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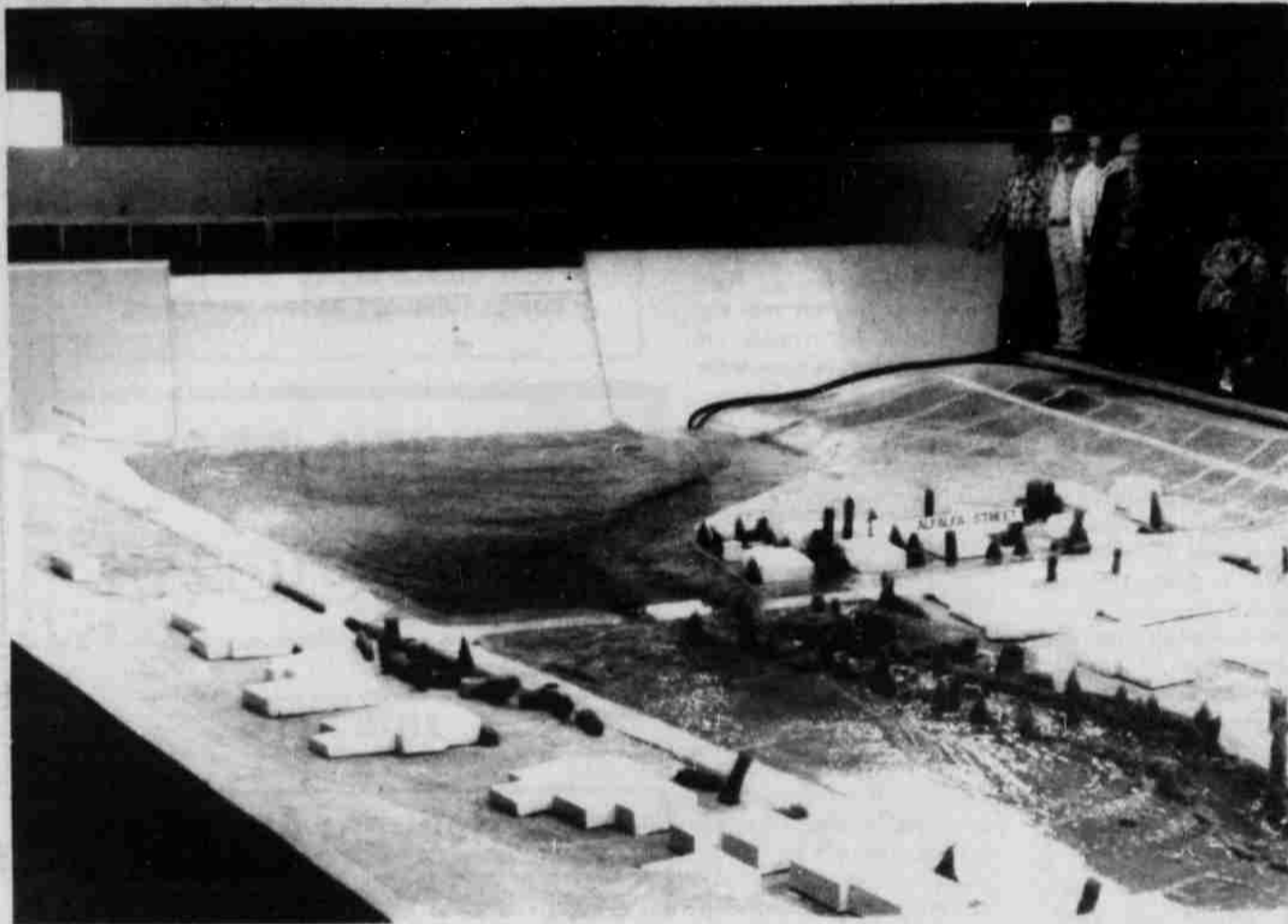
HEPPNER, OREGON

Weather

	High	Low	Precip
Tues., June 2	72	50	none
Wed., June 3	74	54	trace
Thurs., June 4	70	52	trace
Fri., June 5	82	52	41
Sat., June 6	63	44	09
Sun., June 7	56	50	45
Mon., June 8	66	48	09

Area citizens view dam model at Bonneville School board shelves plan to cut back on district teachers

Beware of over-the-phone sales says county DA



Model of Willow Creek Dam (background) and town of Heppner (foreground) shown during flood conditions

The Morrow County School Board shelved a plan last Wednesday which would have cut back the number of teachers in the district by five, and combined several grades into single classrooms.

