

around the county

Citizens key to solving dumping problems

Using licensed septic tank pumps may be the best solution for Mt. Hood corridor residents who want to do something to help solve the problem of illegal dumping of septic tank sludge on roadways, according to a Clackamas County staff member.

Responding to citizen complaints about the illegal sewage dumpings, and the absence of regulations in the county, Dick Polson, chief soil scientist, said, "All businesses offering sewage pumping services are required by law to be licensed through the

Department of Environmental Quality, and unlicensed pumpers are prohibited from dumping at authorized sewage treatment plants.

"Since the unlicensed pumper cannot operate legally, he is forced to dump his load wherever he

can get away with it."

Polson said that citizens can help avoid sewage spills by not doing business with unlicensed pumpers.

"A pumping company can be checked two ways," he said. "All licensed pumping vehicles will have

labels on the front, sides and rear indicating that the firm is licensed.

"If a company's vehicles are not so marked, people should ask to see proof of license.

"Another way to deter-

mine if a firm is licensed is to contact the County Department of Environmental Services (655-8521) or the licensing office of the DEQ (229-6402).

"As long as county residents do business only

with licensed firms, the chances of illegal sewage dumping can be minimized," he said.

Polson also requests that citizens be alert for illegal pumpers and report them to the county and DEQ immediately.

"It's impossible for county personnel to follow these people around looking for violations. In order to keep the illegal pumper off the road, we must rely on the public for help," he said.

"Take pictures, record license plate numbers, record places and dates of illegal or suspected illegal activity.

"Otherwise, there is no good way to control these activities."

Hoodland Fire Department puts in a 30-call week

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

The Hoodland Rural Fire Department responded to

Vote on water is delayed

The Alder Creek Water Users Association has delayed the vote for the alternative administration and operation of the existing Alder Water Company.

Snowy and icy conditions, and the lack of mail service in the Alder Creek area, have resulted in the cancellation of the Jan. 7 vote, according to Nan Slensing, vice chairperson.

The vote was to have determined if the water customers wanted a non-profit corporation or a district with taxing powers, known as a 264 district.

Both the 264 district and the non-profit corporation would allow the customers to elect their own board of directors.

The water systems are scattered over a seven-mile area in the Mt. Hood Corridor. They include Sleepy Hollow, Riverside, Country Club, Barlow and Wildwood Annex.

The Association sent ballots to 213 water customers on Dec. 27, and they were due back Jan. 5.

Because of weather conditions, the due date for the ballots has been extended to Jan. 9.

Slensing said that the date for counting the ballots has not yet been set, but obviously the weather will be the determining factor.

"A lot of the leaders of the various water systems have completed ballots in their possession already," said Slensing, "but the bad road conditions has prevented them from hand-delivering them to us.

"We also can't depend on the post office," said Slensing Tuesday, "because it's already been three days since we received mail."

In November the Environmental Protection Agency and the Oregon State Health Division gave the water customers until early 1982 to come up with an alternative.

30 calls this past week. Thirteen were for first aid, and eight were for downed powerlines as a result of the heavy snows.

On Dec. 29, a chimney fire struck a house in Rhododendron behind the Dairy Queen. Fire Chief

'Shots' really fireworks

Responsibility has been claimed for the alleged shots fired in Rhododendron on Dec. 22.

A resident of the town, who has requested anonymity, said that the shots were in fact M-80 fireworks, also known as cherry bombs.

She said that the M-80s were set off during a Christmas party. One was set off at 8:30 p.m. and another at midnight.

"I knew when I read about the shots that it was our cherry bombs," said the resident. "I wanted to let everyone in the area know it wasn't gunshots after all, so that they wouldn't think that Rhododendron is a dangerous place to go."

The resident said that when the bombs were set off that "they sounded like gunshots." She said that she had to plug her ears because the echo effect of Zigzag Canyon made the blasts seem so loud.

At midnight, according to the resident, while some of those in attendance were getting ready to head back to Portland, another cherry bomb was set off, accompanied by hoops and hollers.

Maria Kraeger-Hone and S. Lou Tipton, area residents, reported hearing a loud scream about midnight, and feared that someone might have been injured.

The anonymous resident said that she has no knowledge of the explosion heard in the early hours of Dec. 23 that was reported by Colonel Jack Baker.

A number of residents of the town reported hearing the explosion, which possibly came from the direction of Flag Mountain, just above Still Creek Road.

Visser joins Air Force

Harold H. Visser, son of Hans and Adele Visser, 22444 S.E. Bohma Court, Boring, enlisted in the United States Air Force Delayed Enlistment Program in December, according to Staff Sergeant Dan Baker, local Air Force recruiter.

