City council blasts Corps, Ullman

An angry city council Monday night blasted the U.S. Corps of Engineers and Cong. Al Ullman for their part in killing the Willow Creek Dam Project and served notice on the Department of Housing and Urban Development its intent to seek a federal injunction, if necessary, to prevent enforcement of compulsory flood insurance recently required of residential and commercial property owners in the city.

"The Willow Creek Dam is dead and can't be revived." Mayor Jerry Sweeney told the council. We never led the people to believe that we had a firm commitment from the Corps of Engineers for the project, although the Corps led us to believe that construction of the dam would be a matter of routine once the bill passed the U.S. Senate. However, the bill was defeated in Congress, which now places the blame for its defeat on the new administration, while the new administration places the blame on ConCong. Al Ullman nor any member of his office appeared before the congressional committee to testify on behalf of the dam, "so Congress figured the people of Heppner didn't want it, and it was killed."

City Engineer Steve Anderson, who had gone to Washington to testify before a Senate sub-committee on the dam, and later talked with Sen. Mark Hatfield and his associates, said he was assured by them that approval of the dam would be a matter of routine business.

"Had I known that Congress wanted someone to speak in favor of the project I would have testified before the House rather than the Senate," Anderson reported. "It appears that I, as well as other interested persons who have gone to Washington, have appeared before the wrong committee, and at the wrong meeting.

City Attorney Bob Abrams brought up the question of ending the compulsory flood insurance administered by

"Since the Corps of Engineers," he asked, "has determined there is no flood danger in the City of Heppner, why should the city abide by the

rules and regulations set forth recently by the Department of Housing and Urban Development in proclaiming that the city lies in a dangerous flood He suggested that rather

than comply with HUD-administered flood insurance. HUD should be asked to check the Corps of Engineers' recent and surprising testimony before Congress that no flood danger exists. For the past 28 years the Corps has maintained, on the basis of research, that there have been 17 disastrous floods since 1898. If there is indeed no flood danger, he said, then there is no logical reason why the flood insurance program be required in Heppner.

There was talk in the council of securing an injunction to prevent HUD from administering the flood insurance program in Heppner because

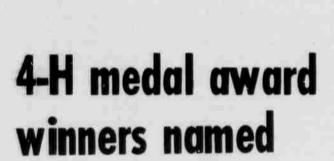
of last, week's action to permanently kill the dam project, which for many years has been strictly a flood control measure, and not a recreational project.

The mayor said that if another flood hits the city, "and it will," the city should not be held liable for property damage and possible loss of life. "The city has been fighting for this project for the past 28 years," he said, "with the Corps of Engineers agreeing that the only type of dam needed to prevent loss of life is a flood control dam. They changed the type of dam from one classification to another, which required reauthorization of funds, and then killed it

"Therefore," he told the council, "I believe the Corps should be held responsible for any and all damages, including loss of life."

A motion, unanimously approved, would place full blame for any future flooding with the Corps of Engineers rather than with the city.

(Continued on page 3)



Medal awards were presented to Morrow County's outstanding 4-H members Wednesday night at Heppner High School at the annual 4-H award dinner.

Mike Howell, county extension agent, was master of ceremonies and presented medals to the following:

Anita Davidson, consumer education: Michelle McElligot, bread, Kristi Edmundson. Carol McElligott and Sandra Palmer, clothing Terry and Grace McElligott. food-nutrition: Kathy Wolff. clothing. Janet McElligott food-nutrition; and

Mark Sargent and Jan achievement: Cathy Palmer, swine, Kate and Erin Evans, Debora and Donna Palmer, horse: Mike

Steven John Stai, 19. Port-

land, was issued two citations

Saturday night by Heppner

City Police: one for driving

while under the influence of

liquor, the other for driving a

motor vehicle with a blood

alcohol content of 0.15 or

Stai was driving his pickup

south on S. Court Street when

he apparently lost control of

the vehicle. He jumped a curb.

knocked down 20 feet of

wooden fence, struck a rock

greater.

