

February 21, 1985

PRESS RELEASE

The Spring period for residential backyard burning of yard and garden trimmings by the private homeowner in Clark and Cowlitz Counties will begin March 1, 1985 and extend through sundown June 15, 1985. The burning is limited to natural vegetation from the yard and garden in the forms of leaves, clippings, prunings and other similar vegetation, and must be conducted according to fire safety requirements of the fire department in which the person resides. No burning will be allowed that produces nuisance conditions. Burning will be allowed every day during this period.

Fire control requirements vary from city to city. Following is a brief description of these requirements.

Longview Fire Department: Annual written permits must be obtained.

Kelso Fire Department: Previously issued permits may be renewed by phoning the fire department. First time permits may be issued only after the fire department has inspected the proposed burning site. These inspections may be arranged by phone.

Castle Rock Fire Department: A written permit is not required.

Kalama Fire Department: A written permit is not required.

Fire District #2: Natural vegetation may be burned within the requirements established by the Department of Natural Resources.



# Schools

## Camas targets asbestos

CAMAS — School officials plan to cover some frayed asbestos and substances they suspect might be asbestos at Helen Baller School, in response to a state inspection conducted in August.

The state Environmental Protection Agency sent the district a notice of "non-compliance" earlier this month, citing instances in which the district failed to follow procedures required for reducing the hazard of asbestos.

Asbestos was a common material used in schools as a fire retardant until it became known that it was a carcinogen. As it ages, asbestos particles begin flaking off.

Buildings constructed after 1978, such as Dorothy Fox Elementary, do not have asbestos in them, business manager Dan Peoples told the School

Board Tuesday night. Asbestos at the district's other schools largely has been covered with a vinyl material.

The EPA, however, did find some instances of frayed asbestos in the boiler room and in some pipe insulation at Helen Baller School.

The district plans to cover those areas soon.

A contractor estimated it would cost \$8,500 for covering or removing the asbestos, he said.

The board also discussed:

**SALARY AGREEMENT:** A one-year salary agreement with the Camas Education Association was approved. It calls for granting increments in September and the state-allowed 7 percent increase in January. Insurance will remain at an average of \$184 per full-time employee.

## Office training stressed

BATTLE GROUND — The experience of working 9 to 5 is coming to the classroom.

School officials are planning to buy new furniture and office equipment to simulate an office environment in business classes at Battle Ground and Prairie high schools.

Monday, school board members agreed to call for bids on the equipment, which will include computers, word processors, dictaphones and typewriters.

Superintendent Merle Locke said the proposal for the business class came from teachers who had researched the subject last year.

The Model Office classes are already being offered, although students have been doing filing and other traditional tasks in which the technical equipment is not needed.

Bob Risinger, head of vocational programs, said the Model Office classes allow different training to be offered in the same lab situation. For instance, second-year shorthand may have only five or six students. Under normal scheduling, a class with such low enrollment could not be offered. But now such a specialized skill can be taught, when combined with other office skills such as word processing, bookkeeping and accounting.

"The intent is to move around from station to station," Risinger said. Although students can specialize, they will become familiar with all aspects of an office.

Cost of the program is about \$30,000 for both schools. A room at Battle Ground had to be remodeled to provide access from three classrooms.

## La Center panel named

LA CENTER — Community education will be the subject addressed by a six-member steering committee appointed by the La Center School Board Tuesday night.

A group of district residents who attended the board's first study session on community education said

they would be most attracted to classes offered in computers, foreign languages, recreational activities and body building, theater arts, and arts.

Anyone wishing to help organize community education in La Center should call high-school principal Mary Kubiacyk at 263-2136.

## Washougal, teachers agree

WASHOUGAL — The School Board members has a one-year salary agreement with teachers.

The agreement, approved Tuesday, includes an increase in benefits from \$159 a month to \$173 a month and the state-mandated 7 percent salary in-

crease in January.

Elementary teachers will receive additional preparation time. Most elementary school teachers will have 30 to 40 minutes of planning time, said Superintendent Jack McKay.

# Streur takes over

## alcoholic program

Bill Streur, who directed a large treatment program for alcoholics and drug addicts in Michigan, has started work as the new director of the Southwest

Washington Alcoholic Recovery Foundation.

SWARF provides drug and alcohol treatment through its inpatient program at Vancouver Veterans Hospital, and in outpatient clinics at 2703 E. Mill Plain Blvd., and in Longview and Chehalis.

Last year, 1,250 people received treatment in SWARF's programs.

Before coming to Vancouver, Streur, 37, was executive director of Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services, a 23-county agency provid-

ing drug- and alcohol-abuse services. He also was president of the Michigan Association of Substance Abuse Coordinators.

He has a bachelor of arts degree in liberal arts from Northern Michigan University. He also has done graduate work in guidance and counseling and in public administration.

Streur succeeds John Soltman, who is retiring after 15 years as SWARF director.

Streur said he plans to promote SWARF by telling business and industry representatives about it, and probably by advertising the program in newspapers and corporation newsletters.

Open houses marking SWARF's 15th anniversary, and where people can meet Streur and Soltman, are from 3 to 6 p.m. today in the outpatient center, and from 3 to 6 p.m. Thursday in the inpatient center, Wards 16 through 20 at the Vancouver Veterans Hospital.



Streur

# County strengthens

## environmental policy

Clark County commissioners adopted an ordinance Wednesday designed to strengthen the county's ability to regulate environmental problems created by development.

The environmental policy ordinance is based on a state law that becomes effective Monday. The 1984 legislature modified the Washington State Environmental Policy Act.

Before the modification, the county could require a developer to prepare an environmental impact statement on a specific development. But the county did not necessarily have any way of forcing the developer to correct any problems identified in the statement, said Ned Langford, county planning director.

The new ordinance "puts more teeth in it," Langford said.

As an example, he offered a recent case in which an apartment project known as the Richland was proposed just west of the Norwood Meadows subdivision. Everything about the proposal is legal, but citizens in the area complained in August that increased traffic could ruin their neighborhood. After considerable discussion, the county commissioners decided to request an environmental impact statement.

Before the new state law was passed, the county could have treated the statement as advisory, and approved the project without requiring the developer to make any changes to relieve problems. Now, if the statement turns up problems, the county can require the developer to find a way to solve them, Langford said.

## Backyard burn season to start

Clark County's backyard burning season starts Monday and runs through Saturday, Dec. 15.

Burning is allowed any day in that period, except during unusually windy or dry periods. In most areas, those are the only restrictions. However, residents of fire districts 1 and 6 must obtain written burning permits. Residents of Camas and Washougal must call their fire departments

before burning.

Fire District 1 covers an area east of Washougal. District 6 covers the Hazel Dell, Salmon Creek and Felida areas.

Only vegetation may be burned. No fires will be allowed that produce nuisance conditions, such as excessive smoke, according to the Southwest Washington Air Pollution Control Authority.

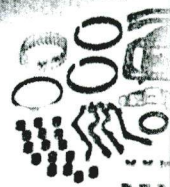
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