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4-H'ers Ben Craig, Bryan Winchester and Amy and Jennifer Craig at international exchange picnic

B.C. club visits

Sandy 4-H plays host

by KAYE BARTON

It started 10 years ago when members of local 4-H clubs were required to visit a "foreign" country. They traveled to Victoria, B.C. to fulfill the requirement.

Since then four back-and-forth visits have been made between Clackamas County and the Saanich Peninsula (B.C.) 4-H Beef Club. The Canadian group arrived in Sandy last week for the fifth exchange in the series.

"It's a wonderful way to see how other people live, and to broaden the kids' minds," Dolly O'Reilly of the B.C. group. "The host families always see that they get a good look at the countryside."

The exchange visits are brief and are planned with personal contact in mind. They seldom include structured educational activities and any learning situations which occur are casual.

One local host family tells with amusement of introducing their Canadian guest to tansy ragweed,

which is not found in British Columbia. The plant contains toxic substances which affect cattle when it is dried with hay and eaten by the animals.

One of the more tedious tasks on local farms is removing the weed from a stand of hay before it is cut, and the young guest's "agricultural lesson" for the weekend was picking tansy. The experience gave him a severe case of hay fever which he overcame in time to enjoy the remainder of the trip.

According to Ellen Ten Eyck of Marmot, who served as local coordinator of the exchange program, a typical visit schedules one or two group activities, but the guests are assigned to local families who plan individual outings in addition.

This year a group picnic at Roslyn Lake and a swimming party at the A.A. Brewster home in Marmot allowed the guests and host families to mingle and get acquainted.

The Canadians arrived in Sandy early Thursday evening, July 27, and departed for home Sunday morning.

The 28 4-H members and six chaperones in the group boarded with families from Marmot to Happy Valley, and the host families scheduled outings and tours of the Mt. Hood area for their guests.

The first trip to Victoria was made in 1968 during the 4-H centennial observance. Clackamas County clubs returned to B.C. in 1975 and plan a third trip for 1979. The visit this week was the first for which Sandy served as host city.

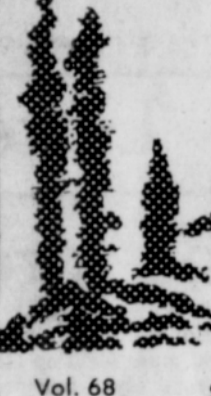
Howard and Chris Vaeretti of Sandy acted as chaperones for the 1975 trip to B.C. They say the exchange program has provided them with some "lasting and enjoyable memories." Among them are the wieners roast held on the beach of a Vancouver Island inlet and a dance where a Canadian rock band's music was so loud that some of the listeners wore industrial earmuffs.

On that tour, the Sandy kids explored the Provincial Museum and the Parliament Building in Victoria and visited the Butchart Gardens outside the city.

"We turned the kids loose in groups of four and we had some crazy predicaments with counting noses over the weekend," Vaeretti said.

O'Reilly has been involved with 4-H for 23 years and has participated in the exchange program for 13 years. She has chaperoned six visits to Oregon, mostly to the Oregon City-West Linn area. This is the first time she has been in Sandy.

Vaeretti makes a favorable comparison of the 4-H exchange program with those sponsored by other agencies. "There are other good exchange projects around," he said. "But this one is less expensive and involves more people. I think it's one of the best."



Sandy Post

Great Way To The Mt. Hood Playground

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Council cuts recreation

by JOHN KLINE

Sandy City Council sliced \$3,000 from the Recreation-Senior Center Department following a public hearing with the budget committee Monday night and sent the amended city budget on to voters for an Aug. 15 levy election.

The amended budget calls for \$126,198 in city funds for the general operations of the city and will mean a decrease in the levy tax rate from \$4.02 to an expected \$3.92 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

Council also decided to go for a one-year levy rather than the three-year approval which voters turned down by a 2-1 margin June 27.

Council also approved cuts totalling \$500 in travel and education in the budget but added that amount back in to the police department for police reserve during the Mountain Festival and other times when heavy crowds are in the city.

Recreation-Senior Center director Dick Halvorson defended his department's original budget proposal as "sound" at the hearing.

