

Valley View Estates draws council fire

A small group of citizens present at the regular meeting of the Heppner common council Monday night to hear answers concerning the construction of roads and the water line in Valley View Estates subdivision was disappointed when the architect, Richard Unruh, and the contractor for the subdivision did not appear.

Although the city recorder had tried to contact them, he was unable to do so until late Monday afternoon, which would not have given them time to attend the meeting. However, they have notified

the city they will be present to answer questions by a committee of the council Wednesday afternoon (yesterday).

After questions regarding the subdivision had been directed to the council regarding the change in the street widths, Mayor Jerry Sweeney explained the situation: "The city has no specifications or standards for a subdivision, so how can we enforce the laws?"

Richard Unruh, in a letter to the city, explained the reason for the change in the width of the street from 36 feet to 28 feet, by saying that the city

planning commission had approved the change.

Sweeney noted that the City Planning Commission is a separate body and has the authority to accept or modify any street without the city council's approval.

One of the reasons for the change in the street width, according to Unruh's letter, is due to the gradient of the street; a narrow street has been found to be more safe than a wide street.

City Engineer Steve Anderson told the council that he had spoken to both Unruh and the contractor, and in his opinion

it would be of benefit to the council to meet with them and discuss their problems Wednesday prior to making any hasty decisions.

Councilman Jim Rogers said, "We can live with the street, let's go on to the problems other than this, namely the water system."

Again Anderson answered for the absent contractor saying, "The water system was put in last summer, and at that time I notified the contractor that if the blocks under the water pipe were not removed and the method of backfilling the pipe was not

changed I would not accept the water system." The contractor changed his methods, and when the time came to test the water pipe at one and one-half times the operating pressure, the line was tested at three times the required pressure, or 90 pounds per square inch, and held. There were no leaks in the line during the testing although some damage had been done to the line and repair clamps put on the pipe line.

Offering an explanation for the repair clamps, Anderson said as far as he knew there are only nine clamps on the

existing line, and some of these have been placed on the line recently when a cluster of valves was hit by a blade operator, making repairs necessary.

According to reports, the contractor is willing to maintain the water line for a two-year period rather than a one-year period if the city desires; however, prior to making any commitment the contractor would like to make his own determination of the project with members of the city council or a special committee. The council agreed to the recommendation

of the city engineer.

Anderson was asked by Sweeney to give the council a report on his recent investigation of the Morgan Street bridge.

"This is the worst bridge I have ever seen," Anderson said. "The wooden trusses are setting on stringers and the trusses are rotted at the ends and one of the cross members of the bridge is broken in half." He recommended to the council that the bridge be closed to any further school bus traffic until repairs can be made. The bridge was designed with a safety factor which

allows twice the allowable load limit to pass over the structure.

The council voted to notify school authorities and ask them to re-route the buses across the Riverside Street bridge. This new route, which is presently a one-way street, will have to serve traffic going in both directions, and school authorities should be allowed time to notify students of the existing hazard.

In other business, the council accepted a new structure permit for the construction of a modular home with the

(Continued on page 7)



THE WEEK'S had weather produced icicles on this plant, forming a grotesque pattern.

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Morrow farms produced \$50 million

Oregon farm products hit \$1 billion in '74

Sales of Oregon farm products during 1974 went over the one billion dollar mark for the first time.

That's the good news. The bad news is that production costs set record highs too.

These and other 1974 farm sales estimates for Oregon have been released by the Oregon State University Extension Service.

The 1974 record sales — \$1.1 billion — is \$125 million greater than that recorded for 1973.

"The increase is due to greater income from sales of crops — especially grains, truck crops, and specialty field crops (like mint)," says Stan Miles, OSU Extension economist who worked with county extension agents to consolidate the estimates.

"Gross income from crops was up nearly 27 per cent from 1973," Miles says. "This resulted primarily from greater value of wheat sales."

Grains were the state's leading farm commodity with sales estimated at \$274 million, followed by cattle sales of \$156 million and truck crops, \$103.9 million.

While some farmers were reaping record prices for crops, others were losing ground because of the depressed livestock market. Sales of livestock in 1974 amounted to \$322 million, down nearly 20 per cent.

"Dairy, sheep, and hog prices remained fairly stable relative to 1973," Miles indicates, "but prices of feeder cattle and calves were down dramatically."

"Cow-calf operations were particularly hard hit, and this will probably not improve much in 1975."

The economist says the price of feed grains is the problem. "Cattle feeders can't bid up the price of feeder cattle when they have to pay the current high feed costs."

Miles reported another first for Oregon — two counties had estimated total farm sales of more than \$100 million. Umatilla came up with \$116 million and Marion \$115 million.

Eighteen of Oregon's 36 counties experienced a decline in total farm sales from 1973 to 1974 due to the drop in livestock revenue. In only one county was the drop attributed to a decline in crop sales.

