

# VIEWPOINT

• LETTERS • COMMENTS • EDITORIAL

## Kinzua looks to area's future with expansion of mill

Heppner Lions were treated to an excellent program Tuesday noon when Harry Kennison and Sandy Stuchell of Kinzua Corporation addressed the group about the new \$4.5-million sawmill being constructed in Heppner. The firm's investment shows a couple things to us. One, it has confidence in the greater Southern Morrow County community for the support a major manufacturer needs; continued

### COMMENT

economic and social growth in services and housing; for a labor market, with people proud to work for a "good" company. Secondly, Kinzua is making the hefty investment in the interests of conservation and good forest management along with an eye to improved profitability. With the new mill—designed exclusively by Kennison—Kinzua will be able to better thin their own forest lands for increased production years down the road; they will be able to fully utilize the vast amount of timber killed by insects recently; and by improving their profits Kinzua is stabilizing their existence and stabilizing Southern Morrow County's economy for years to come. Kennison and Stuchell have extended an invitation to interested groups and individuals that would like to take advantage of a tour of the operation. We have and continue to do so from time to time and its never a dull tour, well worth the time spent.



### Picture credit

Young Master Stuchell gets a firm grip on his dad, Sandy, with one hand and a firm grip on a bag of candy Santa gave him with the other. In the bottom center of the picture a smiling pair of eyes waits patiently. Santa was in downtown Heppner last Saturday and will be back this Saturday at 10 a.m.

## Letters to the Editor Edna Turner thanks all for her day

I wish to thank you and the Gazette-Times for helping to make my Day a success. So many friends and former students sent me greetings, while others came to visit me. Flowers from several friends and delicious cakes from the American Legion Auxiliary completed my day. Many, many thanks to everyone for such thoughtfulness.  
Edna L. Turner

## Resident proud to live in Lexington

I am proud to live in Lexington. First I want to thank all the people who voted Nov. 29 on the proposed sewer system. I want to extend special thanks to Norma Way for registering approximately 45 new voters, Cliff Williams who helped me with my survey, and Charlene Papineau for her efforts as spokesperson for our findings. For their knowledge and guidance, I thank Homer Robbins and Cliff Williams, both of whom have served on other city councils. As I took the survey, I was able to get reactions on both sides of the issue. I did not find one person who I would not like to have as a neighbor. Also, I want to thank the City Council members for their patience with us in these past months and the Gazette-Times for the efforts in publishing both sides of the issue.  
Sincerely,  
Pauline M. Robbins

## Landfill useage is exceeding planned demand at quick pace

"To put it bluntly, the state led us up a primrose path and we're in a mess now," said Turner Landfill manager Cliff Green last week. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality estimated that the first pit on the modified landfill site, in use since Nov. 8, 1976, would be able to accommodate refuse from Heppner, Lexington and Ione for 10 years. Green said that, filling at the present rate, it will be completely full within three years maximum. "Evidentially, someone just goofed on the estimates," Green commented. While growth factors were taken into account, he said he didn't think the six inches of fill dirt required each week to cover the relatively small amount of garbage collected were considered.

In all, it cost the county \$21,504.45 plus \$9,241.95 in grant money from the state to put the Turner Landfill in operation—including expenses for equipment, personnel, engineering consultants, supplies, roadbuilding, and other necessary expenditures. Several years ago, DEQ regulations prohibiting open burning dumps forced the cities of south Morrow County to find an alternative method of refuse disposal. Preliminary solid waste studies indicated that a regional modified landfill would be the most economical of allowed solutions to the solid waste disposal problem.

