

Council to seek more water views

PROPERTY owners who did not respond to the Manawatu District Council's questionnaire on a voluntary town water supply for Rongotea are to be contacted to determine their support for the proposal.

Water Manager, Wayne Spencer, said council officers will phone the 160 residents over the next two weeks and their answers incorporated into the survey's final report for the council's next meeting on September 16.

A total of 297 questionnaires were distributed in Rongotea during July, with 137 returned. Seventy-two percent of the respondents favoured the scheme and 28 percent were against it.

Council's decision to offer the voluntary proposal followed a rejection by ratepayers in April of a pro-

posed \$2.9 million compulsory water system, with 62.5 percent of the eligible voters (235) against and 37.5 percent in favour.

Mr Spencer said council's decision to make the scheme voluntary enabled the ratepayers to have a choice on whether or not to connect their household to any new town water supply. "Community feedback following the initial poll indicated that the biggest objection was the compulsory requirement for all to contribute financially and that a voluntary scheme would attract greater community support."

He said a number of residents, however, remained unsure as to the concept of the voluntary scheme, believing they would still have to pay a half charge even if they did not want to join.

"That is not so – if you connect to the scheme, you pay; if you don't connect, there is no cost."

Mr Spencer said council also felt it important to provide a water supply for those who wanted one, but at no cost for those that didn't: "Can we make the scheme work for those who want it?" he asked.

He said the advantages to the community of the Ministry of Health's decision to subsidise the voluntary scheme by 80 percent (amounting to about \$2.3 million worth of investment in the community) could not be under-estimated.

"In the long term, the community will have an asset that provides a service to them into the future, allow people to connect when they wish and promote development," he said.



ORGANISERS of a working bee at the outdoor education centre, Sixtus Lodge, on Saturday were delighted with the response and the tasks that were completed. Eighteen people, comprising 10 members of the Sixtus Lodge Trust and eight volunteers, spent the day at the centre, located in a bush setting

20km from Apti. The workers cleaned in and around the buildings, carried out a safety compliance check, moved and stacked firewood, repaired a fence and gate, mowed lawns and handled many other maintenance jobs. Expressions of interest were also received from people not able to attend the day

but who hope to be available for the year's final working bee on Saturday, October 30. Manawatu District Council is supporting the Sixtus Lodge Trust Board's efforts to attract more volunteers to help maintain the centre, which offers a back-to-nature experience for school and community groups.



COMMUNITY Services Group Manager, Brent Limmer, welcomes about 30 Manawatu District Hall and Community Committee representatives to a workshop at the council's office in Manchester Street, Feilding, last week. The workshop provided an update on community halls, the Community Committee Project Fund and the District Plan Review Discussion Document.



Notice of Impounding and Proposed Sale of Impounded Stock

The following stock has been seized for impounding:

- One black male pig with a white foot (found on Kennedy Avenue, Feilding)

Notice is given that unless claimed by the owners the stock will be sold by public auction or otherwise disposed of in accordance with the Impounding Act 1955 at: Manawatu Pound, Awa Street, Feilding, on **Friday, September 10, at 10.30am.**

Proposed Temporary Closure of Roads to Traffic

Under the Transport (Vehicular Traffic Road Closure) Regulations 1965, notice is given that the Manawatu District Council, for the purpose of permitting **Feilding Promotion Inc.** to conduct the **Rural Day** event, proposes to close the following roads to traffic for the period as stated:

- Internal roads of Manchester Square from 8.30am to 3pm on Friday, October 1

During the period of closure, traffic will continue to flow around the perimeter of Manchester Square.

Any person objecting to the proposal is to lodge notice of his/her objection and grounds thereof in writing before **4pm, Wednesday, September 15**, at the Manawatu District Council, Private Bag 10-001, Feilding.

Lorraine Vincent
Chief Executive

Rates instalment one soon due for payment

MANAWATU District ratepayers are reminded that the last day to pay the instalment one invoice for the 2010-11 rating year is **Friday, September 17.**

The balance due amount

needs to be cleared by this date unless ratepayers have a direct debit arrangement in place or intend to pay the annual rates in full by instalment two (January 21, 2011).

A 10 percent penalty will be

applied on September 18 to any outstanding balances.

If anyone has not received their rates assessment or instalment one invoice, contact council on (06) 323-0000.

Manawatu District briefs

Waste plan's record response

A RECORD number of responses were received by the Manawatu District Council to its Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, with more than 1700 replies being registered after the public consultation period ended on Monday. The huge response is believed to be the biggest experienced by council, with replies coming in from throughout the district. Respondents wanting to speak to their submission can do so at the council's Strategic Planning and Policy Committee meeting on Thursday, September 16. The plan outlines how council want to manage waste in the district for the next six years and into the future.

Meeting the candidates

THREE "Meet the Candidates" meetings have so far been arranged in the Manawatu District as part of the 2010 Local Government Elections. The Rangiwahia Community Committee is holding its meeting at 7.30pm today in the Rangiwahia Community Hall, while the Sanson Community Committee has organised its fixture for 7.30pm on Wednesday, September 15, in the Sanson Community Hall. The third meeting - at 7.30pm on Tuesday, September 21 - has been organised by the Makino Rotary Club in the Senior Citizens Hall, Bowen Street, Feilding. Other meetings are being organised and will be notified when dates and venues are confirmed.

Arnott Street work to begin

CONTRACTORS were due to start work this week on the installation of a new watermain and sewer on Arnott Street, Feilding. The Manawatu District Council project involves 450m of watermain and 430m of sewer covers from Pharazyn Street to 4 Arnott Street. The proposed construction period is 12 weeks - weather dependent.

Indoor pool closed for day

MAKINO Aquatic Centre's 25m indoor pool is closed tomorrow as a leak in an underground pipe at the deep end is further investigated and repaired. A camera probe revealed the fault, which may be the cause of the leakage problems experienced at the pool over the past few weeks. The centre's learner's pool will remain open.

District Plan still open for feedback

MANAWATU District Council is hoping for more feedback on the District Plan, which is still open for public consultation. A number of responses have been received on the plan, which sets out the rules and policies for how people can develop and use land, with the Discussion Document available for comment until Friday, September 17. Visitors to Feilding's weekly Farmers' Market Day on Friday, September 10, will also have the opportunity to discuss contents of the plan at the third and final information-sharing session in the Feilding and District Information Centre from 10am to 2pm.