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"WE HAVE a lot to be thankful for," agree the three survivors of a two-day adventure in the Buster Creek area. Found late Thursday afternoon, Thanksgiving Day, the trio came through the ordeal without physical harm although they did suffer from the cold wet weather that prevailed during the time. Pictured are, l. to r. Delmer and Viola Mitchener, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Nye. Mitchener walked out to get help for the three after he discovered them missing.

Three Safe After Two Days Lost In Buster Creek Area

Thanks to the quick action and intensive efforts of several groups of searchers, Mrs. Viola Mitchener, Mist Route, Vernonia, and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Nye, Beaverton, all dead are once more at home, safe and sound following a harrowing two days spent in the Buster Creek area of Clatsop County.

The group, which included Delmer Mitchener, husband of Mrs. Mitchener, entered the area at approximately 8 a.m. Wednesday, November 21 with the intention of hunting. Mitchener separated from the party, leaving his car parked while the

other three drove ahead to a prearranged location in the Nye vehicle.

When Mitchener arrived at the chosen site he discovered the Nye car empty and, after searching for a time, walked out to the highway to get help for the three missing people. Nye had taken the keys to his Blazer and it was too far for Mitchener to walk back to his own auto.

Matters were greatly complicated by the fact that the group are all deaf, unable to hear the ordinary sounds searchers rely on for locating missing people. Unless someone actually saw them or the missing party sighted the searchers, hopes for a speedy rescue were dim.

The search continued until 2:30 a.m. when the men halted to rest until daylight but as the sky lightened they were out again slogging through the mud, checking behind trees and under brush in hopes of sighting the three.

Members of the search party on the Clatsop side of the area included the Oregon State Police, Clatsop County Sheriff's Department, the Civil Defense group from the area, and the Coast Guard, who used a helicopter to look for the three until bad weather forced its retreat.

Earl (Ozzie) Ray of the Columbia County Sheriff's Department headed a group of volunteers which included Vernonia Police, Vernonia Police Cadets and many civilians who entered the search from the Camp McGregor area.

Found at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, November 22, all three, although dressed warmly, were suffering from exposure. During their two-day plight they had become wet which greatly hampered their ability to keep body temperatures normal.

"One of the women was in a bad way," said a spokesman for the Oregon State Police, adding "it's doubtful if she would have survived much longer. The other two were in better shape but one more night on the mountain without food or a way to get warm and it could have been too bad."

The three were found, huddled together in a makeshift lean-to shelter, by a group of loggers, just a mile and a half from where they had left their vehicle. They had wandered in circles for hours before they finally stopped to wait for rescue.

Mr. and Mrs. Nye and Mrs. Mitchener were taken to the Vernonia Medical Clinic where they were examined and treated by Dr. T.M. Hobart before being released.

Warm and safe again, Mr. Nye expressed his appreciation for all the volunteers and officers who turned out in the search. "We couldn't have made it much longer, I don't think," he said adding "and I was worried about the women. I have high blood pressure and was afraid something might happen to me, leaving them all alone." Then he smiled broadly, saying "but we were really lucky. They found us."

Tax Payments Down Says VA

The Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs paid \$32,192,631 in 1973-74 taxes November 15 on the properties of 60,073 war veterans who have state farm and home loans, H.C. Saalfeld, director, said today. Last year's tax payment was \$30,211,887 on 53,789 properties.

The veteran's average payment this year was \$536, a 4.5 percent decrease from the \$561 he paid last year and 2.5 percent below his 1971 payment of \$550.

In Columbia County, veterans paid \$354,508.03 in taxes this year, against \$339,014.38 in 1972-73. In most counties the totals are up from last year because, statewide, there are an additional 6,284 veterans properties on the tax rolls.

IRS Explains Form Changes

Oregon taxpayers will find a number of time-saving improvements on 1973 individual income tax returns as well as shortened and simplified instructions, Portland District Director of Internal Revenue Ralph B. Short said today.

Describing the long Form 1040 and the short Form 1040A, which are now being printed. Short estimated that slightly under one million individual returns would be filed in Oregon for 1973.

