

TOWN TOPICS

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The People Speak . . .

To the Editor:
We took a drive over the North Cascade Highway the other day—a beautiful trip worth anybody's time if he likes mountain scenery.

But we were about as much impressed by a couple of towns we saw.

Cashmere is a small town west of Wenatchee, Washington. When you drive into it no one has to tell you the people are proud of it. It's got class!

No particular type of construction is used but the people have used their imaginations in a lot of nice ways.

Everything's clean, painted and well cared for. Covered crosswalks have been built across the streets and the people reflect their surroundings. They seem friendly and, well, neat.

The other town is Winthrop, Washington.

It's high in the mountains and has an early west theme which all the buildings along the main street carry out.

This is a resort town, a fun town for dudes. What struck us was how the cheapest kind of construction, when followed by all the stores, gave the town a great boost in the eye of a traveler.

If you get enough people looking at and talking about towns like these, you're bound to get a lot of activity from the outside and when this happens it seems reasonable that people are going to get interested in property in the area; which should improve property values in the community.

Now Vernonia is a great place to live—it's close to things without being too close and is on a scenic route from whatever direction one comes. It has, among other things, fine people, good schools, good parks, great summer weather and, judging from the beginning of the present Alpine trend in store fronts, some people with imagination and initiative.

Since the largest important investment most of us have is our property, it would seem that following the present Alpine trend on main street could do this town nothing but good.

Perhaps a committee of business people, councilmen, or the Chamber of Commerce could work toward some plan for further improvement along this line.

Todd Bowerman

IT PAYS TO READ THE ADS!

JOY THEATER

Fri., Sat. July 13-14

WALT DISNEY'S
DUMBO AND
LOBO

Mr. and Mrs. I.L. Wengert from West Covina, California came to visit his sister, Emma Etheridge, and family.

RUMMAGE SALE - Nehalem Social Club, August 2, 3, & 4, at Masonic Temple.

Billy Rhoades' sister-in-law, Mrs. Priscilla Barr of Fullerton, California, won over \$1100 in prizes July 5 on the TV game show Let's Make a Deal. She appeared dressed as a turtle.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Goodman and children visited Saturday, at the Herman Oberist home in Gaston.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Weisback and daughter Carol had been visiting at the Normand-Alford home for the past week. Bobby Normand of Clatskanie, also visited his grandmother, Ruby Normand. The Weisbacks, Mrs. Normand and Tylee Alford drove to Tillamook Friday, then up the coast where they were met at Fort Stevens Park by the Alfords, Bobby and Donald Normand where they all spent the weekend camping. Mrs. Normand and Mrs. Weisback are sisters.

Vicki Graves of Veneta, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Selwyn Graves, and granddaughter of the Wilbur Thackers, has arrived in Puerto Rico as an exchange student and likes it real well. Her foster parents are real nice and friendly, speak English and she is really enjoying her stay there.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert McNew of Hillsboro called on the Wilbur Thackers Monday. He is Mrs. Thacker's cousin.

ST. MARY'S Thrift Shop open first and third Friday of every month.

The Brewer family held a get-together here the Fourth at the home of John Brewer. The day was topped off by a lawn barbecue and picnic. A good time was reported, especially by Marvin C. Brewer Sr., the oldest family member present.

Jay Ahlborn, Columbia County Commissioner, visited with Ben Goodman, Tuesday to request help on the Camp Wilkerson project. Goodman has worked on the project before with the Boy Scouts, splitting shakes and cutting poles for the shelters.

The Sea Scouts and the Boy Scouts will work this Saturday at the camp.

Mildred Holman, Eugene, is visiting at the Harry Sandon home. Mrs. Holman and Mrs. Sandon are cousins. Harry's sister, Helen Sandon, returned to her home in Ladysmith, Wisconsin, Wednesday.

Weekend visitors at the Carrol Clason home were Mr. and Mrs. Arvil Carter and children of Prospect. Timmy and David Clason returned with them Sunday to visit for a couple of weeks.

RUMMAGE SALE - Nehalem Social Club - August 2, 3, & 4, Masonic Temple.

