

Schools open
Sept. 5

Sandy Post

Great Way To The Mt. Hood Playground

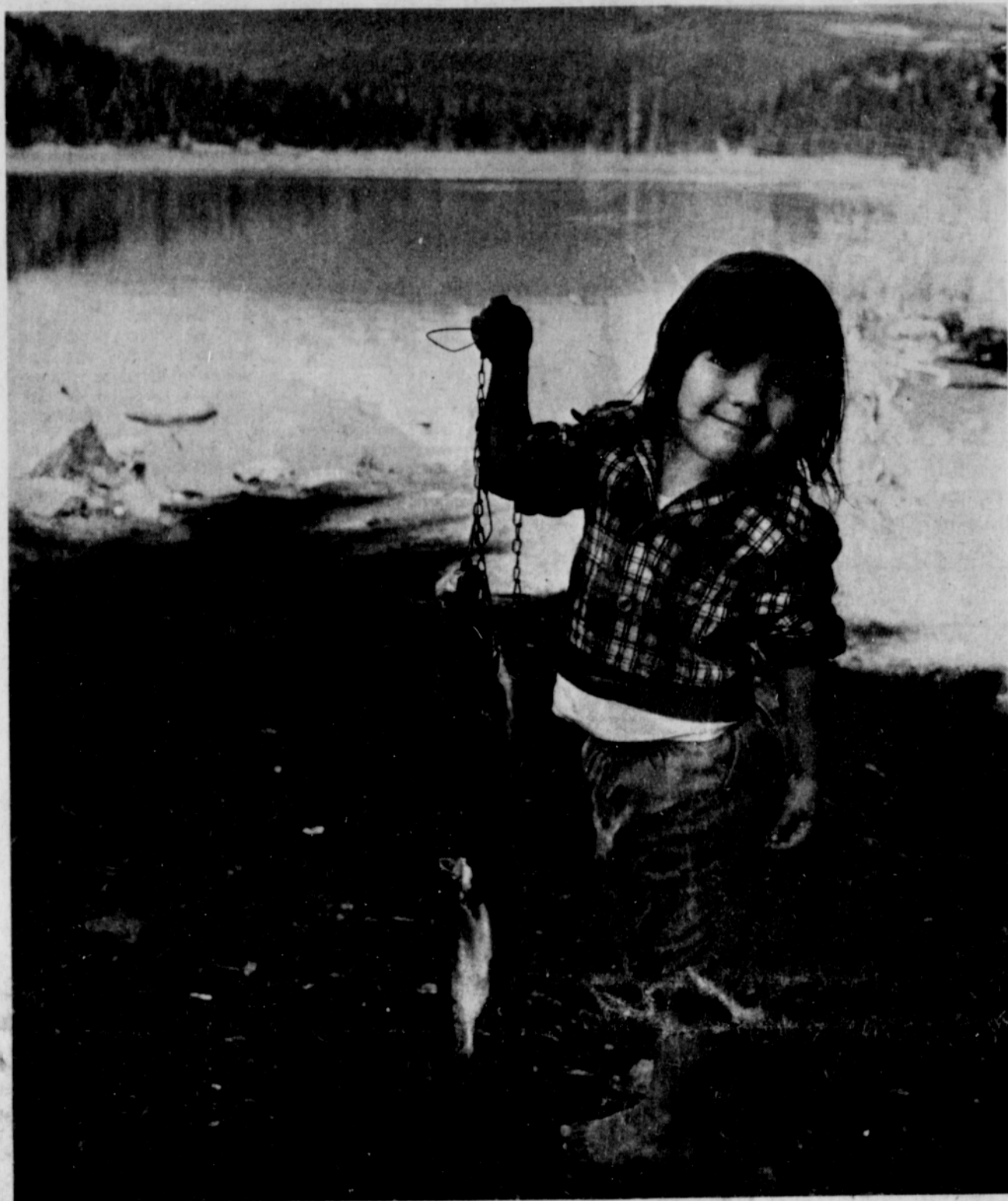
Please drive
carefully

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No. 35

*Now how did she do that?*

SMILING OVER the prospect of a fish dinner, 2½-year-old Jessica Laccino of Boring holds a stringer of trout she helped catch Tuesday at Trillium Lake. Unfortunately for all the other fishermen in the area, Jessica was not revealing the secret to her success. For additional summer photos, see pg. 4, sec. 2.