Steps taken by the IRS to improve tax forms, he said, "should enable many taxpayers to complete their returns with less difficulty and in less time than last year."

So that taxpayers can file early and receive refunds in less time than those filing closer to the April 15 due date, the director urged employers to distribute W-2 withholding forms as soon as possible. W-2's for 1973, generally, must be distributed by January 31, 1974.

Most taxpayers who file in January receive their refunds in four to five weeks, while later filers may have to wait as long as eight weeks, because of the greater volume of returns received, Short said.

The major improvements in the 1973 tax forms are: —elimination of Schedule B for reporting details of dividends and interest;

—elimination of the requirement to list contributions for which the taxpayer has cancelled checks or receipts;

—elimination of the requirement to list names and dates for claiming payments to doctors, dentists and hospitals;

—reduction in the number of revenue-sharing questions to a single item; and

—elimination of income limitations for filing the 1040A short form.

Taxpayers will also find two lines on their returns relating to the 1976 Presidential Election Campaign Fund checkoff; one line permitting them to check off for 1973, the other providing a second opportunity for those who failed to check off on their 1972 returns and now wish to do so.

In discussing the instructions for 1973 returns, Short said the IRS has not only shortened the instructions but has rewritten much of the material in easier-to-understand language. This should enable more taxpayers than before to prepare their own returns.

Columbia County Nears UGN Goal

With Monday, December 3 set as the deadline for this year's United Good Neighbors campaign totals have mounted countywide until it has reached \$34,370 or 98 percent of the goal set for the area.

NARC Booklets Available

An extremely informative booklet on mental retardation has just been revised and made available to the public by the National Association for Retarded Children.

Entitled "Facts on Mental Retardation," the booklet was updated as part of an ongoing grant from the Civitan Clubs of North America, including their junior and collegiate affiliates.

Civitan this past July gave the National Association for Retarded Children the first installment of a two-year grant totaling \$83,534. The grant calls for at least six booklets to be produced and provides funds for the answering of public inquiries.

The work is being accomplished at the National Association for Retarded Children's headquarters in Arlington, Texas. Persons who would like to have one of the "Facts on Mental Retardation" booklets may obtain a copy by writing the National Association for Retarded Children, P.O. Box 6109, Arlington, Texas 76011.

Mixing Tires Dangerous

"If putting snow tires on a car equipped with radial tires, you should get radial snow tires," The Tire Industry Safety Council has reminded motorists.

"The driving characteristics of radial tires are so different it is actually dangerous to have radials on the front wheels and bias ply or bias-belted tires on the rear wheels," said Council Chairman Malcolm R. Lovell, Jr. "It might be compared to having a rubber-soled shoe on one foot and a leather-soled shoe on the other."

In support of its warning, the Council cited a new public advisory from the National Highway Traffic Administration on snow tires.

"If your car is equipped with radial ply tires, it is essential that radial ply constructed snow treads be purchased," said the advisory.

"Many motorists consider radial tires to be equal in traction to snow tires in snow or icy conditions," the advisory added. "However, most states do not recognize radial ply tires as snow tires. When the motorist has doubts, he should check with his state, county or city jurisdiction."

Radial tires are built in such a way that when they are turned they immediately assume the new direction. If the snow tires on the rear are of a different type, the risk of slipping and causing a skid is increased.

Mist Resident Loses Battle

Harry Franklin, Mist resident who tried to fight city hall, lost his battle last week as the judge, Don Kalberer, ruled he must obtain a building permit for the home he built on his property in the Mist area.

"But I did win something," Franklin said. "The judge didn't fine me or make me pay court costs even though he could have made me pay up to \$500 plus costs."

"I still think I'm right though," he continued. "The building ordinance reads city council instead of commissioners and city instead of county but it went against me."

Columbia County had asked that Franklin pay court costs and be ordered to tear the house down, according to Franklin.

Gray Panther Head To Speak At Meet

Mrs. Margaret Kuhn, the founder and chairman of The Gray Panthers will speak at a convocation at the Portland Memorial Coliseum on December 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Public Hearing Slated For Zoning Ordinance

There will be a public hearing on the proposed zoning ordinance for the city of Vernonia Wednesday, December 12 at 8 p.m. in the city hall to finalize details which will reflect the needs and desires of the community.