Monday, July 2, was the start of a busy week for Mrs. Zoe Salomonsen. That day her granddaughter and husband Mr. and Mrs. Glen Atkeson, and five children of Aurora, Missouri arrived in their camper for an overnight visit. They also visited their aunts and uncles, Mr. and Mrs. Elgus Frank and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hudson. They left Tuesday to continue down the Oregon coast and visit other aunts, Mrs. Ellen Glenn and Mrs. Rhoda Woods at Otis. Mrs. Salomonsen also left Tuesday to join her son and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Whitsell of Lincoln City for a trip to Twin Lakes where another son Kenneth Whitsell was also camped. Mrs. Salomonsen returned home Sunday.

Mrs. Lesta Garner visited Mrs. Nellie Forrest at the Americana Nursing Home in Longview and found her not too well due to a recurring heart condition. She had news recently of the death of George Newton, a former resident of OA Hill. She and George were both residents of the convalescent center at St. Helens. She moved to Longview and later, he moved to St. Jude's Home at Sandy.

The kabob method of cooking originated in the mid-east where skewered meats and vegetables were cooked over hot coals long before stoves were invented.

Wages

(Continued from page 1)

public should know what is happening and, perhaps document the action.

He also said that the commissioners had never received a substantial increase in salary to differentiate between part-time and full-time positions, with Morton commenting that the commissioners should not be compared to other department heads or elected officials.

On a cooler note, discussion ensued regarding the fact that the treasurer is paid less than other elected officials and, after reviewing the AOC salary, it was determined that this was the case in nearly all other counties.

Morton then suggested that perhaps a management study might be of some aid in determining the effectiveness of various department heads, adding that it would be hard to get one which would be effective, with Lucas commenting that such a study would also be extremely expensive.

Morton then stated he felt it should come to the attention of the people of Columbia County where the suggestions regarding salaries is coming from and with that, Lucas made some quick computations then said that \$13,000 annual salary should be the figure for the commissioners, which would be slightly more than a six percent annual increase over the past three years.

It was then suggested by Morton that perhaps an increase of \$100 per month be given to the commissioners with other department heads not to receive quite that much. The rest of the budget committee was agreeable to the suggestion.

Morton then expressed concern that the clerk's office does not have a department head, with Johnston indicating he felt the same. Those present discussed the withholding of any salary increases.

Both Lucas and Kalberer commented on the numerous calls received about the lack of timely reports being received by state offices, adding that the employees in the clerk's office were not doing the work assigned due to lack of supervision, stating that the office was inefficient. Further discussion revealed that in addition to reports not being made promptly, there was inadequate support of action of the board.

It was finally agreed that the commissioners would receive a \$100 a month increase, bringing their annual salary to \$12,454, with other elected officials to be increased to \$12,323, except for the treasurer who would receive a nine-percent increase over the approved \$10,000 figure.

Lucas then presented a request of a salary increase for Martin Sells, from \$11,000 to \$12,500, adding that he wished a system could be established whereby after one year, the salary would be \$12,550 with an increase to \$14,000 after two years, hoping to thereby retain experienced deputies.

Discussion followed about the necessity for additional amounts required by the DA's office, with questions raised as to expected further expansion.

Lucas indicated that he hoped to coordinate all police departments throughout the county into one system, then discussed the two additional detectives to be trained under a federal grant, requested the budget committee to allow the sheriff's department to run with one extra man at this time next year, if no additional funds are available to hire another deputy. Tentative approval was granted this request, conditional on funds.

Following committee approval of a salary increase to \$12,000 for Sells, Kalberer then discussed his request for increases for the juvenile director and counselors with discussion following regarding the lack of funds discussed last year, which did not materialize due to the allocation being made on a biennium.

Kalberer was told that although the director and counselors were not civil service employees, they had received the same consideration in regard to increases, and, after considerable discussion, it was decided that they would receive an increase of approximately nine percent, as other employees' increases.

Regarding increases for those department heads and employees who did not fall into the step range, it was decided that they, too, would receive a nine-percent increase, with the supplemental salary for the DA increased nine percent also.

The meeting was then recessed at 11:50 p.m., until 9 a.m. Tuesday, July 3.

The Board of Commissioners then met in special session, July 3, for the purpose of adopting the proposed 1973-74 budget for Columbia County.

Commissioner Minkoff moved and Commissioner Ahlborn seconded that the Columbia County 1973-74 budget be adopted, in the total amount of \$3,567,657 for all funds. Motion carried.

