

NATURE'S CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

68 stores in 18 states and British Columbia, and employs some 6,000 people. Wild Oats operates under multiple trade names, including Wild Oats, Alfalfa's, Capers and Oasis, which has two stores located in Eugene, Oregon.

Nature's Northwest has been in business since 1969 and currently operates six stores in the greater Portland area. The merger with Wild

Oats will have no impact on the planned opening of Nature's seventh store in the Laurelhurst neighborhood in May, the relocation of the Fremont store in June or the new Gresham store scheduled to open in the fourth quarter of 1999.

"This is a great move for Nature's," said Brian Rohrer, General Manager of Nature's. "Wild Oats is very similar to Nature's in terms of the products we offer, our core values and culture. This is

another major step towards fulfilling our goal of making natural products affordable and accessible to more people."

"We are delighted to add the Nature's stores to Wild Oats' growing national family of natural foods supermarkets," said Jim Lee, President and Chief Operating Officer of Wild Oats. They are a stellar group of stores, and we look forward to expanding the Nature's name in the Pacific Northwest."

U.S. COMMISSION FOR SCHOLASTIC ASSISTANCE

College Tuition Assistance

A conservative estimate of college costs for a full-time student runs from \$10,000-\$30,000; high cost colleges can run from \$40,000-\$100,000! Most parents and student think that scholarships are only for the students with excellent grades, low-income families, or the athletically inclined. A small example of the numerous scholarships available to students include: Handicapped Student Scholarships, Members of a Church Scholarships, Scholarships for "C" Students, Veteran Children's Scholarships, Scholarships for Minorities and much, much more.

are from the Federal Government and are merit and/or need-based, billions of dollars are available to students from private sector scholarships. Much of private sector financial aid goes unused because the parents and students do not know how or where to apply

There are organizations that have spent hundreds of hours in research locating scholarship sources. The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance - College Bound is such an organization and supplies the public with over 700 different private scholarship sources. The scholarship list include the scholarship names, addresses,

application deadlines, summaries about the scholarships and the amount the scholarship will pay your child.

Many scholarships pay the entire tuition; others can be applied towards tuition, living expenses, and/or other fees. Most scholarships can be used at junior colleges, career and vocational schools, 4 year colleges, graduate schools, medical and law schools.

For information on obtaining these scholarship lists, send a self-addressed, stamped, business size, #10, envelope to: The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance, P.O. Box 668, O'Fallon, IL 62269

Rite Aid Announces \$10,000 Gift To WSU For Minority Students

Camp Hill, Pa. (June 26, 1998) - Rite Aid Corporation announced that it would contribute \$10,000 to Wayne State University's School of Pharmacy. The funds, which will be administered through the university's Office of Minority Recruitment and Development, will provide five scholarships for minority students.

new units Rite Aid plans to open in Detroit this year.

Said Grass, "This contribution further demonstrates Rite Aid's commitment to providing job opportunity and higher education for minorities. We are very pleased to be able to give back to the Detroit community which has been so supportive of Rite Aid."

In accepting the donation on behalf of Wayne State University Hanley N. Abramson, associated dean of the College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Professionals said, "African American citizens are greatly

underrepresented in the pharmacy profession, especially in metropolitan Detroit. I wish to commend Rite Aid for its support of the College's efforts to recruit more African American students into Wayne State's pharmacy program. This is an investment not only in the lives of individual students, but also in the future of the Detroit community."

In addition to this newly announced gift, Rite Aid annually awards three scholarships to students at Wayne State University's School of Pharmacy for scholastic achievement.

Nominations For Oregon Entrepreneurship Awards Due

OEF Announces Winners at the Annual Dinner Thursday, September 9

The state's hottest entrepreneurs must act soon to be considered for the 1999 Oregon Entrepreneurship Awards, the highest recognition in Oregon for those business people who create a company out of an idea. The awards ceremony will take place Thursday, September 9, 1999, at the Ballroom in the Oregon Convention Center. The deadline for submitting entry forms is Friday, May 14, 1999. Contact the Oregon Entrepreneurship Forum at (503) 222-2270 or info@oef.org to request an entry form.

