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Jon Anderson's truck was the first of 12 in a funeral procession Saturday.

Photo by Scott Newton

Truckers honor Anderson

by SCOTT NEWTON

People called Jon and Karen Anderson the "highway gazelles." But, they will run no more together. Jon Anderson died while jogging Tuesday, Aug. 12.

They were frequently seen jogging along U.S. Highway 26. Jon Anderson was preparing for the Hood-to-Coast relay, a grueling test of endurance Aug. 22 and 23 that will be run by teams of 11 over a 168-mile course.

Karen said her husband was the "epitome of the healthy person." After his brother, six years older, underwent quadruple by-pass surgery three years ago, the couple began a strict regimen of diet and exercise.

A heart attack claimed Anderson. He and his wife were jogging together on the Sandy High School nature trail. The autopsy showed "very, very severe coronary artery disease," Karen said. There were no symptoms whatsoever. The doctor called it a "silent killer." Karen

said.

The funeral was postponed until Saturday, Aug. 16 so that the people he worked with at United Grocers could attend.

The cab and trailer of his truck, with three sprays of carnations and roses on front, lead the funeral procession, followed by 11 cabs. The 12 rigs represented the 12 years he worked there.

The workers might have put every truck in the fleet in the funeral procession, except that there were groceries to deliver.

"He was extremely well liked," said Norm Dye, transportation supervisor for United Grocers. "He was one of those guys everyone loves."

The procession traveled from Bateman Funeral Chapel in Gresham along Powell Boulevard to U.S. Highway 26, and down Langensand Road to St. Michael Catholic Church.

"I thought it was impressive. It kind of got to me," Dye said, adding that he hadn't heard of any similar

kinds of processions.

After the funeral in an unrehearsed moment, the lead truck let out one of those long, lonesome blasts, and the rest of the trucks followed in sequence.

Karen Anderson said she doesn't know how to express her thanks to the people, or to the company, for all they did.

In some ways, Karen said she feels cheated by her husband's death. Jon enjoyed life and wanted to live it. He was 47.

In July, they hiked to the peak of the Steens Mountains.

The flip side of the coin, she acknowledges, is that very same fact, that he lived a good life. She paused, looking for a way to express what he had. "Love is what the word is."

He was born the son of Clayton and Florence Foster Anderson in Portland on April 16, 1939. He was raised in Portland where he attended Powellhurst Elementary and David Douglas High schools.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in

1956 and was honorably discharged in 1960. He returned to Portland and married Karen Deters on May 26, 1962.

They have lived in Boring the past nine years.

He was employed by Northwest Motor Welding for several years before working for United Grocers as a truck driver. He was honored as the driver of the year for the company in 1981. He was a member of the brotherhood of Teamsters, Local 162.

His hobbies included motorcycle riding, hunting, camping, fishing and running, and most other types of outdoor activities.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; his children, Gretchen Anderson of Boring, Brent Anderson of Portland and Robyn Fry of Sandy; his brothers, Don Anderson and David Anderson of Gresham; his sister, Lona Anderson of Portland; and a granddaughter.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

ESD delays Boring boundary decision

by JAN COOLEY

The Multnomah Education Service District will not decide until at least September whether to change the boundaries of Gresham Union High School District to include all of Boring School District.

The MESD board postponed a decision on the boundaries Tuesday night, saying it prefers to wait for the outcome of a consolidation vote Nov. 4 in the Sandy Union School District.

At a public hearing Tuesday night, the MESD board unanimously passed a resolution to take the matter "under advisement, with the option to hold an additional hearing."

About 40 people attended the meeting. In addition to formal presentations on the issue, three people spoke in favor of the boundary change and one person spoke against it.

The board has 100 days from July 15, the day the boundary change petition was received, to act on the request. But it has asked the State Board of Education for a 60-day extension so it can consider the outcome of the Nov. 4 election. In that election, voters will decide whether to unify the Sandy Union High School District with the grade school districts that feed into it.

The state board is expected to rule on the extension request Friday. If it denies the request, the MESD board will consider the petition at its September meeting. If the state board approves the request, the MESD decision will be postponed until after the election.

If voters approve unification, said John Burgess, MESD staff attorney, "It would change the facts on what the board would consider."

The MESD board must base its decision on seven criteria set by state law and its own policy. Those criteria include impact of the change on enrollment, assessed property value, educational programs, support services and tax rate.

A study presented by MESD Deputy Superintendent James Jacobson concluded the proposed boundary change would not have an adverse impact on either the Sandy or the Boring district. Orval Aulse, assistant superintendent for Gresham, testified that the Gresham board has not taken an official position on the proposal, but prefers to take the role of an "interested observer."

Gresham could accommodate the approximately 90 students that would transfer from Sandy High School to Barlow High School, Aulse said. The only adverse impact might be in transportation.

"If we have to pick up those students, it might increase costs. I'm not sure," Aulse said.

