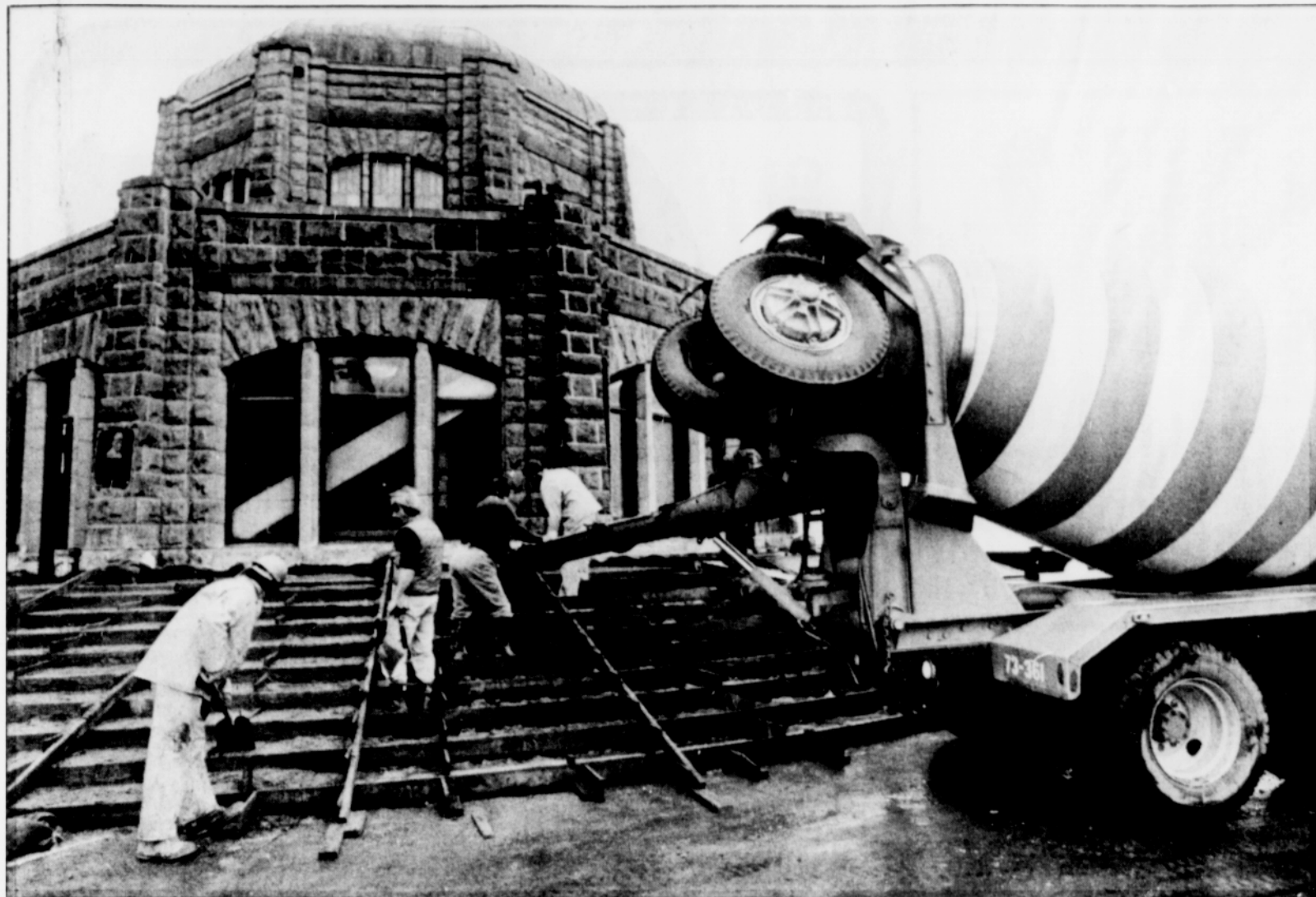




A construction crew pours concrete to complete work at the Vista House.

Photo by Tony Kneidek

Crew finishes work on Vista House

CORBETT — A \$32,000 sprucing up of Vista House, the scenic structure at Crown Point in the Columbia River Gorge, was completed Friday when work crews poured the last set of steps leading to the mason building.