Drunk charges filed

Michael J. McElligott, Ione High School senior, has

been named a Merit Program Commended student by

the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. He was

selected from among approximately one million

students on the basis of his high performance on the

1973 preliminary scholastic aptitude test administered

by NMSC. Commended students are in the upper 2 per

cent of those expected to graduate from high school in

1975. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry McElligott.

McElligott, petroleum power Rhonda Sargent and Glen Griffith, agriculture; Karl Palmer, sheep, and Julie

Pam Cantin was winner for the secretary's book. Record. book winners are: junior agriculture, Paula Palmer, junior home economics. Jyl Hobbs; intermediate agriculture, Mark Sargent, intermediate home economics. Jan Peterson: senior agriculture, Rhonda Sargent; senior home economics, Sandra Palmer and Anita Davidson.

Style revue awards went to Lori Rhea Jan Peterson, Kay Bergstrom, Kathy Gilbert, Cathy Palmer, Kathy Wolff, Carol Holtz and Sharon

bank which slowed him down

before he continued another 30

feet to smash into the home of

Mr. and Mrs. Verdin Hellums.

The Hellums were away from

Heppner, visiting in Van-

couver, Wa., at the time. The

impact did both interior and

exterior damage to the house.



This charming old house at Hardman is typical of those in the

ghost town area. The owner must believe a man's home is his

castle, as witness the No Trespassing sign on the sagging

Doug Gonty, son of Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Gonty, has completed his military basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Tex. He is scheduled for a five-week school in security training.

Schools closed Oct. 11

Morrow County Schools will be closed all day Friday, Oct. 11, in order to allow the teaching staff to attend inservice training activities and special education sessions as a part of the statewide inservice day for schools

One day of each school year is designated as a statewide inservice day with nearly all of the state's schools closed on

Stai told police he was traveling at 25 miles per hour. Most Morrow County tea-He was treated at Pioneer chers will attend sessions in Pendleton and Richland, Wa., Memorial Hospital for minor cuts and bruises before being with a few journeying to the Willamette Valley and Medford

Sessions available for partigipation by teachers include all subject matter areas as well as some of the more specialized activities such as special education, testing and guidance.

rew game violations to date

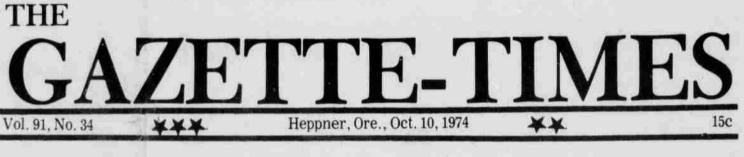
A roadcheck at Hardman Sunday by Oregon State Police and members of the Oregon Wildlife Commission revealed only minor game violations

According to reports, a few does and fawns have been shot and left at the scene, and the culprits have not been apprehended. At Bull Prairie a five-point

elk was shot and left, but was discovered in time to prevent the meat from spoiling. The meat was taken to Condon for distribution at the school. According to reports, hunting is about the same as last

year, with most of the bucks being taken in the foothills due to the dry weather conditions. The Doctors' Search Com-

mittee will meet Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7:30 p.m., at the courthouse.



Heppner Water Control District

Local plan to control flooding

members were given an insight into the workings of the Heppner Water Control District Monday, with this organization becoming more important in flood control now that Willow Creek Dam has been killed.

The program was presented by Dave Franzen, Soil Conservation Service, and Dick Wilkinson, chairman, Heppner Water Control District.

The district was formed to prevent or lessen the flooding problem in the city of Heppner, which has experienced 17 floods since 1893. The district is maintaining the channel through town to eliminate obstructions; establishes land treatment works (dams and terraces) in Shobe Canyon, operates the automatic storm warning devices in Balm Fork and Shobe Canyon, and now proposes to extend the land treatment project to the remainder of the land within the district.

