

NYSSA GATE CITY JOURNAL

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The Sugar City

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Thunderegg Capital

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Town Crier

By Pat Savage

Dennis Francis is hopping around town as busy as the Easter Bunny as he prepares for the Easter Egg Hunt. This egg hunt doesn't take very long on Saturday as all of the eggs are discovered very rapidly. However, it involves a lot of work from many people. Dennis says the toddlers will be separated from the older children and the kids 6 and under will meet at Lion's Park while the 7-12 year olds will gather at South Park. Hunting will begin at 10 a.m. Thanks Dennis for all your efforts, to the Chamber of Commerce for the individually wrapped candy eggs, the merchants for the prizes, the boy scouts and to all who helped make a lot of kids happy.

Don't forget the March of Dimes Walkathon is April 16. There are numerous kids looking for sponsors. Won't you do your bit and pledge a dime a mile (more if you can) for some youngster to walk. This is effort easily paid for, and goes to a worthy cause.

Are you in the mood to eat out and get Mom away from the kitchen? You will have the opportunity Saturday night. The PTSA is holding their Chili Feed at the school cafeteria. Serving will begin at 5 p.m. and will continue till 8 p.m. The proceeds help provide a scholarship to some Nyssa senior. Family tickets available, so make it a family affair.

Cancer month is upon us. Can you think of a better reason to give, than to defeat this horrible disease? The goal for the State of Oregon is for each person in the state to average out 50¢ per person. If everyone gave just 50¢ this state would raise over \$1 million dollars. The Nyssa residential and rural areas raised more per capita last year than any other area in Malheur County. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Emil Stunz (city) and Mrs. Glen Brown (rural) the money raised was \$1619.19. Isn't that fantastic? These same women are willing to be chairmen again this year and will begin their crusade soon. Let's all help and try to top last year's total. Join the Million Club, let's down Cancer!

Congratulations to Michelle Sadamori and Jim Wilson who were finalists in the Junior Science Symposium. They will go to West Point, New York in May where they will compete for the nationals. Michelle is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Sadamori and Jim is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Wilson.

Do have a "Happy Easter."

Amalgamated Declares Dividend

At its regular scheduled meeting March 24, the Board of Directors of the Amalgamated Sugar Company declared a common stock dividend amounting to 75¢ per share on stock payable on May 1, 1977 to stockholders of record on April 15, 1977.

The announcement was made by Chairman of the Board and President A. E. Benning.

WEATHER

Date	Max.	Min.	Prec.
Mar. 30	53	31	
Mar. 31	55	24	
Apr. 1	51	27	.20
Apr. 2	52	33	
Apr. 3	60	34	
Apr. 4	71	33	
Apr. 5	76	33	
Apr. 6		36	
Owyhee Reservoir Storage	4-6-77 522,730 Acre Feet		
	4-6-76 686,600 Acre Feet		



A CUB SCOUT TURTLE-RAMA was held between Pack No. 445 of the Nyssa 1st Ward, Delores Ray, den leader; Pack No. 458, Ruth Larsson, den leader; and Ontario's 2nd Ward Pack. The meet was held last Thursday, March 31 at Ontario LDS church. All boys competing made their own turtles, with

the assistance of their fathers. Todd ByBee of Pack 458 was the grand winner of the 8-9-10 year olds.

Pictured above, front row from left, are Edward Larsson, Todd ByBee, Larry Gonzales and Pearce Bones.

Back row from left, Jaiurus Taylor, Jared Baker, Garrit Glenn, Jason Lawrence and Ruth Larsson.

Property Taxes And Assessments

Floyd J. Holton

Malheur County Assessor

Responding to a notice of increased valuation, many taxpayers will ask:

"Why have you raised my taxes?"

Everyone should understand that the Assessor has no control over the amount of tax levied against property. People, directly or indirectly, authorize the amount of revenue needed to fund the services provided by local government, which results in taxes levied against property.

The Assessor's responsibility is to provide a base upon which the tax burden can be shared fairly and equitably. There are certain "ground-rules" provided by law, which the Assessor is required to follow in order to establish such a base.

All properties are appraised and assessed at market value. Agricultural land, however, carries a special assessment intended to reflect its economic worth, more popularly referred to as "Farm Use Value".

It is impractical to physically inspect each parcel of property every year so a method of indexing, or adjusting, all other properties to market value during the interim, has been adopted to keep pace with constantly changing market conditions.

I'm sure that most people are aware that property values have increased during past years and are continuing an upward trend. It would seem that a property owner should not be unduly alarmed at receiving a notice of

increased valuation, provided it is in line with market value.

The Assessor and staff are continually researching sales and market data in a conscientious effort to appraise and assess all property in compliance with the law.

I would emphasize that taxes do not necessarily follow an increase in valuation, but rather are based upon the financial needs of the county in compliance with the desires of the people.