A zoning ordinance serves a two-fold purpose. It not only encourages the most appropriate use of land and orderly growth of the city but facilitates adequate provisions for community utilities and facilities such as water, sewerage, electrical systems, transportation, schools, etc., and in general, is enacted to promote the general welfare of the community as a whole.

Following are excerpts of the proposed zoning ordinance so that residents of Vernonia may have a basic knowledge of what the ordinance entails.

Under basic provisions, land may be used and a structure or part of a structure constructed, reconstructed, altered, occupied or used only as the ordinance permits.

For the purpose of the zoning ordinance the following zones have been designated: R (residential); GR (general residential); GC (general commercial); and LI (light industrial). The boundaries for these zones are indicated on the Vernonia Zoning Map. Unzoned areas annexed to the city however, will be zoned R until the city zones otherwise.

In order to acquaint the community with the various zones, explanations are as follows:

Section 3.010. Residential Zone R: the residential zone is intended to provide minimum development standards for residential purposes where complete community services including schools, shopping and transportation are available and where population concentrations of an urban nature are developing.

In an R zone the following uses and their accessory uses are permitted: A. dwelling; B. two-family dwelling; C. home occupation.

Conditional uses permitted in an R zone, when authorized in accordance with Article VI, are: A. Church; B. community building; C. governmental use; D. hospital, sanitarium, rest home, nursing or convalescent home; E. mobile home park; F. school or college; G. public utility structures; or H. public park or playground.

In an R zone the following dimensional standards shall apply: A. The front yard shall be a minimum of 20 feet; B. each side yard shall be a minimum of five feet except that on a corner lot the side yard shall be a minimum of 15 feet; C. The rear yard shall be a minimum of ten feet; D. The lot area shall be a minimum of 5000 square feet and shall exceed the minimum by 2500 square feet for each dwelling unit over two; E. The lot width shall be a minimum of 50 feet at the front building line; F. The lot depth shall be a minimum of 100 feet; G. Building height shall be a maximum of 35 feet; and H. not more than 50 percent of the lot area shall be covered by buildings.

General residential zoning or GR is intended to provide minimum development standards as those of R zoning and where urban densities include apartments and other higher density development.

In a GR zone the following uses and their accessory uses are permitted outright: A. one-family dwelling; B. two-family dwelling; C. multi-family dwelling; D. boarding, lodging or

rooming house; E. home occupation and; F. park and recreational facilities.

Under conditional uses in a GR zone are those permitted in an R zone with the addition of motel, hotel, including an eating and drinking establishment in conjunction therewith; group cottages and radio or television transmitter tower.

The following standards shall prevail in a GR zone. A. The minimum lot size shall be 5000 square feet for a one-family dwelling with an additional 2500 square feet for each additional dwelling unit; B. The minimum lot width shall be 50 feet except on a corner lot which shall be 100 feet; C. The minimum lot depth shall be ten feet; E. The minimum side yard shall be five feet except on the street side of a corner lot it shall be ten feet; F. The minimum rear yard shall be ten feet and; G. The maximum building height shall be 45 feet.

Section 3.030 of the proposed zoning ordinance covers GC or General Commercial Zoning which is intended to provide for the broad range of commercial operations and services required for the proper and convenient functioning of commercial centers. Uses permitted are intended to include all retail and service operations that would be located within a shopping district and that are normally required to sustain a community.

In a GC zone the following standards will apply: A. The minimum lot size, shape and yards for residential uses shall be the same as in a GR zone; B. The minimum yards adjacent to a residential zone shall be the same as if the lot were in a residential zone; C. There shall be no height limitations on building; D. outdoor storage abutting or facing a lot in a residential zone shall be screened with a sight-obscuring fence.

Section 3.040 covers light industrial zoning or LI. It is intended to provide for those manufacturing, warehousing, and sales operations which, basically, do not create objectionable amounts of noise, odor, dust, glare, vibration or truck and/or-rail traffic.

