

New Recreation Ideas Planned

A new school-year recreation program is already on the Simi Valley recreation and park district drawing boards as the summer playground activities draw to a halt today.

Jim Hand, district recreation supervisor, reports that afterschool playground programs will begin at Simi Valley Elementary schools about a week after school starts, with junior high school-age activities scheduled to begin again Sept. 21.

Saturday morning playground programs and a Saturday afternoon junior high sports day are new additions to the youth recreation program, Hand said.

The summer playground programs ending today have operated for the last eight weeks, and resulted in "the most outstanding summer in the short history of the recreation and park district," according to Hand.

Activities offered for elementary-age youngsters on the playgrounds included movies, sprinkler parties, watermelon feeds, games, crafts, story-telling and a pet fair. A playground circus last week at Center junior high school capped the summer playground activities.

The district also sponsored recreation and social programs

GARDEN CLUB TO MEET

Members of the Susana Knolls Garden Club will meet at the home of Mrs. Goldie Johnson Aug. 25, at 1 p.m.

Co-hostesses will be Mrs. Inez Moodie and Mrs. Edith Halsey.

for junior and senior high school students during the summer, and adult athletic activities.

Summer recreation leaders, some of whom will return to supervise afterschool playgrounds, included Kae Reinhart, Mel Peterson, Dan Dudley, Sue Miller, Sue Foreman, Jerri Rolinson, John Williams, Tamarlyn Dandridge, Kathy Schoenfelder, Charlie Adams, Pat Regele, Diane Wooley, Bob Hird, J. R. Perkins, Betty Foster, Max Lipskey, Mary Heath and Jack Rouse.

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14 Seek 3 Jobs On Parks Board

Potential candidates for three posts on the Simi Valley Recreation and Park District board of directors have shot to 14 with two of the three incumbents still unannounced whether they will seek re-election.

Seven men and seven women have taken out nomination papers from the Recreation and Park District office, but so far only one appears to be a valid candidate. Mrs. Peg Ahlstrom, 3394 Las Nogales Road, Santa Susana, has returned her papers, and names on them are being checked by the County Elections Department to be sure the signers are registered voters.

Insurance man Robert Shipp, 1164 Katherine Road, Santa Susana, the first to file, must have his papers re-circulated because he circulated his own the first time.

Candidates must return their nomination papers to the Recreation and Park District office by 5 p.m. Sept. 4. Between five and 10 registered voters must have signed the papers for them to be valid.

Frank Setser, chairman of the recreation district board, several weeks ago said he would not be a candidate for re-election. Director Al Haas has said he might not seek re-election because he might move from the district. Dave Strathearn Jr., the third director whose term is expiring, has made no announcement whether he will run again.

Besides Mrs. Ahlstrom and Shipp, those who have taken out nomination papers are Marilou Wassell, Simi; W. George Dewart, Santa Susana; Harvey Barnett, Santa Susana; Marie Schilling, Santa Susana; Betty Foster, Simi; Fran Ashford, Santa Susana.

Others are Ray Brannen, Simi; Don White, Santa Susana; Diane Gothie, Santa Susana; Gerry McMullen, Santa Susana, a candidate for the board four years ago; Charles Cordial, Simi; and Al Rosen, Simi.

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ENTERPRISE

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SV Park Master Plan Maps "Exciting" Valley Future

An almost-complete master plan sketching park land and recreational facilities needed for a Simi Valley population of 210,000 by 1985 was unveiled before recreation and park district directors Wednesday night.

Donald M. Roberts, Thousand Oaks landscape architect retained by the district to draw the master plan, told directors he expects to come up with a finished product for their scrutiny next month.

The final preliminary plans shown to directors would allow the district to develop in future years "an exciting system within its means" of parks and recreational facilities, Roberts explained.

In a report to the board, Roberts pointed out that "traditional solutions, adhering to traditional standards, will result in inadequate facilities at a higher tax-dollar cost.

"With ingenuity and enterprise, the Simi Valley recreation and park district can develop parks to serve the area's needs within the shortest possible time and with more-than-usual support from revenue-producing facilities," he asserted.

Covering the park district's 84,500 acres in 132 square miles, the master plan suggests that the district figure on a 1985 population ranging from 175,000 to 210,000.

To meet the needs of this population, Roberts urges the district to encourage county acquisition of land for several large regional parks in the area. The regional parks would be developed jointly with the county,

and recreation programs would be administered by the local district. Revenue-producing facilities in these regional parks through lease and franchise arrangements were suggested by Roberts in his preliminary master plan report.

The landscape architect also urged the development of neighborhood parks and recreational facilities.

