

EDITORIAL LETTERS
VIEWPOINT → **COMMENT**

Council consideration asked

The Heppner City Council last week took a stance regarding the newly-formed East Central Oregon Regional Housing Authority that we think will be detrimental to the city.

Paul Jones, chairman of the housing authority, asked the council to adopt a resolution allowing ECORHA to function within the city limits of Heppner.

EDITORIAL

Several Councilmen asked what a housing authority was and what it accomplished.

Although Jones made his request by letter, he did enclose a news clipping from the July 21 Gazette-Times, offering that as an explanation of ECORHA's purpose and intentions.

The article wasn't read, but a brief explanation was given, highlighting ECORHA's first project—obtaining some Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) monies to subsidize rent payments of low income families.

Under this program a family that pays out more than 25 per cent of its income for rent gets some help. The HUD monies pay landlords or property owners the difference between the fair market rent of the leased unit and 25 per cent of the family's gross income.

At that point one councilman objected to adopting the resolution with the reasoning, "I don't think the working man should have to help subsidize anyone's rent."

A couple other councilmen expressed concurrence and the resolution wasn't adopted.

Well now, there's a couple things that stick in our craw about the council discussion and ensuing action—or lack of it.

One, we are disappointed the council didn't have the time to look into the functions of a housing authority before they made their decision.

Two, we can only take the first councilman's comment as a personal opinion; one based on the

reasoning that a working man pays federal income taxes, and that because a federal agency is making the disbursement of funds, he—the working man—is subsidizing another person's rent.

He's right, in his reasoning. However, we feel he's wrong in making a public decision on that basis—his personal feeling.

There are people—working people—that do not even come close to making what most of us consider an average annual income. Couple that with an area that is short on housing and high in median annual income (heavy federal and unionized employment) and you also find some pretty high rent figures...like right here in Heppner.

Whether a public official likes it or not, those people caught in the crunch of paying more than 25 per cent of their income for housing are part of his constituency, too, and they deserve his consideration.

What's more, a housing authority that is administered by local citizens, is an excellent way to bring part of our federal tax dollars back into the local community and have a say in how they are spent; a broad-based agency directly responsible to the community it serves. A housing authority can obtain monies to renovate old homes that are still useful; it can obtain monies to build new apartment houses for elderly and low income families, putting other houses on the market.

Beyond that, say a low income family gets \$20 a month help on their rent. Where is that "extra" twenty bucks going to be spent? Most likely on shoes for the kids, groceries and other needed items. That is money spent in the community and simple economics tells us that is good because that dollar changes hands several more times before becoming federal tax dollars again.

We lend our support to the housing authority in principle and hope the Heppner City Council reconsiders adopting the resolution of support after more thoroughly studying the issue.

tmh

CBEC audited

The Columbia Basin Electric Co-op audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1977 has been made by independent auditors, Jacobson, Jentsch and Company.

The audit shows a plant investment value of \$8,324,676.

The total revenues increased to \$1,512,023.00 as compared to \$1,359,695.00 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1976. Net margins were \$177,770.00 for the recent fiscal year.

The Cooperative paid capital credits of \$92,221.00 during the year. These credits were paid to decedent estates as well as retirement of patronage credits for the year of 1964.

Columbia Basin Electric has \$164,975.00 invested in the private Bank Corporation

(National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corp.), from which it borrows some funds for new line construction.

Ripple attends seminar

John Ripple of Morrow Co. Grain Growers, Inc. recently attended an Agri Department Managers Seminar sponsored by CENEX.

The course was held in Richfield, Wash. and the objective of the seminar was to further train co-op employees for agri department management.

Episcopals set delegate election

A special parish meeting will be held in the parish hall of All Saints' Episcopal Church on September 11 after the 10:30 a.m. service that Sunday for the specific purpose of electing delegates to the Diocesan Convention to be held in Bend October 20-23.

All members of the parish in good standing are urged to be there for the election. Also, at that meeting the formal letter of agreement between the rector and the parish will be read for clearer understanding by the members of the parish.

Sheriff's Report

Morrow County Sheriff's reports for the week include:

—Mini Leichter, Boardman, reported the theft of a CB radio valued at \$250 from her vehicle parked in an apartment lot.

—Gene Rietmann, Ione, reported the left window of his van was shattered, possibly by

a BB shot.

—Joyce Whitbeck, Irrigon, reported the theft of a bicycle from her home.

—Norm Diggins, Heppner, reported his pickup was hit by unknown vehicle while parked in the Kinzua Corp. parking lot.

Justice Court

Justice Court dispositions for the week include:

—Richard Cox, 27, Lexington, found guilty of DUII and fined \$305.

—Richard Pettyjohn, 21, Heppner, found guilty of negotiating a bad check. He was given a 30 day suspended jail term and ordered to pay restitution.

—John E. Dupont, 48, Lexington, found guilty of negotiating a bad check. He was given a 30 day suspended jail term and ordered to pay restitution.

—Suzanne Cutsforth, 19, Lexington, found guilty of being a minor in possession (MIP) and fined \$32.

—Lori Dunlap, 19, Heppner, found guilty of MIP and fined \$32.

—Dyrk Dunlap, 20, Heppner, found guilty of MIP and fined \$32.

—Samuel Potter, 20, Condon, found guilty of MIP and fined \$32.

—Clay West, 19, Ione, found guilty of MIP and fined \$32.

