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Action Center, city seeking grant monies

by DAN DILLON

The post office building could have a new use in a couple of years and some streets in the north central residential district could get a facelift if applications filed with the Clackamas County Community Development Block Grant program are approved.

The Sandy Community Action Center Tuesday received city endorsement for its application requesting \$127,000 to purchase the building which currently houses the Sandy post office. The postal service's lease extends to Sept. 1, 1982.

As part of the grant application, the Community Action Center Board of Directors said it would be able to share in the purchase price to the extent of \$30,000.

The street improvement projects are tied to the city of Sandy's \$324,000 request.

The city has outlined three projects involving street and water line improvements in the neighborhood just north of Proctor Boulevard.

The first project, costing \$240,900, at 1981 construction prices, would improve three streets in the area. A six-inch water line in Pleasant Street is part of the project as is a project to solve some problems with catch basins and storm drain lines in Pleasant Street and Scales Avenue.

Street improvements would be done to Pleasant Street from Strauss Avenue to Beers Avenue and on Beers and Scales avenues from Proctor Boulevard to Park Street. Curbs and sidewalks would also be installed.

The second project, with a 1981 cost of \$55,600, would provide an asphalt overlay on the 20-foot wide paving surface on Park Street. The improvement would extend south on Strauss Avenue and tie into the intersection of Hood Street and Strauss Avenue.

The third project would provide a new asphalt surface to the entire length of Hood Street, east of Sandy Elementary School. The total cost of this project is estimated at \$16,800.

Under funding policies, a 25 percent local match is required for public works projects like the city's. The match can be a combination of money or in-kind services.

If all three city projects were to be funded, the total city match would be approximately \$73,000, according to City Planner Don Wilson.

The block grant program provides that any county which has a population exceeding 200,000 and can reach an agreement with its political subdivisions may be designated an urban county to receive a certain amount of funds each year.

Three years ago, Clackamas County reached an agreement with all the cities in the county and was designated an urban county for the purposes of receiving funds through the block grant program.

At that time, the city of Sandy signed an intergovernmental agreement. The Community Development Block Grant program helped fund improvements to the Sandy Community Center, improvements to Tupper Road and assisted in planning for the city's comprehensive plan, as well as other planning.

In other action, the Sandy City Council:

—Revised the city's agreement with American Guaranty for sewage disposal from Rippling River development at Wemme.

Since 1978, the city has processed the sewage while the development's sewage treatment plant was in the planning stages and under construction. That plant should be operational by February 1982, according to American Guaranty estimates.

Changes in the agreement amend the volume of sewage to be treated from 10,000 gallons to 15,000 gallons per day; increases the charge for treating the sewage from three-tenths of a cent per gallon to 1 cent a gallon; regulates the rate that sewage may be discharged into the Sandy plant, and limits the hours when the dumping may be done, subject to approval by Bob Hornsby, superintendent of the Sewage Treatment Plant.

—Awarded a contract to Hoodland Construction for completion of the No Name Creek sewer project. The bid was \$45,345.

That action will tie the sewer in from Tupper Road to the Meinig Park pump station and complete the project.

City Manager Roger Jordan called the project "critical, if we are to allow building in that section of town." It will service everything east of Meinig Avenue and replace the park pump station.

The project involves boring under Highway 211. That costs nearly \$100 per foot, according to City Engineer John Lichtenheld.

Spray said cause of firefighters' ills

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

A brush fire on private land above Brightwood Sunday night resulted in the injury of six Hoodland Fire District firefighters.

The blaze on Homestead Road, adjacent to Bureau of Land Management and Mt. Hood National Forest lands, is still under investigation. It burned three to five acres beneath Bonneville Power Administration transmission lines.

Hoodland Fire Chief Don Armintrout said his crew began fighting the fire at 10:18 p.m. in a BPA right-of-way that had recently been hand-cut and sprayed with herbicides. He said he and the crew got off the line at 4 a.m. Monday.

Armintrout said it is believed that the injuries to his firefighters were caused by an adverse reaction inhaling the burn-

ing herbicide-treated slash piles.

The fire chief said 45 minutes into the fire, firefighters were forced to put on breathing apparatus to combat the effects of the herbicides and smoke.

