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## Vancouver Fireworks Extravaganza

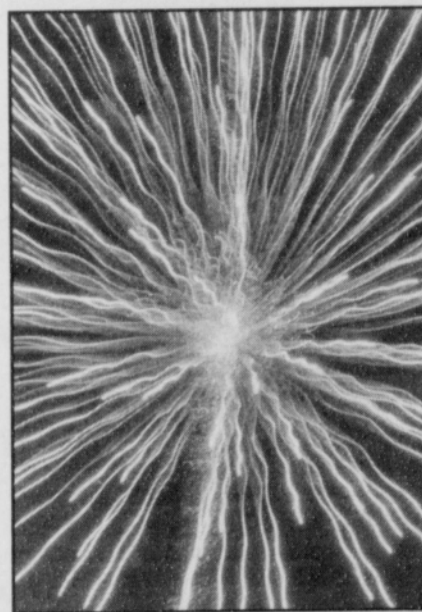
### Fourth of July celebration at Historic Reserve

The Vancouver National Historic Reserve will once again host the Comcast 4th of July at the Historic Reserve on Monday, July 4.

Billed as one of the largest fireworks displays west of the Mississippi, the all-day celebration ends with a 30-minute fireworks extravaganza in the night sky over the Columbia River.

A \$4 contribution offsets the expense of presenting one of the region's most popular summer events.

Western Display Fireworks will once again stage this year's



fireworks show, which will be accompanied by synchronized music broadcast simultaneously by FM radio station

KGON 92.3. KGW Northwest NewsChannel 8 will also televise the fireworks show live in its entirety.

The public is encouraged to enjoy activities and entertainment that span the entire day. The fun begins at 7 a.m., with an old-fashioned pancake breakfast in the Mess Hall Building in the West Barracks.

The action gets started on the Main Stage at 10 a.m. with a contest for local high school vocalists. This year's entertainers include: the 104th U.S. Army Reserve Band, the Kathy Walker Band, the Joe Stoddard Trio, Latin music by Conjunto Alegre, Bob Miller's Almost All-Star Band, the High Street Band and popular local group, 5 Guys Named Moe.

An assortment of arts and crafts vendors will be selling hand-crafted wares. Food and beverage vendors will also be on hand.

## July 4<sup>th</sup> Fun at Blue Lake Park

### Fireworks, music headline activities

Celebrate Independence Day with fireworks, music and fun at Blue Lake Regional Park.

Family activities and an international food court will kick off the celebration starting at 1 p.m. The group Slam will perform classic rock, smooth jazz and rhythm and blues music from the '80s and '90s from 6 to 10 p.m. The day will

end with a spectacular fireworks display beginning at approximately 10 p.m.

Blue Lake Park's 185-acres is located off Northeast 223<sup>rd</sup> Avenue between Sandy Boulevard and Marine Drive. It offers stunning views of Mt. Hood, a 400-foot swim beach and rentals of paddle boats, canoes or rowboats to explore the lake. The park also has a network of paths leading to basketball, softball, volleyball, horseshoe courts and three areas with play equip-

ment for children.

Regular park admission of \$4 per car or \$7 per bus will be charged from 8 a.m. until noon. Admission will rise to \$7 per vehicle beginning at noon until park closing. No pets, alcohol or personal fireworks are allowed in the park.

TriMet has launched a pilot service to Blue Lake Park from the Gresham Transit Center this summer, providing visitors another way to get to the park on busy summer weekends and holidays.

## Forestry Center Opens Discovery Museum

### Grand opening takes place Thursday

After an extensive \$7.5 million exhibit and building renovation, the World Forestry Center will open its doors to a brand-new Discovery Museum on Thursday, June 30.

New, hands-on, interactive exhibits will engage visitors to learn about all aspects of the amazing forests of our world. Visitors will have the chance to: explore life beneath the forest floor; stroll across the new 20 foot high canopy walk taking them through the tree tops; go for a white water raft ride without



Kyle Beeby carefully places fabricated ants in a new exhibit at the renovated World Forestry Center Discovery Museum. Over 100 ants, hand made from wire and beads, will accompany weasels, centipedes and salamanders in an exhibit that teaches about the life a nurse log supports.

getting wet; and smoke jump into a wildfire without getting singed.

The World Forestry Center is a non-profit educational institution dedicated to educating and in-

forming people about the world's forests and trees, and their relationship to all life, in order to promote a balanced and sustainable future.