In early 1973, the cities of Morrow County authorized the County Court to undertake solid waste management in the county and a Solid Waste Advisory Committee was formed to work on a management system. A first landfill site in Blackhorse Canyon near Lexington was proposed in July, 1973, but subsequent protest by residents in the area caused it to be withdrawn from consideration. Twenty-three potential locations were examined and only the Turner site off Dee Cox Road near

Heppner met the criteria of owner and DEQ approval, and encountered no resident objection. A lease agreement, stipulating \$900 a year payment, was signed by the Morrow County Court with owners Dale Turner and Robert Schultz in March, 1975. After a road was constructed, the pit excavated, fencing built, a used Caterpillar tractor with bucket purchased and all preliminary work done, the Turner Landfill operation was turned over by the county court to Cliff Green who owns and operates Heppner Disposal Service. "We were better off before," Green stated emphatically, referring to Heppner's

former dump with its open burning disposal method. He expects the first level of the pit to be full by January and the last two layers to fill even faster because they will slope off a hillside. Another pit on the site may be dug, but hasn't been designed yet. Green, admitting that he is somewhat of a rebel on the matter, questions the authority by which the DEQ can enforce its own regulations. County Judge D.O. Nelson, agrees the county is hemmed in by the DEQ as far as solid waste disposal, but said, "They make the rules and we have to live with them." He estimates the Turner site will be full in a six year maximum if another pit is dug. Nelson

said that rent on the land would probably have to be paid for the full ten years. County Planning Director Dave Moon pointed out that the excavation of a second pit would cost much less than the first because most of the preliminary digging has been completed and equipment obtained. He said that, while he wasn't involved in the first search, he thought that many potential sites haven't been explored if a new landfill site must be located. Judge Nelson, summing up the future situation when the Turner Landfill can no longer be used, commented, "We'll cross that bridge when we come to it."

## Lexington merchants plan for Christmas

It's going to be an old-fashioned Christmas in Lexington this year as merchants and citizens band together to build community spirit during the holiday season. A Christmas tree, at least 25 feet tall, will tower over Lexington City Hall and is due to be hauled in fresh from the forest by Pat Cutsforth on Friday, Dec. 9. The city will install a buried Christmas tree stand, donated by John Edwards, so the tree will be an every year attraction in downtown Lexington. Barring breakdowns or other unforeseeable delays, the community is invited to a Christmas tree decorating festivity on Saturday, Dec. 10. Later in the day, dancing to the music of Dwayne and the Plainsman at V & G Tavern starting at 9 p.m. is planned to help sustain the holiday mood. Plans have been made to pipe Christmas music out to Lexington's main street to further inspire that old-fashioned community Christmas spirit.

All businesses in Lexington, including V & G Tavern, Del's Market, M & L Refrigeration, Lexington Lumber Yard, Vic's Standard Station, Lexington Machine Shop and Morrow County Grain Growers, plus many civic-minded individuals, are donating time, money and effort to make this Christmas the best ever in Lexington. City personnel rosters took a beating last week as three Heppner employes tendered their resignations. Paul Sumner, who has served as city foreman for the past two months, resigned to take a position at Columbia Basin Electric Co-op. Sumner's resignation is effective Dec. 13. Chris Healy, a member of the city crew since early summer, will resign at the end of the month as she is leaving the community. John Mollahan, a recent addition to the city police force, also resigned last week. Replacements for the foreman and patrolman positions are now being sought and the vacancy on the city crew is being handled through the CETA program.

## Three resign city posts in Heppner

## Sifting through the TIMES

Morrow County voters were preparing to go to the polls this week in 1967 for a special election on a road serial levy. The five-year levy (which passed by a 3-1 margin) provided \$150,000 annually to construct, improve, maintain and repair county roads. The amount was an increase of \$25,000 per year above the \$125,000 levied in each of the previous three years for the road system. In the same week, the Times reported on "one of the most successful conventions in years" held by the Oregon Wheat League. Bob Jepsen, Ione, headed the convention as president and Louis Carlson, also of Ione, was chosen Oregon Conservation Man of the Year. A decade earlier, the weather was contributing much to the Christmas spirit as Heppner recorded a summer-like 71 degrees on Dec. 9. "The high temperature was apparently unique in the entire northwest as the sun shone brightly during the day, unhampered by any clouds or fog which lay over much of the rest of the northwest." Along with the record mercury level, precipitation was reaching a new high also. "To date 16.34 inches of rainfall has been recorded in Heppner, making 1957 one of the wettest years in history, though not yet a record by more than an inch."