He said five persons were transported by Alpine Ambulance to Gresham Community Hospital after breaking out with a rash and suffering swollen bronchial tubes, headaches and difficulties with breathing.

The five were treated at the hospital and released a short time later. Armintrout said the five are still under medical care but are back on the job. Another firefighter suffered similar effects, but refused to be taken to the hospital.

The right-of-way is located about two miles from the Bull Run reserve gate and was believed, at first, to have been sprayed with "Tordon," a chemical which stunts the growth of firs and kills broadleaf maples and alders.

Later, it was learned that the area had been sprayed with "Pheomox," or "2-4-D" mixed with diesel fuel.

"The injuries were the result of adverse chemical reactions," Armintrout said. "Under normal circumstances, it's no problem. But it adversely reacts to fire."

He said that although crews from the Oregon State Forestry Department and the U.S. Forest Service were on hand, there were no other injuries.

"We were the first one in and the only ones on the line," Armintrout said.

He said a decision was reached at a joint command post with BLM and Forest Service personnel that, under the circumstances, no additional firefighters would be sent into the fire.

After the fire was knocked down, the firefighters were pulled back from the lines to watch the fire burn itself out, Armintrout said. All state and federal personnel were equipped with

respirators as a precautionary measure.

The fire chief said it was the first time in 12 years of firefighting that he had experienced a fire affected by herbicides.

Hap May, in charge of right-of-way management for BPA, said that BPA crews had hand-cleared and treated the area with herbicides from a "squirt can" on Aug. 7.

May said he did not believe the injuries to the firefighters were caused by the herbicides used to control the vegetation.

"The concentrations just aren't there," he said. "There was nothing that we used that would cause any reaction like those described. The herbicides sprayed on the stems and the stumps in the area treated were so minute."

May added that the application of 2-4-D—whose concentration was 4 percent, compared with 96 percent diesel fuel—is "out of the line of reason to cause those types of reactions."

He said that he believed the effects suffered were caused by poison oak which, he said, "can be devastating in a fire when inhaled and when the oily film touches the skin."

Fire Management Officer Bing Beckman and Zigzag Ranger Chuck Smay both agreed that this was a possibility.

"I'm not sure at this point that the sickness is to be tied to chemicals," said Smay. "It could have even been a heavy accumulation of smoke and the normal chemicals that would come off the burning fuels."

"In a wildland fire, we've had some pretty strange things happen," he said. "Burning poison oak and poison ivy would even cause those same symptoms."

BPA personnel are currently investigating the blaze which originated at the edge of the road by the right-of-way and ran uphill.

Arson has not been ruled out as a cause.

City picks up pieces of Community School

by DAN DILLON

The tradition of the Sandy Community School got a shot in the arm this week when the city Recreation Department announced plans to pick up part of the school's class offerings.

The Community School program was part of Sandy Elementary School District's 'B' ballot proposal that was defeated by voters June 31. That defeat spelled the end of the unique tri-agency agreement involving Mt. Hood Community College, the city of Sandy and the school district.

Since that time the school's coordinator, Jan Reynolds, has sought alternative means of funding, but with the fall term approaching and no funding in hand, the city developed a limited class listing aimed at continuing some of the school's most beneficial and participated in classes, while continuing its commitment to a diverse athletic program for city residents.

The listing of athletic activities represents the original program proposed by the recreation department, before the termination of the Community School program.

Recreation Commission members felt the department should attempt to coordinate an extended leisure program this year, using local volunteers, to reduce the impact of the loss of the school, according to Community Services Director Sandra Potter Marquardt.

Class listings under leisure activities represent some of the most popular Community School classes offered over the last two years which the recreation department could sponsor.

The city budgeted \$5,000 for the Community School program this year. Of that, City Manager Roger Jordan allot-

ted \$1,000 for the continuation of its summer program when funding from the school district was not immediately forthcoming.

The city will use its remaining \$4,000 to hire a part-time person to help coordinate the expanded recreation schedule and install an additional telephone line at the Mel Haneberg Community Center to help with the new activities.

The city will also initiate a user-fee system. Registration for activities will cost \$1 for city residents and \$2 for non-city residents.

In addition, several classes including aerobic dancing, karate and folk dancing involve hiring contract personnel. Class participants will cover the entire cost of securing these instructors, according to Potter Marquardt. All other classes will be coordinated through the use of volunteers and city staff.