Under the plan, which is part of district policy so far not enforced, when enrollment in the district drops below a certain level, teaching positions should be eliminated to reflect the change.

"We are overstaffed now based on projected enrollment for next year," Superintendent Matt Doherty told the board of directors at the special meeting.

He said enrollment projections for 1981-82 show 1,726 students to be enrolled in all the district's schools. This would be a drop of over 100 students over this year," he pointed out.

"We would prefer to see balancing of the budget any way besides cutting staff," said Chuck Starr, principal at Ione. He said a baseball coach and baseball trips have been cut from the budget at Ione next year to save money.

"We would rather see cuts in extra-curricular activities than in basic education," said Donna Fetsch of Ione.

Around 10 people came to the meeting to protest the proposed staff cuts.

After the board decided not to follow the staffing guidelines set up and passed by the board itself in 1977, Doherty was asked what he planned to do.

"I am going to tell the principals to go ahead and hire the teachers (for next year)," he said.

In other business at the

meeting the board decided to take \$121,979 in excess school district revenue from this year, and include it in next year's budget as cash carry-over.

Doherty said the money, which came in because of better than expected collections on prior year's taxes, could be used in this year's budget, or used in cash carry-over next year as a tax offset.

He recommended the money to be carried over. "Let's treat this as tax payer money and use it as such, giving it back by not levying as much taxes next year."

He urged the board not to use the money to make up for an expected shortfall of \$130,000 in state school support this year. "In my opinion that would be robbing Peter to pay Paul," he said.

Morrow County District Attorney Ann Spicer cautions citizens to beware of over-the-phone aluminum siding salespeople who have been calling phone numbers in the Heppner area.

Spicer said one caller, a woman, says she represents United States Aluminum, that the company has already completed jobs in the area, and that the company is listed with the Better Business Bureau, the State Corporations Commission and the Chamber of Commerce. Upon checking, Spicer said that none of these organizations had heard of that siding company.

Spicer, suspecting a scam, says that workmen in a dishonest operation may demand prepayment, do a shoddy job or none at all and then leave town.

By DELPHA JONES

Last Thursday the senior citizen bus transported interested citizens to Bonneville where the group viewed the working model of the Willow Creek Dam soon to be built

near Heppner. The model was built of cement with the dam across Willow Creek and the creek channel going through the city of Heppner, showing trees, homes, etc. Superintendents then filled the dam, and showed the

group the damage of a storm the likes of the early 1920's. The group heard reports on how the dam will be constructed and estimated completion time.

Those enjoying a sack lunch on the tour were Mr. and Mrs. O.W. Cutsforth, Barton Clark,

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Papineau, Rena Marquardt, Virginia Peck, Marie Steagall, Venice Hendrickson, Delpha Jones, Marshall Lovgren, Dennis Papineau, Berl Stillman, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Wilkinson and bus driver, Dot Halvorsen

"We have to show our taxpayers that when we lose enrollment we do something about it," Doherty said.

He laid out a plan to the board that would eliminate four teacher positions, (no teachers would have been fired but empty positions would be left unfilled) and combine classes in several schools.

A.C. Houghton would have on class eliminated and a second and third grade combined; Sam Boardman would have one class dropped and a fifth and sixth grade combined; Ione would have one class eliminated through combining a third and fourth grade; and Heppner would have one class closed through combination of fifth and sixth grades.

Doherty said the moves would save the district \$105,000 next year.

The school board decided not to follow through on its own policy of teacher staffing relative to enrollment, however, mainly because of opposition to the policy voiced at the meeting.

"Most of us think there are other places to cut the budget, and to keep the teachers we have," said George Koffler of Heppner. "If I wanted my kids to go to a school with 29 kids in a class I would move to Hermiston, Pendleton or Portland. I want my kids to go to a class with 15 to 20 kids. I want the numbers low, and I'm willing to pay for them," he told the board.

Sawmill tour Fri., June 19

A businessman's tour of a small-log sawmill recently installed at Kinzua Corp. in Heppner will be held Friday, June 19.

The tour, which will begin at 1:30 p.m., is open to all businessmen in Morrow County who wish to view the new addition to Kinzua's woods products manufacturing plant.

A story in last week's Gazette-Times incorrectly listed the date of the tour.

Co. Health Dept. grant approved

By MARY ANN CERULLO

The Morrow County Health Department stated in its May report to County Court last Wednesday that the department's Maternal and Child Health Grant application has been approved by the state. The requested amount, \$7,748.00, was granted.

