

# Nyssa Gate City Journal

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## Assessor Explains Property Tax Values

Malheur County Assessor, Oscar Bratton, stated today that the Oregon legislature by amending O.R.S. 308.035 (the assessment ratio requirements law) has placed an additional burden upon the Assessor and the Board of Equalization.

Oregon law, Bratton said, requires that property be appraised at 100% of its market value, O.R.S. 308.232. Since it is impossible to know what a property may sell for, the Assessor was allowed a 10% tolerance, this the legislature has reduced to 5%.

For example, previously a property selling for \$20,000 must have had a minimum appraisal of \$18,000. The new standard requires that the \$20,000 property be appraised a minimum of \$19,000.

Bratton said that for an appraiser to consistently appraise at this level would require extra-sensory perception. So since this is a physical impossibility the only recourse is a mechanical one called "indexing".

Bratton said that the Board of Equalization has reviewed the ratio assessment levels of the various property classes and has recommended that the Assessor index by a percentage amount all low ratio property classes to bring them within the new statutory requirements. As a result, nearly all properties not currently appraised in 1975 will receive at least a

nudge upwards in value this year.

Oregon law O.R.S. 308.280 states that the Assessor need not send a change of value notice to the property owner unless the increase "...increases the assessed valuation of a separate assessment of real property more than 400 or 5%, whichever is greater, over the assessed valuation of the preceding year....". Accordingly, property owners will not receive an increase notice unless it exceeds this amount.

If it is any consolation, Bratton noted, all Oregon counties are in the same boat and indexing has become a common practice. One advantage of indexing to the taxpayer is greater equity between property classes and a less abrupt value change when the property is reappraised on the six year reappraisal cycle.

## Oregon Veterans Loans Set New Record High

The Department of Veterans' Affairs granted 16,829 loans in 1975 in the amount of \$403,869,663 for the highest year on record, H. C. Saalfeld, director, reported today. This was 19 percent over the number of loans in the previous record year, 1974, and 33 percent over the 1974 dollar volume, also the previous high.

In Malheur County last year, loans went to 117 veterans in the amount of \$2,959,909, compared with 74 loans in 1974 for \$1,751,002.

Since the loan program started in 1945, loans have gone to 1185 veterans in this county in the amount of \$18,156,368. Statewide, 137,574 loans have been granted for \$2,069,151,249.

Saalfeld said loan applications last year set a new record also, totaling 20,657 or 25 percent above the previous record set in 1974.

The loan program earned a net profit of \$5,403,161 in 1975, down \$1 million from the record 1974 earnings. It brings over-all earnings since 1945 to \$38,904,045.

Attended an inter-squad gymnastics meet Tuesday evening. This was a meet of Nyssa High School and Junior High girls composing two teams and competing with one another. These girls are really great, and the program is fantastic. Coach Judy Ables is doing a swell job and her concern with each girl's efforts is tremendous. One of the judges I would not want to be. (Check the meet schedule on the sports page). Don't let me tell you about the gymnastics team, come and see what they do for yourselves. They like an audience.

Seems the Nyssa Chamber of Commerce is going to start our "Bicentennial" year with a slate of capable and enthusiastic officers. Steve Fonda, president, John Messic, vice-president and Ralph Lawrence, secretary-treasurer were installed Tuesday evening for 1976-77. This is a busy year and I know there will be many projects for the Chamber to undertake, and I am sure they will be done well.

## Town Crier

By Pat Savage

Have you noticed the bright red "76" surrounded by red stars on the Nyssa Police car? Look for it, because it looks nice and certainly brings "Bicentennial" to mind. We also have stars on our garbage cans. Where else but Nyssa will even the garbage be getting in the spirit of celebrating our Nation's 200th birthday? I think all this spirit is really great and hope each and everyone has their flag in a handy place because February will be a good month to start flag waving. Washington's birthday, Lincoln's birthday and why not every day just to see our colors, yes, yours and mine, flying in the breeze. Think it would be especially nice to see them displayed on Main Street. Kind of makes you feel proud doesn't it?

Was most grateful to see that some of the trucks hauling onions now have tarps over the loads. I realize this is a most necessary business, but covering the loads will certainly make our town much cleaner and neater, and I am sure that many homeowners will be happy to see this done. Many, many thanks to the drivers for their consideration of the rest of us.

