

Oregon drivers have to learn a few new laws enacted during '79

Oregon drivers have to learn only a few new traffic laws since new legislation enacted by the 1979 Legislature went into effect Oct. 3.

One law that will make it easier to remember when to turn on car headlights is among the new or changed rules of the road. It says drivers must turn on headlights between sunset and sunrise, rather than a half hour after sunset until a half hour before sunrise.

The change also says lights must be turned on if drivers cannot see people or vehicles

1,000 feet away. Under the previous law, visibility had to be down to 500 feet before lights had to be turned on.

Two changes relate to stopping for certain types of buses carrying children. One new law authorizes church buses carrying children to use school bus stoplights. Permits must be issued to religious organizations by the Motor Vehicles Division to use the lights. Other traffic must stop for these buses—the same as for a stopped school bus or worker transportation bus.

Another law relates to drivers of ambulances and emergency vehicles. It requires drivers of these vehicles to stop for stopped school or other buses using the flashing school bus lights and picking up or unloading children. After stopping, drivers of emergency vehicles may proceed if no passengers of the bus are on the road and if the emergency vehicle proceeds with caution.

Still another traffic law change relates to where a vehicle may be stopped, parked or allowed to stand.

The change prohibits a driver from stopping, parking, or allowing a vehicle to stand within seven and one-half feet of the nearest rail of a railroad track if that interferes with railroad operations.

The fee for an instruction permit to learn to drive increases from \$3 to \$5. The one-time fee to have a driver's license endorsed to operate a motorcycle increases from \$3.50 to \$7.

A new type of vehicle is given statutory recognition—a moped—and rider requirements have been established.

The new law allows a person 16-or older to get a limited moped license. People who already have a driver's license, however, may also operate a moped without returning to the DMV for more tests. Limited licenses for the

small vehicles are issued if the applicants pass a vision and knowledge of the rules test, as well as an off-street riding demonstration. The fee will be \$9.

Mopeds must have pedals, an engine of no more than 50 cc's, and a top unassisted speed on a level road of 30 mph.

One of the most important driver license changes makes it easier to let the Motor Vehicles Division know your address has changed. For the last three years, any change of address has meant a trip to a nearby DMV office, but the new law allows drivers to notify the division of the new address by mail as well as in person. In most cases, DMV will issue an adhesive sticker showing the new address which drivers then apply to their old licenses. Notice to DMV must be given within 30 days of the change of address.

If for some reason you want a new license when you change an address, or if the division must issue a new license for any reason, the fee will be \$5.

Another driver license law change deals with false applications for licenses or non-driver identification cards. The penalty for false application or using false documents to get a license goes up from a Class B misdemeanor to a Class A misdemeanor. That

means a maximum fine of \$1,000, up to one year in jail, or both.

In addition, if a license is cancelled for false application, a new license cannot be issued to the person for one year.

In addition, if a license is cancelled for false application, a new license cannot be issued to the person for one year.

The fee for most title transactions—a title serves as proof of ownership—goes up from \$2 to \$7. The \$2 fee, DMV officials told lawmakers, has been the same since about 1950 and falls far short of paying for the cost of issuing the document today.

Fees for short term trip permits for trailers also have increased. The fee depends on the weight and period of time for which the trip permit is issued. Mobile home trip permits also go up—from \$1 to \$5, and mobile home registration fees increase from \$6 to \$10.

Vehicle fee changes are intended to cover the cost of providing the service or documents and the changes are all based on cost studies completed last year by DMV.

Another new law relates to parking privileges for handicapped people. The definition of handicapped is expanded to include, among other things, persons with respirator or

cardiovascular illnesses that "make it impossible or impractical" to walk.

These people, or others in their household, may apply, beginning Oct. 3, for either a disabled person license plate or an insignia that may be moved from vehicle to vehicle. Either entitles use of disabled person parking spaces. Vehicles displaying the plate or insignia are allowed to park in certain areas without worrying about overtime parking tickets.

