

Reports Heard At City Council

By FRANCES ROSE WILSON

IRRIGON—Police Chief Perry Pummel gave the City Council a report on the Civil Defense meeting which he and Councilman Vernon Stewart attended in Heppner recently at the last council meeting.

Mayor Wilson read a letter from Farmers Home Administration, written to Senator Morse and referred to the city by office memo, stating no funds would be available for financing the city water system before July 1. The application will remain active and funds allocated when available.

Results were given of the survey petitions on annexation, mailed to property owners West of the city recently. Of the seven petition forms sent, four had been returned, with three expressing their desire to have their property included in the proposed annexation and one was opposed. It was pointed out that the Planning Commission would need to consider this area when they meet to consider boundaries for annexation.

Mayor Wilson, as budget officer, presented the budget message for the coming year and the proposed budget was submitted to the committee. Henry Blenhauer was elected chairman and Margie Shade secretary, and the committee approved the \$85,105.00 budget. The anticipated water system development was included in this amount for \$71,920, and the State Street fund for \$4,758 with General Control making up the \$8,427 balance. The hearing on the budget was set for the April council meeting and will be held in the council room of the old school building.

Reverend and Mrs. Ellis Parker conducted a musical service at the Assembly of God church recently. The young couple, who are from Klamath Falls, play a number of musical instruments and travel extensively in evangelistic services.

Tom Parsons SK-2 has returned home for a 30-day leave. He was recently aboard the guided missile cruiser, Topeka, on a Mediterranean cruise and went ashore in a number of ports. Parsons will return for duty to Coronado, Calif., for a five week period and is then scheduled to go to Saigon. This will be his second tour of duty in Vietnam.

Mrs. Sedalia Dexter recently moved to Hermiston having sold her home here. She had been a resident of Irrigon for 22 years and had lived in Umatilla 22 years before coming here.

The Community 4-H club met recently in the school cafeteria. The Desert Archers from Umatilla and Morrow counties presented an interesting demonstration. Mrs. Zehner is their leader. The Irrigon Cookees also gave a demonstration on how to make brownies.

The 4-H plant sale, which has been an annual project the past three years, was planned and will be held on April 6 and 7. Chairman Judy Snyder appointed committees to be in charge of the sale.

Mrs. Harold Van Horn and son Tom made a trip to Idaho recently with Tom remaining in Kookkia to go to school. Mrs. Van Horn returned home last week.

Recent visitors in Irrigon

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

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Youngsters Enjoy Camp Easter Seal



SUNDOWN at Camp Easter Seal, Oregon's only summer camp specially designed for the physically handicapped, finds the youngsters in wheelchairs and on crutches, gathered round for the lowering of the flag. Campers come from all parts of the state to the site on North Lake of Ten Mile lake, near Reedsport.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hamilton and Mr. and Mrs. Pete Paxson from Vancouver, Wash. Mrs. Elnora Paxson returned home with them for a visit.

Reverend Vaughan reports the Gold Bond stamp program is progressing very well with stamps coming in from as far away as Lawton, Okla. and Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Isom visited recently with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Eppenbach in La Grande Friday. Mrs. Eppenbach is the Isom's daughter.

The Irrigon Home Extension unit met March 14 at the Lions Club building. The topic was "Accessories in your Wardrobe," and a discussion on the subject was led by Eva Anderson, Mary Adams and Marguerite Houghton. A noon luncheon was served by hostesses, Alda Graybeal, Bessie Kerlin and Marguerite Houghton. There were three visitors present.

There was a special Sunday dedication service at the Baptist church for the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Cunningham of Richland, Wash. The service was conducted by Pastor Vaughan for Machille, Michael and Matthew who are the grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Eppenbach. A fellowship hour was held after the serv-

ice at which cake, coffee and punch were served.

Welcoming the Don Leightons in their new home, just west of town, recently purchased from Ronald Eves, were Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Cook, Rhonda, Allyn and Theresa of Portland. Mrs. Cook is Mrs. Leighton's sister. Her cousin, Mrs. Claude Meyers of Spokane, and Mr. Leighton's father, Harold, and brother H. E. Leighton James and Robert of Redmond and Terrebonne were also present. Other visitors included John Cook of Albany, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hill of Umatilla, Mrs. Sedalia Dexter and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Hughes, Anita, Jeanne and Bruce of Hermiston.

Guests of Mrs. Lena Kelly at her home last Saturday were her grandsons, Matthew and Pat, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kelly, all of Umatilla. Yeoman Pat Kelly has been visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kelly of Umatilla, while on a four-day leave from Navy service, where he has been stationed at Long Beach, Calif., aboard the minesweeper, USS Acme. He has received word that he will be shipped to Korea April 5, and reported to Long Beach for further duty on Sunday, March 25.