"(The cut) leaves us only one op-

tion," Halvorson stated. "It will mean an increase in the amount of fees we will have to charge to people who use the facilities."

One objection against the Recreation Department was raised by Councilman Olin Bignall who questioned why the new Community Center would have eight telephones.

Halvorson pointed out that the city building department will have two of the phones. He also stated that the senior center, which will have two incoming lines, and community recreation, one line, are people oriented services which require frequent use of the telephone.

Telephone service for the senior center has been budgeted at \$2,568 for the current fiscal year, all of which is funded through Title 3 of the Older Americans Act. Telephone service for Community Recreation is budgeted at \$1,500, part of which is to cover the two phones for the building department.

The symbolic cuts in travel and education were from the council's own budget (\$250) plus the Building Department (\$250). The cuts were proposed by councilman Bruce Cook and endorsed by Vern Richards and

budget committee member Bob Rathke.

Another motion by Cook to cut the travel and education of the city manager's budget by 25 percent (\$225) was defeated 5-4.

Councilman Jim Duff and Olin Bignall, as well as Mayor Melvin Haneburg, took strong exception to the cuts in travel and education.

Bignall stated that he believed it foolish to cut travel and education for the yet-to-be selected incoming city manager (who will assume the job Sept. 15).

"What we're talking about is peanuts compared to the total budget," Bignall said. "I think it's foolish to have someone come into the job and expect him not to go anywhere or learn anything."

"Do you want him to stay in a cocoon here in Sandy?" he asked.

Richards (who supported every suggestion to cut the budget offered at the hearing) and Rathke argued in favor of drastic cuts in personnel in the city. Both supported motions to cut the administrative planner and one of two

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Northwest Society of Dowsters introduces public to their art page 4, sec. 2

Game law enforcement officer patrols Sandy area for violations page 10, sec. 1

The Community Center

A unique concept among Oregon cities now becomes a reality

The Sandy Community Center, which was purchased with bond monies approved by city voters earlier this year, is scheduled to be completed soon. Recreation Director Dick Halvorson, who was recently selected to participate in a three-day national conference on programs for senior citizens, sat down with Post editor John Kline last week to answer questions about the new Community Center.

Post: How soon do you expect the Community Center to be finished and ready for use by area organizations?

Halvorson: Our target date is Sept. 1. By that time we hope that the remodeling will be complete. It's also possible that the paving of the parking lot will be finished by then.

We're behind schedule on the remodeling due to a lot of factors.

There were a lot of things that have come up that we didn't count on. For instance, when we made plans to punch a hole in the wall for a door to the downstairs kitchen we didn't know that we'd run into a solid wall of concrete.

And when we got down to redoing the walls, in some of the office areas, we decided to sand down the cedar that was there rather than putting on sheetrock to preserve the natural wood effect. So a lot of things have taken longer than we expected.

Post: The Recreation Commission was appointed by city council last month to work with you at the Community Center. What will be its role?

Halvorson: The Recreation Commission was formed to work with the staff of the (city) Recreation Department and city council in an advisory capacity to give us direction and citizen involvement in the decision-making

processes for leisure services in the city.

The primary focus of the commission is that of the Community Center. They are working on an operating manual for the center. That is their first major task.

Another area they will be addressing will be developing a five-year leisure services plan for the city. They'll be taking a hard look at some of the issues that are facing the recreation program in the city.

Right now, the main concern is getting the Community Center operable as soon as possible. I'm looking for input from them as to what our operating manual for the center will look like and how the center will be operated. That manual will be forwarded to city council for their approval of the policy.

The commission will be meeting Aug.

8 at which time we hope to have a working draft of the operating manual. It will meet again Sept. 5 and hopefully by then we will have the final draft of the manual for approval by city council.

One of the concerns is that we don't get into a situation where we end up with a lot of groups using the facility now before we have the policies established on which groups will be eligible to use it.

Post: What areas will the operating address?

Halvorson: Just briefly, it will include goals and objectives of the Community Center, its purpose, how it will be organized, hours of operation, priority of use, fee schedules, reservations, these types of things. The manual should be as comprehensive as

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Recreation Director Dick Halvorson

Staff photo