

By **CONNIE POTTER**
 Special to the Advertiser Department

Scott and Gail Anderson love living in Mountain Park and not just for the amenities that landed the Lake Oswego development in "99 Best Residential and Recreational Communities in America."

The Andersons, who have two small children, wanted a lot of square footage but didn't want to hock their firstborn to get it. After searching in southwest Portland, where they were living at the time, they found something they liked — and could afford — in Mountain Park.

"You can get a large house on a large lot in a really nice area, and the prices aren't that bad," Scott Anderson said.

The family bought a 2,700-square-foot, five-bedroom, four-bath house three years ago for under \$150,000. It needed paint, carpeting and some remodeling, but the Andersons feel they got a bargain. Mature trees grow in their yard, and there's elbow room between houses. Many of their neighbors are longtime residents who take pride in their manicured landscapes.

"There's a sense of value," Gail said. "There's a sense of commitment to the neighborhood."

Mountain Park was the brainchild of developer Carl Halvorson, who envisioned a self-sufficient, planned community.

The development sits on 700 acres of woodlands on the slopes of Mount Sylvilla, a small dormant volcano between Portland and Lake Oswego.

Within its boundaries are 1,016 single-family homes; 521 townhouses; 567 condominiums; 1,449 apartments; parks; recreational facilities; and services including a dry cleaner, a hair salon, a grocery and liquor store, restaurants and retail shops.

It's essentially a city within a city, with more than 8,000 residents.

Mountain Park may be one of the metropolitan area's best kept real estate secrets, according to John Gress, a real estate agent who also is on the development's board of directors. As an example, he points to the development's location. Mountain Park, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary, is just 12 minutes from downtown Portland

Please turn to **PROFILE**, page H2

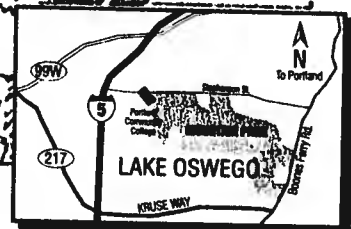


When it was developed 25 years ago by Carl Halvorson, Mountain Park's advertisements described plans for a complete community in the making — a city within a city built on 700 acres atop a dormant volcano. Today it is home to 8,000 residents who enjoy the self-sufficiency Halvorson envisioned.



The Anderson family — Gail, Scott and children Christopher, 6, and Kirsten, 3 — found a bargain in Mountain Park. They bought a five bedroom, four bath house that needed some cosmetic sprucing up for under \$150,000. The extensive community amenities, like the swim center, at right, were a bonus.

JOHN M. VINCENT

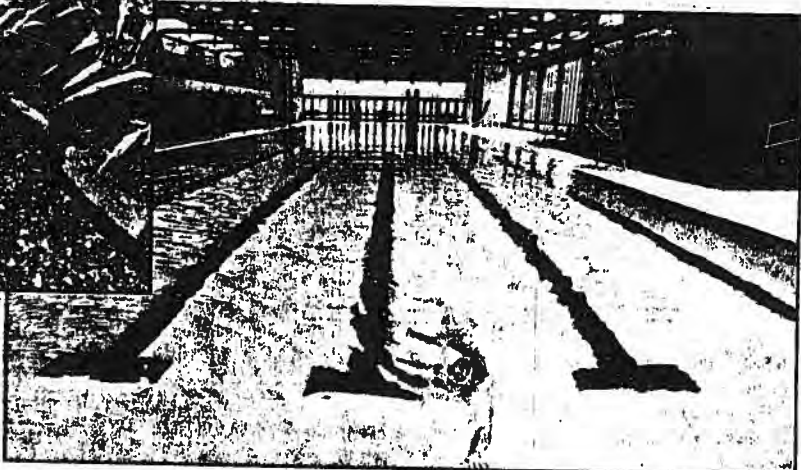


Size: 700 acres
Population: 8,000
Price Range: \$50,000 to \$750,000
Owner-occupied dwellings: 70 percent
Renter-occupied dwellings: 30 percent
Schools: Stephenson Elementary School and Wilson High School

for homes in Multnomah County; Uplands and Oak Creek elementary schools, Lake Oswego Junior High and Lake Oswego High School for those in Lake Oswego

Parks: Touchstone Park, Tanglewood Park, Cellini Park and Nansen Summit Park are among 185 acres of open space

Churches: Mountain Park Church



Lo. Review 6-10-93

Lake Oswego Review Thursday, June 10, 1993 — B1

Sports/Business/Real Estate

Tualatin wins swim title

Lake Oswego 2nd in Rose Festival meet held at Mountain Park rec center

By KURT KUDLICKA
Staff Reporter

The theme for the 1993 Rose Festival Swim Meet should have been the more the merrier as the Tualatin Hills and Lake Oswego swim clubs used their large numbers to outdistance the competition.

Tualatin Hills (THSC) and Lake Oswego (LOSC) both had the most competitors in the three-day meet, 95 and 83 respectively. The eighth annual meet was held at the Mountain Park Recreation Center Friday through Sunday.

Tualatin Hills won the meet with 607.5 points followed by Lake Oswego at 585, and the Vancouver Swim Club at 230. The top three teams earned trophies.

"It was nip and tuck between Tualatin Hills and Lake Oswego for first and second place the whole meet," Rose Festival Swim Meet Coordinator Michael

Berger said.

But the big story of the meet was the SwimWest team from Auckland, New Zealand. The team had only nine competitors but had enough talent to finish in fourth place with 223 points.

