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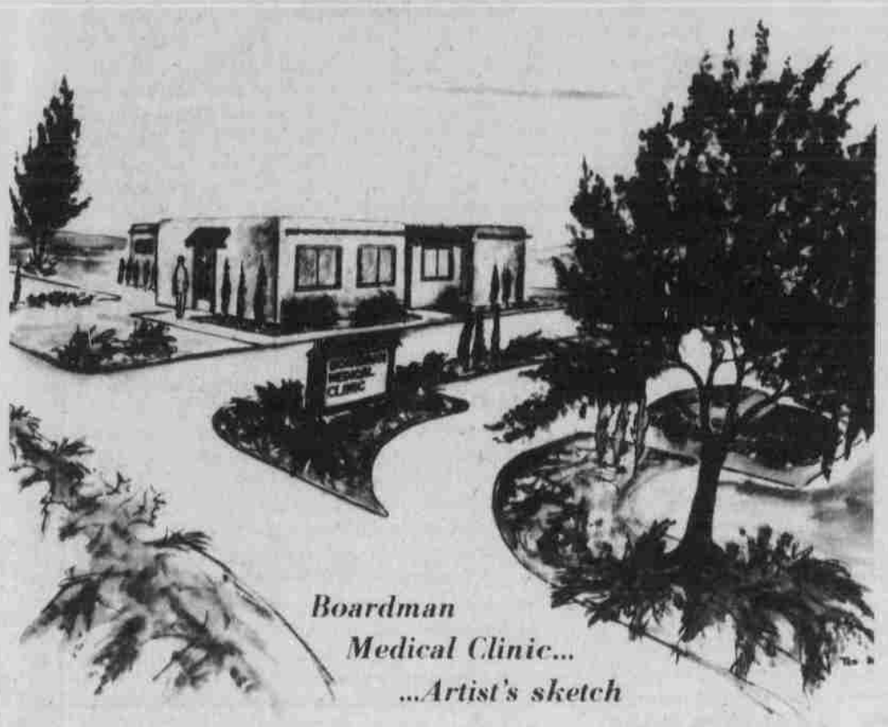
Medical clinic takes roots in Boardman



Boardman Medical Clinic... ...Artist's sketch

The ground has been broken and an August 15 starting construction date has been set for a $130,000 medical clinic to serve the Boardman area.

The medical clinic comes on the heels of the recently completed Boardman Dental Clinic and is located on adjacent property in the Boardman South development area. A target completion date is set at 90 working days after actual construction begins.

When completed, the clinic will be staffed on a five-day basis by one of the three physicians currently working in the Heppner Medical Clinic. Drs. Diehl, Carpenter and Gifford will each rotate at the new clinic on a one or two day a week session.

The 2,300 square foot clinic is being financed through a joint venture by Morrow County, the Cal-Am Land Development Co., Inc. and Pacific Health Facitities, a Fuhrmann Development Co. affiliate.

The county is contributing $55,000 from federal revenue sharing funds to the clinic and will maintain a 50 per cent interest in the project.

Golden shovel

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new Boardman Medical Clinic, which will be staffed by Heppner Drs. Carpenter, Gifford and Diehl, took place Tuesday. Turning the first shovel of ceremonial dirt are, from left, Morrow County Judge D.O. Nelson, Boardman Mayor Jerry Peck and Cal-Am Development representative Phill Bailey.

Morrow County's award winning newspaper...

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

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Thumbs down for business license

More than 30 Heppner business people gathered at their regular monthly meeting last Friday and without exception voiced disapproval with the city council's proposal to institute a business license.

Members of the merchants committee were also expected to appear at a special city council meeting Wednesday, Aug. Aug. 10.

Heppner Mayor Jerry Sweeney attended last Friday's meeting and told the group he was interested in hearing their views but would rather let city attorney Bob Abrams or Bill Kuhn answer questions about the proposed ordinance at the group's September meeting.

Sweeney said the purpose of the ordinance was to raise revenue that would be used for police and fire protection and to help control business growth within the city.

"The intent of the ordinance is to have it work for you, not against you," said Sweeney, "It's not intended to interfere with your business."

The annual license fee suggested at a previous city council meeting was $12 for each business.

Several merchants questioned the feasibility of drawing up an ordinance that would generate an approximate $800 a year, considering the cost of paying the city attorney to word the ordinance, publish it and enforce it.

