



The popular Rhineland Polka Band returns to the Sandy Mountain Festival again this year. The group will fill Meinig Park with oompahs and fun from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, July 11, as they kick off the musical offerings during the two-day arts and crafts fair.

Deputy indicted for embezzlement

An 11-year veteran of the Clackamas County Sheriff's Department was charged last week with eight counts of first-degree theft.

Sgt. Richard C. Ripberger, 56, of Beavercreek was arraigned last Wednesday in Clackamas County Circuit Court on eight grand jury indictments, each charging him with thefts committed from 1978 to 1980.

According to James O'Leary, Clackamas County district attorney, the alleged thefts occurred by the embezzlement of money which belonged to the Clackamas County Peace Officer Association. Ripberger served as the group's president until July 1980.

The Association first generated news interest in 1979 and 1980. O'Leary said, when the sheriff's office and district attorney began receiving complaints from

businessmen about solicitations for Association fund-raising events.

According to Sheriff Paul McAllister, the Association sponsored events, such as a children's Christmas program, a Law Day picnic at Oak's Park and an annual circus at Clackamas County Fairgrounds. However, businessmen's complaints centered around advertising sales for a law enforcement magazine.

The publication, according to McAllister, was subjected to suspicion when its printing was prolonged for many months.

According to McAllister, an investigation by the sheriff's office and the district attorney's office revealed that more than \$250,000 was raised by solicitors on behalf of the Association. However, investigators determined that

the private solicitors kept approximately 80 percent of the funds raised in the Association's name.

Initial public reaction to Association fundraising led to the joint investigation, O'Leary said. "The current elected officers of the Clackamas County Peace Officer Association have been a great assistance in this investigation," he added.

While the investigation centered around Association solicitation practices at its outset, investigators turned their attention to the general handling of Association bank accounts. According to McAllister, the investigation of the 1979-80 solicitation practices is continuing.

No other indictments are expected in the immediate future, however, according to O'Leary. He said that the investigation indicated that at least \$19,000 was unaccounted for in Association bank records.

The indictments, alleging specific dates from November 1978 through May 1980, charge in each case that Ripberger committed "theft of money, of the total value of more than \$200, the property of the Clackamas County Peace Officer Association."

McAllister immediately suspended Ripberger from duty pending the outcome of the case. Ripberger was scheduled to retire July 1.

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Multnomah County	\$9.00
Elsewhere in Oregon	\$10.50
In Northwest and Pacific Coast States Outside Oregon per year	\$13.00
Outside Northwest and Pacific Coast States per year	\$16.00

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Setback variance due

A variance application to reduce the front yard setback requirement for a Sandy-area property will be considered by the Clackamas County hearings officer at 7 p.m. next Thursday, June 29, at the Department of Environmental Services.

Gordon J. Johnson proposes to reduce the front yard setback requirement of 30 feet and build a garage with a 10-foot setback.

The property is on the southwest side of Cedar Creek Lane, approximately

200 feet northwest of Ten Eyck Road in an area zoned RRRFF-5, rural residential farm forest five-acre minimum lot size.

The hearings officer will consider all written and oral testimony. The application is available for inspection at the DES, Planning Division, 902 Abernethy Road, Oregon City.

Planning study hearing slated

A public hearing with Sandy city staff to discuss a Community Development Block Grant Planning Study for the city will be held next Tuesday, June 30, at 1:30 p.m. at Sandy City Hall.

Any citizen interested in the document, prepared by City Planner Don Wilson, is welcome to testify. Copies of the document are available for review prior to the meeting at city hall.

In the study Wilson examined capital improvements, economic development, housing, a community information system and a community needs assessment.

Library board opening told

Local officials are now accepting applications for a vacancy on the Sandy Public Library Board of Directors.

Interested applicants need not live within Sandy's city limits to serve on the board which meets once a month. The board makes recommendations to the city manager and city council on library policy and expenditures.

To apply for the vacancy, send your name, address and a short letter listing your background and library interests to Sandy City Manager, P.O. Box 116, Sandy.

City sets post office site priorities

The Sandy City Council last week named council member Don Blair and Mayor Ruth Loundree to help formulate a set of city priorities for the U.S. Postal Service on the location for a proposed new post office in Sandy.

The Postal Service reportedly is shopping for larger quarters here, but the council and city manager feel a location outside the downtown core area would have an adverse effect on city planning as addressed in the comprehensive plan.

"We're not interested in identifying a specific location for the post office," City Manager Roger Jordan said Tuesday. "We don't see that as our responsibility."

Jordan said city officials have met with U.S. Postal Service representatives and the city has agreed to an advisory role in the site selection process. He expects the city's list of priorities to be ready for city council perusal at its July 6 meeting.

If the Postal Service doesn't purchase property downtown, however, it may substitute cluster box delivery as an alternative to convenient walks to the post

office. Earlier the Postal Service at the regional level denied Sandy downtown door-to-door delivery in town.

"The building (post office) is plenty big enough if they did things right," Blair said. "The post office favors cluster boxes rather than door-to-door delivery. I strongly oppose that."

Council member Deane Wesselink agreed.

"If they can't slip it (mail) through that slot on my door, I'll get it at the post office. I had one of those cluster boxes, and I lost a lot of mail," he said.

Mayor Loundree also favors a downtown location for convenience of city postal customers, noting Sandy is largely a retirement town.

The council also is active in possible construction of a new Sandy Community Action Center to replace the old, rental site on Pioneer Boulevard.

The all-volunteer force that dispenses food and supplies to needy local families seeks city assistance in securing a community block grant.

Jordan said Tuesday that council action would amount to no more than support for the center's application for block grant monies. The city would not be involved in actual construction.

The council has reaffirmed that henceforth use of the city Melvin Haneberg Community Center is free to all city non-profit groups who use the facility as a meeting room.

Classifieds deadline Monday, noon

Local dieter, Irene Blount of Sandy, tells about her success at the DIET CENTER



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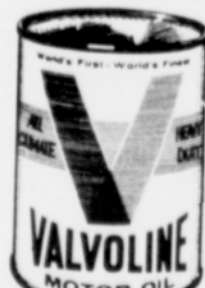
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