"They had some first-class swimmers on their team," LOSC coach John Hartman said. "It was just awesome to watch their older, really fast swimmers."

Of the 21 teams, SwimWest was one of the smallest in numbers, but according to Hartman, they were the best New Zealand had to offer.

Members of the LOSC were host families to the SwimWest team for the entire week. The visitors from afar got in a little sightseeing and were even thrown a barbecue prior to their flight home Monday night.

"They are really just great people. Our kids just had a blast. It was a great experience for Lake Oswego and New Zealand," Hartman said.

Next year, Berger hopes to have a free and open synchronized swimming exhibition on the final day of the meet.

See SWIM, page 2



LAKE OSWEGO SWIM CLUB'S Robbie McGinty races to second in the boys 11-12 200 individual medley this past weekend. (Staff photo by Vern Uyetake)

They had some first-class swimmers on their team. It was just awesome to watch their older, really fast swimmers. They are really just great people. Our kids just had a blast. It was a great experience for Lake Oswego and New Zealand.

— LOSC coach
John Hartman

Mountain Park celebrates 25 years of planned living

■ Some early residents of the still-growing community of 9,000 in Lake Oswego tell of their enjoyment after all these years

By JOHN FUREY

Correspondent, The Oregonian

LAKE OSWEGO — Residents of Mountain Park, among the first and best-known planned communities in the Portland area, will celebrate the development's 25th anniversary Sunday.

The community is on 700 acres on Mount Sylvania at the northwest edge of Lake Oswego. Some call it a city within a city, partly because of the many services and amenities its residents pay for and sponsor through their homeowners association.

Tom and Sheila Schmit are among longtime residents who plan to gather in the community's recreation center for the celebration from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

The Schmits helped dedicate the recreation center 23 years ago. Gov. Tom McCall was there for the dedication and signed the cast of the Schmits' 12-year-old son, Todd, who had a broken arm.

In 1970, the Schmits started a monthly neighborhood potluck that continues today.

And for 23 years, Tom Schmit has swum regularly in the recreation center's Olympic-size pool. He's there at 5:30 a.m. most mornings, before commuting to Portland where he is vice president of Williams Lumber Co.

"It is a good community to be a part of," said Sheila Schmit. "One look at the Olympic-sized pool and the kids were convinced Mountain Park was the place to live."

The Schmits and their four children were among the first Mountain Park residents.

In 25 years Mountain Park has grown substantially and has earned a reputation nationwide for the amenities it offers residents.

It is listed in a publication called

"The 99 Best Recreational & Residential Private Communities in America," published by John Wiley & Son, New York.

It includes 185 acres of parks and open space. There are 15 miles of walking and jogging paths and the homeowners association maintains a 20,000-square-foot recreation center with a 50-meter pool for Mountain Park residents.

Several types of housing are available in the planned community, including 1,016 single-family homes, 1,088 townhouses or condominiums and 1,449 apartments.

More than 9,000 people live in the community, which is expected to grow by another 1,000 population when it is built out in a few years.

More than 100 more apartments are planned, some under construction now. A few more single-family homes also will be built.

The community was created in 1968, when Carl Halvorson, Daryl Mason, Lem Nelson, Walt Arman and Gerson Goldsmith became officers of a newly formed Mountain Park Corp. After two years of preparation, construction of the first homes began in 1970.

Bob Ericsson, executive manager of Mountain Park since 1984, credits much of the success of Mountain Park to its governing body, the Mountain Park Home Owners Association.

Fred Wist, president of the homeowners association board, agrees and said board members "have a vested interest" in making the community a success.

"Board members volunteer many hours each month to help oversee the affairs of the association," Wist

said. "It is this type of dedication and community spirit that make Mountain Park a neighborhood showcase."

The homeowners association sponsors a wide variety of programs, such as classes on swimming and first aid, and services such as yard-debris pickup and notary public.

One way to keep residents satisfied, according to Sherry Scalf, communications specialist for the association, is to periodically send out questionnaires to residents about what they want.

"The key to maintaining Mountain Park as a desirable place to live is to keep the lines of communication open," Scalf said. "We try to do this by encouraging residents to provide constant input, to return questionnaires and to read their newsletter."

And the Schmits are among those satisfied residents.

"It's a great place to raise children," said Sheila Schmit, who works part time at The Difference is You, an image and personal style consulting company in Lake Oswego.

Their son, Todd, participated on the swim and diving teams and worked on the community's landscape crew. Their other sons, Troy and Tad, were members of the swim team, and Troy was editor of the community newsletter. And Jill, who attended Mountain Park preschool, began riding horses at age 10 in the community.

"It's a very livable place," Tom Schmit said. "It's well maintained. The amenities are here to be enjoyed."



JIM VINCENT/The Oregonian

ago 23 years ago with their celebration.

NEIGHBORHOOD FOCUS: LAKE OSWEGO/WEST LINN/W



Tom and Sheila Schmit moved to the Mountain Park planned community in Lake Oswego 23 years ago with their four children and are preparing to take part in the community's 25th anniversary celebration.