Would-be applicants for the plates or insignias must provide a physician's certification on the disability when applying to a DMV field office.

Still another new law is aimed at making sure people know what they are getting when they buy a vehicle that has been "assembled" or "reconstructed." It also closes some loopholes in laws dealing with destroyed vehicles. The loopholes, DMV officials say, have been adding to stolen car problems in the state.

Vehicle equipment requirements in law will now be in closer step with rules adopted by the federal government and the Motor Vehicle Division under its rule-making authority.

All vehicles, including small trailers, must have two, instead of one, tail lights and two stop lights. Turn signal

lights become required equipment on all vehicles except mopeds, and motorcycles manufactured prior to 1973.

Braking requirements also are being updated to eliminate stopping distance tables for certain speeds and simply require that vehicles of certain weights be able to stop within a set distance from a speed of 20 miles per hour without leaving a 12-foot wide lane.

As in the past, lighting and most other equipment laws do not cover implements of husbandry—units used for agricultural purposes only—and certain antique or special interest vehicles.

Another new law deals with vehicle windows and windshields. The former law banned outright any sign, poster, or other nontransparent material on windshields, side or rear windows of motor vehicles. The only exception was for papers required to be displayed by law.

The change makes it illegal to have signs, posters, one-way glass, adhesive film, glaze applications or other material on the windshield, side windows or windows forward of or adjacent to the driver's seat if the material prohibits or impairs seeing into or out of the motor vehicle. The law also applies to rear windows of vehicles.

Another new requirement ends a long-standing exemption for log trucks. Previously these vehicles did not have to have mudflaps or splash aprons to deflect mud and spray but after Wednesday these vehicles will join other types of trucks needing the flaps. The law does provide a "fix it" provision so that if flaps are replaced or repaired courts must dismiss any citation without penalty.

In the past people moving to Oregon have been allowed to continue using valid out of state plates for the same period of time their former state honored Oregon-plated vehicles. This usually meant new residents could drive here without getting Oregon registrations for several months and, in some cases, up to a year.

A new law now says you must get Oregon license plates when you become a resident. You establish residency by such acts as remaining here for a consecutive period of six months or more, placing children in a public school without paying nonresident tuition fees, claiming to be a resident for purposes of getting, at resident rates, a state license or tuition fees at a publicly-maintained school, or maintaining an office or warehouse facility in the state and operating motor vehicles here.

Officers installed by Heppner C of C

William J. (Bill) Kuhn, an attorney, was installed as the president for 1980 of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce Monday. He succeeded Ernest McCabe, co-owner of the Central Market.

Other officers for 1980 include Fred Toombs, manager of Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, Inc., first vice president; Bob Harris, real estate broker, second vice

president; Ken Miller, branch manager of the First National Bank of Oregon, secretary, and Dick Boerger, loan officer at the First National, treasurer.

In a brief ceremony at the luncheon meeting at the West of Willow, McCabe handed over his gavel and Kuhn, in turn, presented McCabe with a plaque. Herman Winters, an attorney, was the installing officer.

OREGON TRAFFIC DEATHS ABOVE NATIONAL AVERAGE

Oregon's traffic deaths for 1978 climbed higher than the national average, according to figures compiled by the State Highway Division in its "1978 Traffic Accidents and Accident Rates on the State Highway System" report.

Nationwide there were an estimated 51,900 traffic deaths during 1978, an increase of 5.4 percent from 1977. Oregon experienced 721 traffic deaths during the past year, or an increase of 7.1 percent compared to 1977.

Oregon's state highway system had 348 fatal accidents during 1978, which was an increase of 9.4 percent from

the 318 fatalities in 1977. The total number of persons killed in these accidents was 411, an increase of 10.5 percent from the 1977 total of 372.

The freeway system was again the safest place to drive with the state highway system showing a 1978 accident rate per million vehicle-miles of 1.98, almost three times the freeway rate of 0.67 for the same period.