According to Pat Wright, county health nurse, many counties' applications were

turned down this year because of the states tight money situation, but Morrow County was granted theirs because so much is accomplished.

In other business, Morrow County Court heard a presentation of the Juvenile Services Commission Plan from Nancy Moore, chairman.

The Juvenile Services Commission plan was developed to curb juvenile delinquency and to solve excessive unsupervised leisure time of county

youth, Judge Don McElligott recently stated.

The plan includes the continuation of the Latch Key program in the Boardman area where mothers work shifts in the food processing plants, the continuation of the recreation program in the Heppner area and the expansion of the program in Ione and the north end.

Debbie Sheirbon has been named as recreation director for South Morrow County and

Barbara Weatherall for North Morrow County, stated Nancy Moore. Jim Ackley resigned his post as director for South Morrow, effective June 30.

The Juvenile Services plan was approved by the Court.

Business continued with Floyd Wilks being appointed to the Juvenile Services Commission, effective immediately. This appointment fills the spot left vacant by Paul Sumner's resignation as of May 27.

Jepsen reappointed to rural health care council

Suzanne Jepsen, Heppner, has been reappointed by Governor Vic Atiyeh to the State Rural Health Coordinating Council, a spokesperson from the governor's office announced Monday.

Jepsen began serving on the 14-member council when it was first established in 1979 on appointment by Governor Atiyeh. She fills one of five consumer positions on the council. Her term begins July 1 and runs to June 30, 1983.

Duties of the council include acting in an advisory capacity for the office of rural health in the State Health Planning and Development Agency, assisting rural communities in development of their health care systems and coordinating state-wide efforts affecting health care in rural areas, according to the governor's spokesperson.

Twelve of the council members have been appointed by associations and agencies specified by legislation.

Jepsen was nutrition program supervisor for the Area Agency on Aging for Morrow,

Wheeler, Gilliam, Grant and Umatilla counties in 1980. She was also homemaker supervisor for Oregon Project Independence for Morrow, Wheeler and Gilliam counties 1977-80.

A 1946 graduate of Pendleton High School, she studied at Oregon State University 1946-48. She has also taken part in continuing education workshops at Blue Mountain Community College, Pendleton, at Portland Community College and through the East Central Oregon Association of Counties.

Fair Book to accompany June 18 G-T

The Morrow County Fair Premium Book will accompany next week's Gazette-Times as a special insert.

The book will be in a newspaper tabloid form this year.

Balloons, Bible verses uplift Pentecost Sunday



Even Sunday morning rain couldn't dampen the uplift created by the release of 99 helium balloons by the Sunday school classes of the United Methodist Church in Heppner on June 7.

Twenty-five children in preschool through sixth grade classes at the church memorized a Bible verse for each balloon released in celebration of Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the church. Each balloon held a piece of paper containing the verse memorized, the child's name, and the church name and address.

Preschool children memorized the Lord's Prayer; kindergarten through third grade classes memorized a set of verses; and fourth through sixth grade classes memorized another set.

Two children in the K-3 group each memorized 10 verses and one child in the 4-6 group memorized around 30, said a Sunday school teacher.

Planners OK RV park extension

Owners of a recreational vehicle park in Heppner got what they wanted, and a little extra, Monday night at a public hearing before the city planning commission.

John and Ann Skow of Heppner, owners of the North-western Motel and a new RV park across the street, had asked the planning commission to raise the maximum time any one camper may stay in their park, continuously, from 20 days to 120.

The Skows contended the 20-day limit was too short and problems anticipated by the planning commission when a conditional use permit stipulating a 20-day limit was issued had not developed.

The planning commission agreed that the park had not turned into a "labor camp" as feared and said it would raise the stay limit to 120 days.

In addition, the planning commission voted to allow longer stays (if the Skows apply to the city) an extra provision the owners had not sought.

"The longer stay limit is justified because no one knew

what kind of park the Skows were going to run," said the Skows' attorney, Joe McNaught of Pendleton. "No one knew there was going to be a demonstrated need for construction workers and others for a place to stay longer than 20 days," he added.

The issue of the 20 day limit came to a head several weeks ago when out-of-town workers building a new sawmill addition at Kinzua were forced to leave the park where they were staying after 20 days, even though work at the mill was not completed.

"The way the park has been kept up is very good and it has been an asset to the community," said Heppner Mayor Cliff Green, who, along with several other townspeople, testified at the Monday hearing in favor of the increased stay limit at the park.

The planning commission said, however, that if complaints were received about conditions at the park, the city would not grant the Skows permission for successive 120 day stays at the park.