

# JULY 4th INDEPENDENCE DAY



Area residents can take part in a fun-filled evening of fireworks Saturday, July 2 in lone.

Again this year the American Legion Post No. 95 is sponsoring a fireworks display at the lone Memorial Field. The action starts at dusk although the Legion Auxiliary will have the Snack Shack and sparkler stand open before the fireworks start.

Plan to attend...and if you're traveling this holiday weekend...make it a happy one, drive carefully.

## THE GAZETTE-TIMES

vol. 94, NO. 26 HEPPNER, OREGON THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1977 8 PAGES 15 c

### Petitions gain names

"We're getting more names on those petitions every day and we're getting more petitions out because the people are asking for them...they want to sign," Beecher Emert told the Gazette-Times Monday.

Emert, an lone businessman, started a petition campaign to open a four-mile stretch of road that would connect the Portland General Electric coal fired generating plant with lone, Lexington and Heppner via existing Ella Road. At present, all traffic to the Carty site—including traffic from Southern Morrow

county—must enter the Agri-Industrial Park of the Boeing Company from the Boardman area.

A senior Boeing official contacted by the Gazette-Times last week said the company opposes any access to the Agri-Industrial Park from the south.

"We don't want it open to the public and have no intention of changing our position at this time," said Gene Norton, Boeing Agri-Industrial vice-president.

Norton also said the petitions

being collected would have no effect on Boeing's position.

Emert responded to Boeing's statement this week with what he termed, "a stepped-up petition drive at the public request for the improvement of public lands."

"We've got people from all over the county that feel the entire county should benefit from the development of public lands, which is what the Boeing industrial area is," said Emert.

"After all," he continued, "Heppner is the county seat and lone and Lexington are nice

places for workers to live if they want to...we're just working for the betterment of the county as a whole."

Boeing leases the 100,000 acre site from the State of Oregon. In turn, Boeing leases property to PGE for the Carty plant and a large portion of the area is under cultivation by Sim Tag through the use of circle irrigation.

Emert said when sufficient signatures are gathered they will be presented to the Morrow County Court along with a formal request to have the road constructed.

### Public, Masons join in celebrating centennial

Numerous persons were honored as Heppner Lodge No. 69 A.F. and A.M. publicly observed the 100th anniversary of its organization with a dinner and program at Heppner High School's cafeteria, Saturday night, June 25.

Each person attending received a copy of the 119-page history of the lodge written by its historian and long-time secretary Harold L. Becket, along with a commemorative deerskin bookmark bearing the Masonic insignia.

After Heppner's Worshipful Master Richard T. Wilkinson had welcomed everyone, the evening's master of ceremonies Robert C. Kelly introduced guests from the Grand Lodge of Oregon, from many local lodges in this state and neighboring states, and the program participants and their wives who were seated at the head table.

Several special presentations were made. The annual Heppner Masonic Scholarship which is awarded to a senior boy who has proven outstanding was presented to Steve McLaughlin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McLaughlin of Franklin

Hill. Steve was president of the studentbody, president of the Lettermen's Club, a member of the National Honor Society and of several other student groups at Heppner High.

The official District Deputy's apron used by Frank Sloan for 23 years was presented to the Heppner Lodge on behalf of his daughter Rachel Jackson, Stanfield. Frank Sloan, the son of E.G. Sloan, a very early member of Heppner lodge, began his lengthy and distinguished Masonic career here.

Historian Becket was introduced and told a little about the writing and production of the lodge history. Three members Herman Winter, Robert Abrams and Dave Harrison then consecutively stepped to the microphone and gave highlights from three periods of this history. Winter began with the excitement of the early years; Abrams gave the most historically interesting events from the middle years, and Harrison concluded with a review of the modern years of the lodge's existence.

The evening's final speaker was the Most Worshipful Grand

Master of Masons in Oregon, Joseph W. Jarvis of Elgin. After congratulating Heppner's members, he spoke out concerning the necessity of involving young men in Masonic work.

"Don't just initiate them—give them responsibilities—put them right to work."

There will be a changing of the "guard" Friday at the Morrow County Courthouse as retiring Judge Paul Jones steps down and his successor, D.O. Nelson, takes the oath of office.

Ceremonies will take place at 11:30 a.m. July 1 with Ed Sullivan, legal counsel for Governor Bob Straub, administering the oath.

The nearly 200 who attended the festivities sat at tables decorated with Masonic symbolism depicted in blue on white by the Rainbow Girls of the lone Assembly and their Mother Advisor Dot Halvorsen.

