

# Chamber president announces membership drive

At the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce business meeting Monday at the West of Willow Restaurant in Heppner, President Bill Kuhn announced the chamber is going to start a membership drive campaign.

He said merchants who are not on the chamber will be receiving letters asking them to join the organization. Two to three weeks later, the merchants will be approached on a personal basis by members of the membership committee in hopes that it will have a "huge effect" on the membership of the chamber of commerce, Kuhn said.

Harold Kerr announced that the Morrow County Wheat League is having an open public meeting Monday at the Catholic Parish Hall in Heppner with the topic of "Pesticides and Their Use." He said someone for the use of chemicals such as 2,4-D will speak and someone against their use will also be heard. The meeting starts at 7:15 p.m.

Kerr also said there will be a meeting on elk and deer plans at the Lexington Grange with members of the Fish and Wildlife Dept. March 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Matt Doherty explained the new taxing method of not taxing at 100 percent assessed valuation. He said the cost per \$1,000 for elections will be effected by the new formula. Doherty said homeowners will pay at about 84 percent of assessed valuation and other property will be assessed at about 87 percent.

Doherty also explained that an A levy on the election ballot is for money asked for in any budget that is above that taxing entity's six percent limitation that exceeds its prior budget. The state will partially fund the A levy by paying 30 percent of each person's tax, up to \$800. The B levy is the excess that will not be partially funded by the state.

Kuhn said he has asked the County Fair Board for \$1,000 to pay for the chamber's time spent and for expenses incurred for its participation in the fair parade. The Bank of Eastern Oregon donated for some of the expenses, he said. Kuhn said Jim Wishart has shown an interest in resigning from his position as parade chairman so Kuhn said, "We are in the market for a parade trainee."

Don Cole announced that the Heppner Fillies will be playing Wasco County at 1:30 today in the first round of the district tournament in Pendleton. He said the Heppner band and drill team have also been asked to perform.

Justine Weatherford said she is looking for pictures to put into the new Morrow County brochure. She said photos of water sports on the Columbia River are especially needed.

Dick Boerger said the chamber should "run in the black this year" since dues have been raised. He said with the 29.5 full memberships the chamber had last year, "We will not go broke this year." and if the membership drive is successful, he said he is optimistic the chamber can come out ahead.

Orville Cutsforth said he was told by the county assessor that he had paid \$800 in back taxes on the Cutsforth Park that he should not have had to.

"I don't want the money," he said.

What he does want, is to use that money to pay for a culvert to put across the creek to join the park with four more acres. Cutsforth has donated to the county to add to the park. Cutsforth said the added space is needed and he has already logged it off.

Judge Don McElligott said that was a kind offer but he has already included that project in the county park budget for 1980-81. He said the county is going to make more camping spaces at the park which should increase the

revenue. "I had to hit you with a 2 by 4 but I got your attention," Cutsforth said with a chuckle.

Cutsforth said all of the timber sales in Morrow County are going to Umatilla County because Kinzua is not

bidding. He said there were 700,000 acres of Morrow County timber but there is "none now."

"We are going to lose it all if something is not done about it," Cutsforth said. He recommends preserving

the Willow Creek Watershed. He said for recreation purposes it can't be beat with four mountains, three streams,

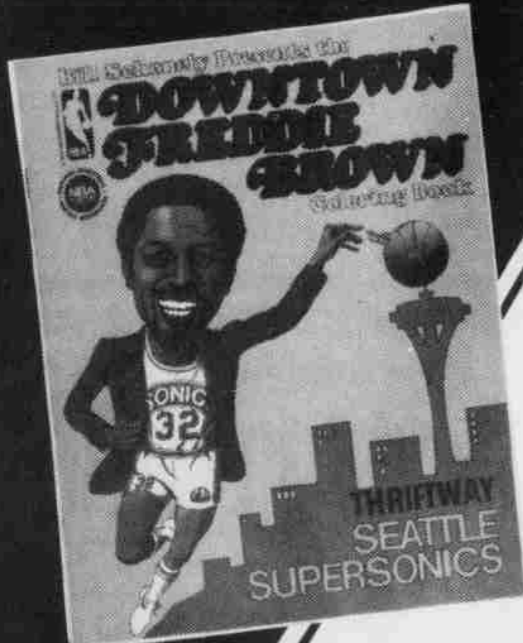
fossils (I can show you a fossil of an alligator he said) and an earthquake fault that is 200 miles long and 20 feet deep in

some places. Cutsforth said it would be the perfect spot for the Forest Service to route some trails.

## GOOD LUCK ECHO GIRLS & RIVERSIDE BOYS

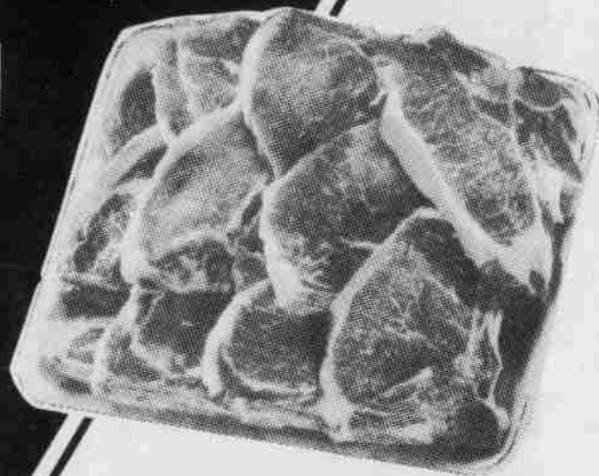
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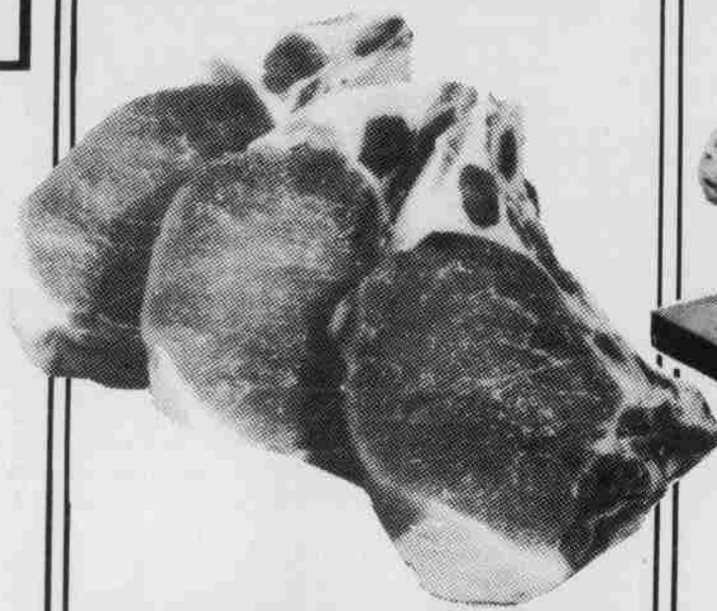
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