Uses permitted outright in a LI zone are: A. public utility structure; B. radio or television transmitter tower; C. retail trade establishment such as food store, drug store, gift shop, hardware store, and furniture store; D. repair and maintenance service of the type of goods to be found in the above permitted retail stores provided such service is performed wholly within an enclosed building; E. business, governmental and professional office; F. financial institution; G. eating and drinking establishment; H. personal and business services such as barber shop, tailoring, printing, funeral home or laundry and dry cleaning establishments; I. animal hospital, provided no noise is audible in an adjacent residential zone; J. whole sale trucking and storage establishment; K. machine shop, cabinet shop; L. machinery, farm equipment, marine craft, car sales, service and repair; M. building material storage yard; N. laboratory for equipment, research or testing; O. governmental buildings, including maintenance, repair or storage facilities; P. plumbing, heating, electrical or paint contractors storage, repair or sales shop; Q. tire retreading or vulcanizing shop; R. activities related to process-

ing forest, agricultural and other products derived from permitted uses where close proximity to such land use resources is required and appropriate urban industrial areas are not nearby; S. dwelling unit or mobile home accessory to a permitted use such as accommodations for a caretaker or night watchman; T. manufacturing, repairing, compounding, research, assembly, fabricating, processing, packing or storage activities provided such industrial land uses do not create a nuisance to adjacent activities because of excessive noise, smoke, odor, or gas and do not constitute a fire, explosion or other physical hazard.

Conditional use permitted in a LI zone subject to the provisions of Article VI: automobile wrecking yard, junk yard.

Standards for a LI zone which shall apply are: A. there shall be no height limitation on buildings; and B. outdoor storage abutting or facing a lot in a residential zone shall be screened with a sight-obscuring fence.

Article VI covers conditional uses. Section 6.010 which is authorized to grant or deny conditional uses reads: A conditional use listed in this ordinance may be permitted, enlarged or latered upon authorization of the Planning Commission in accordance with the standards and procedures of said article.

In permitting a new conditional use or the alteration of an existing conditional use the Planning Commission may impose, in addition to those standards and requirements expressly specified by this ordinance, additional conditions which the Planning Commission considers necessary to protect the best interests of the surrounding area or the city as a whole. These conditions may include but are not limited to the following:

A. Increasing the required lot size or yard dimension; B. limiting the height, size or location of buildings; C. controlling the location and number of vehicle access points; D. increasing the street width; E. increasing the number of required off-street parking spaces; F. limiting the number, size, location and lighting of signs; G. requiring d i k i n g, fencing, screening, landscaping or other facilities to protect adjacent or nearby property; and H. designating sites for open space.

In the case of a use existing prior to the effective date of this ordinance and classified in this ordinance as a conditional use, any change in the use or in lot area, or an alteration of structure shall conform with the requirements of conditional use.

The proposed zoning ordinance also covers off-street parking and loading requirements including location and space needed; exceptions to lot size requirements, yard requirements; etc. and details each division of ordinance including nonconforming uses and variances.

For further information on the proposed zoning ordinance and complete details, residents may read copies available at the city hall.

Chairman of the Vernonia Planning Commission is Darrold Proehl, who with members, Cliff Norwood, James Davies, Ed Roediger, Ralph Keasey, Orvin Olson, and Robert King, and the Columbia County Organization of Governments, prepared the proposed Vernonia Zoning Ordinance.

Mail Early

Postmaster Thomas Tomlin reminds postal patrons to mail their Christmas parcels and cards early.

"Due to the critical energy shortage we are asking that surface parcels for the United States be mailed by December 3 and surface cards by December 8 in order to ensure delivery by Christmas," he added.

\$12 Gives A Gift Of Life

"Your Gift Means Life" is the theme for the fifth annual statewide fundraising drive just launched by the Kidney Association of Oregon to obtain \$200,000 in public donations. The money will be used during 1974 to continue the life-saving program for 40 KAO patients throughout the state now on artificial kidney machines and to expand the program to add new patients.