THEREFORE: Consult with the Assessor or the Board of Equalization regarding property VALUES.

Consult with or be represented at the Budget Board meetings regarding TAXES.

A brief clarification of the special assessment applying to agricultural land seems in order. Farm Use values are arrived at by converting net farmland income to value through capitalization. Typical cash rentals from the

preceding year are obtained throughout the county from which are deducted normal expenses paid by the landowner. The resultant net income attributed to land is then converted to value.

This explanation is brief, but I want to assure all taxpayers that should your property have been physically appraised, indexed to current value or valued by the Farm Use formula, we are employing every means available to provide fair and equitable assessments for all properties in time for this year's assessment roll.

It is our aim to provide a courteous, congenial atmosphere in the Assessor's office and welcome the opportunity to discuss matters and problems relative to assessed values at public meetings or by private appointment in the best interests of the people we are duty bound to serve.

City Faces Possible Water Shortage

The City will be faced with a possible water shortage and a definite requirement to reduce energy. Plans are being considered toward reduction of water use in as much as the City is using far above the national per capita water use.

Consideration is presently being given to a means of conserving both water and electricity.

A study of alternatives and questions will be undertaken over the next several weeks in an effort to arrive at an equitable solution.

City Manager Henry Schneider and Bernice Elguetabal, City Data Collector will cover these points at several meetings during the next week.

Goals
To conserve water and to conserve 10% of electricity presently used.

Premise
a. Nyssa's well water quality is satisfactory while the Ranney Collector water

(river water) is inferior in quality due to taste, odor, and coloration.

b. Use of Ranney Collector and City wells represents high power use. By not using the Ranney Collector the City would achieve its 10% power reduction.

Sub-premise
City wells can supply all the water the City of Nyssa residents actually need, (150 gallons per capita) but wells can not produce all the water the residents desire or are accustomed to.

Solution Criteria
a. By not using the Ranney Collector, the City can retain the high quality of water produced by City wells. Curtailed use can be achieved by alternating irrigating days. Would you favor this method?

b. Ranney Collector water quality is inferior. Do you favor its use?

c. Do you favor Voluntary adherence or Mandatory compliance with above?

City Manager Talks To Nyssa Chamber

City Manager Henry Schneider and Bernice Elguetabal briefed the Chamber of Commerce on the status of Public Facilities and Services at the April 5 meeting.

Schneider read a letter from Governor Straub exhorting all Mayors to set up voluntary requirements to alleviate the States, short-term energy crisis.

The Chamber was called upon to consider measures of Conservation by reducing interior and exterior lighting consistent with health, safety and security; by eliminating decorative exterior lighting on all public building; by

reducing state highway lighting consistent with safety and security.

Schneider called upon all merchants to turn-off outdoor advertising signs after the business closes. The Governor asked to be notified of all efforts taken to assist in this conservation program.

The program reviewed Nyssa's status toward completing a comprehensive plan by December 1977.

Two questionnaires dealing with Water Conservation and Public Service Input were completed by all Chamber members.

Veterans' Benefits Excluded From Tax

Veterans' benefits, such as disability and death pensions, compensation for service-connected disabilities, educational aid and GI insurance dividends, are excluded from state and federal income taxation. H. C. Saalfeld, Director of Veterans' Affairs, said today. However, interest earned from GI dividends left on deposit are taxable, he pointed out.

The Federal Tax Reform Act of 1976 changed some tax laws, particularly as they effect retired military personnel receiving disability retirement or sick pay. Individuals receiving such

payments should seek assistance from either the state or federal tax service to make certain they receive all appropriate exclusions.

Military personnel retired for longevity and living in Oregon get a \$2,400 state tax exclusion on their retired pay but they must be age 65 or over and the exclusion is reduced dollar for dollar by the amount of their earned income. All longevity retirement pay is taxed federally.

For servicemen on active duty, Oregon excludes the first \$3,000 of the military pay, but the full amount is subject to federal taxation.

Nyssa FFA Member Awarded State Office



Mike Parker

Mike Parker of the Nyssa FFA Chapter and son of Dorothy Parker has been elected to the office of State Treasurer of the Oregon Association of Future Farmers of America at the 49th

annual State FFA Convention held in Pendleton, March 20-23, 1977. He will spend the coming year touring the state visiting the 110 Oregon chapters and helping conduct the affairs, contests, and other state FFA Activities. It has been many years since a Nyssa FFA member has been elected to a state office.

The Nyssa FFA Chapter was presented with a Superior Chapter Award at the convention for recognition of outstanding achievement in FFA activities during this past year. Other members attending the convention from Nyssa and competing for awards were Renae Simpson, Barbara Holmes, Tim Meham, Greg Thiel, Leslie Linegar, Ken Moseley, Charles Sims, Pat Sims, Roger Blaylock, Ralph Abe, Deryl Leggett, advisor and Betty Simpson, chapereone.