1999 Oregon Emerging Company-for the best performance taking a product or service to market

1999 Oregon Technology Entrepreneur—for the best technology company performance.

1999 Oregon Service Entrepreneur—for the best entrepreneurial service performance.

1999 Oregon Manufacturing Entrepreneur—for the best hard-goods manufacturing performance.

To choose the winners, and independent panel of business leaders, venture capitalists, investment bankers and

service providers will evaluate the finalist on a set of key criteria, including innovation, leadership, financial success and future plans. In 1998, the event was attended by more than 1,100 people from Oregon's business community.

The Oregon Entrepreneurship Awards Dinner is the second event in the Oregon Entrepreneurs Forum Special Events Series. The other events are the Conference on Entrepreneurship scheduled for Wednesday, May 26, 1999, and Venture Oregon scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, October 6-7, 1999

Legislative Highlights

Violent Student Bill Goes to Senate

Attempting to address the issue of school violence, the House of Representatives this week approved a bill requiring school districts to adopt policies on managing students whom threatens violence or harm to others in our schools.

HB 3444 requires school districts to develop policies directing administrators to consider:

the classroom any student who has threatened to injure another person or to severely damage school property:

Placing the student in a setting where the behavior will receive immediate attention, including the office of the principal, vice principal, assistant principal, or counselor or an outside psychologist or psychiatrist; and

Requiring the student to be evaluated by a licensed counselor, psychologist or psychiatrist before allowing the student to return to the classroom.

The policies must also require the administrator to notify the parent or legal guardian of the student's behavior and the school's response.

HB 3444 now heads to the Senate for consideration.

School Facilities Inventory Set

The Senate Department of Education will conduct inventory of K-12 school facilities under a bill approved this week by the Senate Education Committee.

SB 1299, sponsored by Sen. Susan Castillo (D-Eugene), calls for the inventory to evaluate K-12

school facilities by identifying deferred maintenance needs, capitol repair requirements and projected facility needs based on student enrollment growth.

"The facilities needs of Oregon's 198 school districts are so varied, a reliable inventory of

the extent of those needs is long over-due," said OSBA Director of Legislative Services John Marshall in support of SB 1299.

The bill was referred to the Joint Ways and Means Committee for funding. No action in that committee is currently scheduled.

High School Student Transfer OK'd

High school juniors and seniors will be able to transfer to any high school that has space available for them if the bill approved this week by the house Education Committee becomes law.

HB 2370, introduced by Rep. Roger Beyer (R-Molalla), requires school districts to admit non-resident high school students (grades 9-

12) to their high school students if space is available. Under current law, inter-district transfers require permission of the sending and receiving school district boards.

"Allowing unlimited transfers of students between high schools creates a multitude of problems for school districts trying to deal with facilities capacity.

"The bill also has serious implications for students involved in interscholastic activities and compliance with Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) inter-district and should be defeated," said John Marshall, OSBA's director of legislative services.

The full House will consider HB 2370 sometime next week.

Bill Would Allow School District Split

A procedure allowing school districts to split into two or more smaller districts was set up this week in a bill approved by the House Education Committee.

HB 2371, introduced by Rep. Roger Beyer (R-Molalla), amends the school district boundary change law (ORS Chapter 330) to allow school districts to divide into two or more smaller

districts if requested to do so by either the school district board, or 500, or five percent of the registered voters in the district, whichever is less. If such a request is made, the district boundary board orders a change.

"Given the particular financial struggle facing many small school districts, a bill allowing the creation of more small school dis-

tricts is out-of-place and should be defeated," said OSBA Director of Legislative Services John Marshall. "While many citizens yearn for the return to smaller, community-based school districts, the funding simply isn't there to support them."

HB 2371 will be considered by the full House sometime next week.

