

# New hookups for sewer, water face rate increase in Heppner

The Heppner City Council's recent decision to more than double the fees for new sewer and water connections in the city is an effort to at least approach a break even point on labor and materials costs, according to Mayor Jerry Sweeney.

The council voted to up the connection fee for a standard three-fourths inch water hookup from \$150 to \$300 and increase the sewer hookup fee from \$135 to \$300. The increases are effective immediately.

Sweeney said the city has been losing money on the installations for a long time but added that the council had held off on the increases in order to encourage new building within the city.

While serving as city foreman, Paul Sumner presented the council with a detailed breakdown of material and labor costs required for installation of a city water meter.

The analysis showed that even by using minimum figures, the city was losing money on each installation.

In his report, Sumner said, "The charges represented here are bare minimums in terms of labor and materials. It would be safe to say that 99 out of 100 installations would far exceed these charges in one or both of the labor or materials categories."

Sumner recommended the council increase the fees to \$300 for water and \$270 for sewer. He added, "At these prices there will still be occasions when the city will lose money but the average will be more in line with the actual costs incurred."

A check of the rates of several cities in the surrounding area shows that the new fees are close to the going rate for the connections. The City of Pilot Rock has set its rates at \$250 for water connection and \$150 for sewer connection, while the City of Boardman

charges \$350 for each of the services.

In Condon, the water connection fee is \$150 and the sewer connection fee is \$300. Both of the fees are currently

under discussion for increases by the Condon City Council. In Hermiston, the city charges \$200 for a sewer connection and \$250 plus a \$15 deposit for a water connection.

## Pre-schooler clinics for immunization

The Morrow County Health Department has scheduled two immunization clinics for pre-schoolers next week. Clinics will be held Wednesday, Jan. 25, at the Lone Grade School and Thursday, Jan. 26, at the Heppner Grade School.

Both clinics are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. and are open to all pre-school children in the area needing immunizations.

## 'Nature's Glory' is theme for 1978 Fair & Rodeo

Due to a complete lack of community response to the "Pick a Theme" contest, Fair Committee members took it upon themselves to get things going for the 1978 Morrow County Fair.

"Nature's Glory" got the nod from the committee and will serve as this year's theme.

"We just got the general idea and we will proceed from there," said committee member Mildred Rauch.

# Letters to the Editor

## Women sell out...

Editor:

The IWY National Women's Conference held recently in Houston reveals the feminist movement as a coalition of special interest groups willing to support anything in order to get their objectives accepted.

Women voted themselves the "right" to reject their child-rearing duties and to turn them over to federally-funded child care and development centers. Women voted themselves cradle-to-grave guarantees by the government in true socialist tradition. Women voted to accept lesbianism as a natural and acceptable lifestyle for themselves and for our children.

Women referred to family units as consisting of only women and children, totally ignoring men or mentioning them only in the role of oppressor. Valuable aids and objectives to improve opportunities for women were lost in this morass of resolutions. The resolutions would drastically change the values which have made the United States a symbol of freedom and morality.

As an observer at the IWY Conference, I want to tell your readers that in no way do the pro-ERA, pro-abortion, pro-lesbian resolutions which were passed in Houston represent the millions of people in the United States who have taken a stand for decency and morality. The 18 Oregon delegates who voted for these resolutions do not represent the grass roots majority who had no idea that the state IWY Conference was taking place at Willamette University early in June.

The total number of delegates numbered just under 2,000. On the other hand, 20,000 self-financed individuals came to Houston to attend the Family Day Rally. They are the ones who truly represented us. I took with me to that rally over 3,000 petitions from Oregon residents relating to the issues, and they were joined with some 300,000 petitions from all sections of the United States which were sent to the President and to the Congress in support of traditional values.

If the people of Tennessee could send 50 busloads of people to the rally (plus 2 filled-to-capacity airplanes) then the least we in Oregon can do is support the cause by sending letters and mailgrams to the President. We are the majority—let us not be silent any longer.

May I suggest that you write immediately to President Carter and to our six elected officials in Washington and tell them that you reject this federally-funded farce and that the IWY delegates do not in any way represent you.

Gabrielly T. Avery  
Lake Oswego

## Big Brother?...

...EDITOR'S NOTE: The article referred to in Mr. Logan's letter deals with ECOAC's recent decision to purchase its present headquarters building in Pendleton rather than continue with a rental arrangement. The building will be purchased by Qunita Corp., which is made up of association members, and it will then be leased to the association—allowing for a more than 50 per cent increase in space available for ECOAC operations. The expansion is viewed by some as another step on the road to regional government, the result being an abrogation of local control.

Editor:

The East Oregonian Dec. 27, 1977 records a belated Christmas present for the counties that was newsworthy. The East Central Oregon Association of Counties has bought, in effect, a new Court House at 920 S.W. Frazier Street in Pendleton for \$100,000.

Wheeler, Gilliam, Morrow, and Umatilla counties will have surplus Court Houses. Can these buildings be used for rest homes, historical societies, or museums?

This Regional Government change may come as a surprise to many, especially to those who believe in a referendum. This is another movement that can be traced to the Committee of Economic Development. It is all spelled out in their book, "Organization of Local Governments". Economy and efficiency is the excuse. The motivation, or carrot on the stick, is federal money.