The public is invited to attend the ceremonies and Nelson will be on hand throughout the day to greet visitors. Refreshments will be served to visitors.

Nelson was appointed by Gov. Straub to fill the judgeship after Jones announced last month that he would retire from the position.

### Nelson takes office Friday

### Sidewalk Sale gains momentum

Groups and organizations interested in participating in the Heppner Merchants' Sidewalk Sale Bazaar should contact Randall Peterson of Peterson's Jewelers before Friday, so they can be included in next week's Gazette-Times.

Slated for Friday, July 8, the Sidewalk Bazaar is an annual feature promotion of downtown Heppner merchants designed to give customers extraordinary buys on regular, in-store merchandise.

Peterson said most Heppner stores will be on the sidewalks with their wares next Friday and outside groups and organizations that would like space on Main Street are welcome to set up a stand after contacting him.

### Irrigon zoning 'big mistake'

Approximately 100 Irrigon residents stonewalled Morrow County Planning Director Don Burns' attempt to rezone 4200 acres southwest of the city from its current one-acre plots back to five and 20 acre farming plots, during a planning commission hearing June 27.

An entire 7500 acre section was changed from the five and 20 acre status to one-acre plots in an April 1974 zoning move. A 2500 acre section of that property was excluded

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Open limited hours...

## Volunteers save Library

At its June meeting, Wednesday evening, the 2nd, the Heppner Library Board of Directors completed plans for library reorganization which became necessary because of the defeat of the city budget.

Chairman Ed Struthers and board members Pauline Winter, Myrna Johnson and Mary Pat Lande agreed to accept Amanda Duvall's offer to fund the library for 10 hours per week during the July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978 year while they work toward the implementation of a library district.

It was agreed that the current librarian, Justine Weatherford, is to work 10 hours instead of the 20 she has worked in the year

just ended. She will help train volunteer workers who will conduct library matters during the following hours: Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1 to 5 p.m., Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. and possibly on Saturday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. During July and August the library will not be open on Sunday afternoons. Rachel Harnett, the museum curator, has volunteered to help at that time if emergencies arise.

After several weeks of training and practice under Mrs. Weatherford's guidance, the volunteer crews will assume the responsibility of serving library

patrons during the 10 hours of operation. Mrs. Weatherford will then work at professional matters during eight hours when the library is not open to the public. She will continue to help Monday mornings from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. during the children's story hours.

It is possible that after the summer story hours end, the librarian will again serve the public for two hours on Sunday afternoons.

On Monday afternoon of this week the following persons met with volunteer coordinator Mary Pat Lande and the librarian for a training session: Paula and Bethel Heinrich,

Kenneth and Elaine Miller, Jean Ann Turner, Theta Lowe, Carol Helphinstine, and Betty Spaulding. Others who have volunteered to help but didn't make this session were: Ramona Marshall, Adelle LaTrace, Faye Ruhl and Margaret Hammons.

Mrs. Lande said, "The response from community volunteers is very pleasing and exciting and it is anticipated that library programs will greatly benefit."

The library will be closed from 9:30 p.m., June 30 until 1 p.m., July 6. There will be no story hour for the week of July 4.

## City water system OK; fire reserve questionable

City officials met in special session Monday to clear the air concerning the operation of the city water system and to determine if recently called for watering restrictions were actually necessary.

The confusion began two weeks ago when City Foreman Don Penney issued a request for voluntary watering restrictions without first consulting the city council. Since that time questions have been raised concerning the adequacy of the city's water system financed in 1973 by a \$450,000 bond issue.

City Engineer Steve Anderson, who had a major hand in the design and installation of the system, attended the session to answer questions concerning water operations. Anderson, now working out of LaGrande, said the system was basically what he had wanted although some shortcuts had to be made and some improvements delayed because of the city's ever-present budget problems.

"Other improvements are still needed but the budget gets in the way," Anderson said. "This is not a common water system—it's a system that doesn't receive a lot of attention unless something goes wrong," he said.

Penney, in his less than three months on the job, has been getting a rude introduction to the intricacies of the system—running into several pump failures and line breaks.

"I've seen a lot of neglect problems in the system," Penney said. "It can work better than it does."

Regarding his request for watering restrictions, Penney said he was "merely asking for a little conservation help from the people because we can't pump anymore than we are right now with what we're working with."

He said the request was mainly an insurance move to provide a constant capacity in case of a major fire need.

"I'm not saying anyone is going to run out of water, I just want to maintain adequate reserves for our fire needs," he said.