Speaking of water, this week in 1947 Heppner was readying to fill a new 840,000 gallon reservoir. "The reservoir is undergoing a test this week and the water department announced that it was filled for the first time this morning. It is hoped the big tank will be in regular use by Jan. 1. Addition of the new reservoir will give Heppner close to 1,200,000 gallons storage. The present reservoir on the west side of town has a capacity of 350,000 gallons. "Who won the fight? Seein's believin'. Make your own decision." This ad in the Times in 1947 had fight fans excited as the film of the controversial heavyweight championship bout between Joe Louis and Jersey Joe Walcott was coming to the Star Theater. On the same bill at the theater was "The Hucksters" with Clark Gable and Deborah Kerr (rhymes with star!)" says the ad. Pugilistic news of this week in 1937 was found in the Times as a "Boxing team composed of Heppner H Club members journeyed to Hermiston for a smoker put on by the Hermiston H Club and returned home victorious three bouts to one."

Those putting up their dukes for Heppner included "scrappy Jack Healy". Guy Moore, Clayton Wright, Dean Gilman and Johnny Hays. "The smoker was fittingly ended when Richard Hays knocked out his opponent. Although Richard was outweighed by fourteen pounds, the outcome was decided in the first few seconds." Some words of wisdom from Arthur Brisbane came our way this week in 1927. "In Little Rollo's day a good boy would stoop to pick up a pin. The rich, observant banker would notice him, employ him, marry him to his daughter and leave him a fortune. Economy was the watchword. "Modern James McStow of Canton, Ohio, says it's an exploded watchword. In Chicago he picked up a dime from the floor and as he stooped someone stole his pocketbook with \$80. His motto reads: "Look after your \$80 and the dimes will take care of themselves."

## Where to write Federal

Following is a list of Oregon and Eastern Oregon public officials for the information of readers who want to communicate with them:  
U.S. Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510. Member of Appropriations Committee, Interior Committee, Rules Committee and Indian Policy Review Commission. Portland office, Pioneer Courthouse, Rm. 107, 520 SW Morrison, Portland, Ore. 97204, phone 221-3386.  
U.S. Sen. Bob Packwood, Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510. Member of Finance Committee and Commerce Committee. Portland office, 1002 NE Halladay, Rm. 700, (P.O. Box 3621), Portland, Ore. 97208, phone 233-4471.  
U.S. Rep. Al Ullman, of the Second District, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Member of Ways and Means Committee. Salem office, 150 N. Church, Rm. 219 (P.O. Box 247), Salem, Ore. 97310, phone 399-5724.

## State

Gov. Robert Straub, State Capitol, Salem, Ore. 97310, phone 378-3100.  
State Sen. Ken Jernstedt (Morrow, Gilliam and other counties), 311 Pine St., Hood River, 386-1393.  
State Rep. Jack Sumner (Morrow, Gilliam and other counties), Route 1, Heppner, 676-5364.

## Elks Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 8 Regular Lodge, 8 p.m. Dinner & Kitty Drawings	Tuesday, Dec. 13 Senior Citizens, 4:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 9 Happy Hour 5-7 p.m. No dinner served Kinzua Christmas Party Cocktail hour, 6:30-7:30	Wednesday, Dec. 14 Senior Citizens, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 10 Condon's Annual Local Dinner, 6-8 p.m.	Thursday, Dec. 15 Regular Lodge, 8 p.m. Dinner Drawing \$500 Kitty

Elks and out-of-town guests only.

B.P.O.E. 358 Heppner, Oregon

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