Kenneth J. Kramer New Nyssa School Superintendent

The new superintendent of the Nyssa Schools is Kenneth J. Kramer, presently school superintendent at Imbler. Kramer will replace Superintendent W. L. McPartland, who is retiring July 1 after 40 years in Malheur County schools.

Kramer was picked from 24 applicants for the job. A screening committee narrowed the list to four candidates, and after interviewing these four during the past two weeks, the school board made the final decision Monday evening. Board members visited the home towns of the four finalists, and their decision on Kramer was unanimous.

Kramer will be 40 years old in August and he and his wife Beccy have two daughters, Sandra, 19, is married, and Greta, 9, is a third grader. He grew up in Pendleton and graduated from high school there. He graduated from Eastern Oregon State College at LaGrande, and his graduate work has been at Eastern Oregon, the University of Florida, Oregon College of Education, and the University of Oregon. He has a MS degree in Education, and is presently working on his Superintendent's Administrative credentials.

Kramer's teaching experience included science teacher and coach at The Dalles Junior High School, 1964-65; social science, science and coach at Pilot Rock High School, 1965-72; social science teacher and coach at McKenzie High School; and he has been superintendent at Imbler since 1973.

The new superintendent lists his educational highlights as recipient of a Fulbright-Hayes Foundation Fellowship to India in 1971; a

National Science Foundation Institute grant in Race Relations in 1972; National Science Foundation Grant to the University of Florida in Earth Sciences in 1968. He was selected to Marquis "Who's Who in the West" in 1975; and was selected by the Confederation of Oregon School Administrators as a member of their team to help new administrators in 1976. He has successfully completed the University of Oregon's Administrative Extern Program.

Mrs. Kramer is also a graduate of Eastern Oregon State College, and majored in Social Studies and Physical Education. She is currently teaching the fourth grade in Imbler and coaching girls high school basketball.

Kramer has lived most of his life in Eastern Oregon, and has successfully coached against Adrian and other teams in this area. He and Mrs. Kramer look forward to moving to Nyssa this summer and assuming their new responsibilities.

Dan Martin Elected Lions Club President

Dan Martin was elected president of the Nyssa Lions Club at their regular meeting Tuesday noon. He succeeds Dick Martin, effective July 1.

Other officers elected for the coming year are Harold Pook, 1st vice president; Don Buker, 2nd vice president; Joe Garner, 3rd vice president; Alvin Allen, tail twister; Lauren Wright, lion tamer; John Worrall, secretary-treasurer; and Duane Buchtel, Ron Moffis, George Craig and Jim Crisp, directors.

The annual athletic banquet will be held May 10 at 7:30 p.m. in the school

cafeteria. This banquet honors all athletes who competed in varsity sports at the junior high and high school level, and is hosted each year by the Lions Club.

Michelle Sadamori and Jim Wilson spoke on their recent science experiments at the Junior Science Symposium at Oregon State University last month. They were two of the five finalists, and will go to West Point, New York on May 4 for the nationals. They will also tour the United Nations and other points of interest in New York before returning home.

Second Town Hall Meeting April 11

The Nyssa Planning Commission has scheduled a Townhall Meeting for Monday, April 11, in the Public Library meeting room at 7:30 p.m. according to Planning Commission secretary, Henry Schneider.

Topic for discussion will be Nyssa's public facilities and services with Commissioners soliciting as much response as possible to issues, problems and opportunities, which will be presented at the meeting, also, from citizens in attendance.

Public input, during the meeting, will be recorded to be analyzed by the Planning Commission and utilized as a data base in decision-making stages of the Comprehensive Planning process (such as goal and policy making phases).

Some of the popular issues to be discussed will be:

1. Do you think the City should consider curtailments of its water supply?
 2. Should the City make garbage collection by franchised collection service mandatory?
 3. Do you favor construction of an incineration-recycling plant for the three cities (Ontario, Nyssa and Vale) whereby Ore-Ida would buy the steam or energy that would be emitted?
 4. Should measures be taken to alleviate the heavy volume of traffic off or away from the "Y" intersection directly in front of the public schools?
- Everyone interested in the future development of Nyssa who would like to take an active part in the forming of the City's planning policies, goals and objectives is invited to attend.



THE NYSSA GATE CITY JOURNAL was awarded a Citation of Merit by the Disabled American Veterans Monday in brief services at Ontario. Shown receiving the award is new Journal publisher Jim Peterson, left, from Walter Mundi of the DAV. The award is given in appreciation of the

generous contribution, and outstanding support to the service program of the Disabled American Veterans.

The DAV van in background is a field service unit that visits communities throughout Oregon assisting veterans in obtaining help and benefits due them.