

around the county

In Hoodland

Hearing set for county water district

The Clackamas County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Thursday, Dec. 20, to determine if the county should form a water district to take over five Hoodland area water systems, now currently owned by Red Bennett of Portland.

The session will be held at 10 a.m. in the Oregon City county commissioners meeting room.

The commissioners will not determine whether to form a water district at that time, according to county official John McIntyre, but they will decide on whether to ask the Portland Metropolitan Boundary Commission to form the district.

McIntyre, director of the county Environmental Services, said that only the boundary commission has the power to form a water district. But the boundary commission has to be asked to form the district by the county commissioners.

The commissioners will use the public hearing to determine how the Hoodland residents feel about the water district proposal, McIntyre said.

The County Service District would take the place of the Alder Creek Water Co., which includes the water systems of Alder Creek-Barlow, Riverside, Country Club, Wildwood annex and Sleepy Hollow.

Bennett's Alder Creek-Barlow system has had major problems in the past couple of years. He has been taken to court by the state health division and most recently by the federal Environmental Protection Agency for alleged contaminated water and not having the system up to governmental standards.

Bennett disputes most of

the charges.

Although the county is pushing for the district, it will not shove the district down the residents' throats, according to McIntyre.

If the boundary commission approves the district, the county will take over the systems but the water users will pay for it,

McIntyre said.

"The customers will have the financial obligation, but for water purposes only," McIntyre told The Post. The commissioners will act as the board of directors and hire someone to take care of the maintenance of the system.

It will be late spring or

summer before the county takes over the district, if it does, McIntyre said.

If the county does take over the system, then the water users would pay a monthly bill for their share. McIntyre said he did not know at this time how the new cost would compare to the current rates.

The county would have to either build a treatment facility plant or contract with Sandy for treated water if it took over the district, McIntyre said. The Sandy system has a lot of excess capacity right now, he said, and if the county took over the district, it would seriously look into that aspect.

The county hasn't contacted Sandy yet, though, he said, since it hasn't taken over the district.

There are several advantages to having a public district, the director said, including being eligible for federal funds which a private company is not eligible for. Also, public agencies can sell tax-exempt bonds.

Customers will not have to put any money down if the system changes hands, he said, and they will have 20 or 30 years to pay off their portion.

Hospital visiting hours change

Visiting hours at Gresham Community Hospital have changed recently, according to spokeswoman Roxanne Waterman. The new hours are 2-8 p.m.

The following rules have also been posted for visitors.

—Children under 12 years of age are not allowed to visit.

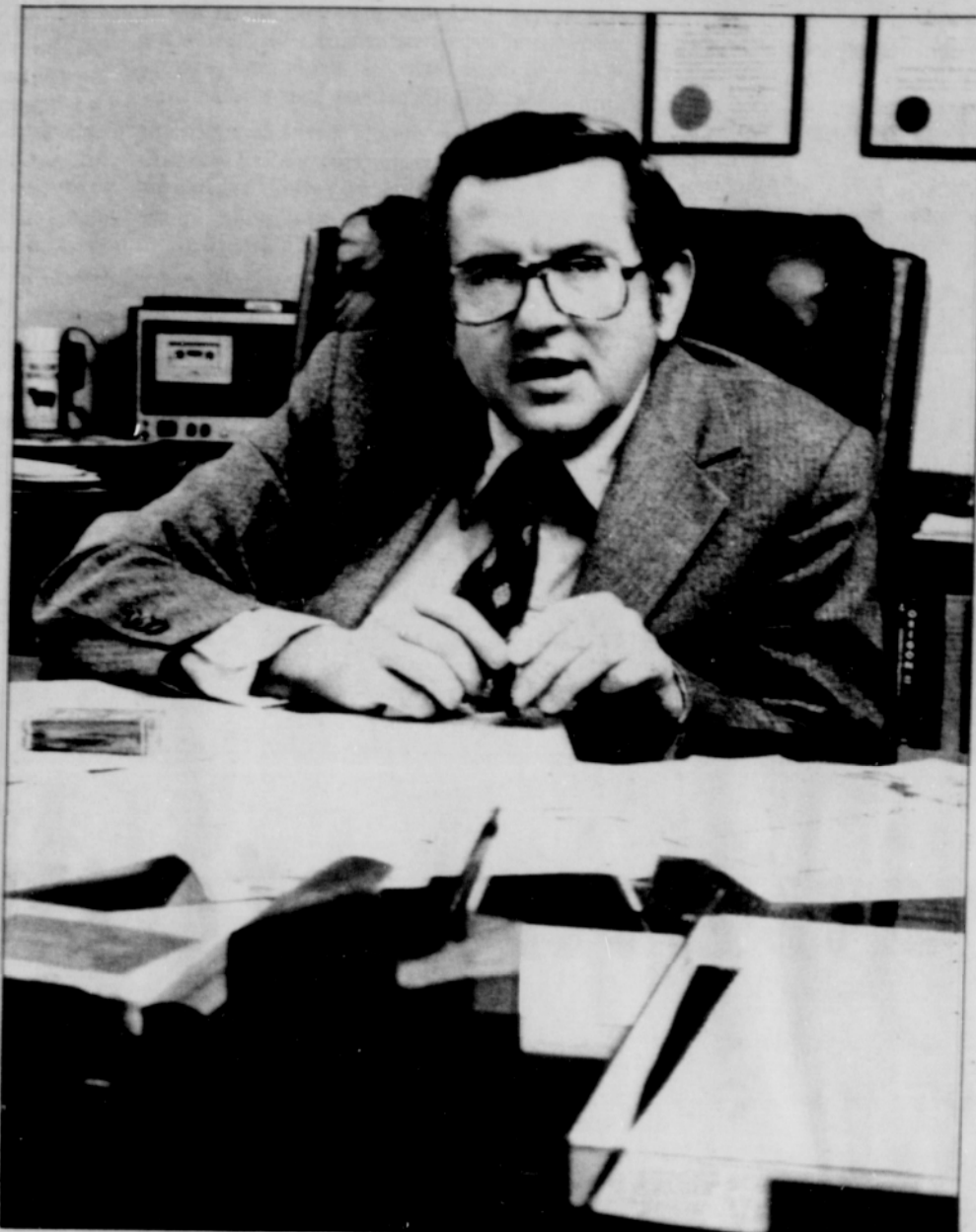
—Visits should be limited to 15 minutes.

