

# Mother says home births viable alternative

by TAMI CISSNA

Her home is arranged for comfort. Its atmosphere invites guests to kick off their shoes. Plants and bright flowers lend their warmth.

An antiquated black and white picture in her stairway displays a Louise Hoyt look-alike; it is her grandmother. A pair of worn Birkenstocks rest by the phone. Her family is comfortably individualistic.

Thick dark hair cascades over her shoulders and down below her back.

Her attention often diverts to the little ones around her — she talks to them kindly.

Hoyt, a Brightwood resident, gave birth to both of her two boys at home, has attended ten home-births, and has assisted in three home-births of other mountain residents.

She considers home-births a viable alternative to hospital births. "But," she quickly acknowledged, "they are not for everybody."

The work of midwives is more technical than many people realize.

Good ones, Hoyt said, work closely with a doctor and screen carefully. Any problems are referred to a hospital.

"They don't just come with a wad of cotton, a fetal scope, and a book. They are very up-to-date technically."

Hoyt feels home-births and prenatal care from a midwife are more personal than hospital births.

"You spend 20 minutes taking the blood pressure, the urine test, hearing the fetal tones, then you spend an

hour and a half just talking to her. You can't do that with a doctor, there's not enough time."

The midwife stays with her patient through the labor and the birth. Since the midwife sees her throughout her pregnancy for prenatal care, she knows her individual personality.

"Your outside circumstances can effect your delivery. You want to be physically, mentally and emotionally at ease. That's difficult with bright lights, surgical instruments, on a table, with masked men."

Hoyt also believes hospital births have come a long way and feels birthing rooms in hospitals are wonderful. "Most ladies want a bed-birth. They don't want to be on an operating table. It's not an operation, it's a delivery."

One of her favorite lines is, "I'm not sick, just pregnant."

"Another consideration is that home births are cheaper. "When we had ours we had no insurance. We couldn't afford a hospital. Money was not the prime consideration, but it weighed heavily in the situation."

A woman who chooses a home-birth does have to consider the possibility that something could go

wrong, and be ready to accept that responsibility. They must be prepared for an emergency.

"This is why midwives screen so carefully. If there is a high blood pressure condition or a complication she will arrange for a hospital. Therefore there is not a high incidence of emergencies."

Many midwives will not deliver babies on the mountain so that, in the event of a complication, they can rush to the hospital.

Hoyt feels that it is the pregnant person's responsibility to choose her midwife with care. They should make sure she has good references, find out what training she's had, and how many babies she has delivered.

Hoyt doesn't ever condone a "just-mom-and-pop" type of home-birth. The average couple doesn't have the equipment a midwife does, nor the training and expertise. A midwife usually brings a trained assistant and an apprentice, which gives the advantage of combined knowledge.

Hoyt is an active person. She babysits in her home on a regular basis, and is involved with pre-school and church activities.

Her husband, Larry, works at the

Hoodland Thriftway. Often he is seen there chatting with the locals and his small fans, little children. They have two young boys. Forest is 7, and Ryan is 4.

Because she and her family live on the mountain, Hoyt is not actively pursuing a career in midwifery now. If the community grows enough, she may later. For now, she plans to continue her education and to fill the role of an apprentice as often as she can.

A start for someone interested in this field, she said, is to take an emergency medical technician course, a nurse training class, and find a midwife who is willing to take you on as an apprentice.

"I love babies, especially little babies. I always wanted to be a professional baby kisser, or a wet-nurse."

She feels her own home-births were wonderful experiences. She wouldn't trade them for anything.



Louise Hoyt and son Ryan

Photo by Tami Cissna

## Local to compete in pageant

Tina Diane Stroupe, 16, has been selected as a contestant in the 1985 Oregon Miss Teen Pageant, which will be held at Willamette University in Salem on June 7, 8 and 9.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Stroupe of Sandy.

