



After 19 years as a rural route carrier with the postal service, Bob McBee retired last week with plans to spend time at a little farm near Madras. He had been a substitute carrier for 13 years and a regular for the past six.

Book review

World of comets unveiled

by BARBARA WATERHOUSE
For the Post

Halley's Comet, which appears once every 76 years, is coming again in 1986. Nigel Calder, the eminent British science writer, has written "The Comet is Coming," an account of comets and the mania they inspire. A dozen or more comets are seen from the Earth each year. Some are coming on predicted orbits and others have never been seen before. In 1980, the total score of catalogued comets was 666. The bright comets that panic the public come only a few times in a century.

Halley's is the brightest in the class of 16 comets. They return to the Sun from more than 20, but less than 200 years. None of these 16 comets extend beyond Neptune. Kahoutek is in the new comet class of 100 comets which come in from immense distances. They are

distinguishable by their high speeds near the Sun.

The West class has about 450 comets. Their orbits range anywhere up to two million years to complete. "West" itself, seen in 1975-76, has an orbit of 16,000 years.

The Pons-Winnecke class contains about 100 comets, with orbits that bring them back at intervals between five and 20 years.

Encke is in a class by itself with an orbit of 3.3 years. Encke, and the Pons-Winnecke class, are old and

decaying comets.

Calder provides tips for amateur comet watchers, debunks myths and superstitions, and gives us some interesting stories about historical figures. There are eight color photographs and 50 illustrations.

Other new books at the Sandy Public Library include "Gorky Park" by Martin Cruz Smith, "Eden Seekers: the Settlement of Oregon" by Malcolm Clark Jr. and "The New Bride's Book of Etiquette" by the editors of Bride Magazine.

'911' calls now free

Pay telephone customers in the Sandy area now have coin-free access to "911" emergency services from pay telephones with a 668 prefix, according to Chuck Day, Gresham area division manager for General Telephone Co. of the Northwest.

An added feature is that customers using these instruments will be able to dial "operator" free of charge.

New information cards have been placed at pay telephone locations in Sandy with instructions on how to use the new service.

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Senior Center News

A theater night has been planned at Washington Park for senior center participants Friday, July 17.

Departure from the Sandy Senior Center will be 5 p.m. with a dinner stop scheduled at a Portland restaurant before proceeding to the Rose Garden Amphitheatre. Featured will be the musical comedy, "Kiss Me Kate." Return to the center will be approximately 11:30 p.m.

A nutrition subcommittee meeting will be held Monday, July 20, at 10:30 a.m. Among the topics to be considered will be the recently-drafted nutrition center standards for the Loaves and Fishes program.

The regular monthly meeting of the Sandy Senior Center Advisory Committee will be held Tuesday, July 21, from 9 to 11 a.m. Committee members will be asked to elect officers for the 1981-82 fiscal year as well as to ap-

prove goals and objectives for senior center programs.

The Golden Age Club holds a potluck at the Center next Thursday, July 23, at noon, followed by afternoon entertainment. Guests are invited.

For more information concerning activities and services for seniors, contact the center, 668-5569.

Activities for the Week of July 16 through July 23

Thursday, July 16
9 a.m.: Exercise Class
10 a.m.: Humanities Class
Noon: Loaves and Fishes Meal

Friday, July 17
Noon: Loaves and Fishes Meal
5 p.m.: Senior Dine Out and Theater Night

Monday, July 20
9:30 a.m.: Exercise Class

10:30 a.m.: Nutrition Subcommittee
Noon: Loaves and Fishes Meal
1 p.m.: Oil Painting
1 p.m.: Cards

Tuesday, July 21
7:30 a.m.: Men's Breakfast
9 a.m.: Sandy Senior Center Advisory Committee
Noon: Loaves and Fishes Meal
1 p.m.: Blood Pressure Clinic
1 p.m.: Ceramics

Wednesday, July 22
9:30 a.m.: Ceramics
Noon: Loaves and Fishes Meal
1 p.m.: Band Practice
1 to 3 p.m.: Horseshoes in Meing Park

Thursday, July 23
9 a.m.: Exercise Class
10 a.m.: Humanities Class
Noon: Golden Age Club Potluck and Entertainment



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