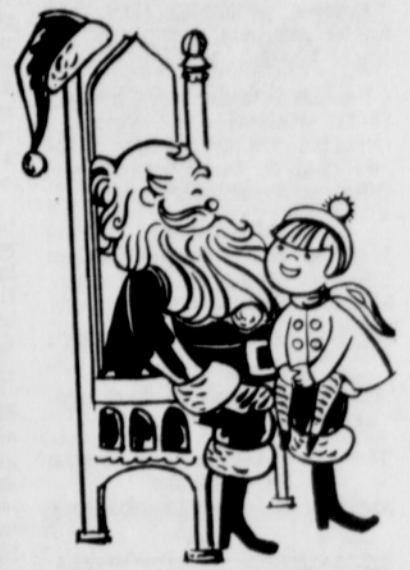
The theme, "Your Gift Means Life," tells dramatically that donations to KAO by individuals and organizations actually provides the means for patients to continue a productive life. It also points out KAO's vital need for money to be able to admit new patients.

Following the program, Fred Bernet, Scappoose will serve as a temporary chairman for a discussion about formal organization for supervisors of such districts which are tax levying bodies under Oregon law.

Dwane Brands will report on plans and activities of the Army Corps of Engineers as they concern the Lower Columbia River region, and Quenton Bowman of the State Water Resources Board will review rules and regulations for operating drainage and diking districts.

Supervisors of drainage districts in Columbia and Multnomah Counties will be meeting together at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 5, 1973, in the Extension Service Conference Room, Courthouse, St. Helens, to hear reports of changes in laws affecting drainage and diking districts from State Representative Dick Magruder.

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Santa Is Coming

Santa Claus is coming to town and will be at Santa Claus Lane—located in the Quinn building—Saturday, December 8 from 10 a.m.-12 noon and from 1 p.m.-3 p.m. The jolly old gentleman will be there again Saturday, December 15 and Saturday, December 22 to listen to all little children who would like to tell him what they want for Christmas.

Annual Lions Club Window Contest Set

The annual Lions Club Window Contest will begin Saturday, December 1. All commercial establishments wishing to enter this may do so by registering at the Vernonia Eagle office or contacting Ted Forbes, chairman of the committee, by calling 429-7941, days, or 429-3183, evenings.

Those who wish to have windows decorated and have no one to do it may request help from the Lions and they will make an effort to provide someone to ornament the windows.

Guidelines for the window contest are as follows:

1. The contest is to include only commercial establishments.

2. Each business will consult with assigned decorators about the appropriateness of the planned decoration. The Lions are not responsible for the dissatisfaction of the establishment.

3. The business will receive the award—if a winner—presented by the Vernonia Lions Club.

4. The contest begins on Saturday, December 1 and will be judged during the week of December 17.

5. The Lions Club will provide impartial judges.

6. All entries must be registered as described above.

7. There are no restrictions about medium used or theme as long as it holds with a Christmas motif.

There will be three awards given for the first three places. In addition to these personal awards the Chamber of Commerce will present a Revolving Award which goes to each yearly grand winner and moves on year-by-year with each subsequent winner.

Due to the energy crisis the Lions Club urges entrants not to use decorations which involve the use of electricity.

Pen Pals Available

Anyone wishing to have "Pen Pals" among other older persons in far away places may write: Letter Exchange, National Council for Senior Citizens, 1511 K Street, North West, Washington, D.C. 20005.

ARCO Station Burglarized

When Dave Ruehmann opened his Dave's ARCO station, located on Timber Route, he discovered that sometime between the hours of 10 p.m. Sunday, November 25 and 7:30 a.m. Monday morning, someone had entered the building by breaking out a window in the south rear of the shop area.

At present Mr. and Mrs. Ruehmann are still trying to ascertain if anything was taken beyond a few packages of cigarettes. No money is kept on the premises and nothing seemed disturbed other than rummaging by the thieves. The burglar or burglars left by way of the overhanging garage door.

Columbia County Sheriff's officers are investigating the matter.



WINDOW where burglar entered Dave's ARCO station last Sunday night or Monday morning. The entire glass was knocked out but the uninvited guest chose to leave by way of the garage door in lieu of open window and muddy ground outside.