The state highway system accounted for 11,830,089,981 vehicle-miles of travel during 1978, an increase of 7.2 percent from the 1977 total of 11,035,194,552.

Ancient Mammoth teeth found at Eastern Oregon

Teeth and teeth parts found earlier this year beneath the baseball field at Eastern Oregon State College have been verified as those of a mammoth that lived 10,000 to 50,000 years ago.

Associate Professor of Biology Burr Betts said when the teeth were found he and Bob Ward, associate professor of education, tentatively identified them as belonging to a Mammuthus Washingtoni, a hairy elephant-like mammoth. He said that identification has now been confirmed by a paleontologist at Washington State University in Pullman.

Burr said two, molar-like cheek teeth used for grinding

food and parts of other teeth were found early in the fall by workmen digging a test hole near home plate on the baseball field.

According to Gary D. Webster, professor of geology at WSU, "Mammoth remains are fairly common in the pleistocene deposits of Washington and Oregon."

"Very likely those teeth are there not because the elephant died there but because they were washed there," said Betts. He added any future digging in the area will be done with special care and if human artifacts are found in the area it would be considered for scientific examination.

Nursing program at Blue Mountain receives accreditation

Blue Mountain Community College's practical nurse and associate-degree nurse programs received accreditation for a five-year period from the Oregon State Board of Nursing at its November meeting.

Accreditation for the nursing programs comes two years after the college's nursing curriculum and instructional staff originally were approved by the State Board in August, 1977. Approval of a nursing program is granted for two years or until the college graduates its first class of nurses, according to Bob Hawk, dean of occupational education.

Last summer, BMCC graduated 24 students in its associate-degree nursing and six in the practical nursing program, according to Jan Glas-

by, head of nursing. During the summer, the nursing department worked on a self-study report as a step to eventual accreditation. An on-site visitation was conducted in October by the State Board of Nursing. As a result of this visit and the self-study, the accreditation was granted and in five years, the process must be repeated.

There are currently 30 first-year students enrolled in the two nursing programs at BMCC. This summer Ms. Glasby expects to graduate 18 associate-degree nurses and about 10 practical nurses.

Information about application to the nursing programs can be obtained through the Admissions office at BMCC as well as the counseling and nursing departments.

Secretary warns Farmers must keep soil tied down

American farmers must decide soon whether to keep their soil tied down on the land or "to allow an additional 60 million tons of it to wash or blow away this season," Secretary of Agriculture Bob Bergland said recently.

Because of an excellent demand for American grain in the year ahead, there is no "set-aside or diversion for wheat and feed grains, and each farmer will decide for himself how much cropland to plant," Bergland said.

"In the 1973-74 crop year," he said, "farmers plowed up an additional nine million acres of marginal land—land nearly impossible to protect from soil erosion."

"The result was 60 million

tons more soil lost on those nine million acres alone," Bergland said. "That was the bitter result of plowing from fence to fence."

He pointed out that the most serious soil erosion occurs on a fraction of the cropland, usually sloping land with highly erodible soils. Soybeans planted on marginal lands in one part of Iowa, he said, resulted in "the sickening loss of 26 tons of soil for each ton of soybeans harvested."

Bergland warned that switching to crop production on hard-to-protect acres can undo years of work and hundreds of millions of dollars invested in soil conservation practices.

Northwestern Livestock Comm. Co.

Special Feeder Sale

Tuesday, Jan. 8

No one knows what cattle are worth now or what they are going to be worth later this spring.

We are short of cattle numbers in the United States and you with feeder cattle should let all the buyers bid on them at a central marketing location—the livestock auction.