An agreement with the school district will allow some classes to be held in school facilities, keeping operational costs to a minimum. The remainder of the classes will be held at the community center.

The recreation program will run from Oct. 5 until Dec. 11. Class listings for leisure activities include Adult Morning Exercise Program, Community Card and Bridge Night, Dungeons and Dragons, Calligraphy, Wreath Making Workshop, Christmas Ornament Workshop and a children's film series.

Athletic activities which will be offered by the recreation department include Aerobic Dancing for adults, Basketball Clinic for youths, Coed Volleyball for adults, Ladies Gym and Swim, Karate for 14-year-olds to adult and Folk Dancing for adults.

For registration information, call the Community Center, 668-5569.

SUHS takes last shot at 'B' ballot approval

by SCOTT NEWTON

Sandy Union High School District voters will decide on a \$255,846.03 'B' ballot next Tuesday, Sept. 15. This election will be the last time the school district can put the ballot before the public.

A \$355,293 'B' ballot was voted down June 30 905 to 614.

Library and art room renovations, athletic field renovations, and plans to hire a counselor have been cut from that ballot.

The board did decide to include \$36,500 for a school bus on Tuesday's ballot.

The other \$219,346.03 on the ballot was approved by the public in the way of an 'A' ballot, but represents money that the Sandy district thought it would receive from the state, but did not.

Asked if the recent incidents where school districts "find money" would hurt their chances of getting the ballot passed, Superintendent Jack Peters admitted it could have an effect.

"In education, if you don't lose money, you can't find it. And, we don't think we ought to lose it," he said.

"I think I have a responsibility to know how much money we have in the district."

"We know that in order to make a budget balance, we're going to need \$219,346 and 3 cents, or on the 16th day of September I'm going to sit down with our management crew and our staff and we're going to talk about how to reduce a ballot 219,000 bucks. That's

all." Peters preferred not to say which programs he would cut. He defended the district's travel budget, saying that in a district as large as Sandy's, it would be difficult to cut back.

"I'd just hate to cut anything, to tell the truth," Peters said.

Last year voters approved a mill levy of \$4.90 per \$1,000. This 'B' ballot is for an increase of about 53 cents. If approved, the mill levy would be \$4.92 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

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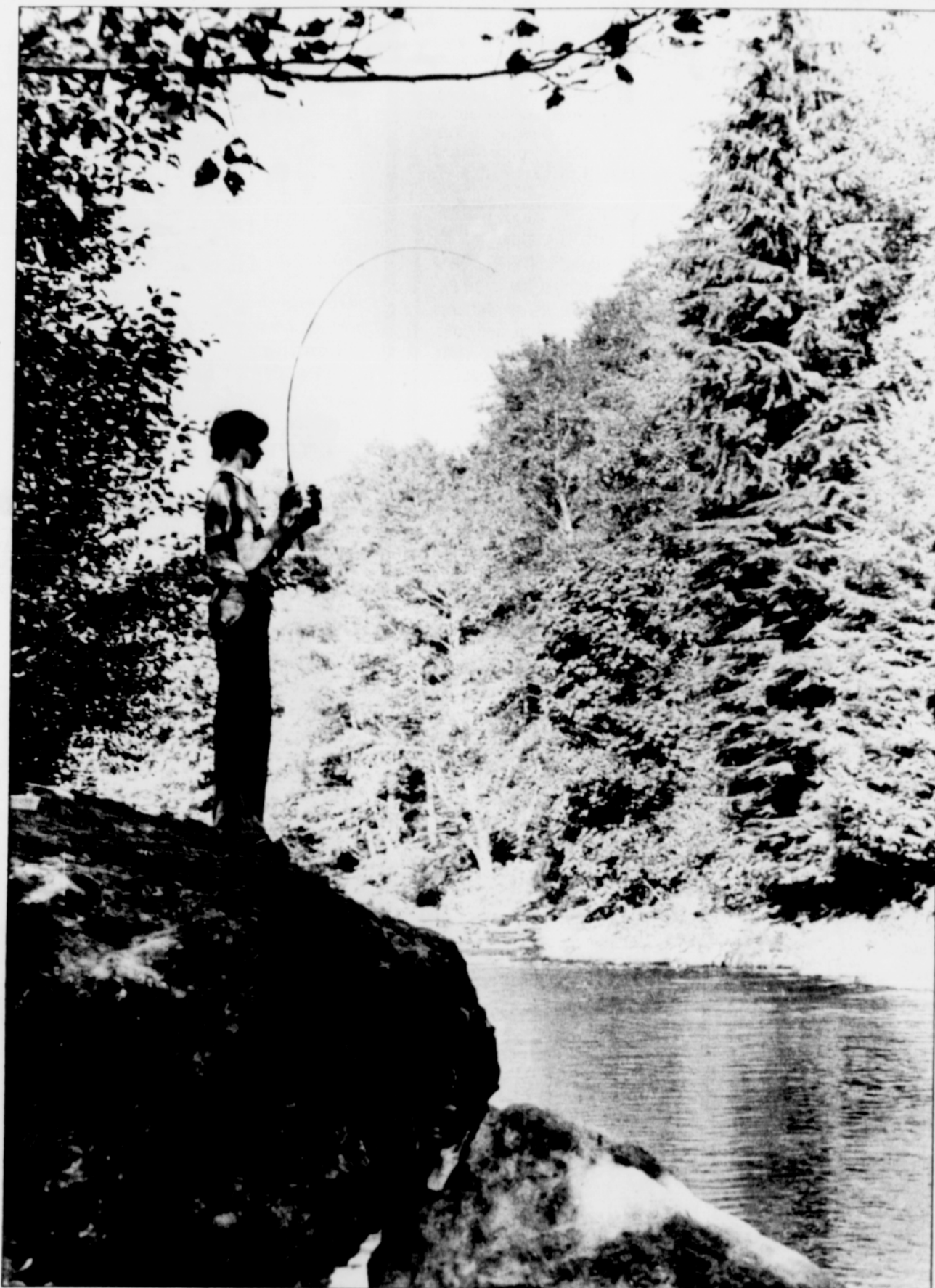
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As the dog days of summer wind down and people start thinking of the routine of fall, this angler grabbed one last chance to cast his line in the Salmon River and spend a last few idle minutes in the sun.