U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates indicate a lower net farm income for the U. S. in 1974 than was shown for 1973. Nationally, fertilizer costs were up 60 per cent and fuel .35 per cent. Miles says indications for 1975 show production costs still climbing.

Oregon farm sales estimates are made annually. County Extension agents work with Miles on contacting producers, brokers, handlers, processors, and others in the food chain. Estimates are

made on more than 130 crop categories. Figures on major crops are compared with those estimated for the state by the USDA Statistical Reporting Service.

Statewide income by commodity groups for 1974 was as follows: grains, \$274 million; cattle, \$156 million; truck crops, \$103.9 million; dairy products, \$87.1 million; grass and legume seeds, \$78.1 million; potatoes, \$68.5 million; tree fruits and nuts, \$58.4 million; specialty field crops, \$58 million; hay, \$46.3 million; specialty horticulture crops, \$41.7 million; chicken eggs, \$24.9 million; farm and forest products, \$24.7 million; small fruits and berries, \$24.2 million; broilers, \$12.9 million; swine, \$12.3 million; miscellaneous animals, \$10.4 million; sheep and lambs, \$9.8 million; turkeys, \$8.1 million; farm chickens, \$49.3 million.

Sales by counties were as follows: Baker, \$14.6 million; Benton, \$28.1 million; Clackamas, \$59.7 million; Clatsop, \$2.2 million; Columbia, \$6.8 million; Coos, \$14.8 million; Crook, \$14.9 million; Curry, \$1.7 million; Deschutes, \$10.8 million; Douglas, \$15.4 million; Gilliam, \$20.8 million; Grant, \$7.4 million; Harney, \$9.2 million; Hood River, \$21.0 million; Jackson, \$24.8 million; Jefferson, \$32.0 million; Josephine, \$7.5 million; Klamath, \$51.8 million; Lake, \$9.7 million; Lane, \$40.6 million; Lincoln, \$2.3 million; Linn, \$64.2 million; Malheur, \$86.8 million; Marion, \$115.0 million; Morrow, \$50.1 million; Multnomah, \$19.1 million; Polk, \$36.8 million; Sherman, \$24.0 million; Tillamook, \$18.8 million; Umatilla, \$116.2 million; Union, \$26.6 million; Wasco, \$30.4 million; Wallowa, \$13.8 million; Washington, \$49.3 million; Wheeler, \$4.1 million; Yamhill, \$46.3 million.

4-H youth to observe government at work

A close look at state government and a major discussion on land use planning for environmental quality and economic growth will highlight the 1975 Oregon 4-H Conference in Salem, Feb. 9-11, according to Birdine Tullis, Morrow Extension Service.

About 90 4-H members and other youth from throughout the state are expected to participate in the program which opens Sunday at Salem's Tiki Lodge. Representing Morrow County will be Glen Griffith, lone Also attending and assisting with the conference is Anita Davidson, Lexington, one of Oregon's four delegates to the 1974 National 4-H Conference in Washington, D. C.

Speakers during the conference will include Gov. Robert Straub, Kessler Cannon, Department of Environmental Quality, and a number of other state officials. Delegates will spend Monday in the capitol discussing how laws are made, attending committee meetings and observing sessions of the House and Senate. A picnic supper at the Oregon 4-H Center and discussion of Oregon and the energy crisis will be included in events, as well as a morning session devoted solely to the inter-relationship of land use, environmental quality and economic growth.

Participants are expected to cover such subjects as the purpose of planning, how the LCDC works, the operational

effects on land use, authority, opportunities for citizen participation, how decisions are made, and the use of public hearings in the planning process.

A highlight of the conference will be the announcement of two Oregon delegates to the National 4-H Conference in

Washington next spring. Delegates to the national conference are selected by interview and records at the Oregon conference.

Dorris Graves reports on Australia

Dorris Graves, who recently returned from Perth, Australia, where she attended the 13th annual meeting of the Associated Country Women of the World, was the guest speaker at the Chamber of Commerce Monday.

Mrs. Graves told members of the beginning of the ACWW. "Today, it's 8 million members in 283 different countries come from 88 different countries," she said.

Aims of the ACWW are to promote international good-

will, friendship and understanding between the countrywomen and homemakers of the world; to raise the standard of living of rural women all over the world, and to be a forum for countrywomen on international affairs.

The first step in organizing the ACWW began in Geneva in 1927 when a resolution was passed by the International Council of Women "That a committee be formed to consider the conditions under which women's rural organizations work."

Three years later, a further step was taken when the same International Council of Women, at its conference in Vienna, agreed on the formation of a liaison committee of rural women's and homemakers' organizations.

The ACWW meets every three years and in 1971 the meeting was held in Oslo, Sweden.

Besides striving for improved rural conditions and better homes, the ACWW links country women all over the world, and keeps the country women's point of view before the United Nations on such matters as food, nutrition, education and culture, child care, and economic and social problems. The ACWW also initiates projects as the UNESCO Gift Coupon project which equipped village training centers in Ceylon and a child care center in Colombia.