Recreation cut again

by JOHN KLINE

Sandy City Council again took the scalpel to the city budget Monday night in an effort to get voter approval of the tax levy taking an additional \$9,600 from the recreation department and senior center.

Council also voted to eliminate the Municipal Court which is expected to save approximately \$4,600 in city tax dollars.

The reductions will mean a decrease in the city tax rate from an original \$4.02 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to \$2.93. Voters will be asked to go to the polls for a third time to approve the tax rate Sept. 12.

The revised budget calls for \$92,000 in city tax dollars for the operations of the city.

Discussion on the reduction in the Recreation Department was sharp at times between Recreation-Senior Center Director Dick Halvorsen and councilman Bruce Cook who proposed the 25 percent cut.

Halvorsen recommended that a total of \$10,000 be cut from the original budget of the Recreation Department (which includes the Senior Center). Cook's motion was to reduce the budget by \$9,643 plus the \$3,000 taken out of the program after the first budget defeat.

Council voted 4-3 to go along with Cook's motion. Vern Richards, Warren Decker and George Burg voted for the proposal while Mayor Mel Haneburg, and councilmen Jim Duff and Olin Bignall voted against.

Halvorsen presented the council with a number of facts and figures on the operations of the Recreation Department. However, Cook said the information as submitted was so detailed that it was difficult to understand.

Halvorsen responded that recreation "is the most complex department in the city" and that its funds are accountable to a number of government agencies outside the city.

"I don't see why this budget is any different from last year," Halvorsen stated. "We're maintaining almost the

same level of service as last year and the previous year.

"All of a sudden now the Senior Center budget is bad," he said. "I'm questioning why it's so bad and so are a lot of other people."

Cook stated that he made his motion based on input he has gotten from people he has talked to in town.

Halvorsen had originally proposed that \$41,573 of city tax dollars be allocated for Recreation and the Senior Center, an increase of last year's

amount. That figure has now been decreased to \$28,930.

The remainder of funds for Recreation and the Senior Center (approximately \$39,000) come from state and federal grants.

In other action, council voted to grant Police Sergeant Dennis Wolf a two-month leave of absence from his job to enable him to campaign for the office of mayor.

Wolf has stated he will resign from the police force if elected.

Council shuts down city municipal court

The decision by Sandy City Council Monday to disband the Municipal Court here is causing waves in the county courthouse in Oregon City.

Council voted unanimously to terminate the weekly court effective Nov. 30 this year. The move will save the city approximately \$4,600 in tax dollars and was seemingly made to be a visible cut to city taxpayers in the wake of two levy defeats.

But the savings to city taxpayers may end up costing the county at least as much in added expenses due to an expanded caseload docket which is backlogged to April.

Approximately 60-65 cases a week are handled in the Sandy Municipal Court, all of which will be transferred to county district court which already has one of the heaviest caseloads in the state.

"One more case a week is too many for us right now," said Clackamas County District Court Judge Robert Burns in an interview with the Oregon City Enterprise

Courier. But he added, "If the cases come our way, then we are going to deal with it."

In addition to the savings of not having to pay for the salary of a municipal judge, City Manager Paul Helton said the city will save as much as \$5,700 a year in administrative costs.

The city currently receives half of the fines imposed in the municipal court while the other half goes to the county. But with the termination of the court, the city will forfeit all the fines to the county.

However, the cost of administration plus the salary paid the Sandy municipal judge is greater than the revenues generated.

With the elimination of the municipal court, the added pressure on the district court may be enough to prompt the county commissioners to add a third judge in the county. One possibility mentioned is for the new judge to be placed in a satellite court in Sandy.

Tornado-like winds rip through eastern Sandy

by MARK FLOYD

The New England states are famous for their blizzards, tornadoes ravage the Midwestern states, and Florida just wouldn't be the same without its seasonal hurricanes.

