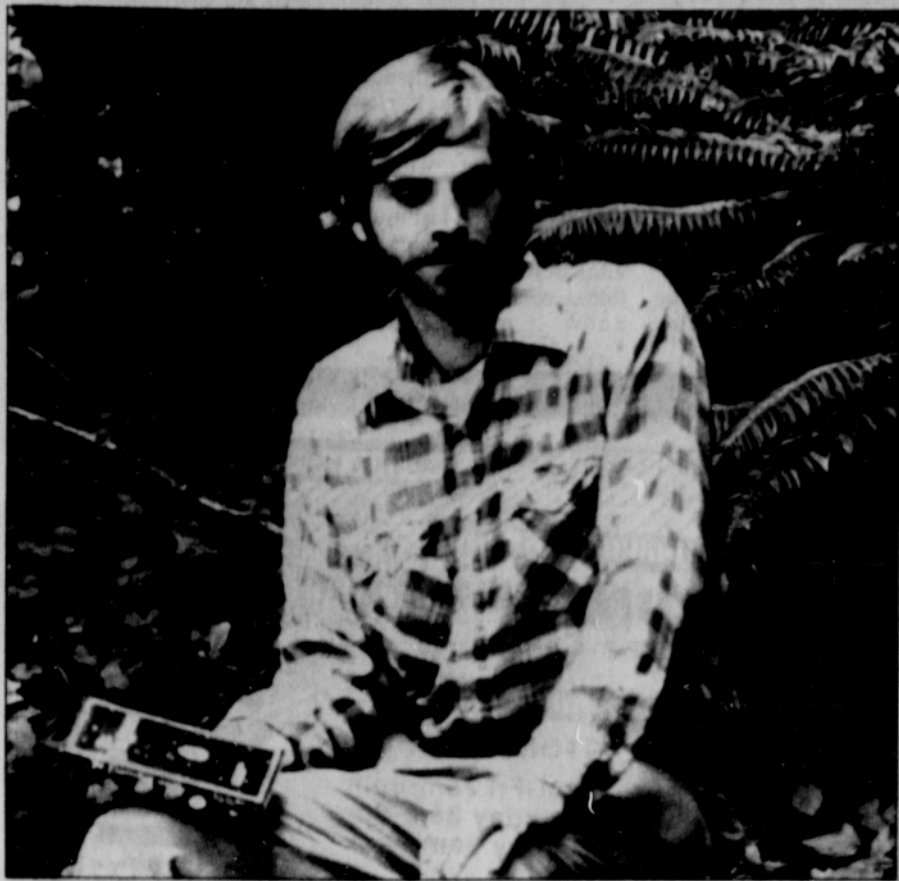


'The Earth Speaks'

Local man's book shows feeling for nature



Bill Knight-Weiler

by HANK EMRICH
Post Correspondent

Famed writer and naturalist Henry David Thoreau is reported to have said that among the 100 books he owned, 96 he had written himself.

City of Sandy Recreation Director Bill Knight-Weiler doesn't expect to find himself in that situation, though he has co-authored a recently published nature anthology.

"The Earth Speaks" is about people who spend time in nature and speak for the earth, according to Knight-Weiler.

Knight-Weiler believes using selections by authors such as Thoreau, John Muir, Rachel Carson and others, has created a special feeling.

"It is very difficult to put into words feelings you have when you're looking at a sunset or outdoors. These people seem to have the ability to do that," he said.

Co-author Steve Van Matre, a professor at

George Williams College in Chicago, and Knight-Weiler, first thought of doing the book five years ago. Knight-Weiler was a graduate student at the college and shared an interest in nature with Van Matre.

Van Matre heads a group called Acclimatization Experiences Institute, which does research into outdoor education programs. Profits from the book go to AEI.

Knight-Weiler said he gleaned thousands of books in libraries in Chicago, Washington, D.C., Alaska and Oregon to find the selections for the book.

Each selection had to be research as to who owned the copyrights, and permission secured to use each one. Even after the permission was received, some selections required royalties.

People offering their favorite selections presented other problems. "We had to match everything we received with an original," said Knight-Weiler.

"Sometimes the differences between what someone had given us typed on a paper and the original were amazing."

The book is divided into three sections and Van Matre has written an introduction to each section. Knight-Weiler said the

first section, "Earth Magic," deals with enthusiastic experiences with nature and is "full of life."

"Earth Wisdom" is more reflective and has to do with more environmental or ethnic aspects," he said. "Earth Spirit," the final section, includes native

American writings, and is about "loving the earth as a whole."

Block prints by noted artist Gwen Frostic illustrate the book.

Although he only expected to pay \$3,000 for publishing the book, costs ran to \$20,000.

'Nice theory' to Center's advantage

At one mid-July design and review board meeting Pete Sulzbach, chairman of the board of the Community Action Center, got a commitment for much more than the annex he was seeking to extend a loading dock.

Tom Reber, city manager, said he would round up some volunteers to paint the Action Center.

Said Sulzbach, "Mr. Reber has a nice theory, I think, about how representatives of public institutions should get together and talk about ways to improve the community, and how they should do work to benefit the community."

Saturday Reber was joined by other community leaders, and they put 10 gallons of primer and "stone beige" paint on the Action Center at 38500 Pioneer Boulevard, which was the site of the former post office. The paint was provided wholesale by Sandy Lumber.

Reber was joined by Arnie Poutala, president of the Chamber of Commerce, Roberta Hutton, SUHS superintendent, and her husband Tom, Clark

Lund, elementary superintendent, Bob Rathke, fire chief, and Frank Marcy, Action Center treasurer.

They painted from about

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Asked if he was pleased with the look of the building, Sulzbach said, "Yes, and so are the volunteers who worked there. They were surprised

and pleased."

There were 1,463 visits to the Action Center in July. Sulzbach said they receive an average of 1000 visits a month, with an "unduplicated persons" rate of about 800.

Clothing needs are the main reason for the majority of visits, though the Action Center helps people meet a number of other needs.

The Action Center receives some funding from the federal government through the county organization, but the Sandy center is staffed by volunteers.

Said Sulzbach, "The volunteers and the board members warmly thank those who got our building painted."



Arnie Poutala paints a window at the Action Center.

Sandy police cite 4

Sandy police cited four persons for shoplifting from Sandy Sentry in the past week.

They were identified from police records as Laura Petersen, 62, of Sandy; George Lee Knight, 68, of Sandy; Mary Sandercock, 36, of Sandy; and Deborah Ann Pace, 29, of Boring.

Traxlers welcome Jeremy

Dennis and Janice (Johnson) Traxler of Sandy recently announced the birth of their third son, Jeremy Dean.

He was born July 3 at Kaiser Hospital. He weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and was 21 inches long. He joins brothers Michael, 9, and Nathan, 7.

Grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johnson of Sandy and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Traxler of Boring.

Great-grandparents include Mr. and Mrs. Fay Early and Calista Johnson, all of Sandy.

Brightwood woman dies

Brightwood resident Hazel Suter died Wednesday morning, Aug. 24 at Kaiser Sunnyside Hospital.

Funeral services are pending. Arrangements will be made by the Sandy Funeral Home.

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