



## 'Lei Day' attracts senior citizens

Bright Hawaiian costumes and dancing highlighted the senior citizen's "Lei Day" held at Clackamas Community College May 24.

The event was well attended with over 500 seniors taking part in the scheduled activities.

"We had a bigger response than expected," said Judy Smith, Retired Senior Volunteer Program coordinator. "We even ran out of food but Norm, in the cafeteria, covered for us and is feeding the extras."

County-wide transportation provided by the Community Action Agency, bussed over 75 people to the event from Molalla, West Linn, Lake Oswego, Gladstone and Oregon City. The rest of the seniors provided their own transportation.

Tables were set up in Randall Gym to inform the seniors about various county services available for them and about such health concerns as diabetes and high blood pressure.

CCC nursing students took blood pressure readings and Dr. Dan Rissler, the campus doctor, conducted an informal question and answer session to answer seniors' questions.

Folk dancing, square dancing and hula dancing provided the seniors with an opportunity to participate in the festivities. A hula dancing demonstration by the Leavers of Lake Oswego, was well received and added to the Hawaiian atmosphere.

A feature film, "Wings over Hawaii," provided by Pan Am airlines also contributed to the mood as did the bright Hawaiian and Hawaiian-patterned shirts and leis worn by the seniors.

A more serious note was struck at a forum on "Stereotypes on Aging" held in the Fireside Lounge. Ruth Haefner, a member of the Gray Panthers, spoke on the senior citizens' stand on nursing home reform.

"We had nothing to do with starting the bad nursing home publicity," she said. "The Gray Panthers just carried on publicized by the nursing home deaths that were on the front pages."

She also asked the seniors to call their state representatives and ask them to support House Bill 2408 which would provide for a patient advocate and an account of nursing home profits.

"Most activities had a great crowd and everyone is enjoying all the entertainment," said Smith. "It's been a great success."



Over 500 seniors enjoyed the entertainment (top) held in Randall Gym last night. Another "Alley Cats" member displayed his talent on the accordion (left) and a senior square dancer (middle) expressed her delight.