## Amalgamated Sugar Has Annual Meeting

At its annual stockholders meeting, January 22, Mariner S. Eccles, chairman of the board of The Amalgamated Sugar Company, announced his retirement from active participation in company activities after 63 years of executive leadership with White Satin Sugar.

He remains a member of the board of directors and will continue as honorary chairman of the board.

A. E. Benning has assumed the dual responsibilities of chairman of the board and president.

## Nyssa Student In Who's Who

Forty-six students at Ricks College have been named to the Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges for the school year ending next April.

The students, all sophomores were selected for leadership abilities demonstrated in student groups from three general areas, activities, spiritual and academic performance.

Among those students honored is Dallas Fredericksen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Fredericksen of Nyssa. Dallas is president of Delta Phi, carries a high GPA, and is active in Branch.

In delivering his annual message, Benning reported the company's net income for the first quarter ending December 29, 1975 at \$2,678,000, which is equal to \$1.32 per common share. This compares with earnings of \$8,928,000 or \$4.40 per common share, for the first quarter of the preceding year. Sales for the quarter were reported at \$29,948,000 compared to \$57,924,000 for the same period of the preceding year.

In other business, Allan M. Lipman, Jr. was named a member of the board of directors and made executive vice president. A native of Salt Lake City and a graduate of the University of Utah and Georgetown Law School, Lipman has been the company's legal counsel since 1968.

Also selected to again serve on the board of directors during the next twelve months were Stephen H. Anderson, A. E. Benning, Val A. Browning, R. H. Burton, George S. Eccles, Mariner S. Eccles, Horace Havenmeyer, Jr., and R. J. O'Connor.

## Eastern Oregon Outdoorsmen To Meet Feb. 6

The annual meeting of the Eastern Oregon Outdoorsmen will be held at 7:30 p.m., Friday, February 6, in the Lion's Den at the Eastside Cafe, according to Marcela Atherton, banquet chairman.

Featured will be a banquet awards ceremony, installation of the incoming officers, and a speech by Burt Trueblood, from the Home-ale-Wilder area. Trueblood, an outstanding conservationist, has served as president of the third district of the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts as well as vice chairman of the Landholders and Sportsman's Council. Trueblood's topic will cover the problems encountered in dealing with wildlife problems on private lands.

## Ralph Thomas On Commission

Ralph Thomas of Nyssa has accepted appointment to the County Planning and Zoning Commission. He is fertilizer manager for the Nyssa Co-op. He replaces Vic Haburchak who resigned last year.

## WEATHER

Date	Max.	Min.
Jan. 21	29	13
Jan. 22	28	13
Jan. 23	31	17
Jan. 24	25	13
Jan. 25	27	12
Jan. 26	34	12
Jan. 27	36	20
Jan. 28		23

Owyhee Reservoir Storage  
1-28-76 619,460 Acre Feet  
1-28-75 428,240 Acre Feet



NEW PRESIDENT OF THE NYSSA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is Steve Fonda, Nyssa Attorney, who is shown presenting a past president's plaque to Jake Fischer. Seated at the head table is Mrs. Fischer and Vic Haburchak, who acted as Master of Ceremonies.

The event took place at the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet, held at the Twilight Cafe Tuesday evening with about 70 members, wives and guests in attendance.

In presenting the plaque, Fonda paid tribute to Fischer for his many years of service to the community. The chamber is presenting a display case to the City Library in Fischer's

honor, in which artifacts and other items may be displayed.

In accepting these awards, Fischer said that he and his wife Nona came to this community December 16, 1925, fifty years ago, and have lived on the same place ever since. He said that this community and area have always been good to them, and they have tried to put back into the community something in return.

This was Jake's second term as chamber president, and he has served as County Commissioner, TVCC board, and many other elective and appointive positions during his many years of public service.

## Adrian Farm Bureau Slates Meeting

An Adrian area Farm Bureau meeting will be held Thursday, February 5 at the Adrian School cafeteria at 8 p.m. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Topic of discussion will be the PUC and "F" license plate date, O.S.H.A. regulations and a gopher control district and other items of interest to the group.

## Hammond Continues Plans For Development

Hammond Development Corporation has been notified by Farmers Home Administration to proceed with completing its loan docket for a senior citizen apartment development in Nyssa.

At the same time, Farmers Home Administration reduced the size of the intended project to a first phase of 20 units, which is now planned for one-story design.

## Meeting Called To Discuss Wild Horses

Senator Robert F. Smith (R-Burns) has called a meeting to be held at the Harney County Courthouse on Friday, January 30 at 2 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the wild horse problem on Steens Mountain.

