

# The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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16 PAGES

20 CENTS

HEPPNER, OREGON

	Hi	Low	Pre.
Tues., April 29	58	40	
Wed., April 30	59	34	
Thurs., May 1	75	45	
Fri., May 2	70	54	
Sat., May 3	74	40	
Sun., May 4	84	45	
Mon., May 5	79	52	.03

**Weather**  
by Don Gilliam

April Precipitation—4.5  
Normal—1.27  
April 1979—2.61

## 20 more laid off by Kinzua

Twenty employees in the planer section at the Kinzua Mill in Heppner were laid off late last week, according to General Manager Harry Kennison.

The swing shift closed down because "there is not enough lumber to keep two shifts going at this time," Kennison said. "We have no idea when they will go back to work but we hope the shutdown is temporary."

The planer is the finishing portion of the plant. Since chips are in such demand, Kennison said more wood is being used for chips so less needs to be processed through the planer to be finished.

Kennison said low grade No. 3 and No. 4 wood is "dumped into chips" rather than finished into lumber. He said the lay-off is not just for a few weeks but the mill should know by July where it stands.

"We are in the dark about the market," he admitted. "It is a struggle—getting worse everyday. We will try to keep running but it is a day to day thing."

Kennison said as more mills close down, chips for paper products become more scarce. He said Kinzua makes \$50 to \$60 more per thousand by turning low grade wood into chips rather than finishing it into lumber.

"Everyday I pat our sales

people on the back because they are doing an excellent job at finding the markets to sell our wood and keep us going," Kennison said.

Because of the Kinzua shutdown in December and record high interest rates, the Oregon State Employment Division expects an unemployment rate of 8.4 percent in 1980 while 6.6 percent had been the forecast. The unemployment rate in the county in 1979 was 4.8 percent.

According to a recent Forest Service news release, the Forest Service has developed a committee to research and implement a program by the end of May that will put unemployed wood products workers back on the job.

The release said there is a strong market for chips so the study is looking into the possibility of making more wood residues available in locations where they are needed to sustain wood product operations.

Possibilities include: increasing the number of tree thinning contracts in stands of smaller timber suitable for chipping; increasing the salvage in tree thinning contracts; and using large amounts of residue that under normal conditions are burned or left to rot because there is not a market.



Lisa Nix (right) sings to Duane Neiffer in a scene from the Heppner High School "Frankenstein's Follies." (See review on Page 1.)

## Dome possible?

### Council discusses solar heat for pool

Heppner City Council discussed the possibility of using solar heating to warm the city swimming pool at its meeting Monday.

Ronald Farris, councilman, said it costs \$2,800 to heat the pool during the summer

months and the cost will probably increase to \$5,000 a year with the new rate increases.

Farris said the city can probably split the cost of obtaining solar heating 50-50 with the Department of Energy Ideas include having a plastic dome over the top of the pool or using solar ray panels. Cost would be from \$6,000 to \$25,000 "depending on how fancy we want to get," Farris said.

"In 10 years, we would not lose anymore than what we would spend on utilities," Farris said. "Solar is really catching on. With a cover, the pool might be able to be open most of the year. Looking down the line, it may be the best way to go."

No action was taken but the council did encourage Farris to continue researching the idea.

Clifford Green told the council that Richard Patton, of the Corps of Engineers, overstepped his authority by telling the city that part of the water project would not be a "betterment."

The city now has to make some "trade-offs." The council agreed to eliminate a booster pump from the system that will not be needed anyway because the reservoir site is being changed. The council also agreed not to have the Balm Fork system connected.

Council members told the Corps that the city could not pay the "betterment costs" of \$86,000 because the city water bond election had already been set for \$430,000.

By a 3-2 margin, Heppner City Council denied a request by Winn Crist for a variance to build a carport on his property at 260 S. Court St. in Heppner.

The council overruled an earlier decision made by the Heppner City Planning Commission allowing the variance.

Elita Mae Lovgren, 240 S.

Court St. in Heppner, appealed the city commission's decision. She said the carport, as proposed, would be a "fire hazard because it would only be 13 feet from my house to the carport."

Crist testified that tree sap has ruined the paint job on his car so he needs a carport. He said he has a garage but it is too narrow for the cars they build "nowadays."

John Shaw, city planning commissioner, testified that Crist showed a need for the carport and the city would benefit because of the added value of his property on the tax rolls so the commission granted the variance.

Councilman Ronald Farris came up with a plan to move the carport so it would not be as close to the Lovgren's property.

Crist said Farris's plan would be satisfactory to him, builder Ken Fifield said he could build the carport there and Lovgren said she would withdraw her appeal if the carport is built in the new location.

Crist now must resubmit his request for a variance to the city planning commission. The council recommended to

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## County Court hearing

# McElligott bares pay scale studies

By Steven A. Powell

Salaries for county officials, the \$1.5 million county road budget, and the new Animal Control District fund were the main topics of discussion at the county budget hearing last week.

County Court Judge Don McElligott explained the budget to two persons at the hearing.

He said the increase in salaries has met with a lot of criticism from community members.

McElligott said a committee was formed to look into a salary scale comparing salaries with other Oregon counties. The county budget committee found that salary schedule to be "too high" so Commissioner Dorothy Krebs

built a salary scale comparing work responsibilities in each county office with salaries in the private sector locally and officials in other eastern Oregon counties.

A step scale was formed to standardize the pay scale. Each office now has brackets and employees are awarded with raises for longevity rather than merit.

"Everyone had at least an 11.4 percent raise while the cost of living is 14.8 percent," McElligott said. "My salary probably took the biggest jump but I'm not going to complain."

