

Planning continues for Snowline district's middle school

By MARY MARTIN
Staff Writer
PHELAN — The middle school teachers from the Sage on the stage and more the guide on the side.

So states a description of the teachers waiting for the Snowline Joint Unified School District for its middle school scheduled to open in September 1985.

The district appointed a committee to develop educational specifications for the school, which have been made available to the staff, parents and residents of the district.

"Rationale for a middle school and characteristics of the middle

school student and teacher are examined in the study as well as curriculum, organization and a co-curriculum program.

Currently, Snowline's seventh- and eighth-graders attend Serrano High School. However, after the middle school is completed, it will house the sixth-graders from Phelan and Wrightwood elementary schools and the seventh- and eighth-graders from Serrano.

Considerable philosophical discussion has been held by the board on what the school should and should not be since the first planning stages.

"For one thing, I don't think it should be called a middle school," said Trustee Peter Rodine.

Inland empire desert-mountain edition

"Middle sounds like they the students don't belong," Rodine said. "It has a negative connotation."

Rodine suggested that a junior high need not necessarily be for seventh- and eighth-graders only.

Board President Vivian Null said the name of the school is very important and will be addressed at a later date.

Along with the school name,

the school colors and mascot will be given priority in the fall after a principal is chosen, Null said.

Alternatives are expected to be presented to the board for consideration by mid-October.

Applications are being taken for the principal's job which is open to district employees only.

Drawings for the 28,000-square-foot middle school are expected to go to the state architect and the

Office of Local Assistance next week to provide funding approval of the construction phase.

Al Asendorf, Snowline's business manager, said construction should begin this September, which will keep the fall 1985 opening on schedule.

Wrightwood Principal Bud Buehler is in charge of the project. Stevie and Serrano High School Assistant Principal Joe Womack will be in charge of the school.

Towley to develop the educational specifications. Towley said that the specifications will be used as a guide and not a restriction. He is working in collaboration as the principal and staff are employed.

The purpose of the middle school is to provide a bridge between childhood and adolescence, the report states.

Because this transition period is so volatile for the youngsters, a program of instruction and counseling, plus strong professional preparation, but specific personal characteristics, as well as, according to the report.

Some of those characteristics are the ability to enjoy student who are active, energetic and loud, flexibility and sensitivity to the needs of the students, and needs; and the ability to establish rapport easily with the pupils;

District's proposals for school status quo

By MIKE TERRY
Staff Writer

ADELANTO — The Adelanto Elementary District board has offered counter-proposals to its two employee groups, basically offering a status quo package that were in effect last year.

The Adelanto Teachers Association, representing certified employees, is seeking a 12% percent salary increase for the 1984-85 school year. The board's preliminary budget increase — 4% percent would pay the 1984-85 school year an increased school term next year, from 175 to 180 days.

Chapter 401 of the California School Employees Association, representing classified or non-teaching employees, also is seeking a 12% percent pay increase.

In addition, the chapter wants what it deems a modified agency shop — having all new employees either join the association or pay a fee to be represented by Chapter 401 in negotiations.

The agency shop stipulation would not affect those classified employees already working in the district.

The board's response to Chapter 401 was to effect, no response. It offered a modified agency shop. It offered certified employees had no pay raise, meeting the district's plan increase. And nowhere on the 44-page counter-proposal does it raise the question of an agency shop.

In responding to the ADTA, the board offered a 10% percent pay increase, and pretty much the same benefits package from last year's contract.

Ted Vick, district superintendent, said the proposals are available for public viewing, and that a public hearing will be held May 23.

He said that if after the hearing there are no dramatic changes in the board's offer, he will become the board's official representative to both groups.

Pat Maston, president of Chapter 401, said he had not had time to review the board's proposal, and could not comment on it.

"We will give it our negotiation," Maston said.

Victor Magalhães, ADTA president, said the district's pay offer was only one of the reasons he was not accepting the offer.

He said it was at least a starting point of discussion.

"We've had good rapport with Mr. Vick and the district negotiating team. I expect the contract talks to be good."