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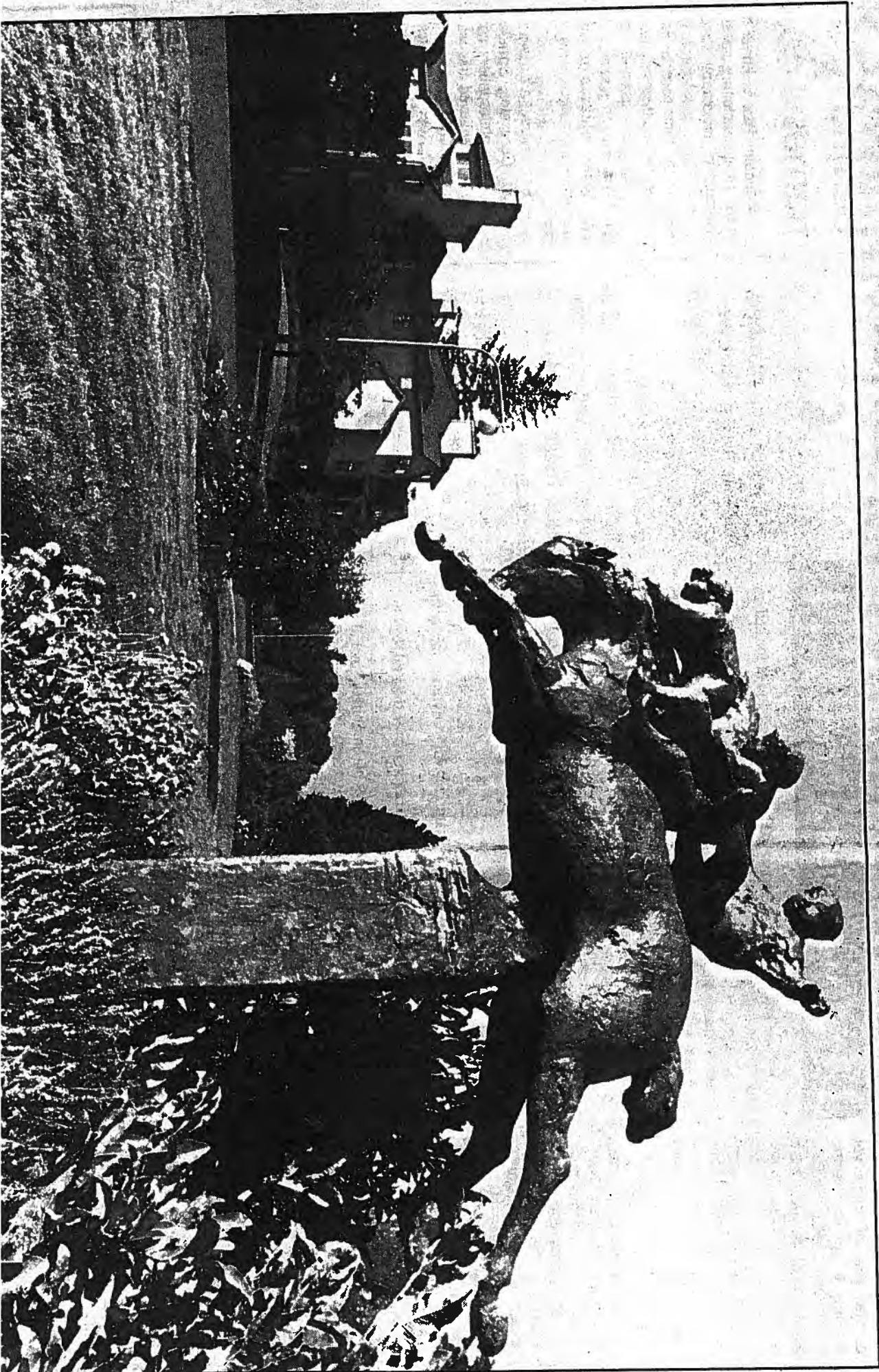
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25th Anniversary Celebration

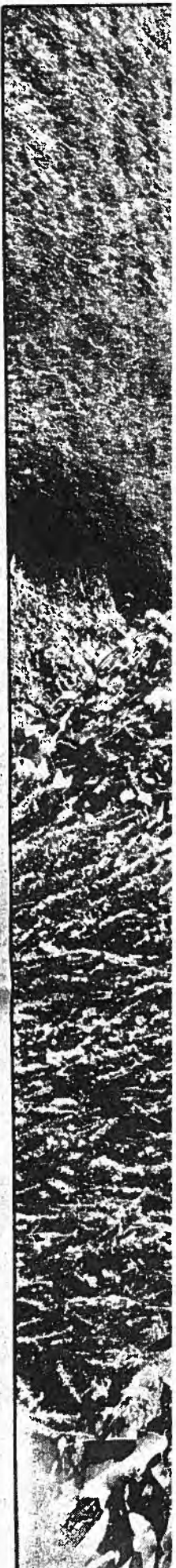
Lake Oswego Review Thursday, October 7, 1993 — D1



"Mountain Park is truly an exceptional place to live. Mountain Park Home Owners Association Board members and staff diligently strive to supply residents with unique programs, facilities, and services, while maintaining a neighborhood of prestige."

— Fred Wist, MPHQA
president and
homeowner

SCULPTURES GRACE the
grounds surrounding the



SCULPTURES GRACE the grounds surrounding the Mountain Park Recreation Center atop Mount Sylvania. (Staff photos by Vern Uyetake)

MOUNTAIN PARK!

Oct. 17 residents will celebrate the vision of a developer and a community that has successfully blended a wide variety of housing options, activities for more than 8,000 residents

A quarter of a century ago, Lake Oswego got its first look at a visionary planned unit development proposed on 700 acres of Mount Sylvania property.

In 1968, Carl Halvorson, Daryl Mason, Lem Nelson, Walt Arman and Gerson Goldsmith, took the first step in creating the residential area now known as Mountain Park.