—No more than two visitors at one time.

—Visit quietly so that other patients will not be disturbed.

—Oregon state law requires that visitors do not smoke in patient rooms.

—If a member of the hospital staff enters the room to care for another patient, please provide privacy to the patient by leaving the room.



Clackamas County is looking into whether it should form a water district to take over the Alder Creek-Barlow system in the Hoodland area, according to John McIntyre, above. McIntyre is the director of the county Environmental Services. There will be a public hearing on the matter before the county commissioners on Dec. 20 at 10 a.m. in Oregon City.

Hoodland Happenings

Thursday, December 13

From 10 a.m. to noon, a Wy East Home extension Study Group session on "Survival in Power Failures" will be held at the Hoodland Women's Club on Salmon River Road. A cookie exchange will be held at the Hoodland Women's Club on Salmon River Road. A cookie exchange will be held following the session, with a two-dozen cookie limit. Refreshments will be served at the meeting.

This and other study groups are open to the public at no cost. For further information call Charlene Fugate at 622-3572.

At 3:45 today, Welches boys basketball team will play Cottrell at the Welches School Gym.

At 8 p.m. the Welches School Board will meet in the Conference Room adjacent to the main office at the school.

Friday, December 14

The Welches School staff and board members will hold their Christmas Potluck Dinner tonight at 7 p.m. at the Hoodland Women's Club on Salmon River Road.

Saturday, December 15

Santa Claus will be visiting all the mountain area merchants, beginning at 10:30 a.m. He will be traveling from Government Camp to Brightwood on an antique fire truck, courtesy of the Hoodland Fire Department. Santa's final stop will be the Hoodland Fire Department's parking lot in Zig Zag where Christmas trees are being sold by the Fire Department Volunteers. All profits go to the Hoodland Volunteer Fire Department Fund. Santa's visit is sponsored by the

Hoodland Chamber of Commerce.

Tuesday, December 18

The Hoodland Chamber of Commerce will hold its Christmas Party and dinner at 6:30 p.m. tonight. This year's celebration will be at Salazar's restaurant, one mile east of Zig Zag on Highway 26 in Rhododendron. Reservations and tickets can be obtained at the U.S. Bank in Hoodland Plaza.

Wednesday, December 19

The Clackamas County Bookmobile will be at the Food King Market parking lot in Rhododendron from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and at Ted's Store in Brightwood from 1:15 to 3 p.m.

Welches Community School "Tiny-Tots" group will meet from 10 a.m. to noon. Call Kathryn Bliss at 622-3032 for information and meeting location.

There will be a "Blood Pressure Clinic" for senior citizens at the Lion's Club in Wemme from 1 to 2 p.m. Call Maxine Worley at the Hoodland Senior Center, 622-3331, for further information.

The Mt. Hood Pre-School Co-Op Parent's Potluck Dinner and Christmas Party will be held tonight starting at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails at the Timberline Rim Club House. Call Sheryl Ettelman at 622-3917 for further information.

Thursday, December 20

The Welches School Annual Christmas Program will be presented tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium. The program will feature vocal selections from students in grades 1 through 8. Bring the whole family and enjoy an evening of Christmas and holiday music, officials say.

For woodstove safety this winter, don't forget to contact the Hoodland Fire Department. Their representative will come by and discuss safety tips on proper installation, maintenance and cleaning of woodstoves by calling 622-3256.

To place an event in "Hoodland Happenings" contact Dawn Morrison at 622-3538.

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County-wide flea market slated Sunday at fairgrounds

A second county-wide flea market being held as a county fair benefit is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 16 in the 4-H Exhibit Hall at the fairgrounds in Canby.

The flea market is part of a program initiated by the Boosters to help support the annual county fair and to raise funds for fairgrounds maintenance. The first of the flea markets was held Nov. 18 and subsequent affairs are scheduled regularly hereafter on the third Sunday of each month.

Some 30 tables renting for \$5 each are available for

exhibitors, spokeswoman Geri Herdt announces. Food, baked goods, craft creations, tools, plants, jewelry, and a host of garage-sale type articles are customarily sold by participating exhibitors, she says.

The Fair Boosters, themselves, will operate one or more tables with articles donated by the public to help the fair, Herdt said. She urges people who have items to contribute to call the fair office at 226-1136.

Admission to the Dec. 16 flea market is 25 cents each for adults. There is no charge

for children. The doors will open at 10 a.m. and the market will close at 4 p.m.

Refreshments, under supervision of the Junior Polled Hereford Association, will be available throughout the day. Helping the Boosters conduct the market will be 4-H and FFA young people and representatives of other community groups.

"A lot of people are beginning to look forward to these third-Sunday-of-the-month flea markets and we can promise our exhibitors a large and responsive audience," Herdt says.

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