"It appears to be a tool with which the city can start levying another tax on the businesses," said one merchant.

"I'd be glad to donate $25 if you'll skip the license and legislation," another said.

Nearly all of the business people present objected to the vague manner in which the rough draft of the ordinance was worded.

Sweeney told the group the ordinance was in the initial drafting stage only and that before it could be passed, public hearings would be held and the complete ordinance would be published in the Gazette-Times.

"I'll say this," said Sweeney, "if you stick together on this thing like you are now, I'd say the ordinance would never become a reality."

To make sure, Heppner merchants are soliciting signatures on a petition asking the council to abandon the idea of a business license.

Morgan Street bridge

Span plan sputters

Although the available funds in the city budget and the price tag on the proposed Morgan Street bridge still aren't even in the same ballpark, a large portion of the project could be financed through various federal and state grants.

From a federal off-system road program, the city could receive up to 78 per cent of a maximum grant of $100,000 and City Engineer Steve Anderson said Heppner is eligible for the entire amount. Also available is another $25,000 through a state small city allotment program, bringing the total amount of aid at the city's disposal to $103,000. The cost of the project as originally designed has been estimated between $113,000 and $140,000.

Anderson is now attempting to trim his first design to a cost that the city can afford. At last week's city council meeting Anderson outlined several areas where money could possibly be saved—either by eliminating the work or by having it performed by city crews rather than completed under a contract basis.

Anderson said approximately $6,500 could be saved by eliminating the contract paving, $6,000 by cutting out the base rock, $1,500 by dropping the guardrail and $300 by doing without a signing contract.

"We could probably redesign it and save a few dollars," Anderson said. "But it is about as economical as I can make it and there isn't a lot of fat to start with."

Open house set for Bank of EO

The Heppner office of the Bank of Eastern Oregon will celebrate 20 years of service to this community Friday, August 12 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

In announcing the 20th Anniversary Open House, Bank of EO President Gene Pierce extended an invitation to the residents to come share in refreshments and to register for several door prizes.

A special guessing contest will also be held and the winner will be presented a special prize. Persons need not be present to win either the guessing contest or the door prizes.

The bank first opened in Heppner August 10, 1957 in temporary quarters at Empire Machinery Company's vacated building. Construction on a new facility was started Sept. 10 and the $80,000 structure was occupied on December 28 of that year.

Remodeling undertaken in 1974 nearly doubled the floor space adding drive-in banking facilities, conference rooms, additional office area and an employees lounge area, representing a total investment of $130,000.

Current officers of the bank include Howard Bryant, chairman of the board of directors; Gene Pierce, president and cashier; James H. Wishart, vice-president, Heppner office; James F. Green, vice president and manager, Arlington office; June Crowell, assistant cashier and manager, Ione office; Pat Gentry, assistant cashier, Heppner office; W.R. Lande, assistant cashier, Heppner office; Rodney Linnell, assistant cashier, Arlington office.

Directors, in addition to Bryant, and Pierce are: D.L. Lemon, A. David Childs and Kenneth Walters, all of Arlington; Arthur A. Allen, Boardman; Roy W. Lindstrom, Ione; William G. Jaeger, Condon.

Other employees at the Heppner office include Pauline Bier, Marge Eckman, Barbara Watkins, Cheryl Ployhar, Judy Barber, Pam Mabe and Rhonda Sargent.

Co-op board nominated

Nine persons have been nominated for five positions on the Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative board of directors, Elmer Palmer, chairman of the nominating committee announced this week.

The directorships will be voted on at CBEC'S annual meeting November 3 at the Morrow County Fairgrounds in Heppner.

Former Heppner Mayor Bill Collins was the only nominee for the Heppner district.

Zone 1 nominees include incumbent Floyd Anderson and Earl Weatherford. This area encompasses the rural area north of Condon in Gilliam County.

In Zone 2, the rural area of Southern Gilliam County, Walter Jaeger is the incumbent and Ed Bates is this year's nominee.

For the City of Condon, Fred Greiner and Bob Eaton were nominated. Incumbent Paul Jaeger has declined nomination.

Zone 5 nominees are incumbent Kenneth Wright and Harold Peck. This zone includes Southern Morrow county.

Additional nominations will be accepted up to 15 days prior to the November 3 meeting. Nominations should be made in writing, including the zone or district, and must bear the signatures of at least 15 members.