That's when the Lake Oswego Planning Commission heard the first of many reports on the plan which called for a blend of townhouses, apartments and family homes.

With a maximum size of 3,800 residences, Halvorson's plan still managed to reserve nearly half of the design for greenways, parks and native wooded areas.

The developers also formed the Mountain Park Home Owners Association in 1968, but transferred that control to the property owners in 1978.

By 1969, after several months of public hearings, the \$175 million project received the city's permission to build.

The first home in the project was sold a year later.

In the center of the wooded Mountain Park, workers finished the \$1.8 million Recreation Center in 1970. Gov. Tom McCall was on hand for the dedication day ceremonies, as were 300 state, county and local officials.

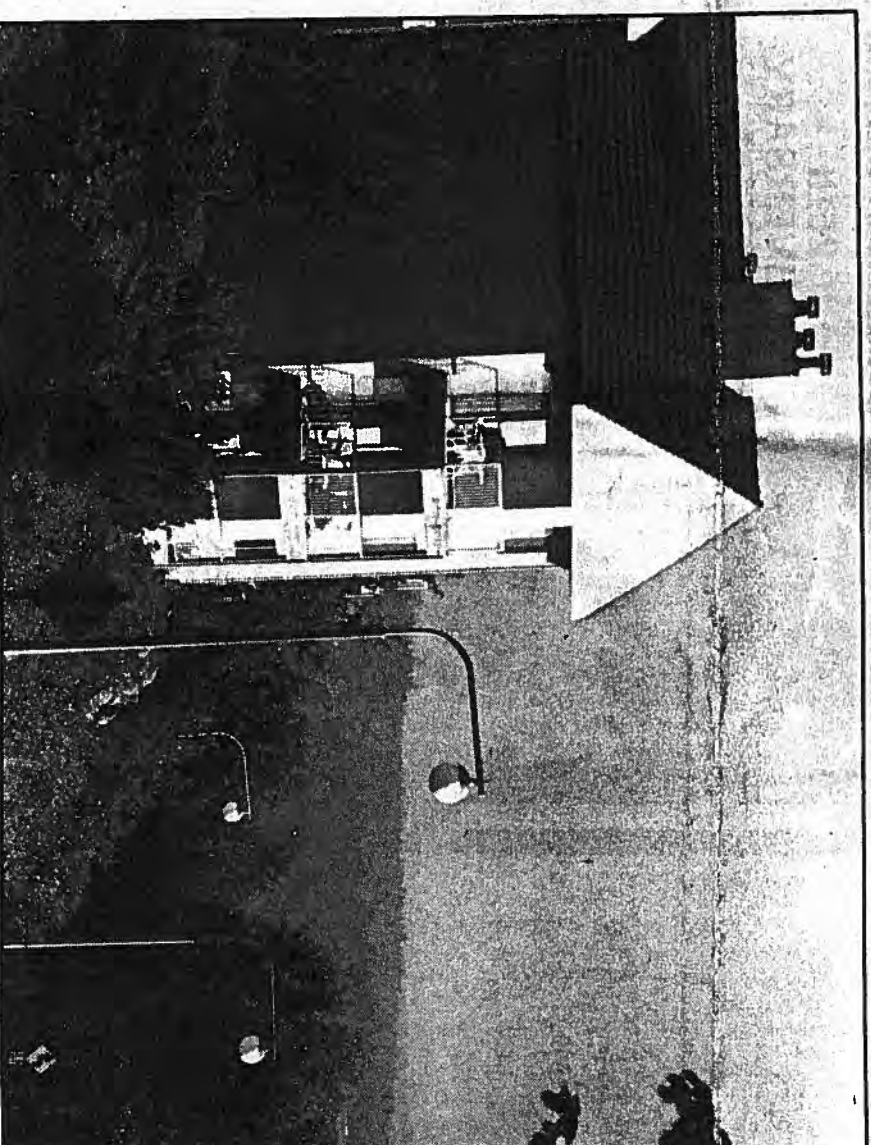
At the time, the center was the largest privately financed community recreation building in the Pacific Northwest.

The center features two levels with an Olympic sized pool, weight room, game room, gymnasium, and more.

The Rose Festival Swim Meet came to the Recreation Center in 1986 and swimmers have competed there annually ever since.

The 25-year-old development is home to more than 9,000 people who enjoy their own shopping facility, recreation center and miles of pathways and greenspaces.

In 1992, Mountain Park was named among "The 99 Best Residential and Recreational Communities in America."



MORE THAN 25 years ago developers guessed correctly that the vast beauty of the 700 acres now known as Mountain Park would draw residents from far and wide. Residents come for the many amenities, open spaces and variety of housing.

Celebration

- **What:** 25th anniversary celebration
- **When:** Noon to 4 p.m., Oct. 17
- **Where:** In the adult lounge of the recreation center
- **Why:** To celebrate the anniversary of the Home Owners Association.
- **Special feature:** Honored guests will include representatives of the original Mountain Park developer, the architectural firm that planned many of the common area amenities and community leaders.
- **Information:** Western-style barbecue will be served and dress is casual. For information call 635-3561.

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Longtime residents reflect on area's many virtues

Gress family: First residents were attracted by beauty, open spaces of area

By LORRI KENNEDY

"We planned on living in Lake Oswego, but were looking for existing houses" recalls John Gress, a longtime resident of the area's only planned community.

