

UP FRONT

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Trick or Treat for UNICEF

October 31 is National UNICEF Day and has come to be identified with the annual trick or treat for UNICEF. The first Halloween collection netted \$17. Since then, millions of dollars have been raised for children throughout the world.

UNICEF is an integral part of the United Nations, but has semi-autonomous status with its own governing body (Executive Board) and Secretariat comprised of representatives of 41 governments elected by the UN Economic and Social Council. It is financed entirely by contributions from governments, individuals, groups and organizations.

The main focus of UNICEF is to try to keep children alive and keep them healthy. There have been recent breakthroughs in medicine that keep hope high for survival of the world's poor children. You may ask, "Why try to save children when there is not enough food or jobs for them anyway?" It has been proven that as the death rate goes down, the birth rate also goes down. When people become more confident their children will survive, they tend to have fewer births. (From *The State of the World's Children*, James P. Grant, Executive Director, UNICEF, Oxford Univ. Press.)

Another point made by Grant is that the food problem and

jobs problem can be solved together by intensive agriculture. Small plots worked by many hands have proven to produce more, providing both food and jobs. The book goes on to describe a social experiment in Upper Volta, where life expectancy is 39 years (probably the lowest in the world).

Locally we have an enthusiastic organizer, John-Paul Cernak. He is coordinating the UNICEF Trick or Treat program this year. He says the money collected locally has fallen off in the past two years, probably because of difficult economic times. He would like to see that turned around. Although he has not had enough time to do as much as he'd like, he hopes in the long run to increase awareness in the area. Most of the community centers, some schools (Ida Patterson will have face painting for 25¢ that will go to UNICEF), and also Brownies, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, Cub & Boy Scouts are all good collectors.

John-Paul is available at 345-3696. There will also be UNICEF boxes available for picking up at the First United Methodist Church, 14th & Olive, at the following times: Friday, Oct. 28, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 29, 9 a.m.-noon; and Monday, Oct. 31 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Mt. Pisgah Arboretum Fall Festival & Mushroom Show

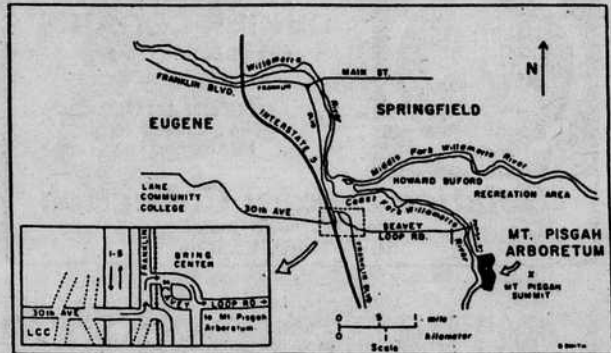
The second annual festival, following last year's very popular event in which over 1500 visitors showed up in spite of rain, will take place this Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Arboretum, located in Buford Park off Seavey Loop Road.

Included in this year's festival will be apple presses operating on the premises, and visitors are encouraged to bring their apples and jugs. Half the cider pressed will be donated to the Arboretum. While there will be more presses than last year, more could be used, so if you have one or know of one that can be donated for the day, call Jay Marston at 747-4501, ext. 2446.

A plant sale of dried plant materials consisting of pods, cones, wreaths, and arrangements will be offered as well as seeds and bulbs, all suitable for autumn. Guides will be available to lead visitors through the Arboretum, and the fall foliage should be spectacular. There are a number of new trails and bridges. Refreshments during the day will include hamburgers, hot coffee, cookies, donuts, and of course, fresh cider.

The main attraction this Sunday will be the mushroom show

presented by Freeman Rowe, LCC Mycologist and his students. Approximately 200 species of Lane County mushrooms will be on display. Each mushroom will be labeled with its name and information on edibility or toxicity. Freeman and other experts will be on hand to identify mushrooms brought in by visitors. This display will remain in place on Monday for use by area school groups.



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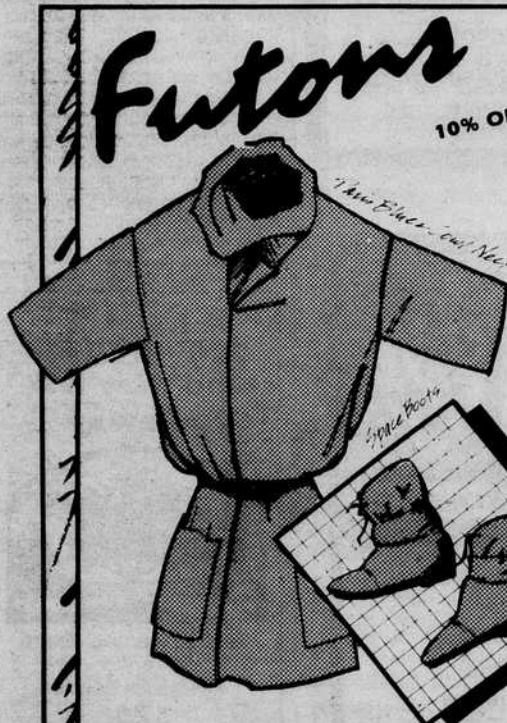
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