Visser, a 1981 graduate of Sam Barlow High School, is scheduled for enlistment in the regular Air Force June 2, 1982.

Upon successfully completing the Air Force's six-week basic training course he will receive further training in his chosen career field as a fire protection specialist.

He will be earning credits toward an associate degree in applied science through the Community College of the Air Force while attending basic and other Air Force technical training schools.

Don Armintrout said that his department responded at 1 a.m., and the house suffered no damage.

On Dec. 30, the department was the first at the scene of a double fatality on Highway 26 on the Salmon River bridge at 4:30 p.m.

Two vehicles were totally engulfed in flames when the fire crews arrived. Two persons died (see page one).

A three-car accident Dec. 31 at the junction of Highway 26 and Forest Service Road 35, above Rhododendron, was responded to by the department at 2:35 p.m.

Two persons were transported to Gresham Community Hospital by Alpine Ambulance, where they were treated for minor injuries and released.

Icy and snowy conditions were believed to have been the cause of the accident.

At 6:35 p.m. an 11-year-old girl was struck by a vehicle at the west end of the Brightwood Loop. The vehicle had lost control on the icy roadway.

The girl was transported to Gresham Community Hospital by Alpine Ambulance. She was hospitalized for possible leg fractures.

On New Year's Day, at 12:36 p.m., the second chimney fire in three days caused minor damage to a home on Summertime Drive in the Alder Creek

Credit help is available

For almost 5,000 metropolitan area residents—including more than a dozen from the Sandy-Boring area—cutting up credit cards has been an alternative to bankruptcy, and one as close and as fast as a telephone call.

At the other end of the telephone (Portland: 232-8139), and doing the card cutting, are counselors at the Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a non-profit group established in 1967 to help Oregonians bail themselves out of debt, manage money and avoid bankruptcy.

Clients of the service—who pay their bills but take a little longer than originally planned to do it—are "taking the smart way out of debt," according to Lawrence Winthrop, president of the volunteer organization he helped found.

"A lot of people think the new bankruptcy law is an easy way out of debt, but they often don't realize what they're getting into."

Winthrop said people that have claimed

area.

Later that same day arching powerlines caused minor damage to a house on Vine Maple Drive in the Zigzag area. Armintrout said that the line "back fed" into the house, which caused damage to the structure's electrical wiring.

On Jan. 2, a fire struck a rental home on Multitorpor Drive in the Government Camp area owned by a resident of Alaska.

Armintrout said that his department responded to the blaze at 11:45 p.m. and that the house was fully involved when they arrived, with flames coming out the windows.

Two engines, two tankers

and a rescue unit responded.

Armintrout said that firefighting efforts were hampered because of the house's location, which was off the road.

Fire hoses had to be laid down along a trail. If firefighters stepped off the trail, they would sink down into the deep snow which lined the only pathway to the house.

"We had a terrible time fighting the fire," said Armintrout, "because we had to lay 1,400 feet of hose from the hydrant to the fire."

Weather conditions also taxed the efforts of the 22 firefighters. Armintrout said that the severe road

Stockmen bear gloomy report

The Clackamas County stockmen held its 36th annual meeting last month. A number of concerns were aired by the standing committee chairmen.

The group reported a depressing economic picture with the cost of production being very close to the price received for red meat.

John Rosebrook, Beaver-creek stockman and member of the Oregon Beef Council, reported on plans for special beef promotions. These will be aimed at seasons when beef sales slow down and meat piles up in retail and wholesale

outlets.

Another concern voiced was about the increasing predator problems. This concerns wild dogs as well as coyotes.

Rick Russo, Molalla stockman, introduced Ernie Giese, district trapper. Giese described plans for accelerated efforts to protect livestock from predator attack.

Ray Sether, Molalla stockman and newly-elected president of the Western Oregon Livestock Association, reported on legislative action on the part of WOLA. This is a parent organization with

all county associations in Western Oregon belonging as affiliates.

Sether is also a board member of the local Stockmen's Association. Charles Daugherty,

Molalla stockman, introduced and welcomed newly-elected board members. They are Rosebrook, Daryl LaClef of Canby, and Lynn Butts of Oregon City.

Graham on dean's list at PU

Ruth E. Graham, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Thomas of Sandy, has been named to the dean's list at Seattle Pacific University.

Graham is a sophomore nursing major.

Students are named to the dean's list on the bases of academic merit. All must be full-time students, with underclassmen maintaining a 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 scale to qualify.

Seattle Pacific University, with 2,850 students, was founded in 1891 by Free Methodist pioneers, and today continues its Christian emphasis.

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Handy Polivka works at cleaning off the driveway at the Sandy Fire Department station on New Year's Day.

Photo by Scott Newton