



Checking their inventory at the Coast-to-Coast store in Heppner are Chris and Ralph Limanen, who recently purchased the business.

Grand opening planned

New owners run hardware firm

Ralph and Chris Limanen are the new owners of the Coast-to-Coast store in Heppner.

After being closed for a few days for inventory, the Limanens opened their store last Wednesday.

The Limanens moved to Heppner from Springfield where Ralph Limanen was the display manager for the Coast-to-Coast Western Division consisting of 10 states.

Chris Limanen sold real estate.

Ralph Limanen is originally from Sebeka, Minn. and his wife is from Kennewick, Wash. They have a son Keith, 11, and a daughter Janell, 8.

The Limanens are planning on redecorating the store and having a Grand Opening around April 16.

The Limanens are purchasing the store from the Dick

Sargents, who operated the store for nine years. In fact, Ralph Limanen helped the Sargents set up the Coast-to-Coast nine years ago and has been interested in the store ever since.

"I was looking for some time for a store and Heppner was a prime choice," Ralph Limanen said. "Dick Sargent called me and told me it was for sale because he knew I was interested in it."

School board to decide on tax base April 7

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The school will be open to the public for self-guided tours during the afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. Coffee and refreshments will be served.

A more formal program will take place that night from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Superintendent Matt Doherty will present the

background and vital statistics about the building. Principal Susan Black will introduce the faculty and guests and open house activities, including serving of refreshments, will follow.

A dedication for both new buildings will take place April

19 at the open house for Columbia Junior High.

The same type of informal self-guided tours will be available in the afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m.

School Board Chairman Ken Broadbent is scheduled to preside at the formal dedication that night beginning at 7 p.m. The members of the school board and the district architect will be introduced. Doherty will give an overview of the building program in the north end. Principal Vic Marchek will introduce his staff at Columbia Junior High and the open house with refreshments will follow.

Doherty made some changes in the proposed tax base the board approved at its last meeting because he had been contacted and told that there would be organized efforts to defeat such a tax base if it was taken to the voters.

"The basic opposition is that they do not want to give up the opportunity to vote, (on the school budget)" Doherty said. "They thought they would be giving the school board a blank check for the next four years."

"What we need from a tax base is to have enough money so we can run the schools if the budget is defeated enough times so we won't have to

close the schools," he said. The school board decided to meet April 7 in Boardman in a special session to set the tax base.

One proposal for a tax base is the proposed budget figure for next year of \$3,668,474. Doherty said this one would be the easiest to sell to the voters because it is the lowest figure of the proposed plans. The major disadvantage is that the voters will still have to go to the polls next year and vote on a portion of the budget because, with inflation skyrocketing, next year's budget request for the following year would probably be more than the \$3,668,474 figure, plus the six percent limitation.

Another plan is to add six percent to the current proposed budget to have a tax base of \$3,888,593. Therefore, with the six percent limitation, next year's budget com-

mittee could increase this year's budget a total of 12 percent and still not require a vote of the people. A disadvantage

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Heidaman argues over increases

(Continued from Page 1) him \$10.50 an acre while it will cost \$60 an acre with the rate change.

"I can't grow anything down there to make that return," he said.

He said he probably will have to pull his 7½ horsepower pump if the rate change takes effect "and the larger irrigators' attitude is 'so what.' They don't care if we go out of business."

"This is cutthroat and they are trying to run people out of business," Heidaman said. "It's the same as charging some people \$3 a gallon for gas and others \$1 a gallon."

C of C entertained with slide show

County Commissioner Dorothy Krebs presented an interesting slide-and-music show with a patriotic theme at the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce luncheon Monday at the West of Willow.

"Before I became a county commissioner, I had time for hobbies—and putting things together," she remarked.

The first segment of her show was titled "A Trip to the Zoo," and depicted wild animals in various natural or zoo settings. A recorded verse recited an amusing verse to accompany the pictures.

Other segments included pictorial scenes from around the continent accompanied by recordings of patriotic music. At the conclusion, Mrs. Krebs said, "I would like to emphasize for you to vote in the elections tomorrow, and then on May 20 there will be some more."

The "elections tomorrow" referred to the school district and budget votes held on Tuesday, while May 20 is the date for the regular county and state primary elections.

Chamber President William Kuhn said the CowBelles

wanted to know, "Who won the steaks?"

At the previous week's meeting, beef-recipe pamphlets had been distributed. In some of them had been tucked exchange certificates for free beef. The names of the winners were not obtained, so

those who by chance had found the certificates were requested to identify themselves.

The CowBelles organization is a women's affiliate of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

Deadline on tax-delay program approaches

Older homeowners wishing to defer their property taxes have until April 1 to sign up with county assessor Greg Sweek.

Oregon's Senior Citizen Property Tax Deferral allows homeowners who are at least 62 to defer their property taxes.

Only two persons have signed up as of Monday, which is one less than last year, Sweek said.

The owner must live on the property and have a recorded title to it or be buying it under a recorded contract. The property taxes, plus six percent interest, becomes due when the owner dies, sells the

home, stops using it as a main residence, or earns more than \$1,800 a year income from the property (such as from renting out rooms).

The spouse of a person who dies while participating in the deferral can continue the deferral if he or she is at least age 59½.

Participants in the deferral may still be eligible for property tax relief programs that reduce the amount of tax being deferred.

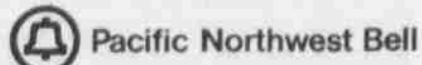
Those already participating in the deferral program do not need to sign up again. The deferral will be continued automatically.

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