Huge Tornadoes Killed Dozens in Midwest

Deadly Twisters Ripped Through Oklahoma and Kansas

By TIM TALLEY

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OKLAHOMA CITY - The death toll stood at 43 today after fierce tornadoes destroyed entire neighborhoods in Oklahoma and Kansas. One monstrous twister chewed across miles of Tornado Alley for four hours.

The state medical examiner said 38 people were killed in Oklahoma alone in Monday's storms, spokesman Ray Blakeney said.

The largest twister formed about 45 miles southwest of Oklahoma City and cut a path at least a half-mile wide. While many tornadoes are short-lived, this one stayed on the ground for about four hours, said Wayne Ruff, a National Weather Service meteorologist. Local TV stations followed it with live broadcasts.

The damage "looks like the Murrah Building, but instead of nine stories tall, it's spread out over a large area," Oklahoma City assistant fire chief Jon Hansen said, referring to the federal building bombing in 1995.

More severe thunderstorms with scattered twisters rippled across the Plains this morning, and tornado warnings were posted for parts of central Oklahoma. A tornado watch covered much of the rest of the state.

In Washington, President Clinton declared 11 Oklahoma counties and one in Kansas federal disaster areas.

About 150 miles north of Oklahoma City, a tornado spawned by the same storm system tossed mobile homes like tin cans, damaged houses and killed at least five people in Wichita, Kan., and its suburb of Haysville. Hospitals treated more than 100 people.

"It is worse than what you can see," said Bob Thompson, a fire battalion chief in Sedgwick County, Kan. He said more deaths were possible, and dogs were used today to search the rubble of homes in Wichita.

Chad Harris was with seven people inside his mobile home in Haysville when it was flipped over and demolished. Two of his companions were critically injured.

"I have no trailer," Harris said. "We all rolled in it. It was the worst experience in my life."

In Oklahoma, the dead included 11 people in Bridge Creek, about 30 miles southwest of Oklahoma City, said Ben Frizzell, spokesman for the state Office of Emergency Management.

Others died in Oklahoma City and nearby Midwest City, Moore, Del City and Norman.

"We're really just getting started on the foot-by-foot search," Clayton Taylor, a Red Cross spokesman, said today in Oklahoma City.

"We have whole communities that simply aren't there anymore," Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating told NBC's "Today" show. "It certainly looks like a huge battle has taken place."

The number of houses destroyed in the Oklahoma City area approached 2,000. Cars were tossed about and crushed. Natural gas spewed from ruptured lines. Utility poles were splintered into kindling.

Hospitals in the Oklahoma City metro area treated 563 people for tornado-related injuries, police Capt. Charles Allen said.

"I've been through the war in Germany. I've had bombs fall all around me. Now I've been in a tor-

nado," 73-year-old Anna Knerr said today in a shelter in Midwest City.

Mrs. Knerr said she and her husband hid in a closet before the storm hit. "Then there just was this creepy feeling," she said. "The next thing I know I was covered. The roof just collapsed on me." She and her husband crawled to safety.

The National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman said the tornado may have been a mile wide at times. The weather service's David Andra predicted the twister would be categorized at least an F4, the second-strongest tornado classification, defined as a storm with wind at 207 to 260 mph.

It would probably be late today before the staff at the laboratory could determine just how strong the tornado was, researcher Harold Brooks said.

The system also spawned twisters in north and west Texas, but did no major damage there.

The main tornado in Oklahoma formed near Chickasha, about 45 miles southwest of the capital. It plowed across the flat countryside, toppling trees, power lines, buildings and cars until it ripped into south Oklahoma City.

The National Weather Service issued its first tornado warning at 4:49 p.m. Monday as twisters started over rural parts of the state. Television stations started live coverage a few minutes later, following the storms with cameras and radar for about two hours before the tornadoes slammed into the Oklahoma City area.

Last year, tornadoes killed 42 people around Kissimmee, Fla., on Feb. 22-23, and 34 people died in the area of Birmingham, Ala., on April 8.

"You made it easier for a Mom to stay with her sick child 24 hours a day because of a kitchen on the floor and a nearby laundry room. Thank you for a job well done."

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