Contestants from throughout the state will participate. Ages range from 13 to 19. Judging will be in five categories, all with equal value. They include scholastic achievement, volunteer service, talent demonstration or speech presentation, personal interview and formal presentation.

Awards will be given in all phases

of competition. Among the prizes awarded to the 1985 Oregon Miss Teen will be a \$1,000 cash scholarship, an all-expenses paid trip to compete in the Miss Teen finals in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and the official Miss Teen crown, trophy and banner.

Stroupe's hobbies include fashion, design, sewing and playing the piano.

Sponsors are Petticord Enterprises, Mt. Hood Dairy Queen, Sandy Auto Body and Towing, Montgomery Ward, Griff's Longburger and Breakfast Country and Sandy Rexall Drug.



Tina Stroupe

## Master receives scholarship

Valerie Master, a senior at Sandy High School, has received a \$1,000 L.G. Balfour Foundation National Honor Society Scholarship.

She competed against 15,000 students from throughout the United States. She was one of 450 winners — among the top 3 percent of all applicants — according to the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

Each high school National Honor Society chapter could nominate two senior students based on their leadership, scholastic achievement, character and service. Nominees had to submit a form outlining their participation in service organizations and clubs, accomplishments in the arts and sciences, employment experience and academic record.

"Master has demonstrated outstanding ability in her academic

work and service to the school," said Scott Thomson, executive director of NASSP. "She's a fine example of the outstanding caliber of young people in America's high schools."

In her four years at Sandy High School, Master has served as junior class president, captain of the varsity basketball rally, a member of the varsity tennis team. She is currently student body president.

## Knapps recognized in Report

William, John and Duane Knapp of Sandy have been recognized nationally by the American Angus Association for have a registered Angus cow included in the American Angus Association's 1985 Pathfinder Report.

Only 908 of the more than 24,000 members of the American Angus Association are represented in this

year's Report, according to Richard Spader, executive vice president of the American Angus Association, which has its headquarters in St. Joseph, Mo.

The Pathfinder Program identifies superior Angus cows based upon recorded production traits that are economically important to the commercial cow-calf producer. These

traits include regular calving and heavy weaning weights, according to John Crouch, director of performance programs for the American Angus Association.

The 1985 Report lists 3,478 individual cows. It will be published in the May issue of the Angus Journal and extra copies are available from the American Angus Association.

## 15 Sandy youngsters plan Philippines trip

Fifteen members of the Sandy Assembly of God's youth program will be leaving June 19 to join about 250 other young people from the Northwest for a 12-day missions outreach to the Philippines.

The church's youth pastor, Rev. Jim Bennett, and his wife, Sandra, will be going as well. The other Sandy team members are Rick Bell, Don Bennett, Jerry Bennett, Dixie Cochran, Bob Daffron, Shelley Daffron, Glenda Dimmick, Kelly Douglass, Mark Gering, Sue Gering, Donna Greenway, Gerald Hale, Paula Hallgren, Debbie Lamm and Pete Steele.

In the Philippines, the young people will be involved in door-to-door

witnessing, and evangelist Dave Roeber, a Vietnam veteran, will be the speaker for evening services, which are now scheduled to be held in a soccer stadium with a 100,000-person capacity. There are presently 110 Filipino churches supporting the effort.

Each team member is responsible for paying his or her own expenses, which total \$1,500 for air fare, hotel, food, transportation and other costs. The Sandy Assembly of God has arranged various fund raisers, including a slave sale and a Hawaiian Luau, and the young people are saving money on their own as well.

The team will return home on July 2.

## Memorial Day service set

Memorial Day Services will be held Monday, May 27 at 11 a.m. at Cliffside Cemetery. A program is

planned. Cub Scout Pack 663 and Boy Scout Troop 176 will assist.

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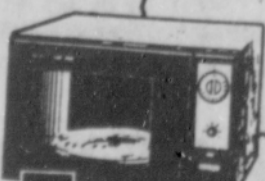
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