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The Army Corps of
rs was commissioned
rmine the 100 year flood
and flood zone areas for
per, Lexington and Ione
the Federal Insurance
inistration—the agency
ch handles the federal
od insurance program.
The three cities—like thou-
ands of other municipalities
hroughout the nation—enter-
ed into the flood insurance
program when federal laws
were created requiring the
insurance in flood-prone areas
in order for citizens to secure
ome loans from government

★★★

Federal Insurance Administration came to Ione Tuesday to explain the processes they went through in making the controversial flood zone designation and then gave a presentation and answered questions during a Tuesday night public meeting at Ione High School, attended by about 25 persons.

Council, then gave a presenta-

flood plain or floodway zones. The average depth which the 100 year flood would cover the flood-zoned area of Ione is feasible—designated as either

stated Heppner.

But, FIA officials stated, that doesn't mean that such a flood could not occur. At the urging of Sen. Mark Hatfield,

Corps in makin designations. nearly

Cont. on

ruction

y

000 available so far, it's
kely we'll see a lot of dust
around this summer."
Corps of engineers repre-
tive is expected to attend
ext council meeting to
s plans for the project.
eney told the council
his opinion, an updated
benefit ratio for the
"would kill the dam"
the inflation of con-
n costs. He noted that
the last go-around with
proposed dam, feder-
ls found the cost-to-
ratio barely accept-

r developments, city
Bill Kuhn reported
ng for the first phase
ity's sewer plant
n program may not
as hoped during the
cal year, following
with State Depart-
vironmental Quality

reportedly indicat-
ficials that funding
more likely if
edged to explore
ty of designing a
would eliminate
discharge into
. Such a move
require that the
ge plant effluent
lagoon, from
d be used for

page 4

Santa opens hot line to area kids

The Heppner Lions Club has made contact with Santa Claus again this year and youngsters writing letters to Santa can expect a personal phone call from him sometime the week before Christmas.

From his home at the North Pole, Santa told a Lions Club member this week that if boys and girls want to hear from Santa they should write their Christmas "wish list" and deposit the letter in one of the specially marked boxes at the Heppner, Lexington and Ione post offices.

Santa Claus reminds letter writers to include their name and phone number so he can call on Monday or Tuesday evening, Dec. 18-19.

Posse finds Rill's body; victim of heart attack

Leonard Rill, 81, of Heppner was found dead late Tuesday evening of an apparent heart attack by Morrow County Search and Rescue Posse members along Hale Ridge in the Eightmile area southwest of Heppner.

Rill was last seen Tuesday afternoon near the Jim Farley ranch near Hale Ridge. The elderly man was to have driven around the ridge to pick up a companion who was making a cattle check. He failed to make the rendezvous, and at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, a search was requested.

The pickup which Rill had been driving was found vacant. Shortly before midnight, searchers reported they had found Rill's body.

Further details were not immediately available.

Postmaster urges early Yule mailing

Heppner Postmaster Hubert C. Wilson says the U.S. Postal Service is happy to play Santa with the delivery of packages and letters during the holiday season, but urges early mailing to make delivery before Christmas.

Cards and letters should go in the mail no later than Dec. 15 and parcels for West Coast delivery should be sent by Dec. 9. If you're mailing to the East Coast, the package should be on its way.

Public forum

A public forum on
alcohol abuse an
youth has been sc
Thursday evenin
1978, by the new
Concerned Pa
Teachers group
The meeting ha
ally set for Dec
The event
panel discussi
school admin
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Persons pa
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group organi

Drug abuse, communication between parents and teachers, truancy and attendance were major concerns voiced by those attending an organizational meeting of Concerned Parents and Teachers Monday evening at Heppner Elementary School.

Barbara James and Paul Sumner, organizers of the group, told the audience of more than 35 persons they visioned "a parent-teacher group to work on all problems affecting the school system."

Mrs. James said primary areas of concern were "a lack of discipline in the schools and drug abuse" which included both consumption of alcohol and marijuana.

Sumner was elected president of the organization, with Mrs. James se
president and
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begun work on
problem and a
with the Schu
advisory com
Southern Mor
schools.

Rod Abo cha
drug abuse co
arrange a prog
next meeting at
administrators,
orities and a
will be presen
questions.

The next me
group will be Tue
at 7:30 p.m. in
the elementary
Heppner. The pu
aged to attend.

Chamber outlin lighting contest

Heppner residents and churches are
participate in the Chamber of Commerce Christm
Contest—but those interested in having their disp
must return a coupon that appears in this wee

First, second and third place cash awa
presented by the Chamber to winners in a residential
category and the same for three area churches. The cash
awards are $30, $20, and $10 respectively for first, second and
third place.

To be eligible for a prize, interested persons should clip the coupon that appears on page 10 of this week's Gazette-Times and return it to the Chamber at the address given on the coupon.

