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Council says two cemetery hill residents may have water now

By Avon Melby

City water will be available to both Ken Key and Bobbie Angell on their property on cemetery hill, Heppner city council decided Monday. The hookups can be made immediately.

The decision ended an 18-month series of meeting with both the city council and city planning commission for Key, and meetings extending over more than four years for Angell.

It followed an hour-long discussion on how to allow the water with some members changing their minds before the final unanimous approval vote.

City attorney Bill Kuhn said requirements of a partitioning permit should be met first by Key. This followed a decision a month ago by the council permitting the water, but Key found requirements had been added to the regular contract signed by previous out-side-the-city water users. He would be required to put in streets, sidewalks, and complete plotting of his two-acre tract for development. He said he was not interested in developing it now, or at a later date, that he wanted only to live on his land. He also noted he would be required to return to the city for a building permit if he decided later to build a home instead of

living in a mobil home on the acreage.

Councilman Wilbur Jackson said he did not see where allowing the water should depend on the other requirements.

In allowing the hookup for Key immediately, and for Angell when she is ready, the city reserved the right to rescind the action at a later date on sufficient grounds. It also said Key has 90 days to turn in to city hall the paper work the county will require of him to live on the land.

Fred Lundin, Morrow County Extension Agent, was granted a permit to keep four sheep and 12 chickens on his property at 370 Aiken street. He said there were no objections from neighbors.

Request to deposit in the Heppner landfill at no charge by City of Lexington on Saturday, April 25, was denied. The city of Lexington is having a clean up month. Reason for denial was given that there is only four months space left in the current facility, and Heppner citizens are going to be at additional expense in disposing of their own refuse and garbage soon.

A resolution to support the League of Oregon Cities and State Highway departments' request to the legislature on planning and funding

roads was adopted. It will be an 18-year plan, with the first six years already completed. It calls for better roads in many areas of the state. Roads coming into Heppner are only "fair" to "poor", the report says.

A contract with Anderson-Perry & Associates for technical assistance on the water system study for the city was approved. The present distribution system will be completely checked and tested, recommendations on future needs will be supplied the city.

Charles Wisdom, 380 Aiken street, asked about the city policy covering barking and running loose dogs. He said he had notice of a complaint on his dog barking and contended it was not as bothersome as many dogs he sees chasing cars in other parts of town, and barking. He was told complaints are signed by objecting neighbors, and fines are assessed beginning with \$20 for the first offense and increasing for additional ones.

Permission to transfer funds were given City Administrator Marshall Lovgren as needed to meet certain

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Lance Marvin (left), Ron Forrar and Lauri Hire look over one of Lance's drawings.

Artist earns trip to Chicago

Lance Marvin, a sixth grader at Heppner Elementary School, has won a trip to the International Creative Arts Festival in Chicago.

He entered an original watercolor painting in a contest sponsored by the Center on Deafness, a non-profit organization which encourages hearing impaired children in the arts. A banquet and awards presentation will culminate a weekend of festivities including an international talent contest and the play "Annie" which the youth and his parents Don and Cathy Marvin will attend.

The contest was an excellent opportunity for Heppner art teacher Ron Forrar, the young artist, and interpreter Lauri Hire to work together in preparation for Lance's design for a competitive work of art, Forrar said.

"As we worked together," he continued, "it became obvious that Lance was developing a real sensitivity for dealing with visual concepts. He is one of those rare students who comes through the art program with a natural understanding for visual expression in the fine arts."

For the contest, Lance first drew and then painted his picture using reference materials from some of the impressionistic masters.

Mixing colors for the painting was confusing, the young artist said, although he thought his work just might win the contest.

He has confidence, because he knows he is good at art and says so interpreter Hire said. "Art is something I can do. My brain has a lot of art things in it. It has nothing to do with my being deaf," Lance signed. Although his painting won the competition, he said, he liked doing it better than he liked the finished work.

He likes to draw geometric shapes and people's faces, mostly happy ones, though sometimes mad faces, he continued. Drawing is easier than doing the water color. He wants to do more watercolors. He also draws with pen and ink, pencil, charcoal and chalks and likes lots of color.

His fondness for geometric shapes probably stem from his math ability, Forrar said. Lance ranks in the top 20% of his math class a difficult class for deaf students. Generally a true genius who excels in one area will also be above average in others, he said.

Because he is deaf, Lance does have a limited vocabulary, Hire explained. "Sometimes he will draw a picture to explain what he has done over the weekend with such detail that I feel like I was there. Other times, I will try to draw a picture to explain something to him he lacks the words for and he will take the pencil out of my hand and complete the picture," she said.

"Most of us see things as they function and beyond that do not

understand what we see," Forrar said. "Lance can see things and can express what most people can't understand because he sees things from the inside. I tell students if they are drawing a horse or a tree to become that horse or tree and then to draw what they have become. Lance has that sensitivity for reality in its abstract form. His depth of understanding is what separates the creative artist from someone who performs a craft," he said.

Forrar has been an art teacher in Heppner schools. Hire has been Lance's interpreter for five years.

Precinct names switched in last week's paper

Irrigon and Lone voting precinct names were switched above the columns with the March 31 election totals on the front page of last week's Gazette-Times. The unofficial totals column was correct. An abstract of the votes changed some of the numbers slightly but did not change the election's outcome.

Lone again led all precincts with a 64% voter turnout. Combined Heppner-Hardman precincts had a 51% turnout. 41% of Lexington voters cast ballots last Tuesday followed by 36% of Boardman voters and 24% of Irrigon voters.

First graders learn woodworking skills

First graders at lone have been working in the school's wood shop for the past two weeks measuring, sawing, sanding, drilling, and coloring special mother's day projects. The presents are a surprise, so no

one tell the first-graders' mothers that their children are making a gift in a stand with a goose beside it.

First graders rotate with other grade schoolers at lone in two-week shifts working at the shop. This is the fourth year of the program at lone, shop teacher Marv Peterson said. He believes lone is one of the few schools in the state to offer this type of program for grades K-6.

The youthful woodworkers don't always make gifts, but sometimes keep the project for themselves, Peterson said. He selects different projects for each grade level so each child will be successful and can take home a completed project. Kinzua Corp. in Heppner donates wood for the projects, he said.

By measuring the tulip stem and its base, Peterson said first graders begin to recognize fractions on the ruler. Fifth graders this year sketched plans, including dimensions for a box with drawers, he said.

The kids retain a tremendous amount of what they learn the following year, he continued. They remember the names of the hand tools and the safety rules.

Marv Peterson tells eager first graders what they will do during their class time. Facing camera are Nathan Rietmann, Jake McElligott, Roseann Baker, and Kara Miller. Maci Childers (at mitre box) and Annette Potter, Joey Greisen and Roseann Baker sweep up the sawdust.



From top left: Joey Greisen guides wood for tulip leaves through the jig saw while Peterson holds wood steady. Megan Proudfoot (wearing safety glasses) concentrates on the task. Chris Harms listens to piece of wood make noise while waiting his turn at the saw. Roseann Baker watches Joe Mecham sawing at the mitre box. First grade teacher Betty Rietmann makes sure Christopher Stillman has all the necessary pieces.

