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Primary students to face longer day

by DAN DILLON

Primary students in the Sandy Elementary School district can expect a longer school day next year in a move that officials will give the students more time in some study areas.

"We just felt that the goals and objectives set forth by the school district in the areas of social studies, health and science were not being met in the first three grades," explained Kelso School principal Judy Warren, who served on the committee that made the recommendation.

Currently students in those grades attend school an hour and 20 minutes less than fourth through sixth

graders. The reason is busing.

Under the proposal, approved last Monday 4-1 by the school board, third-graders will go home with the older students and, because the buses will get around faster on their first run, first- and second-graders will stay an extra 20 minutes.

Final times for the new school day has not been determined pending transportation considerations.

"You have to accept the premise that more time on task will make a child more proficient on that task," Warren said.

She said teachers will be able to expand into some art projects and exercises that are now limited because of the shortage of time.

Although the school doesn't currently test the first three grades in social studies, health and science, the elementary school principals who proposed the change feel those areas will be boosted.

"We just feel subjectively that these subjects are being slighted," Warren said.

She estimated that half the students entering first grade in the district have had no kindergarten preparation so adapting the students to school life is sometimes a longer process for first-grade teachers. This move, she said, will speed that process.

In a survey of 33 school districts throughout the state, including adja-

cent districts, the study committee found that nearly half are doing what the Sandy district is planning.

Cottrell School district began an extended school day this year and "it has been working because we've made it work," said Jean Lundy, district superintendent.

She admitted that the change cut down on preparation time and individualized instruction for teachers after school, but noted that everyone is adapting to the change and that the district intends to keep it next school year.

The longer teaching day, Lundy said, finds the "really instructional basics" taught in the morning when it is easier for youngsters to learn.

In the beginning, she said, students were "extremely tired at the end of the day," but as they have gotten into the swing of the longer day, it has become more productive than in the past.

Financial considerations were also involved in the Cottrell decision. Since inception of the longer school day, Lundy said, the district has saved transportation costs by coordinating more buses with Sam Barlow Hi School.

Educational bonuses have been an extra.

"It has worked out pretty well," Lundy said. "In the past we didn't always find time enough for science, health and some other subjects."

Mouse fire shows value of detectors

by DAN DILLON

A hungry mouse showed a Sandy family firsthand the value of smoke detectors in a home last week.

The William L. Halbrook family, 38100 SE Sandy Heights, was awakened shortly after 2 a.m. last Wednesday by the sound of their blaring detector. When Mr. Halbrook investigated, he discovered the kitchen of the family's 24-by-60-foot mobile home filling with smoke.

He slowed the fire in the kitchen cabinets with some water and alerted Sandy firefighters who put out the fire which had spread to a kitchen wall.

"That family, in my opinion, owes their lives to that smoke detector functioning," said Sandy Fire Marshal Jim Gallagher.

"This is the perfect example of that smoke detector doing its job, alerting the people when there is a fire."

Another four to five minutes without detection and the end of the mobile home would have been engulfed in flames, Gallagher said.

"She would have really been rolling throughout the thing because the fire was starting to roll underneath the counter when he threw the water on it."

The fire started in the top drawer of the top kitchen cupboard. Fire investigators, digging through the drawer, found loose matches and a sprung mouse trap. A mouse was found caught in a second trap under the kitchen sink.

"We believe the fire started when the mouse was in the kitchen drawer," Gallagher said. "The mouse was in there chewing on things and chewed a match which ignited."

"We believe in its haste to exit the area it tripped the mousetrap which was underneath the sink."

Gallagher said the smoke detector was placed in the hallway between the kitchen and the sleeping area, "right where they're required to be by state statutes."

Fifteen firefighters battled the flames. Damage to the mobile home was estimated at \$650. Damage to contents was limited to \$200.

That was the second time that Mr. Halbrook had been alerted by his smoke detector. Earlier, he heard it go off indoors as he was outside working on his car. That time he discovered a burning electric can opener and averted a blaze.

Pair injured in shooting accidents

A 17-year-old Sandy youth is in good condition this week at Portland Adventist Medical Center after the gun he was shooting targets with blew up in his face last Thursday.