Both association contracts with the district end June 30.

In other business, the board approved a preliminary budget of

\$1,000,000 for the 1984-85 school year.

David Kincaid, assistant district superintendent, said the preliminary budget figure is \$361,374 less than the 1983-84 actual work, including the 1983-84 deficit.

Both budgets are deficit spending budgets, Kincaid said. The 1983-84 deficit was \$274,196, and the preliminary budget has a deficit of \$144,200. Kincaid said the preliminary budget is not the final budget for 1984-85, but it will not be until September, he said.

Col. Spivey in command of 37th wing

GEORGE AIR FORCE BASE — Colonel Ronald C. Spivey has taken command of the 37th Tactical Fighter Wing, which will be involved in a short-term tactical deployment to West Germany next month.

Spivey's successor, Col. Joseph W. Allen, is currently on duty here by Lt. Gen. Jack I. Gregory, commander of the 12th Air Force. Gregory will leave George Air Force to participate in Crested Gap II. Twenty-four F-4E and F-4G Phantom II aircraft will be deployed to Jever Air Base, West Germany, for the 1984-85 training exercise. The 81st Tactical Fighter Wing, Royal Air Force Bentwaters, United Kingdom, will provide support to the deployed unit while overseas.

In addition, the non-stop flight to West Germany will be refused in flight from aerial refueling tankers. The 37th TFW will be accompanied by Air Command Military Airlift Command C-141 Starliners will airlift about 100 personnel, including their equipment, a spokesman said. An EC-130 tactical communications aircraft will accompany the fighters across the ocean.

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Parents and children look over the books written by Victor Valley school children.

Young author's conference draws crowd

By EDWARD SIMONS
Staff Writer

HESPERIA — More than 300 parents and children attended the High Desert Young Authors' Conference at Maple Street Elementary School here.

A program designed to foster writing and reading skills in children was the main theme of the day-long conference. The program was held at the school, the conference boasted an

authors of children's book meeting with students in informal sessions throughout Saturday morning.

The program also published two books in each grade in each program participating in the program, said Beth Robinson, coordinator from Victor Elementary School District.

The books were hardbound and will be circulated among the

schools. Afterwards, she said, the books will be given to the library.

Parents at the conference Saturday, also were to buy extra copies of their children's books.

Speakers at the conference included Gina Simas, a Victor Valley High School newspaper editor; Margie Williams, an author of children's books; book illustrator

Margorie Crawford; and Ron Hubbard, a cartoonist for Walt Disney Studios.

After two hours of attending small group meetings with the speakers, the young authors were treated to a demonstration of radio-controlled airplanes and a demonstration of model rockets by Corey Watkins, a local pilot.

Approved a 10-year agreement under which Big Bear Land Inc. will develop and operate marina facilities at the Big Bear Valley Park District's Dana Point Park.

Under the plan, the county-governed district is to receive various percentages of gross receipts from marina fees and sales of fishing tackle, food and fuel, or minimum \$500 a month in the first year, \$400 a month in the second year, and \$300 a month in the third through 10th years.

Awarded contracts of \$121,260 to Hefley Bros. Corp. of Riverside for expansion of Crestline Sanitation District's Seeley Creek sewage treatment plant and \$800,300 to Pascal & Ludwig Engineers of Ontario to add sludge processing facilities at the district's Westmore Creek plant.

Approved a financing agreement with the state Department of Transportation for installation of traffic signals in the intersection of Big Bear Boulevard and Greenway Drive at Highway 18 and 360 east of Big Bear Lake. The county's 25 percent cost share is expected to be \$28,000 in an estimated \$110,000 project.

Awarded a \$4,740 contract to Spawing of Jones & Colton to install a fueling facility for California Department of Forestry at the Angeles Oaks fire station.

Scheduled a public hearing for 10 a.m. June 10 on the proposed formation of an improvement zone to finance maintenance and snow plowing of roads in a tract of 15 large lots planned by MCR Development Co. on both sides of Highway 18 and 360 east of Big Bear Lake. The lot owners are to pay up to \$200 a year for the service.