Photo by Michael P. Jones

Sandy schools note higher enrollment

Oregon will have more students in its public schools this fall for the first time in five years, and the Sandy Elementary School District reflects that trend, somewhat.

"Our first grade class is the largest it's been in four years," Superintendent Clark Lund said Wednesday. Overall, the district had 1,414 students on hand when school opened Tuesday morning. That is 43 more students than the district had on opening day a year ago.

"It's down from June," Lund said, "but it will get back up and exceed that." He added that he expects another 50 students to be in school by the end of September.

He said the district this year has unusually large fifth and sixth grade classes.

According to state figures, school enrollments should climb in the next few years.

In 1973 the number of births was 30,902, the lowest since 1946—before the post-World War II baby boom hit. But

since 1973, the number has increased about 1,500 every year, setting a new high of 43,091 in 1980.

"The baby boom babies are having babies," speculated State School Superintendent Verne Duncan. He said the number of Oregon women in the childbearing years (15-44) has increased 39 percent since 1970.

Enrollment for 1981-82 is estimated at 496,000, which is 2,000 more than last year's estimate. Elementary enrollment (kindergarten through grade 8) this year should increase from 341,000 to 346,000, while secondary enrollment (grades 9 through 12) should drop about 2 percent.

Enrollment has dropped every year since it reached a record high of 500,725 in 1976-77. It should reach a new high in 1982-82 and pass 530,000 by 1984-85 as more school districts add kindergarten programs. Kindergarten is now optional in Oregon, but the Legislature has mandated the program by 1989.

Elementary numbers should increase

throughout the 1980s, and secondary enrollment should begin increasing by 1983-84.

Duncan said he hopes the enrollment increase doesn't catch Oregonians by surprise.

"Because of school closures in some parts of the state," Duncan said, "the public thinks enrollment is dropping. But this isn't the case statewide, and we must prepare for more students. We'll be needing more teachers and more buildings or some innovations in the way we educate students."

Babies born in 1975 are first graders this fall.

The number of Oregon births in 1980 was 29 percent higher than the number in 1975. County trends varied greatly from a 69 percent increase in Deschutes County to a 36 percent decrease in Wheeler County.

Clackamas County's births jumped 25 percent in the five-year period.