The board then adjourned until their regularly scheduled meeting, July 5.



LAST MONDAY, Diarmuid O'Scannlain, DEQ director and Larry Patterson, Field Services Division assigned to the Columbia area, visited the Columbia County Board of Commissioners and went on a county wide tour to view some of the county's problems first hand. The group is shown above at

the Santosh site, just out of Scappoose. Shown from l. to r. are O'Scannlain, Commissioner Jay Ahlborn, Santosh operator Phil Holsheimer, Patterson, Board of Commissioners chairman Fred Foshaug and Commissioner Jack Minkoff.

DEQ Head Tours Columbia County

DEQ officially took over the role of the now extinct CWAPA as of July 1, and last Monday, July 9, the head of DEQ, Diarmuid O'Scannlain, and Larry Patterson, Field Services Division representative for this area, joined the Columbia County Commissioners Fred Foshaug, Jay Ahlborn and Jack Minkoff in touring the county to get first hand information on the problems that exist within Columbia County.

The group spent the day touring the county from border to border and stops were made at Clatskanie, Rainier, Vernonia, Mist, Columbia City, St. Helens and Scappoose. By late afternoon the group had made their way to the Santosh landfill site outside of Scappoose where they stopped and visited with Santosh operator Phil Holsheimer.

While viewing the Santosh site, DEQ director O'Scannlain was asked about future regulations that might be imposed by the DEQ. He answered that at this time the department does not anticipate any immediate changes, they just want to review

conditions countywide before making any pertinent decisions.

O'Scannlain went on to say, "I feel strongly that the DEQ has to be more sensitive to local problems within the county. That's why we came out into the field, to see just what problems do exist and how we can best solve them."

He continued by saying, "We can't come up with solutions by sitting behind desks and as we are anxious to cooperate with Columbia County on its problems, we must know the situation firsthand."

He further noted that people are becoming more committed to a clean environment but they are also realizing cleaner surroundings are not free. Obviously, things must be done to protect the environment, and as people become more aware of this, they are more willing to stand behind necessary rules and regulations as well as incurred expenses.

O'Scannlain related "We are here to help and cooperate with local officials, yet we don't want to advocate unnecessary steps to clean up the environment. In

essence," he stated, "we don't want to get carried away with unnecessary rules or regulations. We are only trying to do what is necessary for the environment and then at the least possible cost and inconvenience to Columbia County residents."

The DEQ director concluded his area visit by stating, "We welcome advise as to how DEQ can best function within the county and in turn we want to inform the people in the best manner possible as to how they can help us in the mutual problem of a better environment."

ment.
He went on to say, "we check out all leads we get from interested citizens as in many cases, the only way we hear of existing problems is when the citizens of the area notify us of an existing problem."

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58TH ANNUAL COLUMBIA COUNTY FAIR
July 18th through July 22nd

EARLY BIRD SPECIALS
Monday and Tuesday, July 16 & 17
4-H HORSE SHOWS

★ **Wednesday, July 18**
Kids Day
Carnival Opens
Candyland Trained Animal Circus
'Country Buss' Performing
Evening Motorcycle Races

★ **Thursday, July 19**
Junior Rodeo
Archery Displays
Exhibits - Carnival - Circus - Etc.

★ **Friday, July 20**
Senior Citizens Day Program 1 P.M.
Admission Free (65 & Over)
Oldtime Country Fiddlers 4 P.M.
World Champion Woodchopper
Eric Hallberg
FRI. NIGHT RCA RODEO

★ **Sunday, July 22**
Grange Day
RCA Rodeo Finals—1:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18 KIDS DAY

R.C.A. Sponsored RODEO
Fri. - Sat. - Sun.
July 20-21-22

JUNIOR RODEO
Thurs., July 19

FRIDAY, JULY 20 SENIOR CITIZENS DAY

Sunday, July 22 GRANGE DAY

There's Something For Everyone At the 1973 Columbia County Fair

Fuitem mortuary chapels
Capable advice regarding insurance, social security, veterans.
6th and Baseline Hillsboro-669-2221
425 S.W. Wilson Beaverton-665-2129
Cedar and Pacific Forest Grove-667-2151
741 Madison Street Vernonia-629-6211

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Phone 397-2268 — After Hours 397-1730
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9:30 a.m. to 12 Noon