County establishes park director's post

By BILL ROGERS
Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — County supervisors have approved creation of a permanent director's position for management of the new park and recreation agency,

Improvement Zone F-3, now operating in the Crestline-Lake Arrowhead Running Springs area.

A director for the agency is expected to be named in the near future at a starting salary of about \$25,000, according to the county's

Special District Department.

The improvement zone, formed in 1961 and known as the 20th improvement zone, has no regular funding until voters approved annual assessments of up to \$10 per

parcel at last November's election. This year's assessments total about \$300,000.

Since the election, the zone has employed Michael Loehr as interim director, and has had development grants, coordinate building activity and help develop recreation programs.

In other mountain area actions Monday, the supervisors

approved a 10-year agreement under which Big Bear Land Inc. will develop and operate marina facilities at the Big Bear Valley Park District's Dana Point Park.

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Defendant's mental competency questioned

By MARY MARTIN
Staff Writer

BARSTOW — Criminal court proceedings against Johnny Chris Westberry have been temporarily suspended to determine if he is mentally competent to stand trial in the slaying of a 62-year-old man.

Westberry was scheduled to be arraigned on a first-degree murder charge in Superior Court on Monday, but Judge Lefroy A. Simmons suspended the proceeding at the request of Westberry's attorney, David Call.

Simmons also appointed a panel of doctors to examine the 32-year-old Chinese man, who is

charged with killing George Ed. Westberry of El Cajon.

A hearing to determine if Westberry is competent to stand trial is set for June 11, a court spokesman said.

Rutledge's body was discovered March 8 inside his motor home parked outside the Gateway Motel on East Main Street in Barstow. Westberry allegedly broke into the building earlier that day and called police to report having found the body.

The STIP includes \$800,000 to acquire rights of way, he said. McKinney said \$19 million, approved in last year's STIP, is expected to be spent in 1985-86 to build 10 continuous miles of four-lane expressway west of Barstow to replace two-lane highway.

Instead of constructing four or five passing lanes through hilly sections of Highway 58, a four-lane freeway would be built. "It would start about three miles east of Kramer Junction."

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ferred to stand trial for the murder, a friend testified he had conferred to her of killing Rutledge because he thought Rutledge was a demon.

Rutledge died after his throat was slashed and he was stabbed more than 80 times in the upper body, he said, according to a pathologist's report.

David Call, Westberry's attorney, suggested in court that his client had packed Westberry's body on ice, then spread kitty litter over it and slept on it for several days inside the motorhome before being arrested.

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Community will get first major center

TWENTYNINE PALMS — Construction is scheduled to begin this summer on the first major shopping center in Twentynine Palms, according to Robert Thacher, real estate broker and developer.

Major tenants of the 95,000-square-foot center will be Starline Patheon, a restaurant scheduled to begin operation in the summer, and Coronet Department Store. In addition, a multi-level indoor mall will be built on the site.

Thacher has been working on the project for three years but had to defer construction due to a slump in the economy, said Thacher.

"I believe this center will act as a magnet for the area," he said. Twentynine Palms. Residents will no longer need to leave the community to shop.

A major shopping center has been planned for the area by James McDonald, county planning commissioner from Twentynine Palms. The center is located near Yucca Valley because of the lack of shopping opportunities in the area, he said.

"We need a center for the area to happen," Thacher said.

Thacher said the center is expected by winter.

School board asks damages from builder

PHELAN — After conferring with attorneys, the Snowline Joint Unified School District board agreed to seek \$28,000 in damages from a Hayward, Calif., contractor.

Steigler Inc. was awarded the contract to build a two-story, one-and-a-half-story building with a bid of \$107,112 in February.

The contractor was notified to complete the project by August 15, but did not do so until the fall school opening.

However, the final walk-through was not held until April 19.

The contract allows for a \$100 penalty for each day the contractor fails to complete the project on time.

"Our attorneys will have to determine if we have a claim to some sort of a solution," said Al Asendorf, Snowline's business manager.