

## At Sandy Community School

# Playmates abound at pre-school co-op

by DAN DILLON

Children growing up in rural areas often find that some of the things city kids take for granted just aren't always available — playmates, for instance.

In the Sandy area, a group of mothers with pre-schoolers decided they wanted an alternative for their children so they would be better socially adapted when they began school. They banded together through the Sandy Community School and formed the Pooh's Corner Pre-School Co-op for children two to five years old.

"The neatest thing is the women doing it themselves," said Community School coordinator Nancy Allyn. "It's what makes this one different."

Eighteen mothers take turns working with the children, teaching them social skills and giving them a sneak preview of the skills they'll need when they enter school.

Carrie Morgan, one of the co-op's organizers, said, "Some of them are just beginning and there are others who just need to get those skills in a structured way."

To help with the development, the mothers are instituting a learning table system where children can move from table to table and work on different developmental skills like counting and the alphabet.

"Everybody does a weekly turn," Morgan said, "but each mother knows what the week before did."



She said that one woman involved in the project was a pre-school teacher for five years and brings some needed experience to the program, "but a lot of it just comes from what we want for our children."

The mothers have divided into committees to oversee the co-op's operation and chart its future. "We accept everyone else's ideas," Morgan said. "But, you have to have someone so it isn't just really loose."

Because many of the children are from areas just outside the city's limits, the benefits of contact with other children is a welcome bonus. "It's most social, so the younger kids can learn to play with one another and learn sharing," Morgan said.

Allyn said that volunteers are needed to help with storytelling or teaching the children crafts. She added that she has been getting calls and calls about the co-op since it began and has had to form a waiting list.

If people are interested in getting on the waiting list or would like to share some stories with the children or teach them a craft, they can call the Sandy Community School, 668-5744, for more information.



Above, Joshua Lyons tries his hand at the ball toss during the pre-school's Valentine's party as Sarah Jordan, Chelsea Foster and Jenny Gray look on. Offering some extra encouragement is Edelraud Foster. Above left, Misty Irvin receives some encouragement from Mom during the festivities. Bottom left, Stacey found a laundry basket a suitable alternative to the traditional lampshade.

## Brightwood area mine seeks permit renewal

A surface mining application for an operation in the Brightwood area will be considered by the Clackamas County Surface Mining Committee at 9 a.m. next Thursday, Feb. 26, in the Department of Environmental Services.

The proposal is an annual permit renewal of a surface mining application which has been licensed previously by the state of Oregon, Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

The mine site is off the north side of Ezra Truman Road approximately one-third mile west of its intersection with the Brightwood Bridge.

Monday, Feb. 23, the

Clackamas County hearings officer will consider a variance application concerning a parcel in the S.E. Dowling Road area. The hearing will begin at 7 p.m. in the Clackamas County Courthouse.

John Smolick is asking to reduce the 10-acre lot size requirement to five acres, to allow division of the property into two lots.

The property is on the south side of S.E. Dowling Road, approximately 650 feet west of its intersection with S.E. 476th Avenue, in the Sandy area.

Interested citizens are invited to attend these hearings and offer testimony.

## Conference day slated

The third in a series of Sandy Union High School academic conference days will be held Monday, March 2, from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. and from 5 to 8 p.m.

It is a day set aside for parents to visit with staff about their child's progress in classwork, and in meeting the school's scholastic, at-

tendance and conduct requirements. Opportunities will be provided for visits with teachers, counselors, support staff and administrators.

Parents may call for an appointment or may simply drop in. Students will not attend school during conference day.

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Oregon "homesteads" will be assessed less than other property this year.

A "homestead" is an owner-occupied home that has qualified for tax relief.

They will be assessed at 81.6 percent of actual market value this year, while all other property will be assessed at 84.4 percent of market or true cash value.

The adjustment percentages are used to limit the growth in assessed property value to 5 percent annually for each of the two classes of property, as required by state law. The assessment limit is part of the Property Tax Relief Plan passed by the 1979 Oregon Legislature.

The Oregon Department of Revenue, which calculates the percentages, announced the new figures last week. The revenue department collected information from each county assessor on ac-

tual growth in market values by class, then calculated the percentages needed to keep each class of property within the assessment limit.

Assessors will determine the true cash value of each property, then apply the percentage to establish the assessed, or taxable, value.

Individual property may change more or less than 5 percent, since the limit is based on a statewide average.

## The Sandy Post

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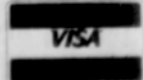
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