LEAGUES START

SEPT. 6

AND WE HAVE OPENINGS

NEW & BEGINNER BOWLERS WELCOME

SUNDAY—Mixed Doubles

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY NIGHT —mens league

TUESDAY & THURSDAY NIGHT —ladies league

OPENING SOON WITH COMPLETELY REMODELED FACILITIES

THURSDAY MORNING—ladies

Last year's team captains should call the bowling alley if they haven't already...leagues start soon!

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Sifting through the TIMES



Everything else took a back seat to Fair news this week in past issues of the Times. Fair week in 1957 featured a picture of the new ornamental gate constructed at the Fairgrounds entrance.

Through this new gate at the Morrow County Fairgrounds will pass thousands of persons this week at the county Fair and Rodeo. Framed by the arch is the buckaroo stands of the rodeo which will be a beehive of activity during the coming weekend."

Morrow County was going through a bit of a hot spell that year, too, and people were speculating that the rising mercury was establishing at least some kind of unwanted heat record. "Not so, says Don Gilliam, official weather observer for Heppner, who has scrutinized the records that he, his father and grandfather have kept here for years.

As the area passed 60 days without rain Tuesday, some thought it might be a record. But this is far from a record. In 1929 there were 95 days without measurable precipitation, starting June 19 and running to September 22."

The highest recorded temperature in Heppner was 110 degrees in 1910 and in the blistering summer of 1928, records reveal four consecutive days with highs of 106, 106, 108 and 103.

And each year the Fair and Rodeo preparation takes its toll...

Frank Turner published the following statement this week

in 1957, "to save the trouble of answering the hundreds of inquiries as to the cause of his rather poor physical condition".

Advice to Cowboys

"All good things must come to an end—even to being a cowboy.

My love for blooded horses prompted me to offer my services to cowmen living in the country to help them with getting their ponies ready for the rodeo.

For two days I got by with every soreness that can be in the human body. This morning I attempted to have Booter Image step over the sprinkler system pipe thinking he would not touch it, and what happened then I will never know.

To encourage cowboys, I will say you can really live a long time without breathing.

End quote."

In 1947 the city was preparing for the upcoming Fair activities in a different manner.

"The old Black Maria, or a facsimile of the old police round-up wagon, will go to work along Main street this weekend, according to announcement from the Junior chamber of commerce after meeting Wednesday evening to discuss this and other matters pertaining to the Rodeo and community affairs.

"Desirous of giving the Rodeo all the publicity possible in the remaining days before the opening show, the Jaycees two weeks ago suggested adoption of cowboy attire by the business men and citizens generally as a good type of advertising. This was concurred in by the Senior chamber of commerce and as a result there has been quite an outcropping of cowboy haberdashery within the past few days. The time has now arrived to put a little pressure on and to emphasize what the dress up is for, and the Jaycees plan to conduct a little round-up of their own—gathering in those appearing on the streets sans something befitting the occasion."

Times editor Jasper V. Crawford painted a vivid word-picture as the 16th annual rodeo was gearing up for action in 1937...

"Calm pervades the land of the purple sage this morning. But with the kick-off gun of the 16th annual Rodeo at 1:30 this afternoon, excitement will reign.

"Rock Richmond's wild mustangs are stamping in their stalls. The cowboys are drifting in. Among them former Rodeo champs and others who are "tops" at the riding game. Some of the best racing stock ever to appear at Rodeo will be among the ponies that will dash by the stands this afternoon, tomorrow and Saturday.

"In gala attire, Heppner waits expectantly, her citizenry arrayed in garb of the Old West."

Letters to the Editor

Editor:

We are taking this opportunity to extend our grateful "Thank You" to Jim Summers and Bill Kuhn for their unselfish and dedicated help to Heppner Swim Team these past two months. We appreciate the hours and miles they put forth for us with no monetary reimbursement. The Swim Team could not have functioned without their help. Jim and Bill are exceptional young men and the Swim Team and the community certainly has and will benefit from their talents.

We also extend a "Thank You" to the people of the community who worked and donated time and monies in order that the pool might open. We thank you, not for just the Swim Team, but for all kids of the community who had the opportunity to engage in a healthy, fun and body-toning activity.

Thank You
 Heppner Swim Parents
 and Members

Correction

An editing error appeared in a society item, in last week's Gazette-Times, announcing the engagement of Ruth Ann Keithley and Michael Dean Lynch.

The second paragraph of the story read: Michael is the son of Mrs. Bill Lynch.

The paragraph should have read: Michael is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lynch.

The Gazette-Times regrets the error.

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

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 Jim Summers, Editor
 Eileen Saling, Office Manager
 Justine Weatherford, Local News
 Laura Craig, Composing
 Patti Saling, Composing

A break from the action

Friday Buffet

A full Roast Beef Dinner served buffet style including service from our renowned salad bar...We will be serving from 5 to 7 p.m.

Friday-Saturday Night Breakfast

After the dancing...enjoy a hearty breakfast... Served buffet style midnight to 3 a.m.

Lunch

Sandwiches that will surely please... unique in flavor and served with a fine kettle of our homemade soup.



Dinner

Select from your choice of steaks and seafood...Quantity and quality guaranteed by J.R. personally.

RESTAURANT TAVERN
 FINE DINING 676-5149 FUN IN THE GAME ROOM