Here in Sandy, other than quite a little bit of rain, the weather doesn't seem to be quite as dramatic as in some other parts of the country.

But after a tornado-like storm whipped through the southeastern edge of the city then up through Marmot last Wednesday evening, it seems this area is as vulnerable for unusual atmospheric phenomena as any other.

Homeowners in the storm's path offered descriptions ranging from a typhoon to monsoon to twister. It struck so fast that the National Weather Service in Portland had no official report on the incident.

But a few people in Sandy know that the storm did exist and their descriptions are fairly similar: the storm began with a large, dark cloud moving rapidly eastward, followed by a torrential downpour and high winds

that knocked over trees and destroyed property. According to all accounts of the storm, the activity last no more than five minutes.

Fred Miller of Firwood Road was sitting inside his home when the storm struck at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

"All of the sudden the rain started coming down real hard and kawhoomf! — the wind started swirling around," Miller said. "It all lasted only about a minute, but that was enough."

"It didn't do any major damage, just a lot of little things that add up," he said.

The Millers lost almost their entire garden to the high winds and barely escaped more damage when a tree fell narrowly missing the family pickup. The wind was strong enough to knock over a swing set and blow away the benches to their picnic table, yet several smaller items remained untouched.

Miller is more worried about the shingles that were blown off his roof. He feels that enough were torn away to

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Sewage LID proposed in Hoodland area

by JOHN KLINE

A public hearing will be held Sept. 27 by the Portland Metropolitan Area Boundary Commission for public input on a proposal to establish a service district in Hoodland as the first step toward construction of a sewage treatment plant there.

Plans for formation of the district and construction of the proposed \$3.1 million plant have been drawn up by the county's Department of Environmental Quality. The Boundary Commission must approve the concept of formation of the district before construction can begin.

The proposed plant would be built on a six-acre parcel of land near Welches. It would provide service to properties in the immediate Welches-Wemme area plus a small commercial strip in Rhododendron and Timberline Rim subdivision on Truman Road.

The engineering firm of Stevens, Thompson and Runyan of Milwaukie developed the plans for the sewage facilities.

Plans call for abandonment of existing treatment facilities at Timberline Rim and Bowman's Resort and construction of the new plant plus pump stations, force mains and an extended collection system.

The plant will allow for construction of new housing and commercial development within the 675 acres of the service district. The Hoodland area has an estimated 90 percent turnout rate on septic tank applications because of large fluctuations in the water table.

Much of the impetus for construction of the facilities has come from American Guarantee Company which has plans for a 100-acre development within the service district called Rippling River. The development plans include construction of condominiums and a convention center.

American Guarantee donated the site for the treatment plant and is putting

up \$475,800 in front money to get the project underway. The money represents prepaid sewer connections for housing in the development.

Two-thirds of the construction costs will come from an EPA grant of \$2,034,300 which has been given tentative approval, according to DEQ sanitary engineer Dave Abraham.

The remainder of the cost — approximately \$605,000 — will come from assessments to property owners within the service district who are not on existing sewer systems. Property owners will be assessed an amount based on lot size and road frontage.

A financial consulting firm has recommended that a Local Improvement District (LID) be formed to include all properties not served by existing sewer facilities. The LID would

then sell Bancroft bonds to finance the local share of construction costs.

Homeowners in the LID would be able to pay off their LID charge over a 30-year period at the low Bancroft interest rate.

The assessment will be based on a rate of \$440 per acre plus \$12 per front foot of roadage.

In addition, property owners will be charged a connection fee of \$400 (to be increased by \$500 a year). There will also be a monthly user fee of \$8 per month.

The plant will have a capacity for treating up to a half million gallons of sewage a day or an equivalent population of roughly 5,000.