Douglas A. Armstrong, 35071 SE Highway 211, suffered eye injuries when the barrel of a shotgun he was using for target practice blew apart and struck his face.

Clackamas County sheriff's deputies said the accident occurred at about 3:20 p.m. in a field behind his home.

Last Tuesday, Lloyd Ralph Biddecome, 40, 44855 SE Wildcat Mountain Drive, was wounded by a .22 rifle in an accidental shooting.

The incident is being investigated by Clackamas County Sheriff's deputies.

Leukemia claims SUHS board head

Funeral services were held Friday for Wayne R. Johnson, Sandy Union High School District board chairman, who died of leukemia April 20.

A farmer at the time of his death, Johnson, 44, had served on the high school board for 13 years. He also served 11 years on the Cottrell School Board.

Johnson and three fellow SUHS board members were targets of a recall drive launched after the board fired Superintendent Jack Peters in January.

Johnson had been hospitalized since shortly after that decision at Providence Medical Center in Portland where he died.

The SUHS board is expected to wait until after the May 17 school board election to appoint someone to Johnson's seat. His position will be on the ballot. The winner will likely be appointed to fill his post until June 30 when his term would have expired.

He was born July 27, 1938 in Portland and graduated from Canby High School. He attended Clark College in Vancouver, Wash., and served in the Navy from 1957 to 1961.

Johnson had been an industrial supervisor at Omark Industries but was self-employed as a farmer. He was a member of the Sandy Kiwanis, the Milwaukie Elks Lodge and the Oregon National Guard.

He married Doris A. Stratton on



Wayne Johnson

Dec. 21, 1963 in Oak Grove.

Survivors include his wife; two daughters, Debra Parker and Robin Johnson, both of Boring; a son, Jerry Stratton of Keizer; his mother, Ruth Johnson of Lincoln City, and four grandchildren.

Interment was at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

The family suggests remembrances be sent to the Wayne Johnson Memorial Fund, in care of Sandy Union High School, 17100 Bluff Road, Sandy.

Welches board nixes screening committee

by HANK EMRICH
Post Correspondent

Citing a "duplication of efforts" the Welches School board voted 3-2 last Thursday against a public screening committee to aid in the search for a replacement to resigning superintendent Kenneth Blackburn.

"If a committee were formed we would just have to set guidelines for it to go by anyway," said vice chairman Don Thornberg.

Thornberg feels the board will have to interview any candidates selected eventually anyway.

"We would end up going over the same guidelines we would have set for the committee," he said. "I believe this (choosing the new superintendent) is something we were elected to do... it is the board's decision ultimately."

Chairman Dick Hoffman, who had earlier voiced support for the committee, and director Bruce Erickson voted for resolutions establishing such a committee. Directors Verla Rogers and Carol Harmon voted against the resolutions along with Thornberg.

Thornberg said he was more concerned with what he felt was a misuse of time than any "public rela-

tions" that would be the main reason for establishing a committee.

The board will meet this week in executive session to narrow the list of more than 20 applicants to five candidates. It is also accepting suggestions from the public as to questions they would like asked of those finalists.

A positive attitude will be the key if the Welches School budget election May 17 is to be successful, according to some of those working towards passage.

Upper grade principal Gary Dietrich said there is a combined effort of teachers, administration, school board and the community involved. "I think this is the first time we have really tried to work together from the start of the process," he said.

As a result of these discussions some items were eliminated and some were also added, according to Dietrich. He cited the addition of a half-time counselor and a computer education program to the budget as examples of programs the community felt were necessary additions.

Welches school board chairman Dick Hoffman also is optimistic about the budget's chance of passage.

Action Center '98 percent' sure of new home

A new home for the Sandy Community Action Center is moving closer to reality.

"At this date, it appears 98 percent certain that the Community Action Center will acquire the present post office building as its permanent home," chairman Pete Sulzbach said last week.

He said the owner, Alicia Ferguson of Milton-Freewater, is ready to sell and deliver a clear title.