In fact, if it weren't for happenstance, he and his wife Elizabeth might have missed their pioneering call to the greenery and wooded area known as Mountain Park. Their journey into the planned community began with Gress, a local real estate sales agent, was



MOUNTAIN PARK 'pioneers' John, left, and Elizabeth Gress were the first to select a lot and build a home in the area. Today, more than 8,000 people have followed suit. (Staff photos by Vern Uytake)

See GRESS, page 4

Schools drew Osterud family to Mountain Park

"We wanted our daughter to attend high school in Lake Oswego. That really was the main reason for wanting to move into the area," says Susie Osterud, on the reasons she and her husband, Harold, chose to move to Mountain Park.

Formerly residents of Portland, the Osteruds were wary of the direction the neighborhood high school was taking during the late '60s and early '70s. Not long after their two sons graduated from high school, the Osteruds decided they wanted a change of scene for their teenage daughter.

See OSTERUD, page 4



THE QUALITY of schools in Lake Oswego proved a drawing point for residents Susie and Harold Osterud.

Abundant services draw newcomers

Mountain Park residents live here because they enjoy a vast array of amenities. Whether it's the beauty of the common areas, the convenience of over 15 resident services, the impressive recreation facilities, or the great sense of community pride, there is beyond a shadow of a doubt, something here for everyone.

—Sherry Scalf, communications specialist

If you plan your life right, you could manage to go for months without ever leaving Mountain Park. For residents, most of life's basic needs can be met, literally, without leaving home.

In fact, it's the 700-acre community's plentiful amenities that garnered Mountain Park its place in the well-known guide, "The 99 Best Residential & Recreational Communities in America."

From such essentials as community-wide landscaping and baby-sitting referrals to yard debris pick-up, safety programs and notary public services, the basics are covered as part of residency status.

Other services, many of them rare even in the best planned communities, include a community business network, complete desktop publishing and clerical services (including an economical facsimile service), real estate briefings, childcare and massage therapy. The extensive class and on-site seminar offerings are geared toward residents of all ages.

The biggest draw for newcomers, besides the plentiful views and varied housing alternatives, is the 20,000-square-foot clubhouse in the Mountain Park Recreation Center. In addition to a full-scale gymnasium and weight room, game room, party facilities and a billiards room, the center boasts one of the Portland area's only 50-meter Olympic-sized pools. And for residents who want to get their exercise outdoors, the community features 15 miles of walking and jogging trails

Mountain Park facts

- Mountain Park is situated on 700 acres of land and is located on a dormant volcano known as Mt. Sylvania.
- There are 185 acres of common property which is undeveloped land maintained in natural settings as well as manicured settings, there are also four community parks some of which have picnic tables and playground equipment.
- There are 15 miles of walking and jogging paths.
- Population is approximately 8,000 with expected growth of approximately 10,000.
- Breakdown — Housing:
 - Single family = 1,016
 - Townhouse/Condo = 521
 - Condos = 567
 - Plexes = 16
 - Apartments = 1449
 - non-assessed = 3592
- Recreation Center is 20,000 square feet with Olympic size pool (50 meters).
- Mountain Park is a nonprofit organization established in 1968 by developers.
- Mountain Park offers a wide range of amenities, including:
 - Baby-sitting Referral, Home Maintenance Referral, Yard Debris Pick-up, Community Business Network and dozens of other services.

top on the list of reasons residents well," says Sherry Scalf, communications specialist for the community. "In our resident surveys, the venient location is a big draw as

An asset of a planned community is that we are able to provide residents with a community that offers a high quality standard of living. We hope to continue these efforts in the future.

— Bob Ericsson, executive manager

What's behind names

Mountain Park is home to many things including an assortment of interesting street names. Here's a selection of some of the most peculiar and the story behind their origins.

• Kingsgate — is an area of England which carries a strong resemblance to the Mountain Park street named for it.

• Erasmus, Aquinas, Abeldard, Cervantes, Spinoza — all great philosophers and writers who believed life was fulfilled through experience, reason, faith, love and education. These philosophers taught that the best in life is reached through unity of mankind and harmony of existence.

• Weatherstone — gets its English flavor from Touchstone's Shakespearean aroma.

— Mountain Park Impressions

PRESLEY

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Complete Landscape Needs | Complete Pruning Needs |
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Gress/ from page 1

transferred from his job in Loswego, the couple had their eyes set on purchasing an existing home. But, it wasn't until the couple ran into an old navy reserve pal of Gress' that the decision to consider Mt. Park, was made. As though fate wasn't enough to convince them, the call to nature was. Mesmerized by the beauty of the trees, walking paths and common grounds, the Gress' became the first family to buy a lot and build a house in the area.

Since moving in 25 years ago, Gress says that life in Mountain Park hasn't changed too much. Reflecting on the changes that have occurred since the community's beginning until now, Gress reminisces, "Back when you were friends with everybody here. But it's a big

city now and it changes and it grows.

Not that he's concerned about a sudden overpopulation growth.

"We knew they wouldn't have a lot of apartments. The areas (condos, townhouses and apartments), are very separate and don't intrude into the single family homes." He contributes that result to the foresight and careful planning taken on the part of the developer.

Currently on the Board of Directors of the Mountain Park Homeowners Association, Gress held the very first meeting of the homeowners association, informally, in his living room, nearly a quarter of a century ago.

The parents of four grown children, three daughters and a son, John and wife Elizabeth continue to enjoy the area's immense scenic common grounds and, adds Gress, "we do like to hike on the trails." Aside from the community's growth, there

"Back when you were friends with everybody here. But it's a big city now and it changes and it grows."