Other items offered by Roberts in the recreation and park master plan for Simi Valley include:

— **RECREATIONAL TRAVEL:** Noting that driving for pleasure is the leading recreational activity in California and the nation, Roberts proposes "a system of approximately 46 miles of scenic routes connecting most of the (proposed) regional parks and several of the community parks which provide turnouts, scenic overlooks, rest stops and in-route campgrounds.

— **SIGHTSEEING AND STUDY:** "The habitat of the quail and the deer, long the exclusive domain of the hunter, is being invaded more and more by the camera and tape recorder," Roberts says.

His master plan suggests that "private organizations functioning as a public trust be formed to assist in the promotion, development and administration of an arboretum and zoo," and preservation and development of Valley historical sites.

— **PICNICKING?** "In looking forward to 1985, one can anticipate that much of the rustic undeveloped open space now utilized for picnicking will be eliminated by urban development,"

Roberts notes, and suggests facilities for picnicking should be provided in most Valley parks, and "the retention of campsites which have become unattractive due to the proximity of urban activity."

— **CAMPING:** "There is . . .

substantial opportunity to provide camping facilities, particularly within the proposed regional parks." If operated by the recreation and park district, they should "be on a revenue-producing basis, or at worst on a break-even basis."

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Priority Plan For Parks In Simi Valley Studied

Development of parks by the Simi Valley Recreation and Park District is going to be put on a priority construction schedule.

District directors Wednesday night considered a tentative schedule suggested by Les Reed, district manager, and will discuss it more extensively at their next meeting.

Three park sites are heading the list of property owned by the district and earmarked for parks. These are Arroyo Park in the Valley West subdivision, Frontier Park on the south side of Arroyo Simi about one-fourth mile east of Erringer Road and a site near the southwest corner of Bridget Street and Los Angeles

Avenue in the Kings Park tract.

Final site utilization plans have been approved by directors on Arroyo and Frontier with preliminary site plans okayed on the third site.

Reed told the directors, "It is imperative we define the schedule we're shooting for. It has importance on both budgeting and informing the public." He pointed out, however, that a definite schedule will be difficult to compile until site utilization plans and rough costs are prepared.

Reed's suggested schedule which he said he was proposing as a starting point in determining a final construction schedule calls for:

Arroyo—Begin phase one in

the 1964-65 fiscal year and phase two in 1965-66.

Frontier—Phase one including parking, grading and some utility installation in 1964-65 and the second phase the next year.

The Kings Park site—Phases one and two in 1964-65.

The Hedrick site—Phase one and two in 1965-66 and phase three in 1967-68.

The 13-acre Sequoia site—Phase one in 1965-66 and phase two in 1966-67.

The Solomon-Rosenberg site—no earlier than 1966-67 for phases one and two and 1967-68 for the third phase.

Hall turkey ranch site—First phase in 1966-67.

Dry Canyon site—First phase in 1966-67.

Houghton site—Phases one and two in 1966-67.

In another matter, the directors approved a \$500 contract with landscape architect Donald Roberts, Thousand Oaks, to draw up a plan for recreational use of the land around a proposed reservoir in the hills south of the valley. Roberts will also prepare the estimated cost of the development.

This action came after Ventura County Flood Control District III, roughly the Second Supervisorial District, proposed as a method of flood control—and for recreational use—several dams on drainage channels to form reservoirs.

To apply for state money to help finance the project, recreational studies of the areas must be completed.

Roberts will study the channels and about 200 acres surrounding channels in Bus and Long Canyons which together are considered one of the best potential recreation areas of those projected for reservoirs around the valley.

The directors also approved plans for grading, installing foundations and joining a subdivision sales office and model home which will be moved to the Kings Park park site, remodeled and used for the recreation district offices and a recreation building.

The directors took an initial step toward what could develop into a Simi Valley orchestra. They authorized Reed to check possible facilities and references of Paul Senia, Simi, a music teacher in a private Los Angeles school who has offered to donate his time to organize and direct the orchestra at no cost to the district.

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Park Board To Return To The Soil?

Directors of the Simi Valley Recreation and Park District may try their hands at citrus farming.

The district owns land for a park site which is now a 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre orange grove. And the orchard is getting dry and needs attention, the directors were told Wednesday night.

The board agreed to lease the land if water can be obtained for irrigation and authorized Director Al Haas to look for someone interested in leasing the property. The directors also agreed that the orchard will have to be irrigated until the property can be leased.

Labeled the Houghton park site, the land is just east of Township Elementary School on Township Avenue between Tapo Street and Tapo Canyon Road.

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