It is difficult to understand how our taxes can be run through a federal bureaucracy and returned to the original source more efficiently than money that is taxed and used in the immediate county.

Of course, if the bureaucracy uses up more money than needed, the national debt will make it up. We are told to not worry about the national debt as we owe it to ourselves. Who gets the interest on the national debt? Not ourselves.

Are you confused? Don't worry about it. Television will continue to carry all the serials and sports. They will take your mind off the problem. It's like whistling as we pass the graveyard.

Are the County Courts fostering their own finish?

Gene Logan  
Arlington

# Sifting through the TIMES

First steps were taken toward the creation of Penland Lake this week in 1968. County Judge Paul Jones announced the approval by the Oregon State Game Commission for the purchase of Penland and Kelly Prairie sites for development of fish impoundments.

A reservoir at Kelly Prairie was planned to consist of 490 surface acres, while Penland was planned to be 150 surface acres. Kelly Prairie later proved to be unsatisfactory as a reservoir site, but today Penland Lake is a very popular recreation area near Arbuckle Mountain.

The now overcrowded Riverside High School building was under construction ten years ago, with builders racing against time to complete the structure by an April 1 deadline.

Four out of five requests made by a county teachers' committee under the chairmanship of Vi Lanham were turned down by the Morrow County School District this week in 1968, including one which would have increased the base salary for district teachers from \$5,800 to \$6,200 per year.

Two Morrow County football stars were chosen this week 20 years ago to play in the next fall's East-West All-Star Shrine football game in Pendleton. Len Ray Schwartz, Heppner High School senior, was selected to play at a tackle spot while Robert Parson of Irrigon High School was slated for a backfield position.

An announcement by the State Department of Motor Vehicles this week in 1958 revealed that Morrow County had attained a unique distinction: it was the only county in Oregon to get through 1957 without a single traffic fatality.

Joann Brosnan earned the honor of being the Betty Crocker of Tomorrow in Heppner High School 20 years ago.

Residents of Heppner, especially new families looking for a place to live, are aware of the acute housing shortage in Heppner. Reading an editorial printed in the Gazette-Times this week 30 years ago, might elicit a comment of "So what else is new?"

"Mark Twain's famous weather observation could easily be applied to the housing situation in Heppner—everybody knows there is a housing shortage but no one does anything about it...."

"No doubt the high price for building materials and the unprecedented wage scale is deterring many people from building homes. This is true in relation to investment building, and with good cause, for it is too great a risk to build a home, that in accordance with present price levels, should bring from \$75 to \$100 a month which would drop to a level of from \$35 to \$50, or even lower, if deflation sets in. Yet people must have housing and something should be done about it. The fact is that people are paying high rent for "just a place to live in" cannot be denied, here as elsewhere...Lack of housing has kept numerous people from locating here, some of them interested in business enterprises, and it is safe to say that an effort to meet the situation would bring new people here..."

It seems the only difference between the situation then and now is that people in 1948 did not take an ever-increasing inflation rate for granted.

Plans for a big ball in Hardman were announced this week 40 years ago. The event was planned to celebrate President Franklin Roosevelt's birthday and to raise money in response to his birthday appeal to create a National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

How often have modern day shoppers wished for the chance to go back in time for just one day to take advantage of prices offered in the 'old days'?

How about this sale at Heppner's Penney's store in 1938: "Clearing: boys' dress pants, \$1 a pair, broken sizes; boys' pre-shrunk overalls, 50c a pair; dish cloths, 3c each; sheets, 81x99, 59c; 70x80 part wool single blankets, 90c; all wool skirts, \$1; men's canvas gloves, 5c a pair; undies, 2 for 25c; boys' blue chambray shirts, 29c; terry towels, 7c; and on and on.

Here is another "so what's new" item, published in the Gazette-Times this week in 1928: "The cattlemen had a hard time of it during the last seven years and most of them went broke. Herds were depleted to such an extent there is now a shortage of beef and prices rise. In reality, however, beef prices are not high when food value is considered. Any attempt at this time to use propoganda with a view to beating down prices would be a mistake. Unless people can make some money at cattle raising they are not going to continue in that business..."

## GAZETTE-TIMES CLASSIFIEDS

676-9228

## Elks Calendar

Thursday, January 19, 1978	Tuesday, January 24, 1978
Regular Lodge 8:00 p.m.	Senior Citizens Dinner 4:30
\$500 Drawing	
Dinner Drawing	Wednesday, January 25, 1978
Friday, January 20, 1978	Senior Citizens Dinner 4:30
Happy Hour	Pinochle 7:30
Dinner 6-8:30 p.m.	Boy Scouts 7:30
Music by Ackley	Thursday, January 26, 1978
Saturday, January 21, 1978	Regular Lodge 8:00 p.m.
Dinner 6-8:30 p.m.	Dinner Drawings
Music by Shady Oak from Portland (\$1 cover charge)	

Elks and out-of-town guests only.

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

# What can we do for you?

Your Heppner-Morrow Chamber of Commerce is starting a new year... and what a year we expect to have.

To accomplish this we need a couple things from you!

First...your thoughts on what the chamber can do for you, Second...we need your membership.

This week we'll be sending out letters...then some of us will be around to talk to you... or Join us for lunch... we meet every Monday at noon at the West of Willow.

Be active in your Chamber... and see what it can do for you!

## THE GAZETTE TIMES

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