

Business Notes

Needs of rural Oregon targeted in Kitzhaber's proposed budget

Governor John Kitzhaber has announced a comprehensive package of investments in rural Oregon that will be included in his 2001-2003 budget. The announcement was made at the "Alternatives in Agriculture: 101 Ways to Improve Farm Income" Agriculture Marketing Conference in Rufus. The governor's complete 2001-2003 budget was presented to the Legislature on December 1.

The governor described a series of investments that he

feels will aid Oregon's rural economy, stimulate infrastructure improvements and improve the quality of life in rural communities.

"The prosperity of the last six years has not been shared evenly across Oregon," said Kitzhaber. "My budget proposal attempts to provide the foundation for a sustainable rural economy through targeted investments."

The governor highlighted the following investments,

totaling \$257.5 million:

1. Sewer and Water System Infrastructure - Building on the Oregon Livability Initiative passed during the 1999 Legislative Session, this proposed budget contains \$196 million in lottery-backed bonds issued over a three-year period, which is expected to stimulate more than \$1 billion in state and local investments in community infrastructure

2. The Community Incentive Fund - \$35 million in lottery-backed bonds to provide communities throughout Oregon with incentives to rehabilitate downtown buildings, enhance sidewalks along main streets, encourage mixed-use development and take full advantage of important historical assets.

3. The Regional and Rural Investment Funds - \$20 million in lottery funds to help counties with community development. This fund can be used to enhance local capacity as well as to provide the final piece of financing for important local projects.

4. Brand Oregon Marketing Campaign - \$3 million in general fund dollars to establish a joint effort between the Oregon

Department of Agriculture and Tourism Division of the OECD. This effort is aimed at increasing the sale of value-added Oregon natural resource products in select markets and to increase visitor expenditures from those markets. By leveraging a common marketing message between agriculture and tourism, we can significantly increase the potential for new domestic and foreign export markets for Ore-

gon's natural resource products.

The governor stated that these investments will be supported by \$3.5 million allocated to the Community Solutions Network. The \$3.5 million will fully fund the Community Solutions Teams, their regional coordinators and the Community Development Office. This will allow the State to take full advantage of the infrastructure investments mentioned above.

Water quality planning offered

Conservation planning can be useful in helping rural property owners analyze their land use practices and understand a range of problem-solving options. It also has the added benefit of protecting owners, inasmuch as the process helps ensure compliance with Oregon's new water quality law and regulations (S.B. 1010).

Using aerial photographs, soil surveys, on-site observations and information supplied by owners, a conservation plan is an assessment of land and water use specific to a parcel of property. This free service

offered by the Columbia SWCD is available to rural property owners with acreages of all sizes.

SWCD is not a regulatory agency, therefore, interested landowners can pursue conservation planning with the knowledge that the process is voluntary and they will retain complete decision making control over their land. For further information, call Jean Johnson, Watershed Technical Specialist, Columbia Soil and Water Conservation District, 503-397-4555, ext. 104.

County Democrats elect 2001 officers

Jolene Jonas of Scappoose and Bill Eagle of St. Helens have been elected as co-chairs of the Columbia County Democratic Central Committee. Additional officers for 2001 are Co-Treasurers Joe and Debi Corsiglia of St. Helens, and Co-Secretaries Peter Alotta and Susan Easley of St. Helens.

The next committee meeting will be January 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the Warren County Inn. The no-host dinner meeting is open to the public and interested parties may attend.