"Arrangements have been made to the satisfaction of the postal department and the Fergusons concerning

unexpired lease payments," Sulzbach said. "What remains is to have the county legal department check all the moves and then the county commissioners must give approval at a public meeting."

That is expected to take two weeks.

The Sandy Community Action Center wrote a proposal in 1981 to the County Development Division of Clackamas County Human Resources Department seeking a share of a federal block grant coming to the county for the current fiscal year.

The local action center was named a recipient Dec. 8, 1981.

One factor favoring the funding, according to Sulzbach, was the offer by the center to provide \$30,000 of the cost of the building. Several years earlier, a bequest from Lydia Koch in that amount had been set aside in the dream of owning their own building.

"This would help insure that the center could stay open if federal and county funds were to be cut off," he said.

The center was opened in the mid-1960s with a paid coordinator

and a handful of volunteers. When the Office for Economic Opportunity funds were cut out in 1970 it appeared the center would have to close.

However, a few volunteers at the center organized a non-profit corporation and carried on entirely on a volunteer labor basis which continues today.

Clackamas County Community Action Agency has provided overhead expenses since 1970 and several churches, individuals and organizations have helped to provide funds for food

and other emergency help given clients of the center.

Membership in the Interagency Food Bank of Portland has also been very important in providing food at lowest cost, Sulzbach said.

"The board of directors of the center are always aware that federal and county funds may be cut or fade entirely," he said. "Acquisition of a building and avoiding the cost of rent makes it more certain that the center will continue to function into the future."

