.E. Dick, president of the corporation said, the land should not be taxed as though a recreational subdivision actually exists.

The 46 people have lots at Penland Lake, but who have not received deeds to their

property because of its incomplete subdivision status, received individual tax statements for this year. In the past, one tax statement for the entire plot, approximately 160 acres, went to the Penland Lake Corporation.

Dick disputed the assessor's calculation of \$71,560 as the original cost of the Lake Penland acreage. He said Orville Cutsforth originally planned to sell about 25 lots at \$3,000 each, but later found he could not legally do so because of subdivision laws. That plan was scuttled, Dick said, and Cutsforth sold the entire acreage in 1968 to the corporation for \$35,000. This, he said, amounts to approximately \$218 per acre as the original price, about half the amount stated by Assessor Joyce

Bergstrom as the original purchase price. Evidently, Dick said, Mrs. Bergstrom based her figure on the original Cutsforth plan, one that was proposed but never implemented.

Dick also stated that legal requirements for subdividing the property are expected to be approved within a short time, at which time, he said, an increased valuation for tax purposes would appear to be in order. But until the lots are legally salable, he said, the corporation believes the current appraisal is unjustified.

Dick also pointed out that of the original 160 acres, 67 has been deeded for public use, this being the ground covered by the lake, and that other dedications may be made for roads.

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Council to decide on parking

Members of the common council will have a chance to decide whether there shall be parallel parking on Main Street at its Dec. 2 meeting.

A recommendation has been made by the Oregon Department of Transportation that parallel parking be established on Main Street. Whether or not to do so is a council decision. Chief of Police Dean Gibbon told the council Monday night that he would like to see the recommendation accepted as a safety measure because angle parking has resulted in many accidents.

If adopted, the parallel parking system would consist of two 16-foot parking spaces with another 8-foot area separating the two spaces, as is

now done on Willow Street.

R.C. Lang, regional engineer for the Department of Transportation, will be invited to attend the Dec. 2 meeting to answer questions on the proposal.

Other business to come before the Monday night council.

City Engineer Steve Anderson reported that Well 3 is complete except for a few minor details and that the pump is working properly. Water from the new well is now flowing into city water mains.

Anderson also notified the council that negotiations between the city and landowner are under way for acquisition of a two-acre parcel of land

near Heppner High School as a site for the new city reservoir.

Mayor Jerry Sweeney read a notice of intent to file a claim against the city by Mr. and Mrs. James Hager. The notice requests payment of \$50,000 in damages by the city to the Hagers for alleged damage to their property during demolition of the burned-out building on Main Street. Named in the claim for damages are the mayor, all council members, the city recorder and Shockman Bros. Construction Co., which had contracted to raze the ruins of the building. No actual suit for damages can be legally filed against the city or the other defendants named until May 18, 1975.

—Heard a report on building permits by Councilman Bob Jones. Jones had previously recommended adoption of building fees which are only one-half those specified by the state. A permit would increase from \$1 to \$3 with an extra charge for inspections and related work, all to be paid at the time a permit is issued. He also moved that permits be granted for a 60-day period only, with stipulation that the foundation must be in place during that period or the permit may be revoked. This rule was adopted earlier in the year but has never been enforced. It now goes into effect immediately.

—Rejected a permit for water and sewer facilities to a

camper located at 337 E. Linden Way. The owner of the property has moved two campers onto the property and has a branch service to one of the campers, a violation of city ordinance.

—Approved purchase of a Roto-Rooter to clear some "slow" sewer lines. In recent weeks the sewer has backed up twice at the Mike Gray residence, causing damage to the home and its furnishings.

—Sweeney read a letter from Judge Paul Jones requesting the city deed the property occupied by the new addition to the Pioneer Museum to the county.

—Accepted a contract to supply Gaye Harshman with city water.

Sheep ranching, Oregon to Montana

Members of the Chamber of Commerce got a detailed report on the operation of a large sheep ranch Monday when Dorothy Krebs, Ione, gave a slide-illustrated talk on sheep raising as practiced on the big Krebs Bros. ranch.

She began the series of slides with the shearing of ewes in February prior to lambing. At lambing time a holding pen is provided for both ewe and lamb. Up to 100 ewes and their newborn can be cared for in these pens at one time. The ewe and lamb are both marked with the same

identifying number for the records. Should a ewe die another is found to raise her lamb. If this fails, the lamb is raised by bottle feeding.

In early May ewes and lambs are moved to the Krebs ranch in Montana in double-decked railroad cars. Last May the Krebs' moved 4,000 head from their winter home in Cecil to summer range in Montana.

The sheep are broken up into bands and entrusted to the watchful eye of a shepherd for protection from predatory animals. The old-fashioned shepherd still uses his horse; the modern one rides a Honda equipped with a tape

deck.

When the lambs weigh 100 pounds they are sent to packing houses or kept to replenish the herd.

When the snow starts, usually in October or November, the sheep are fed hay until they can be transported back to their winter home in Cecil.

"The No. 1 enemy of the sheep rancher is the coyote," Mrs. Krebs said, "who causes an estimated 20 per cent loss to the rancher."

She pointed out that sheep are totally dependent on man for survival. They have no horns, their hooves are dull and they are poor runners.

They are easy prey for coyotes. Most losses to the coyotes occur at lambing time. There are no ways yet devised to stop the killings.

Illuminating the fields at night has been tried. Noise alarms have been set to go off at intervals, but the coyotes soon learn and moves in for the kill. They strike mostly at night when ranchers are unable to see to shoot them. Coyotes are, Mrs. Krebs admitted, very smart animals.

In other business, Orville Cutsforth announced he had received a phone call from Cong. Al Ullman who said he is trying to put the irrigation

feature back into the Willow Creek Dam project, but there is difficulty in getting House approval.

—President Jim Bier appointed LeRoy Gardner, Randall Peterson and Gene Pierce as a nominating committee to select board members for the coming year. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the Dec. 9 meeting. Election will be held Dec. 16. Once board members are selected, they will name the president. All officers are to be installed Dec. 30.

—An anonymous donation of \$60 to be spent for new Christmas lights was acknowledged with thanks.



SHADES OF THE OLD WEST!—This is part of "Heppner's great cattle drive" shown on South Main Street. The cattle belong to Floyd Jones, who is taking them to his ranch on Hinton Creek.