— John Gress

is, according to Gress, a distracting aspect of Mountain Park living that has changed in 25 years. Retorts Gress, "It's gotten a little noisier."

Osterud/

from page 1

The year was 1972 when the Osteruds became the first residents in the Wheatherstone condominium complex. Over time, Susie has had a front-row seat watching the many changes that have occurred during the last 25 years.

"There are more buildings and more people, but the community offers the best of the city and all of the city's conveniences," she said.

"Despite the changes we have a tremendous amount of privacy. It's like being in a tree house. We know all of the neighbors really well and we've served on the Wheatherstone Board of Directors."

Another big plus is Mountain Park's recreation center. For the Osteruds, it is the site of many joyful memories. Recounts Susie, "It was nice for the kids. They got to swim and play pool — it kept them

occupied." And when their son got married, he chose to have his wedding in the center's adult lounge. Not that the fun of the recreation center was reserved for the children. Both she and her husband attend the center's adult fitness class.

With all the serenity, stability and beauty Mountain Park has to offer, she's not too concerned with the possibility of overcrowding. "Major parts of the lot are gone, but there are still a lot of trees and grass. Plus, there are built in safeguards to prevent overcrowding."

She has an added reason not to worry. The land around her home is an area steeply sloped, making it unsuitable for development.

Both Susie and her husband have lived all over the United States and have experienced everything from the frenetic energy of the East Coast to the traditional formality of the Deep South. Yet, with all of that life experience in bicoastal nesting, the Osteruds have found the living is indeed easy in Mountain Park.

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— Susie Osterud

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Mountain Park has been my home for nine years. Let my enthusiasm help you sell or buy your home in our beautiful neighborhood.

Recreation center crown jewel of Mountain Park

From billiards to aerobics, center offers something for everyone

By LORRI KENNEDY

Depending on your threshold of pain and patience, there are two methods of getting some steam heat in Mountain Park.

One, you can do it the old-fashioned way, by sitting at the base of the area's ancient volcano, Mt. Sylvia. Or two, follow one of the 15 mile paths of least resistance to the sauna and steam room at the Mountain Park Rec Center. The latter is probably the preferred route, as the former, a dormant cone of molten rock, won't be popping its top anytime soon. Plus, it's not so rough on the pores.

Nestled amongst the willowy green trees and fresh mountain air, is Mountain Park's renowned Recreation Center. The center, a 20,000-foot structure of boundless energy, offers an unimaginable array of activity, ranging from the conventional to the decidedly nonconventional.

Besides having a 50-meter Olympic sized pool, two tennis courts, sauna, steam and weight room, it offers aerobics, drop-in basketball, massage and adult billiards. There's even a drop-in



AMONG THE many facilities offered exclusively to residents of Mountain Park are the Olympic-size swimming pool, right, and a weight room, above. (Photos courtesy of Mountain Park Home Owners Association)

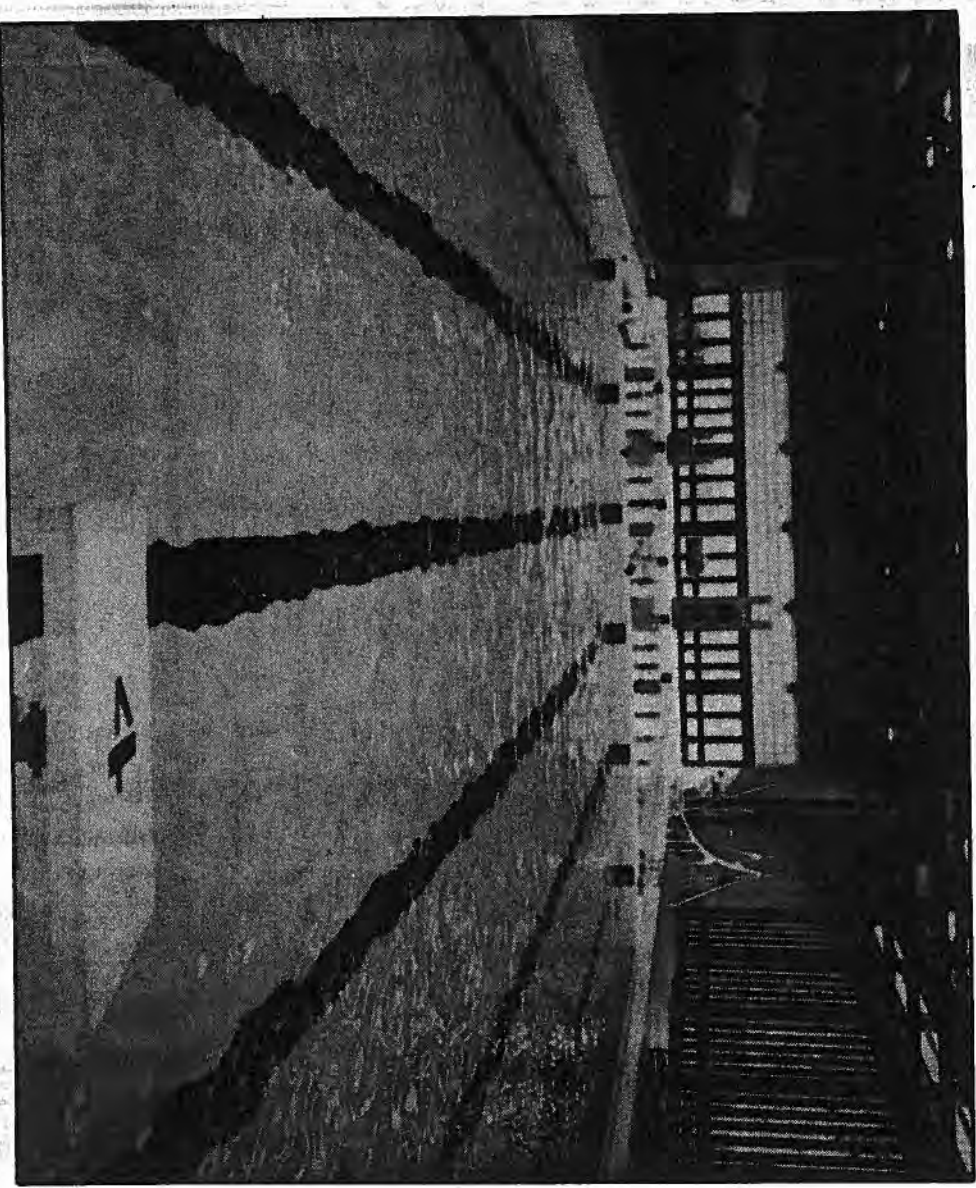
people used the rec center facilities in 1992.