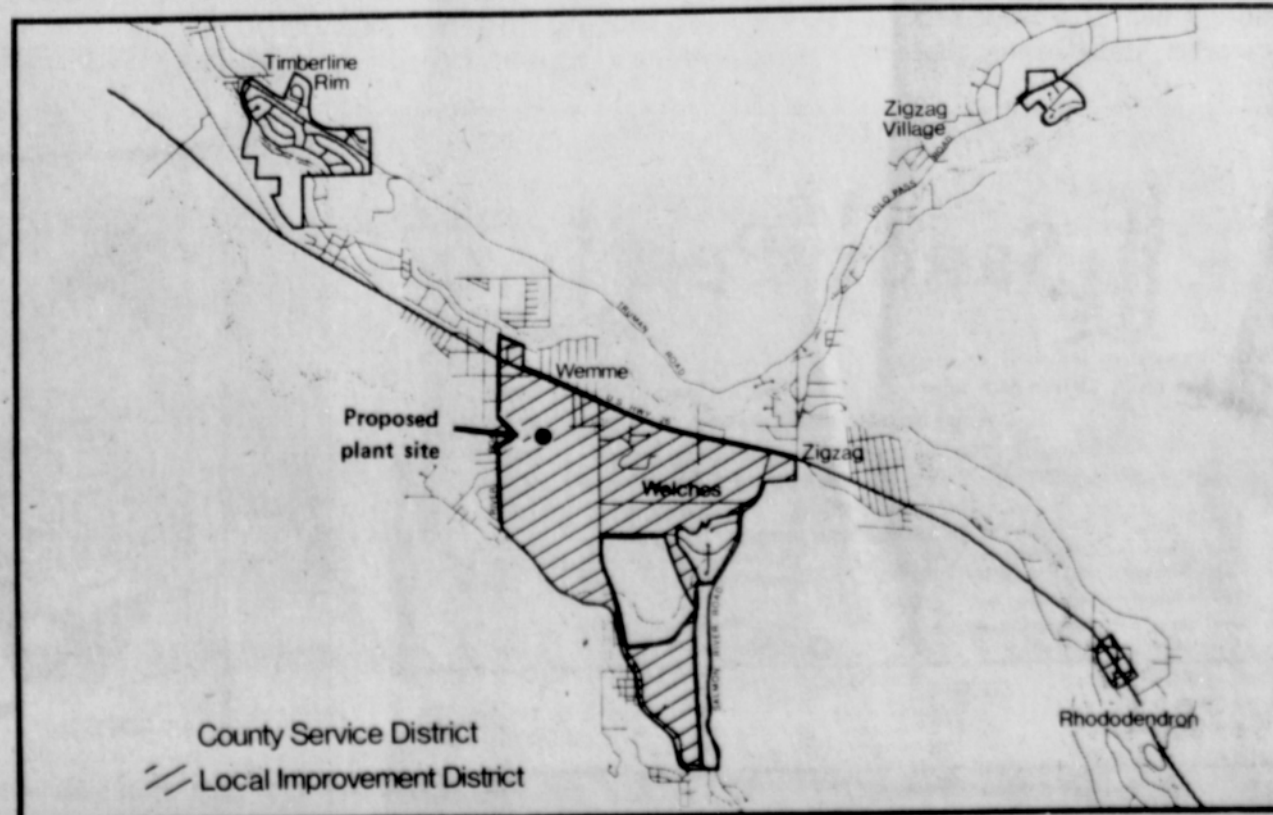
The proposal is in keeping with the Mt. Hood Community Plan which calls for development of the Mt. Hood

corridor from Alder Creek to Rhododendron. The plan, which was adopted by the county board of commissioners in Dec. of 1976, calls for a tripling of the population in the corridor from an estimated 6,500 at present to 20,000 by the year 2000.

A pamphlet put together by the DEQ will be sent out to all property owners in the proposed district to explain the funding of the project and how the plan, if approved will be implemented.

If the Boundary Commission approves the concept for formation of the service district at its Sept. 27 meeting, the formation of the LID must then go before the county commissioners for their approval.

The Boundary Commission will hold its meeting at 7:30 in the Multnomah County Courthouse in Portland.



Inside The Post

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head for the wilds this fall. p. 9, Sec. I

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Aims man claims his treasures date back thousands of years. Maybe they do. p. 1, Sec. II