Church Bulletin Bloopers

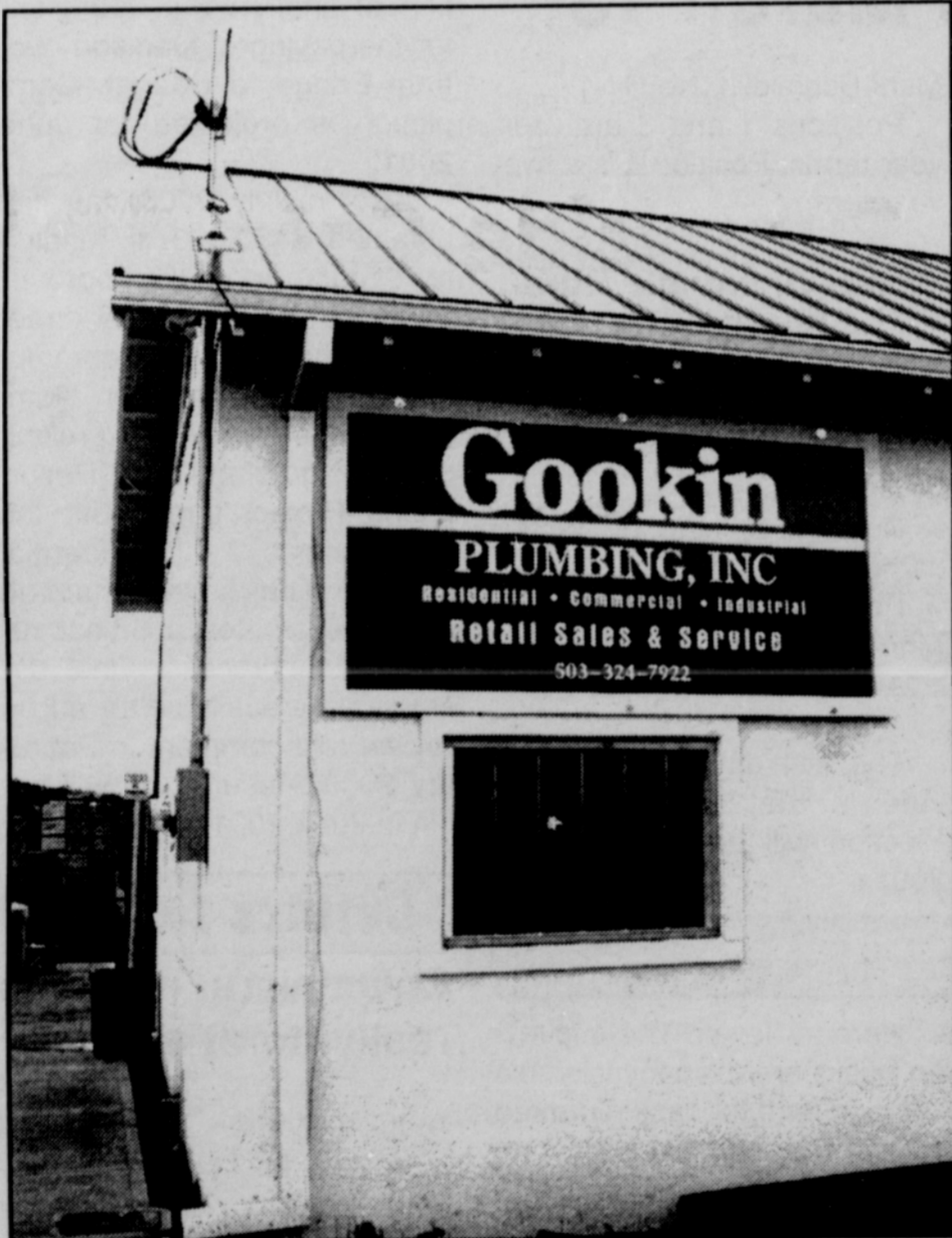
The concert held in Fellowship Hall was a great success. Special thanks are due to the minister's daughter, who labored the whole evening at the piano, which as usual fell upon her.



Play it safe!

You'll always score with an **INDEPENDENT** classified ad.

Call 429-9410



Gookin Plumbing has increased service in the local area by adding retail sales of plumbing equipment and supplies at its shop on Sunset Avenue in Banks.

VALLEY VETERINARY CLINIC



Rabies Special

\$6.50

Dog or Cat

Every Thursday

10 am - 5:30 pm

Clinic open at 9:00 am

58376 Nehalem Hwy. S., Vernonia, near Sunnyside Cafe

ANNUAL MEETING TIME



Election of Officers

Door Prizes • Refreshments

Wednesday, January 31, 2001 - 7:30 p.m.

Senior Citizens Center, 446 Bridge Street, Vernonia
Please use side entrance.

503 429-8031

VERNONIA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION



Serving the Nehalem Valley since 1940
622 Bridge Street, Vernonia

DEADLINE 2001 DOG LICENSE

Elizabeth E. Huser, Columbia County Clerk, reports that the deadline for licensing dogs in Columbia County is **MARCH 3, 2001**

You may mail your rabies vaccination certificate (if not on file in our office) along with the appropriate fee to Columbia County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, St. Helens, OR 97051. Commercial and non-commercial kennel licenses are available. Contact Clerk's Office for information.

To All Columbia County Dog Owners

\$10 Penalty after March 3, 2001

\$25 Penalty after April 2, 2001 (Without Citation)

\$50 PENALTY IF CITATION IS ISSUED

Dog License Fees are due on all dogs with permanent teeth or that are six month of age for year of 2000.

FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

On or Before March 3, 2001	
REGULAR, NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$26.00
DOG SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$10.00
SENIOR CITIZEN-DOG NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$15.00
SENIOR CITIZEN-DOG SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$5.00
(Senior Citizen is 65 Years or Older - 1 per Household)	
REPLACEMENT TABS.....	\$5.00
ASK ABOUT OUR OPTIONAL THREE-YEAR LICENSE	

2001 APPLICATION FOR DOG LICENSE

Owner: _____

Residential Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

_____ Zip: _____

2000 License No.: _____ Phone: _____

Dog's Name: _____

Breed: _____

Sex (Check one): Male _____ Female _____

Neutered: _____ Spayed: _____

A VALID (Good through Oct. 31, 2002) Rabies Vaccination Certificate MUST accompany this application or be ON FILE in the Courthouse, along with a spayed/neutered certificate if applicable.

WE WILL RETURN YOUR LICENSE AND DOG TAG TO YOU BY RETURN MAIL.