Following the ACWW meeting, Mrs. Graves told the members of her trip north to Darwin and then along the eastern coast of Australia. Most of the roads around the outer area of Australia are



DORRIS GRAVES

March of Dimes response 'good'

Thursday's Mothers March of Dimes brought the 1975 goal within reach as 35 mothers went door-to-door in Heppner with others marching in the other Morrow County towns.

Volunteers in Heppner collected \$396.25 Thursday evening; \$43 was given by Heppner school children.

Reports from the rest of the county are not in yet, nor are

BENEFIT DANCE FOR JOHN EKSTROM

The Heppner High School student body is sponsoring a benefit for one of their classmates, John Ekstrom, who is still critically ill in a Portland hospital following a traffic accident on Jan. 5.

The benefit is a dance to be held at Heppner High School Cafeteria, Saturday, 10 to 12 p.m., following the basketball game with Wasco.

the business donations known at this time. Anyone wishing to contribute can still do so through the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Forty per cent of the funds collected remain for use in the county. Last year one of the county recipients was Mikka Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Evans, Irrigon. She was supplied the life-sustaining machines necessary because of a birth defect.

Another recipient of county funds was Roberta Acoc, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Acoc, Irrigon. She was awarded a nursing scholarship at Blue Mountain College.

Tuesday, Feb. 11, is the last day for candidates to file for school board and advisory committee positions. Petitions are available at the superintendent's office in Lexington.

Snowmobile cancer benefit is Feb. 23

"Snowmobile for Cancer" is being held Sunday, Feb. 23, beginning at 10 a.m.

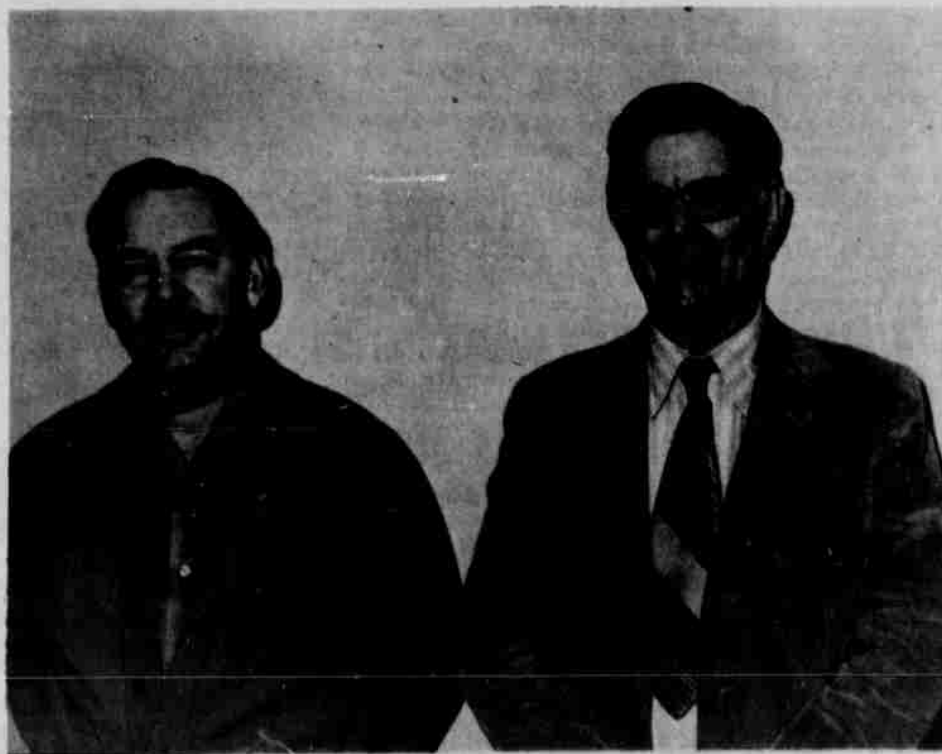
Tentative starting point will be the turn off on Willow Creek Road to Blake's Ranch. If the snow holds most likely the ride will be from Blake's to Potomus Point. Approximately 24 miles both ways will complete the ride. Anyone

interested should pick up their sponsor sheets from Heppner TV Inc. or contact Judie Laughlin at 676-9781. All riders are welcome.

Mariam Hess, Hermiston, is chairman of this event sponsored by the 4-Corners Snowmobile Club and OSSA. A committee is planning a chili feed halfway through the ride.

A small fee will be charged for this. Coffee and cocoa will also be on hand. Play rides and relays are being planned during this break.

Final plans will be completed at the club meeting in Hermiston at the Eagles Lodge at 8 p.m., Feb. 17. All persons interested are invited to attend.



BILL PHILLIPS and Bill Kletzer, broker-appraisers licensed by the Oregon Real Estate Division, and also special appraisers for the Department of Veterans Affairs, will be appraising residential areas in Heppner. They will start their work either today or Friday. They plan to appraise the area in sections, and for the convenience of people who are working during the day, a call to the county assessor's office for an appointment will be appreciated.