The average raise for non-elected officials will be 16.5 percent. With elected officials included, the increase will be about 20 percent.

In the budget going to the voters, the assessor, county clerk, sheriff and treasurer will receive \$19,618. The assessor now has a salary of \$14,594, the clerk and the sheriff \$15,695 and the treasurer \$11,326 (although that position will combine with the tax collector position for the new salary.)

The County Judge salary will increase from \$17,028 to \$25,000. The Roadmaster (now the Public Works Director) will increase from \$16,559 to \$24,960. The two commissioners will split \$20,435, up from \$18,244, and the County Planner will get \$16,102, up from \$14,513. The Justice of the Peace in Heppner will get

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## 50 go outdoors for school

Fifty sixth graders at Heppner Grade School took to the woods last week as part of the Outdoor School at the Tupper Guard Station 40 miles south of Heppner.

Sixteen Heppner High School students went along as counselors. Principal Don Cole and sixth grade teachers Nan Nelson and Brenda Weygandt also were there. Gladys Van Winkle cooked for the troops.

It is the eighth year that Morrow County schools have participated in the program. Irrigon students are there this week.

Instructors and counselors began setting up camp April 26 but the youngsters did not arrive until about noon April 28.

The campers reported all kinds of weather including snow, rain and sunshine during their stay at the Forest Service camp.

"Students learned about science, nature and social problems of how to live with each other," Cole said. "They were responsible for the flag, setting the table, checking weather instruments and other duties."

The students had six hours a day of actual classroom-type learning with two hours of instruction in science and one hour in recreation in the morning and afternoon.

Youngsters learned archery, riflery, hiking, tool craft and knot tying along with



Students in the Outdoor School go fishing.

such all-time favorite games like "kick the can" and "Chinese tag."

Counselors were given nicknames like "Pesky," "Tip-py," "Flash," "Poncho," "Snooks" and "Weasle." Students learned how to build a fire without matches and they made fishing poles. Kim Wright was the only person to catch a fish during their short fishing trip and she did it with her homemade pole.

The sixth graders had to keep a journal of each day, clean up cabins for inspections and gather firewood.

"If you keep them busy, you have no problems," Cole said. The campers were up at 7 a.m. with reveille and the long day ended with a campfire and taps at 9:15 p.m. The sixth

graders had a quiet time in the afternoon for a half hour and Cole said about 70 percent of them used that time for a quick nap.

Dennis Koehelmier, grade school teacher, taught classes on weather study and Jim Superior of the Forest Service taught classes on reading maps and compasses. Bill Meyers, of the Soil and Conservation District, taught a class on soil. Other classes were about wildlife, plants, water and survival.

Cole said the high school counselor positions are very competitive with 29 applying and 16 selected. They are trained for a month, one day a week.

"They have a lot of responsibility at the camp," Cole said. "It teaches them leadership."

## May 20 voting polls named

Polling places for the May 20 Primary Election will be: Boardman—Greenfield Grange.

Hardman—I.O.O.F. Building.

ione—City Hall.

Irrigon—North Morrow Office Building.

Lexington—City Hall.

N.E. Heppner Precinct—Old City Library Building.

N.W. Heppner Precinct—Library.

S.E. Heppner Precinct—Upstairs at the County Courthouse.

S.W. Heppner Precinct—

County Judge's Office at the County Courthouse.

Persons may register to vote at the county clerk's office at the courthouse up to 7:59 p.m. May 20 as long as the person can be done voting by 8 p.m. according to clerk Barbara Bloodsworth.

Absentee ballots must be sent into the clerk's office by 8 p.m. May 20 to be counted. Bloodsworth said handicapped or other persons who desire aid in getting to a polling place may call the county clerk's office to request assistance.

## Free legal advice available by phoning Tel-law

Morrow County residents can now receive free, general legal information thanks to the efforts made by Heppner attorney Michael Sweeney.

Sweeney is helping with coordination of Tel-law, a

series of tapes about legal problems that can be listened to over the telephone.

The 51-tape library program is sponsored by the Oregon State Bar and paid for through

attorney membership dues. It has been used successfully for the past 1½ years in Portland, according to a bar news release.

Interested persons may call the toll free number at 1-800-452-4776 and ask the Tel-law operator for one of the tapes. Specific tapes must be named. A brochure listing the tapes may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Tel-law, Oregon State Bar, 1176 S.W. Madison, Portland, OR 97205.

The tapes are about eight major categories of law including Family Law, You and Your Estate, Real Estate, Criminal Law, Senior Citizen Information, Bankruptcy and Credit, Lawyers and General Law.

The program's hours are 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and noon to 6 p.m. on weekends. It is closed holidays.

Tel-law tapes are from three to seven minutes in length and were written by members of the bar's Public Service and Information Committee and 6,100 Oregon lawyers. The tapes are straightforward, concise and easy to understand and have been carefully researched in order to help the layperson recognize legal problems and locate appropriate legal counsel.

The Oregon State Bar's Tel-law program is one of only 14 in the United States.



Frank Johnston (left) and Hospital Administrator A.K. Felt.

## Anesthetist from Idaho comes to Heppner

Pioneer Memorial Hospital has an anesthesiast and a director of nurses as of last Thursday.

Frank Johnston, of Superior, Mont., fills the position of head nurse vacated by Carmen Bjella a few months ago. Rosie Smith held the position on a temporary basis. Johnston is a graduate of Madison College in Tennessee.

Before his work at Superior, he was an anesthesiast at Jerome, Idaho.

Mike Garrett had been the anesthesiast on a case-by-case basis at the hospital.

"It is a new full-time position at the hospital in hopes that the hospital will begin to have more surgery," Johnston said.



Sixth graders listen intently during a nature discussion.