"Recreation and being fit are the biggest factors in the 30-45 age group of people living in Mountain Park. For dual working households, having a place to work out close to home is a

are 5:30-8 a.m., Monday-Friday.

Otherwise, the center is open from 8 a.m.-9 p.m., for adults and 3:30-9 p.m. for those under 18. Weekend hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Through an unending challenge to pursue programs which



speakers from a variety of areas to share their expertise with audience members on a wide range of fun and informational topics. Some of the center's past series have included guest speakers from the area of floral and interior design, image consulting, travel, gardening and

prove to be popular with the audience, as was the one for interior design, the topic is repeated for a second time.

Gail Parson, manager of the recreation center, said, "there are three ways I go with creating activities for the center. First, a number of people will come in

idea, and the third was is just things I'm interested in."

Residents of Mountain Park, who pay a biannual assessment to the Home Owners Association, are able to use the recreation center free of charge. Not a bad deal when you stop to consider all the center has to offer.

By LORRI KENNEDY
Depending on your threshold of pain and patience, there are two methods of getting some steam heat in Mountain Park.

One, you can do it the old-fashioned way, by sitting at the base of the area's ancient volcano, Mt. Sylvania. Or two, follow one of the 15 mile paths of least resistance to the sauna and steam room at the Mountain Park Rec Center. The latter is probably the preferred route, as the former, a dormant cone of molten rock, won't be popping its top anytime soon. Plus, it's not so rough on the pores.

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Besides having a 50-meter Olympic sized pool, two tennis courts, sauna, steam and weight room, it offers aerobics, drop-in basketball, massage and adult billiards. There's even a drop-in baby-sitter service for users of the center.

According to Sherry Scalf, communications specialist for the Mountain Park Home Owners Association, the governing arm of the center, 94,756



AMONG THE many facilities offered exclusively to residents of Mountain Park are the Olympic-size swimming pool, right, and a weight room, above. (Photos courtesy of Mountain Park Home Owners Association)

people used the rec center facilities in 1992.

"Recreation and being fit are the biggest factors in the 30-45 age group of people living in Mountain Park. For dual working households, having a place to work out close to home is a plus," said Scalf.

Flexible hours are key to the continued success and popularity of Mountain Park's recreation center. For early risers, who wish to partake in the center's lap swim, the hours

are 5:30-8 a.m., Monday-Friday. Otherwise, the center is open from 8 a.m.-9 p.m., for adults and 3:30-9 p.m. for those under 18. Weekend hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Through an unending challenge to pursue programs which appeal to a broad range of interests and people, the center hosts a monthly lineup of informal classes, the Sack Lunch series. Held at noon, on the second Wednesday of each month, this special event invites guest

speakers from a variety of areas to share their expertise with audience members on a wide range of fun and informational topics. Some of the center's past series have included guest speakers from the area of floral and interior design, image consulting, travel, gardening and acupuncture.