Forest receipts chopped

Although the amount is still a substantial windfall, the Morrow County Court last week learned the county's share of National Forest receipts would be about $72,000 less than the estimated figure included in the upcoming budget.

Based on an estimate made earlier in the year, the court had already budgeted $369,000 but has since been given a revised estimate of $296,578. The receipts are a result of federal legislation which funnels 25 per cent of all National Forest Service estimated revenue for timber sales and land use charges back to the states for dispersal to counties. Revenue estimates are based on the fiscal year of October 1 to October 1 and dispersal is made according to the number of Forest Service acres contained in the county.

Oregon's total share of the allotment is set at more than $74 million.

Under new legislation in effect this year, purchasers' credit for road construction and reforestation fees have been added to the previous dispersal funds and each county's share has been increased. Herb Rudolph, of the Pendleton Forest Service office, said the confusion created by the new dispersal formula was probably the reason for the earlier inflated estimate.

According to federal law, the 25 per cent given to the states is earmarked for exclusive use by road departments and school districts. Oregon law stipulates that 75 per cent of each county's share is placed in the road fund and the remaining 25 per cent is given to the school district.

Morrow County is expected to receive its share of receipts about December 1.

'Innocent,' says Olds

Michael A. Olds, charged with the murder of 75-year old Ione widow Mary Lindsay last April, pleaded innocent to those charges last Friday before Malheur Circuit Court Judge Frank Yraguen.

Represented by Ontario, Ore., attorneys Douglas Combs and William Tharp, a plea of innocent by reason on mental disease or defect was entered.

The attorneys also filed motions to have the charges dismissed because Olds had already been convicted of murdering Steven Schmerer, a College Place, Wash., man just last month. Olds murdered Schmerer just days before the body of Mrs. Lindsay was found in Malheur County and during the same flight from authorities that led Olds to Pennsylvannia where he was arrested.

As of Tuesday afternoon Judge Yraguen had not ruled on any of the defense motions.

Pipes for Christmas?

Anyone missing about a half mile of heavy gauge steel pipe? If you are, you better speak up or plan on making a sizeable contribution to the Morrow County treasury.

County Assessor Everett Harshman has had his eye on the two stack of pipe—one located on a Union Pacific right-of-way in Boardman and the other along a road near the Boeing test site—for quite some time now.

Last week he staked his claim in the name of the county and if the owner doesn't come forth in the next six months, Morrow County will receive about a $29,000 Christmas present. That's the estimated value of the 50-foot long, 2½-foot in diameter pipe sections that have been on the county tax record for at least the past five years.

Although Harshman is looking for the rightful owner, he's not about to give away his find to anyone who comes along. First there is the matter of proof of ownership and second is the matter of some $2,500 in back taxes.

You might detect a note of confidence in Harshman's decision to move the stack on the railroad right-of-way to a county storage area. He seems to think the county's got a new set of pipes.

Ione water project progresses

The drillers had to go down 675 feet to finish it, but the city of Ione now has its new well and work is progressing towards completion of the entire water project—hopefully by sometime next month.

Last week the city council initiated emergency situation proceedings which will allow a bypass of several weeks of bid advertisements for the well, pump, motor and electrical work. Ione Mayor Robert Drake said the contract bids will be sought as soon as the engineering specifications are made available to the city. He said the information may be ready by the next council meeting, August 11.

City crews are nearing completion of the pipe laying phase and sections of the system are being activated as they are completed to provide fire hydrant service to areas that previously had none.

The new well has been tested at 1,050 gallons per minute and Drake said he expected it to be outfittled with a pump capable of an 800 gallon per minute capacity. It is located on the Henry Krebs property, a few hundred feet east of the city limits, and replaces the city's old 142-foot well that is on the verge of going dry.

Weather

	High	Low
Wed., Aug. 3	98	62
Thu., Aug. 4	93	63
Fri., Aug. 5	87	59
Sat., Aug. 6	90	55
Sun., Aug. 7	91	55
Mon., Aug. 8	96	58
Tue., Aug. 9	91	57

Booths, exhibits due

Organizations planning a community booth at the Morrow County Fair can begin construction and decoration on August 16 and must have their booths completed by the evening of August 22. Also on the 22nd, all exhibits will be accepted between 1 and 8 p.m. at the Fairgrounds.

If anyone in the Heppner area has not yet received a premium book, they can be picked up at Kroll's, Dept. Store or at the Coast-to-Coast Store.