There are 106 square miles in the HWCD. In this area, it is proposed that 950,000 feet of diversion terrace be built, along with 6,000 feet of grassed waterways, 5,000 feet of streambank stabilization and 135 debris basins. Such

projects are calculated to reduce the sediment carried in floodwaters and to retard formation of downstream flood crests.

Total construction cost is estimated at \$268,000. Seventy-five per cent of this cost would come from an agency administered by the SCS with the local share at \$67,000. Landowners are expected to share \$40,000 of this cost, which would leave \$27,000 as the district's share of the cost over a five-year period. HWCD is required to perform maintenance on the entire project after construction,

\$5,000 to \$6,000 a year. Voters in the HWCD will be asked to approve a \$6,250 tax levy at the Nov. 5 election to provide the district's portion

which is expected to run from

of the funds required. By Oregon law, the district

is authorized to collect onehalf mill, or 50 cents per \$1,000 true cash value of the property in the district for a period of three years, beginning in 1972. After the three-year period ends in 1975 the district will no longer have a source of income unless voters approve the tax base request on the November ballot. The district is requesting that voters establish the tax base at \$6,250 per year.

If approved, the levy will not increase the present tax rate because the levy has been in effect the past three years. It is now expiring, and approval on Nov. 5 would merely maintain the tax paid in former years. In fact, the tax rate will go down due to

The visitation supplements

Parents are invited to at-

Roice Fulleton says this is

anything. He has started

Mr. and Mrs. Fulleton leave

today for a five-day expense-

paid trip to the Bahamas, the

result of his having won the

"Chevrolet Summer Selling

Spree" contest.

increased assessed valuation of property within the district.

Wilkinson, chairman of HWCD, said the 1972-73 assessed valuation in the district was \$12,500,000, which required a tax rate of 50 cents per \$1,000. In 1977-78 the assessed valuation is estimated at \$19,560,000, which would require only 32 cents per \$1,000 to raise the needed \$6.250 per

year for flood control and land erosion projects.

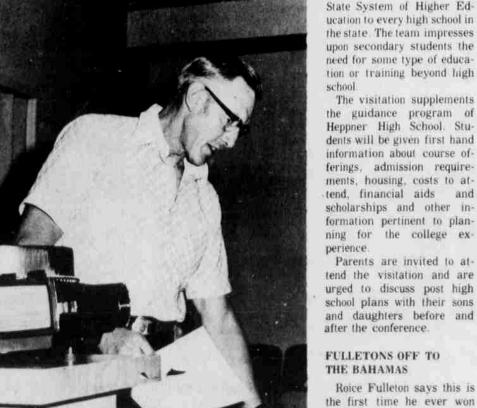
The HWCD was formed after the 1971 flood when Heppner residents demanded that something be done to reduce the threat of floods.

HWCD officials are Wilkinson, chairman; Claude Buschke, Gene Pierce, Don Bennet and Marcel Jones, Direc-

State colleges to visit here Heppner High School will 1974, at 12:46 p.m. They are

host a visitation by two representatives from the Oregon State System of Higher Education, Monday, Oct. 21,

Howard Anderson, associate dean of students at EOSC, LaGrande, and Al Roberson, director of admissions at OIT. Klamath Falls. Unique throughout United States is a visitation by representatives of the Oregon





Morrow County Bicentennial Chairwoman Mrs. Marlene C. Peterson. Heppner, has received from Circuit Court Judge Charles S. Crookham, vice-chairman of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission of Oregon, Oregon's Bicentennial Franklin Mint medal, a gift from Governor Tom McCall to all Oregon county bicentennial chairmen. Mrs. Peterson also received the official bicentennial lapel pin as a gift from John W. Warner, the national bicentennial administrator, and the first of a series of Oregon photo murals, a gift from the ARBC of Oregon. These presentations were made at a luncheon meeting during the all-day conference of bicentennial county chairmen held Sept. 27 in Portland.



Dick Wilkinson explains water district plans.