Steps were "old and cracking and breaking up — unsightly and presenting a hazard to the people," said Frank Arnold, district park manager for the Rooster Rock State Park

District.

The steps and nearby sidewalk at the Marshal Dana viewpoint were built with a fiberglass-treated concrete that should hold up well in the Gorge's severe weather, Arnold said.

State and private crews had to overcome severe conditions while working on the project, which was begun in March with a federal grant. Winds in excess of 100 mph have

whipped through the Gorge while crews labored to get the work completed by the federally set March 1 deadline.

Still to come is a new roof for the structure. One-and-one-half sections of the old copper dome blew off in December during a particularly severe wind storm, Arnold said. It has been temporarily replaced to

protect the inside of the building from rain and snow damage.

The new copper dome has to be specially ordered and "treated with chemicals to hurry up the aging process or else it would stick out like a sore thumb," Arnold said.

The dome is scheduled to arrive any day, Arnold said, and should be in place by the time tourist season rolls around.

BPW speaker to address equal rights for women

Elaine Engelstad, student legal adviser on equal rights and an instructor in women's studies at Portland State University, will be the March 6 dinner speaker at the Sandy Business and Professional Women's Club.

Her topic will be, "Equal Treatment Under the Law," according to Judy Beebe, chairperson.

The 7 p.m. dinner meeting will be held at O'Callahan's Restaurant, 223 E. Burnside, Gresham.

Interested members of the community are invited to attend. Reservations may be made by calling 668-4985 or 668-7846 by Monday, March 4.

Examiners pass certification

Two driver examiners in the Sandy Motor Vehicles office are now certified Oregon driver examiners.

CODE is a program to upgrade the standards that examiners must meet on a continuing basis.

The CODE examiners are Jack

Martin and Jerry Campbell.

The CODE certificates were to be presented by Harvey Ward, deputy administrator of DMV, and Russ Graham, assistant administrator for the field services branch, on Feb. 26.

Lose weight without losing your mind

"I used to have everything to lose. Now I have everything to gain."

I look better.
I feel better.
I'm more alert, more energetic.
I have a new confidence that comes from doing something good for myself.
I lost the weight I wanted to without drugs, crash diets, or special foods.
And I've gained the knowledge and support I need to keep up the good work.
I was looking for a healthy way to lose weight.
Now that I've found it, I know it will stay with me for the rest of my life.

Diet Center has helped the Gresham area take 1000's of pounds off...and keep them off the past 7 years.



Gresham 667-5833
Sandy 668-8233
235 NE 122nd 254-4145

Call today for Free Consultation
1900 Locations Nationwide

Hope springs eternal for smelt run

by SHARON NESBIT

It's that time of year when people go down to the Sandy River and wistfully watch the water for smelt.

Now, there's no need to go dragging your dip net out or rummaging for your waders. Though a few smelt have been dipped in Washington's Cowlitz River, the fish folks from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife are still in a wait-and-see posture.

But people can't help hoping. It's been a long time between smelt runs on the Sandy. Hope springs eternal they say, especially in the spring.

For the record, the last smelt run — a piddling one-day affair, lackluster in the extreme — was on March 7, 1981.

For the uninitiated, smelt are hordes of small, silver fish that tradi-

tionally arrived in the Sandy in early spring, usually in March. Officially called eulachon, they come to the river to spawn.

And people come to the river to dip them — 25 pounds at a time — with just about anything that holds a smelt — nets, crab traps, bird-cages or union suits with the legs tied.

No one knows much about smelt, so predicting their arrival is always a real head-scratcher.

"We're just waiting," says Pat Jernberg of the fish and wildlife department.

She promises, however, that as smelt start to run in Washington and move up the Columbia River toward the Sandy, that information will go on a special fishing information telephone tape recording. It's a toll call for most East County residents, but the number is 657-2059.

Many people just settle for calling Troutdale City Hall. Though smelt prognosticating is not listed among her official duties, receptionist Paula Goldie is willing to try.

"I think," says Goldie, "that we're in one of our four-year nonsmelt stretches." Goldie claims the smelt usually disappear four years at a time, a schedule that would put them back

in Troutdale in 1986.