Smith said we are currently in a crisis condition with respect to competition be-

tween wild horses and cattle on the Steens Mountain. Unless something is done immediately we will lose 10,000 AUM's on the Steen Mountain this spring. We have livestock producers facing grave financial problems unless this problem is solved. The BLM estimates 7,000 wild horses in the Burns District alone.

Sen. Smith has asked all interested parties to attend a public meeting Friday to find a solution.

Merle Storm, State Director of BLM, will attend as well as local users. Smith said BLM reports that \$300,000 will be necessary to gather these horses. The BLM has no such account in its current budget. Emergency funds may have to be found for this project.

Smith said the Burns District is the only area in western United States that cattle use is being cut because of the unrestricted wild horse population.

## Onion Growers To Hold Joint Meeting

The election of Onion Grower Committee Members for the Idaho-Eastern Oregon Onion Committee is to be held Tuesday, February 3, 11:35 a.m., at the Elk's Lodge in Ontario. The elec-

tion will be a part of the Program of the joint Annual Meeting of the Malheur County Onion Grower's Association and the Southwest Idaho Onion Grower's Association.

The Grower Committee members whose term of office will be expiring May 31, 1976, are as follows:

Dist. No. 1 - Evren Youngberg, Route 3, Weiser, Idaho; George Matsuura, Route 1, Box 109, Fruitland, Idaho.

Dist. No. 3 - Joe Y. Saito, 765 S. W. 24th, Ontario, Oregon; Kay Teramura, Route 1, Box 69, Ontario, Oregon.

Dist. No. 5 - Lyle Andrew, Route 1, Parma, Idaho; Mas Kido, P. O. Box 638, Parma, Idaho.

All Onion Growers of Southwestern Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, are urged to be in attendance at this meeting.

## Beet Growers Elect Officers For 1976

The Board of Directors of the Nyssa-Nampa Beet Growers Association held their annual organizational meeting and welcomed newly elected Director, Burt E. Owens from the Weiser-Rebecca District. Also seated were re-elected Directors: Gerald Hillyard from the Nampa District; Robert C. Holmes from the Oregon Trail District; Donald G. Johnston from the Notus-Parma District and Frank Skeen from the Nyssa District.

Idaho as secretary-treasurer and James H. Elgin, Caldwell, Idaho as executive secretary.

Glenn E. Talbot was again chosen as the Director at large; and Gordon Tiegs and Emil W. Maag were named to the Executive Committee.

President Rathbone announced that they would soon be meeting with the Amalgamated Sugar Company to discuss 1976 sugarbeet contract terms. He restated the Association objective of early contract settlement and also announced that two other principal objectives for 1976 would be: increased participation and support of sugarbeet research, and a continuing effort for improved receiving facilities for harvest

Election of officers for 1976 resulted in the re-election of: P.T. Rathbone, Marsing, Idaho as president; Robert C. Holmes, Nyssa, Oregon as vice president; Donald G. Johnston, Parma,



TOASTING "MILK, THE BEAUTIFUL Food" are newly crowned 1976 Oregon Dairy Princess Tina Russell, 20, left, who represented Coos County and Cindy Osborn, 18, representing Malheur County, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Myron Osborn of Adrian. Miss Russell, of Coquille, was selected from among 12 county and regional contestants. Coronation was held Monday at the Jantzen Beach Thunderbird Motor Inn. The event is sponsored annually by the Oregon Dairy Products Commission.

Miss Russell will begin her reign immediately, and will tour the state talking to teenagers, as well as civic groups and

farm-oriented organizations. She will receive a \$400 scholarship from the First National Bank of Oregon, and will be a part-time employee of the Oregon Dairy Products Commission during her reign.

For two days preceding the coronation, princess candidates attended numerous events including a Sunday night dinner-dance at which time each candidate presented talks relative to the promotion of milk and milk products. During the two days they were evaluated by a three-judge panel for poise, appearance, personality and other factors.



"GOD AND COUNTRY" was the title of a slide presentation given by Bob Brownlee, at microphone, as a feature of the annual Nyssa Chamber of Commerce banquet Tuesday evening. Jake Fischer and Vic Haburchak are in foreground.

Brownlee's presentation is a patriotic program, with music and songs accompanying the slides, and he has presented this program 31 times since he put it together last November. It was inspirational, and enthusiastically received by those present.