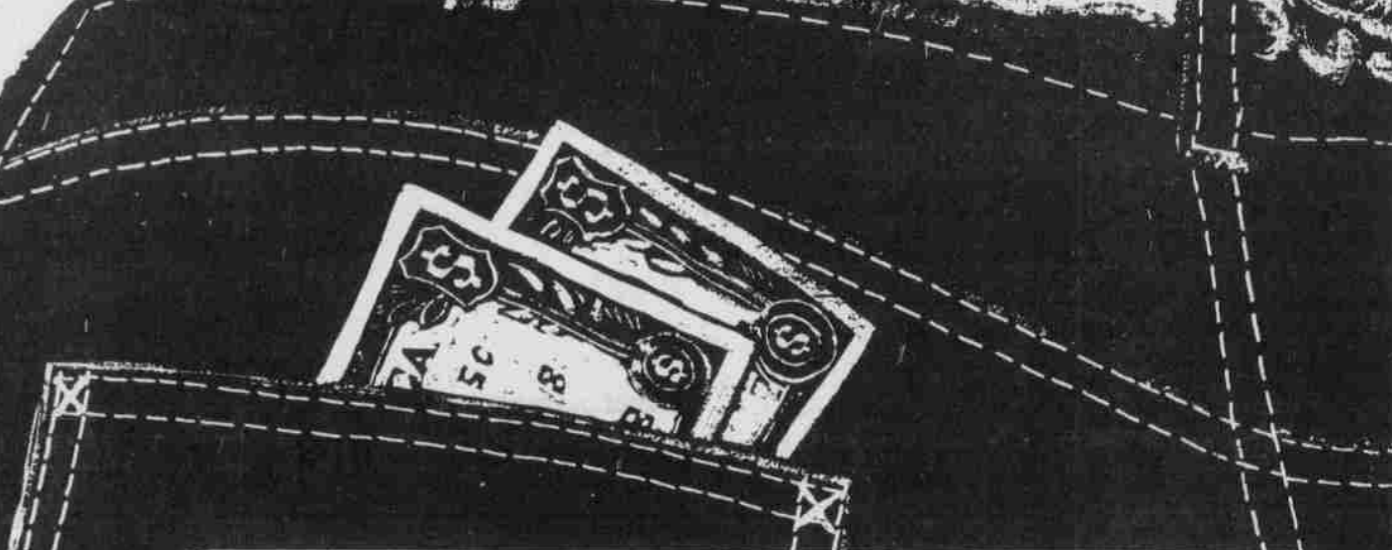
Selling the auction way provides:

- Guaranteed payments
- Competitive bidding
- No pencil shrink
- Accurate weights

We have already consigned for Jan. 8 bidding: 200 head of 400- to 500-pound calves; 60 head of 650-pound steers. 60 mixed white and black bally pairs. 50 preg-tested cows.

Northwestern Livestock Commission Co.

Don Grauer (503) 567-6655 evenings 567-3111 Gary Miller (503) 565-3275 Eddie Cole, Manager (503) 296-4672



LOOK WHAT A LITTLE "POCKET MONEY" WILL BUY

FOR \$1.50 A WEEK YOU CAN BUY
A 10-WORD AD ON THE
HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES CLASSIFIED PAGES!

*Take advantage of the 'buying and selling' power of the classifieds.
Just fill out the blank below and bring it to our office with your remittance--15¢ a word, 10-word minimum.*

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| HEPPNER GAZETTE - TIMES | BUY, SELL, RENT, LEASE, TRADE, |
| WANT ADS | 676-9228 |
| DEADLINE IS MONDAY | |
| NAME _____ | NAME _____ |
| ADDRESS _____ | ADDRESS _____ |
| PHONE _____ | PHONE _____ |
| RUNS _____ TIMES TP _____ | RUNS _____ TIMES TP _____ |
| FIRST DATE _____ | FIRST DATE _____ |
| LAST DATE _____ | LAST DATE _____ |
| NO. WORDS _____ | NO. WORDS _____ |
| INCHES _____ | INCHES _____ |
| CLASSIFICATION _____ | CLASSIFICATION _____ |

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE - TIMES

147 West Willow St., Heppner, OR. 97836