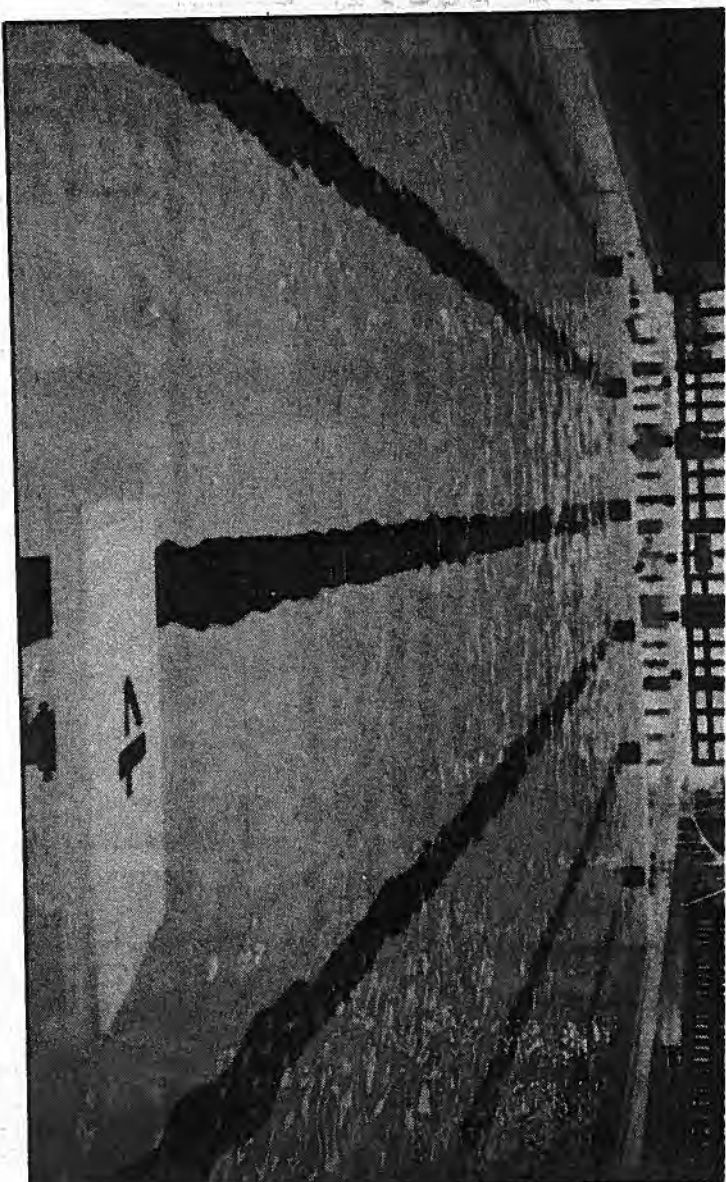
Also featured have been topics such as nail care, astrology, backyard birds and wine selection for the holiday season. Should a particular series

prove to be popular with the audience, as was the one for interior design, the topic is repeated for a second time.

Gail Parson, manager of the recreation center, said, "there are three ways I go with creating activities for the center. First, a number of people will come in and generate ideas. Usually, I'll try it out as a sack lunch series first. The second way is people in passing will ask you 'Do you know this' or 'Do you know that?' which usually triggers an

idea, and the third was is just things I'm interested in."

Residents of Mountain Park, who pay a biannual assessment to the Home Owners Association, are able to use the recreation center free of charge. Not a bad deal when you stop to consider all the center has to offer. Whether it's participating in the center's craft's classes, bridge, ballroom dancing, volleyball or any of their other sports or activities, you'll find plenty of ways to catch some steam.



October 7, 1993

Review

1993

Mountain Park celebrating anniversary

■ Some early residents of the still-growing community of 9,000 in Lake Oswego tell of their enjoyment after all these years

By JOHN FUREY
Correspondent, The Oregonian

LAKE OSWEGO — Residents of Mountain Park, among the first and best-known planned communities in the Portland area, will celebrate the development's 25th anniversary Sunday.

The community is situated on 700 acres on Mount Sylvania at the northwest edge of Lake Oswego. Some call it a city within a city, partly because of the many services and amenities its residents pay for and sponsor through their homeowners association.

Tom and Sheila Schmit are among longtime residents who plan to gather in the community's recreation center for the celebration from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

The Schmits helped dedicate the recreation center 23 years ago. Gov. Tom McCall was there for the dedication and signed a cast of the Schmits' 12-year-old son, Todd, who had a broken arm.

In 1970, the Schmits started a monthly neighborhood potluck that continues today.

And for 23 years, Tom Schmit has swum regularly in the recreation center's Olympic-size pool. He's there at 5:30 a.m. most mornings, prior to commuting to Portland where he is vice president of Willamina Lumber Co.

"It is a good community to be a part of," said Sheila Schmit. "One look at the Olympic-sized pool and the kids were convinced Mountain Park was the place to live."

The Schmits and their four children were among the first Mountain Park residents.

In 25 years Mountain Park has grown substantially and has earned a reputation nationwide for the amenities it offers residents.

It is listed in a publication called "The 99 Best Recreational & Residential Private Communities in America," published by John Wiley & Son, New York.

It includes 185 acres of parks and open space. There are 15 miles of walking and jogging paths and the homeowners association maintains a 20,000-square-foot recreation center with a 50-meter pool for Mountain Park residents.

Several types of housing are available in the planned community, including 1,016 single-family homes, 1,088 townhouses or condominiums and 1,449 apartments.

More than 9,000 people live in the community, which is expected to grow by another 1,000 population when it is built out in a few years.

More than 100 more apartments are planned, some under construction now. A few more single-family homes also will be built.

The community was created in 1968, when Carl Halvorson, Daryl Mason, Lem Nelson, Walt Arman and Gerson Goldsmith became officers of a newly formed Mountain Park Corp. After two years of preparation, construction of the first homes began in 1970.

Other related
25th Anniversary

Articles are
Framed at
the Recreation
Center.



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MARY PUSKAS,
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Fred Wist, President, and
Members of the Board of Directors
Bob Ericsson, Executive Manager
Mountain Park Home Owners Association
Number Two Mount Jefferson Terrace
Lake Oswego OR 97035

Dear Mr. Wist, Members of the Board, and Mr. Ericsson:

On behalf of our City, City Councilors Anderson, Chrisman, Holstein, June, Klammer, and Puskas, the City Manager, Doug Schmitz, and our entire City staff, I want to extend our congratulations to all Mountain Park residents on your 25th Anniversary.

Mountain Park sits like a jewel at the center of our community. Your many amenities, plus your beautiful environment, complete with magnificent views, tree-lined streets, and open spaces, offer your residents a "sense of place" and also a sense of peace and calm.

We look forward to serving you and working with you for many more years.

Sincerely,

Alice L. Schlenker
Mayor

ALS/sms