Water District Problems Aired

IRRIGON—Water rights, water shortage, pumping plants and many related items punctuated the heated remarks made at a gathering of some 200 water patrons of the West Extension Irrigation District meeting Friday evening in Irrigon's A. C. Houghton school cafeteria. Residents from the Boardman and Irrigon communities and as far east as Umatilla met to assess irrigation prospects for the coming season and hear why application by the District to pump water from the Columbia river had been rejected.

According to District Manager Maxwell Jones, who presided over the meeting, the application, as such, had not been rejected but the State water master would not permit water to be pumped from the river for land having water rights for which sufficient water is available. The Irrigon area for which water was proposed to be pumped has one of the first water rights in the region in the amount of six acre feet from the Umatilla river. Permits issued by the State water master allow only four and one half acre feet to be drawn from the river. It was explained that in reality water in this amount would do little to relieve the present crisis.

Also present, answering questions and discussing ways and means of proceeding to assure sufficient water in the future, were Jerry Haines, Assistant State Water Master of Pendleton and Darrell Maxwell of the Umatilla County Agents office who works closely with the Bureau of Reclamation on water distribution.

It was pointed out that meters at the point of diversion indicated there had always been sufficient water to satisfy the rights involved. Water has been measured at this point since 1930. It appears measuring devices indicating water use on the ranches would be the logical means of establishing records for future use.

Rehabilitation of the entire project was suggested as one solution to be considered, although several years would be needed for accomplishment. Immediate relief for the shortage seemed to be the prime concern. A motion made from the floor and passed by the group authorized Jones to seek aid in getting additional water by contacting Senators and other Congressmen and laying the problems before them.

Farmers present were cautioned against putting in crops such as melons and new seedling for which water could not be assured in sufficient amounts during the growing season. Many angrily expressed their concern over laws which would deprive them of use of desperately needed water flowing nearby in abundance.

Jones assured the group that every effort would be made to see that fair distribution of wa-



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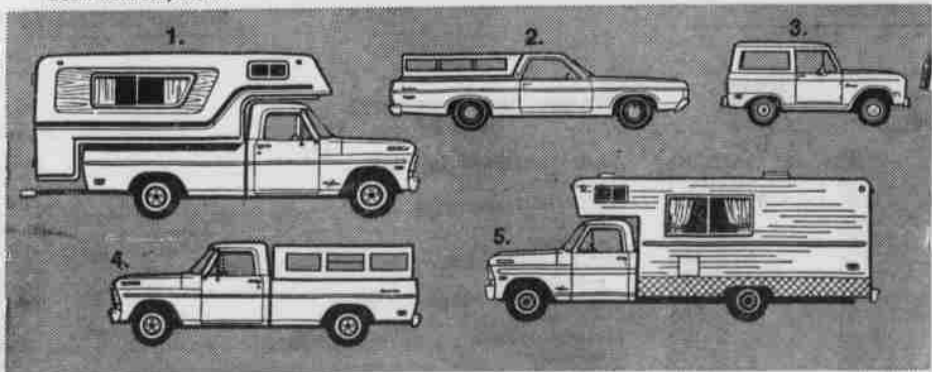
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Park Project Gets Underway In Irrigon Area

IRRIGON — Peter Kewit and Sons, contractors, who have been constructing Port of Umatilla marina facilities near the bridge the past few weeks, moved their equipment into Irrigon this week.

Work being done under contract with the Corps of Engineers includes breakwaters for a boat basin, excavation of the basin, grading for a swimming area and a second launching ramp alongside of the existing one. Fill material needed in constructing a 50 car parking lot and access road into the area is being taken from the basin and swimming beach.

Most of the grading has been done and material for driving some 50 piling is on hand for completion of the immediate project, which is the first phase of the park development. Other contracts, which will include building of rest and change rooms, drilling of a well and construction of a sprinkler system and tower reservoir, will be awarded at a later date, as will some landscaping and tree planting.

The recreational facilities are to be leased by the Irrigon Community Park and Recreation District who will operate them and develop other portions of the river front on a progressive schedule.

Faving of the second launching ramp will be done at District expense and this will be accomplished before the John Day pool is raised according to Orville Buchanan who is Chairman of the Board of the District.

Ruralettes Meet

A meeting of the Ruralettes 4-H club was held March 13 at Donna Bergstrom's home. Mrs. Bergstrom showed us how to handle wool, put in a zipper by hand, and make bound buttonholes. The next meeting will be held in June.

Cheri Carlson, reporter

Mrs. Bert Holland and three boys Bill, Mark, and Craig, of The Dalles, visited at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Art Watkins from Friday through Sunday of last week.

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