Pamela Stebbeds, an attorney for the Sandy Union High School District, said the change would have a negative impact on the district. The district would lose approximately \$14,000 per student in reimbursement. It also would have to limit some of its elective programs, including Japanese language classes and some business, electronics and

Please turn to Page 4.

Four city seats are up for re-election this fall

People interested in running for a position on the Sandy City Council have until 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 25, to submit petitions. Election packets can be picked up at City Hall.

The mayor's position is open, along with three council seats. They are position 1, currently held by Dick Harrison, position 2, held by Larry Buck, and position 5, held by Calvin Jones.

The mayor's term is for two years.

The City Council terms of office are for four years.

Mayor Deane Wesselink will be running for re-election to his position, according to Tom Reber, city manager. Others who have picked up election packets are Buck, Harrison and Richard Barton.

A candidate must gather 20 signatures from registered voters in Sandy to get on the November ballot.

Bluff Road paving begins

People who live or travel on Bluff Road will only be able to travel one way, and that way is north.

The 1½-mile stretch of road, from U.S. Highway 26 at the south to Kelso Road on the north, will be under construction until mid-October.

Jim Turin and Sons Inc, paving contractors from Sandy, received the bid to do the work. Construction began Wednesday.

See related story on Page 3.

Trail to get national notice

by SCOTT NEWTON

It is dusk, and as one is jogging on the Sandy High School nature/exercise trail, entering the wooded area, squirrels scamper out of the way and birds dart ahead.

Amid the unexplainable noises of the forest sits a model project taken on by the high school that is getting national exposure.

Randy Hutchinson, department coordinator for health and physical education, and Zel Gernhart, department coordinator for mathematics and science, have been at work on the trail for two years, along with students from two-hour environmental sciences classes.

From dawn until dusk, walkers and joggers of all ages use the trail. Hutchinson knows people from Gresham who drive over to exercise here.

The benefits are obvious. There is no traffic, or the accompanying exhaust fumes, and running on the bark dust trail reduces stress to the joints. When the trail descends into the woods, the trees block out the hot sun.

There are 10 exercise stations, and 10 more will be built.

But in addition to providing a complete workout, Hutchinson and Gernhart are pleased with its myriad other uses.

Sandy High School students hosted an outdoor school for Kelso School sixth graders last year, and Hutchinson said there was good interaction between the two age groups along the nature trail.

Hutchinson said senior citizens are sometimes intimidated by teenagers, but along the jogging trail students working on the trail and seniors out for a morning walk are on a first-name basis.

Gernhart said that most schools have cut outdoor school programs from their budgets. He said he hopes the trail project can fill that gap.

class. Wood shop classes will be brought in this year to build small boats to use on the pond. Money from a grant will be used this fall to pay for a 12-by-24-foot dock with handicapped access. Hutchinson said students in agricultural classes would help with the landscaping.

The goal of the program is to build enrollments in declining vocational

Science teachers from across the state will get a chance to tour the trail during their fall conference.

Students studying botany have identified as many as 55 species of plants. Biology classes conduct plant and animal population studies, and study water chemistry and aquatic life at the pond.

The pond has been there for years, but not in its present form. A second pond has been excavated, and should be filled by the coming winter rains. It will feature an island in the middle, and the two ponds will probably cover a half an acre to an acre.

Number of different departments have been involved. A drafting class drew a blueprint of the drainage pipe, which was built by a metals

education subjects, according to Dennis Crow, senior vice principal.

Crow said enrollment is up in academic subjects because of tougher college-entrance requirements, leaving many students with less time to study vocational subjects.

The high school received a \$12,000 grant, of which they spent \$10,050, to write the program. While that may sound like a simple enough project, three science instructors, five vocational education instructors and a career counselor were involved. "It was written by teachers who teach," Gernhart said.

After five drafts, they put together a version that will allow high schools across the country to set up a full-blown, or a modified, version of the project.

Textbooks have been printed, and Sandy High School will realize income from the sale of the book.

The course will get national exposure. The Ohio State National Center for Research and Vocational Education is preparing to publish an article telling about the program, which will be distributed to educators in all 50 states and seven trust territories, according to Crow.

Hutchinson and Gernhart will also make a presentation at the Oregon Science Teachers Association's fall conference in Lake Oswego. Interested teachers will get a chance to come to Sandy by bus to visit the nature trail first-hand.

The high school also received a \$1,500 grant from the state to purchase building materials, and the grant for the handicapped fishing dock is for \$875. There are several students at Sandy High School confined to wheelchairs, Crow said.

Hutchinson and Gernhart said Crow put in a good deal of time getting the grants. "Though there was a lot of red tape, it was worth the effort," Crow said.

Gernhart can envision all kinds of public uses for the facility, and can't imagine that there is a class that couldn't utilize the area in some way.

Even politics would be appropriate, Gernhart said, teasing Crow about the red tape.



Zel Gernhart, left, and Randy Hutchinson with a wood duck nest near the pond at Pop Rannow Stadium.