



Photo by Alex Houston
Band members perform polka numbers at the Model United Nations club's fall fundraiser. The Oktoberfest festival promoted cultural awareness as well as serving up food and fun.



Photo by Alex Houston
Students mill through Model UN's Oktoberfest, purchasing traditional German food and listening to authentic German music. The Oct. 22 event served both as a fundraiser for the club as well as an event to promote cultural awareness.

Model United Nations hosts Oktoberfest cultural evening

JENNIFER SITTON

The pungent smells of warm German potato salad and bratwursts wafted through the street, students wandered around wearing little, green German hats and the sounds of an authentic accordion player were all part of an Oktoberfest fundraiser put on by the Model United Nations Club held on Oct. 22. The event also included a

root beer garden. Money raised will help subsidize the costs of the MUN conference they will attend in April at the University of Oregon.

"These events help us raise awareness," Gregory White, senior, said. "They also help us raise money to attend the conference."

For the last three years, since Todd Jones became the adviser, the MUN club has held a country-themed fundraiser

according to which country the team will represent at the MUN conference. Past events have included India Night, Brazilian Soccer Tournament and a Sierra Leone movie night. This year's Oktoberfest theme came about after the team learned that they would be representing the interests of Germany at the 2011 conference.

The main draw to the event was the traditional German food, which included brat-

wursts, sauerkraut and warm, German potato salad, courtesy of Philadelphia's and Zenner's Sausage Company. Root beer was also available at the root beer garden tent.

Besides food, the Oktoberfest also featured live music from accordion player Steve Knapke, president of the Rose City Accordion Club, and a polka band, assembled of members of WLHS's student band.

"We had a lot of enthusias-

tic people running around wearing German flags and doing the chicken dance. It was awesome," White said. "The kitchen staff (Danielle Grenier and Jacquoline Steeh, seniors) was also incredible."

While the main point of the Oktoberfest was to serve as a fundraiser, according to White, it ended up being a fun, tasty way to spend a Friday evening for those who attended.

West Linn proposes aquatic center, plans to move forward

MAX BLUMENTHAL

West Linn citizens are pushing harder than ever to have a water park. Now

design costs are still being decided, as the planning committee has not chosen what to include. The plan is for the center to be built

ballot in November of 2011.

The group that's promoting this is called the WAC (West Linn Aquatic Center) Commission. They are trying to earn support for the proposal by obtaining grants to help pay for it. However, the proposal has met some opposition. People ask, why isn't this money going elsewhere, for instance, education?

However, it's important to know that it is the voters who chose where money goes. Many of these voting citizens therefore may not vote in vital funding measures, opting to send money for things which

they want, not what they need. This has crossed the minds of the WAC's planning committee as well who have looked to combine this proposal with one that will put in a new police station.

"Putting other facilities on the proposal is possible, there are couple different task forces and City Council decides that," Ken Warner, Director of Parks and Recreation, said. Since the current police building is not up to code, they need funding for a new one. Voters turned down the go-ahead for a new building on the previous ballot. In the future, the West Linn

City Council will decide whether or not to combine the proposals.

The revenue for the aquatic center will also help in the long run, financially, according to the planning committee. People have wondered if now is the best time for a new building operation.

OPSIS reports that the goal of the aquatic facility would be to be financially stable and not operate at a deficit. Because West Linn's average age is above that of surrounding towns, the amount of senior citizens, and the number of young kids, some financial stability is a future possibility.

A lap pool would also be beneficial to high school students on the Swim Team who now travel to Lake Oswego, Lewis and Clark, or Tualatin for their swimming.

"The new pool would make it a lot easier for us," Taylor Fletter, senior swim team member, said. "Right now we have to bus all the way to Tualatin to practice and we don't end up getting home until 10 p.m., so we have basically no time to do our homework."

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there is an end product in sight. West Linn Parks and Recreation has put together a team of consultants to decide how to build the center, working with a group called OPSIS that has built an aquatic center in Vancouver, Wash. and various other aquatic centers around the country.

The proposal is sited on Parker Road, on the field next to Tanner Creek Park, land that West Linn has had annexed from the state. Possible options for the center include putting in a recreational pool, lap pool, weight room and a full gym. The preliminary

in the next three years, with the possibility of receiving voter funding on the next



Photo by Rachael Woolley
The proposed site for the Aquatic Center on Parker Road is located right next to Tanner Creek Park. The design and construction strategies are still being discussed, as the final product is far down the road and must be approved by voters.