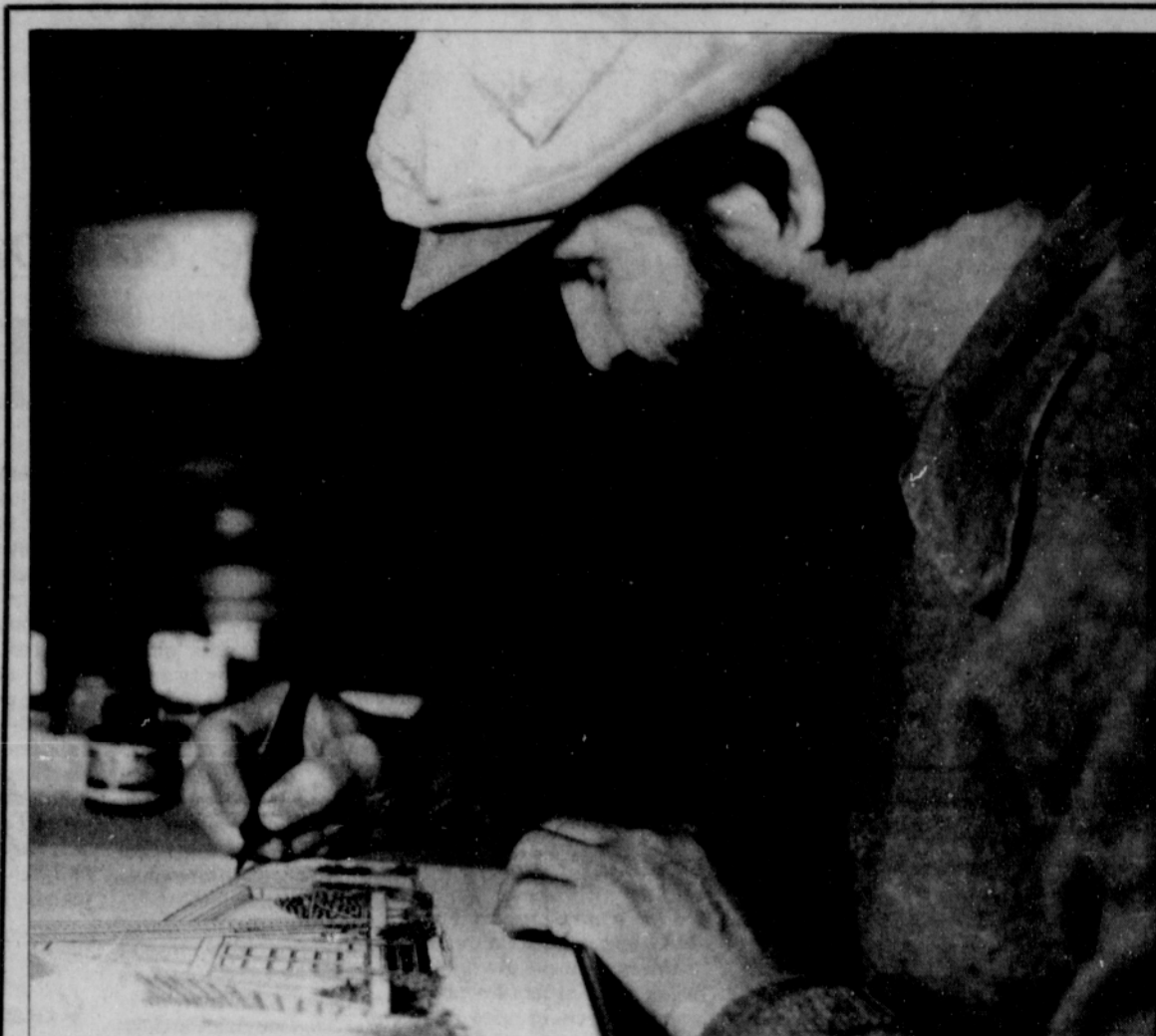


Photo by Von Braschler

Brightwood artist Ray McBride works at home on pen-and-ink drawing of a rustic mountain building.

Artist capturing spirit of old mountain buildings

by VON BRASCHLER

An Oregon coast artist who's made a living drawing coastal scenes has moved his pens and ink to Brightwood to commemorate rustic mountain buildings of historical significance.

Artist Ray McBride is backed in this endeavor by four mountain men, who want the Hoodland corridor's log cabin structures past and present captured on canvas before they're forgotten.

Already off the presses at Big Camera in Beaverton is a four-drawing Brightwood series that depicts Brightwood Store, the old Brightwood post office, Brightwood Tavern and the town of Brightwood.

The 8-by-10 prints first will sell in area businesses in a limited edition of 100, numbered and signed by the artist.

Subsequent prints will sell locally for \$3 each or \$12 for the set of four.

Working day and night, McBride expects to round out the series in two months with 20 more drawings into sepia prints.

He's backed by mountain

residents Bob Gambell, Doug Palmbald, Calvin Bertram and Bob Swartz.

"What we're trying to do," explains investor Bertram, "is capture the feeling of the mountain the way we like to see it. He (McBride) has the knack to do that."

Adds Gambell, "There's a lot of things here already gone. For instance, there once was a covered Marmot bridge."

McBride is working from old photos (and wants more) of old mountain buildings no longer standing. He's recreating from old photos Goff's old restaurant that used to sit where the highway narrows near Brightwood. He seeks photos of the old Welches hotel, too, but finds that many of the best photos were burned in the building's fire.

"You'd be surprised," Gambell said, "how many people stop here with cameras on the weekend to take pictures of the store, post office or tavern."

The project started only a few weeks ago when Ken Waters prompted McBride to draw the Brightwood Tavern where they

met. That was before tavern owner Bob Gambell and his partners ever invested in McBride's project.

Now the project includes drawing miniatures in notecard form for 50 cents.

"I tried this once before at the coast," McBride said of his drawings of old buildings, "but I didn't have such a team behind me. That's one of the things that pleases me here as an artist."

The artist taught art for Clackamas Community College, Linn Benton Community College and Estacada High School through adult education programs. He studied art at Portland Community College and Portland State.

Some of his earlier work is showing now at Forest Inn at Alder Creek. A show for his new drawings is planned at the Ivy Bear, also at Alder Creek.

"The direction I try to take my art is more realistic than the original," McBride said. He works from on-site sketches and photos, enhancing values and correcting buildings' slight imperfections to make them resemble more the way a forgiving eye perceives them.

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WEATHER

Extended Forecast: Occasional showers, mainly in the afternoons, Friday through Sunday. Highs, 55 to 65. Lows, 35 to 45. Precipitation: April Total: 1.85 inches; 0.11 inches above normal. 1983 Total: 22.66 inches; 7.00 inches above normal.