Her opinion is as good as any. The town's veteran smelt-watchers, Ted Schulte and Glenn Otto, have both moved out of town. And Bill Whisenant, Troutdale's former barber, who couldn't predict smelt worth beans but always tried, has moved to Baker.

As a general rule, though, people can start looking for smelt in the Sandy River after they hear that the fish are in Washington's Cowlitz and Lewis rivers.

"There have to be a good number of smelt in the Columbia before they start going into the Sandy," says Jay Massey, fish and wildlife biologist.

For people who like statistics, the records of the Troutdale Historical Society, dating from 1913, show that there have been 40 smelt runs in the last 72 years. The smelt were absent for a four-year stretch from 1936 to 1940 and for a 14-year period from 1957 to 1971.

Troutdale was a sad place during that 14-year hiatus. Troutdallians went into city-wide delirium when a smattering of smelt entered the river in 1971.

They went flat crazy in 1974 when a record run came to the Sandy. That

Patriotism stressed at concert

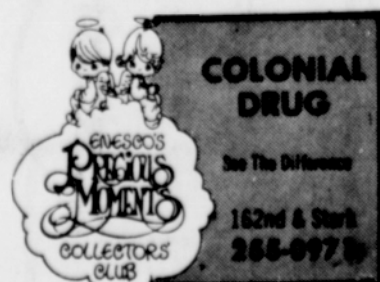
The group "Freedom Jam" will present a concert at Sandy High School March 4.

"Freedom Jam" presents entertainment in a music and comedy format. The group looks at America from 1776 to today, serving as a vehicle to "win the right to be heard, which gives us the opportunity to deliver a message to students on personal values," according to literature distributed by the group.

The show includes a series of contemporary hit music (rock, soul, rhythm and blues, etc.) and a patriotic skit that begins with a comical Yankee Doodle, goes through the Civil War, the Roaring 20s, World War II and other eras.

A member of the band speaks about the country's future, stressing patriotism and personal involvement, and the program ends with a motivating song, tying in the theme of the message.

Tickets are available from students and at the SUHS cashier's office for \$5.75 in advance. Gate tickets will be available for \$7 at the 7:30-9 p.m. performance.



Deane Wesselink

Deane's Auto Repair

1 1/2 Miles East of Sandy • 41951 S.E. Hwy. 26
Call Today For An Appointment

668-4563

Don't let the cold freezing weather catch you unprepared.
It's time for a Fall Tune-up and Winterization for your car.

GARTH NELSON BENEFIT • FRIDAY, MARCH 1
MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Presents

*****BARNUM*****

STARRING BILL WITTER* FROM BROADWAY
appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity

THURSDAYS ★ FRIDAYS ★ SATURDAYS
FEB. 21 to MARCH 9 ★ TICKETS AT GI JOE'S

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 667-7154

* AND 1967 GRADUATE OF GRESHAM HIGH SCHOOL.

Tax-shelter today! Retirement security tomorrow!



The best tax-deferred savings account around! IRAs (Individual Retirement Accounts) are special savings accounts set up to help people put aside money for the future ... and get a sizeable tax break from Uncle Sam for doing so.

Everyone who earns an income can get in on the special benefits of this special tax-deferred way to save, whether covered by an employer's retirement plan or not.

You can start your IRA today with as little as \$5 or maximum individual deposit of \$2,000 annually. And, every

cent will be safely insured. Come into any branch today, and we'll be glad to explain the benefits to you.

18 MONTH CERTIFICATE

10.669 % annual yield
10.000 % annual rate

Other IRA accounts available.
Substantial penalty for early withdrawal.

An IRA from Community First can do a lot for your future.

1st Community First FEDERAL SAVINGS

19 branches serving Oregon & Washington
John M. Priel, President • Head Office: 12th & Washington, Vancouver
Phone (206) 694-1553 • from Portland 285-5231

• Downtown Portland • Burlingame • Hawthorne • Hollywood • Midway • Rockwood • Woodstock • Gresham
• Oregon City • Sandy • Downtown Vancouver • Battle Ground • Camas • Hazel Dell • Mill Plain • Orchards
• Salmon Creek • Woodland