Judging will be done on Sunday evening, Dec. 17 and entry forms should be returned to the Chamber before Friday, Dec. 15.

Displays in the residential division should be on the exterior of the home or in plain view of the street if displayed in a window. Entries will be judged on originality and uniqueness as well as overall attractiveness.

Weather

by Don Gilliam

	High	Low	Precip.
Tue., Nov. 21	25	19	.11
Wed., Nov. 22	35	21	
Thu., Nov. 23	38	22	
Fri., Nov. 24	35	26	
Sat., Nov. 25	33	27	
Sun., Nov. 26	29	17	
Mon., Nov. 27	42	15	T
Tue., Nov. 28	49	32	.58

dit shows loss

charges to patients covered only 54 per cent of the expenses involved. Lab charges covered 92 per cent of costs, and nursing service charges covered 88 per cent of costs.

Hospital services showing profits included x-ray work which made 20 per cent above costs, drug sales, 27 per cent above costs, and emergency room service, 19 per cent above costs.

Finch's accounting firm recommended seven points of change that would serve to improve hospital financial operations and controls. The recommendations included steps to avoid duplication in patient accounts records, the bonding of all business office personnel, and requiring supervisors to initial payroll records. Byrnes told the board.

While revenue taken in for patient services rose 20 per cent from the previous year, rising health care costs and other considerations resulted in a net loss of $45,782 for Pioneer Memorial Hospital at the end of fiscal year 1978 on June 30.

The financial information was made available Tuesday night by accountant Glen Finch of Beaverton, in presenting the annual audit report to the hospital's board of trustees.

Hospital services cost patients a total of $366,600 during FY 1978, up from $344,497 the previous year. Nursing home care cost $68,292 during the fiscal year recently ended, up from $69,246. Costs for providing services totaled $387,533 a

cover expenses, accounting for a deficit of roughly $22,000. The daily base charge needed to break even for nursing home care was estimated at $29.41. Finch estimated that at the end of the 1979 fiscal year, the daily break-even rate would rise to $31.79 per day.

The hospital's nursing home rates have come under fire for being too high during recent meetings of the hospital board. Finch indicated to the board that it would make sounder financial sense to raise rates to come closer to meeting costs.

Welfare agencies currently pay a maximum of less than $23 per day for nursing home residents of the hospital.

Hospital administrator Bob Byrnes reported that

The audit noted that the hospital's "accounting, statistical and reporting procedures have shown considerable improvement over the prior year," and that "our review disclosed no weaknesses that we considered significant in relation to the audit of the financial statements."

In other developments Tuesday, the hospital board voted to approve a grievance procedure for employes, that would include establishing a "hospital relations committee" consisting of three non-administrative employes. The committee would attempt to resolve disputes between workers and management that cannot be handled at the supervisor-employee level. The committee would also be

Sumner wins election suit; general election questioned

Defeated District 55 Rep. Jack Sumner last week won his lawsuit charging Democratic rival Chuck Bennett with making false campaign statements. Sumner's victory in Marion County Circuit Court has opened the door to a bid by the Heppner Democrat to invalidate Bennett's primary nomination, possibly

September general election as well.

Legal and political observers can only speculate on whether Sumner may be able to retain his seat in the Oregon House of Representatives, since there is no legal precedent for the issue. The matter would likely have to be settled in the Oregon Court of

Although the Marion County jury ruled in Sumner's favor last week, the Morrow County politician did not receive as sweeping a judgement as he was seeking. Sumner had filed for $10,000 in general damages and $25,000 punitive damages from Bennett, who defeated him during the May primary. The jury awarded only $142 in

money in punitive damages.

According to the Salem Statesman-Journal, the jury deliberated for more than seven hours on 12 statements Bennett was alleged to have made before ruling that two of them constituted violations of election laws. The statements involved Benn t's un-

Farm-City Banc coming on Dec.

The annual Farm-City Banquet—bringing together city folk and their country neighbors—will be held Saturday, Dec. 9 at St. Patrick's Parish Hall.

The banquet is sponsored by the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association and the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce. The banquet will be at 7 p.m., preceeded by a social hour at 6 p.m.

Awards for Conservation Man of the Year, Cattleman of the Year, 4-H and FFA carcass winners, and Chamber of Commerce awards will highlight the banquet.

Keynote speaker for the banquet will be Arliegh Isley, Klamath County Extension Agent, who will give a talk on the "absurdity of government regulations."

Birdine Tullis, home extension agent for Morrow County,

is organizing
featuring Heg
ses—for the b
The Livesto
CowBelles will
business mee
Livestock Gro
at the Parish
with a feat
Michael Heffn
dealing with
and insurance
In attendance
session will be
man's Associa
Bill Ross a
Secretary Don
Johns of the
Commission w
attendance.
The dinner
jointly by the
Chamber and
hour is hosted
west and Pen
tion Credit As
the Federal
Pendleton.

Port expected to na new manager

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