Penney said his watering request was not "really a matter of rationing, it's a matter of not having everyone use all their water at the same time". He cited peak demands in the evening when most people engage in lawn watering, meal preparation and dishwashing as the time when the fire reserve drops lowest.

Penney has asked that residents on the east side of Main Street water on even days and

those on the west side water on odd days. He said he would like to see the arrangement continue until a safer fire fighting level can be maintained.

He is currently hampered by a non-functioning altitude valve control in one of the reservoirs which he hopes to have repaired this week.

metering of wells to determine water usage. An irrigation season of, from March 10 to Oct. 15, would also be imposed.

Ordinance area farmer Jeddie Aylett testified that an extra 15 days at the start of the irrigation season and 15 days at the end would better serve the farmers.

Tyler Hansell, another Ordinance area farmer, told the hearing of the County Line Water Improvement District's \$150,000 water recharging project. The County Line Water Improvement District, which was started in October by 10 Ordinance area property owners, involves 4,890 acres of land in Umatilla and neighboring Morrow County. The district is named for the county line that is located immediately west of Ordinance.

### Groundwater hearings held for area farms

A hydrologic geologist with the state Water Resources Department testified Tuesday morning during the hearing on the proposed critical groundwater designation for the Ordinance area that according to December readings, some wells in the Ordinance area have been rising and that the rate of decline in other wells has slowed down.

William McCall presented water level measurements for 46 wells in the Ordinance area with each well showing a small decline or rise. Fourteen of the 46 wells showed increases.

Nearly 50 people showed up for the Tuesday morning hearing, but only a handful testified.

The hearing was the second one on the proposed critical groundwater designation for Ordinance.

The Water Resources Department conducted hearings on the Ordinance and Butter

Creek areas in February 1976 and declared both to be critical groundwater sources. A group of Butter Creek farmers filed a suit to get the order overturned and last January the Oregon Court of Appeals reversed the Water Resources Department.

The court ruled that property owners were notified of the hearing by regular mail instead of through certified or registered mail as required by the Administrative Procedures Act.

Even though the court's ruling only applied to the Butter Creek area, the Water Resources Department decided to rehear the Ordinance proposal as well.

Following Tuesday's hearing, Chris Wheeler, deputy director of the Water Resources Department said, "we will try to enter an order as soon as we possibly can...based on the evidence we have."

The state is also proposing water curtailments and

### News notes

#### DMV-back in town

Representatives of the Motor Vehicles Division will be in Heppner July 13 at City Hall to conduct driver's license examinations and issue photo driver's licenses.

Licensing services will also be provided at the Morrow County Fair on Aug. 23 and again at City Hall on Sept. 7. The hours for the City Hall visits will be 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### Ullman here July 6

Rep. Al Ullman, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, will be in Heppner Wednesday, July 6, for a no-host luncheon beginning at noon at West of Willow restaurant.

Ullman will be available to persons interested in discussing any government matters, according to Gail Gilmore, state office manager for Ullman.

Ullman has been coming to Heppner for the past 20 years and is interested in meeting the constituents, particularly those new to the area.

Representatives of all Morrow County businesses are urged to attend the luncheon and meet with their representative in Washington.

### Store opens July 5

Kroll's Department Store—a new business on Heppner's Main Street will open its doors to the public Tuesday, July 5, according to owners Bob and Phyllis Kroll.

A Grand Opening has been scheduled for July 8-9 to coincide with the Heppner Merchants' Sidewalk Sale Bazaar next Friday.

The 2,500-square foot store has been completely redecorated inside and will feature departments for men, women, children, toddlers and infants, and a domestics section for the home.

"We are planning to open with a basic line of clothing, including fashion merchandise," said Mrs. Kroll, "but we're really interested in finding out the 'wants and needs' of our local people so we can stock a store exclusively for them."

Mrs. Kroll added that a complete size selection will be carried in all departments.

The Krolls' returned to Heppner recently after three years in Patterson, Washington where he was farm manager for Sandpiper Land Company. Prior to that Kroll spent three years here farming with his father-in-law, D.O. Nelson. The Krolls' have two children, Brian, 8, and Kimberley, 6.



It's not straight yet Dad

Brian Kroll thought his dad, Bob, was a little slow in getting up a sign for the family's new department store—so he made one for the door himself. Now if he could just get dad to hang it straight. Sister Kimberley questions her mom, Phyllis, as to when the store will really be open. July 5 is the date Heppner will have a new department store.