

# Community Lodge Will Be Built In Wintergarden Woods This Fall

A community lodge will be built in the Wintergarden Woods at the southwest edge of Bowling Green, it was announced Wednesday night at a meeting of representatives of several organizations. Construction is likely this fall.

Pledges from advance gifts total more than \$2,000, according to Mrs. William F. Schmeltz, the organizer of the fund drive.

She said each business or industry she contacted had supported the campaign.

Public contributions up to \$5,000 will be matched 50-50 by city funds, the City Recreation Board decided with the approval of Mayor F. Gus Skibbie.

Any individual group or firm may pledge. Contributions, payable to the Community Lodge Fund, may be left with or mailed to either the Bank of Wood County or the First National Bank.

The Jaycees plan to contact various organizations in the campaign. Robert Westfall is president of the Jaycees.

Contributions may be not only of money but also of labor, supplies and equipment. For example, the Rotary Club will be responsible for the fireplace.

Various fund raising techniques are expected — benefit card parties, dances, suppers, coffee days and others. Mr. Westfall is to be notified of such plans.

A plaque in the lodge will list contributors of \$100 or more. Those donating \$250 or more will be designated as patrons;

others, as contributors. Announcement was made Wednesday evening of these pledges:

Patrons — Armstrong Circuit, Inc., Bank of Wood County Co., Fred W. Uhlman Co., Midwest Stamping & Manufacturing Co., Pearl Oil Co.

Contributors — Cain's Mar-celle Potato Chip Co., First Na-

tional Bank, Henry Manufacturing Co., Lorraine Oil Co., Rex Industries.

The lodge is something that Bowling Green has needed for a long time, Mr. Westfall declared at the meeting.

Speaking as neighborhood commissioner for the Girl Scouts, Mrs. Schmeltz related camping problems faced by the troops. She said:

— There are 600 girls in the scouting program in the city.

— Next year there will be 700.

— The nearest available camps with shelter are at Fostoria and Defiance.

— Fostoria has a lodge smaller than the one proposed for Bowling Green.

— Five hundred troops want to use the camp at Defiance. Of the 30 Bowling Green groups that tried to use it in the last year, only one was accepted.

— Transportation to out-of-town camps is a serious problem, particularly with so many mothers having jobs or younger children.

— The day camp in Wintergarden Woods was limited to 200 because of toilet facilities.

— Rain ruins day camping unless there is adequate shelter.

— Most troops cannot afford the \$25 fee charged for use of the American Legion Hall in City Park.

— The park does not provide

the privacy available in the woods.

Various groups could use the community lodge, Mrs. Schmeltz said. She mentioned youth hostels, church youth groups, senior citizens and other adult organizations. There is to be a sleeping room for girls and another for boys.

There could be picnics, pot-luck, day camps and overnight lodging.

It was emphasized that use would be open to the public from within or without Wood County — upon reservations with the city recreation director. A relatively small fee would be charged.

The building is to have a rustic look. Pre-fabrication will permit erection in three or four days. There will be heating, plumbing, electricity and a permanent stairway.

The size of the building and its accommodations will depend on the amount of money avail-

able. The structure is likely to be at least 30 by 50 feet.

The city is to maintain and insure the building.

Gates at the two auto entrances to the woods from Wintergarden Road can be locked.

Homes have been erected so near the woods that vandalism is not expected to be much of a problem.

Mrs. Schmeltz will discuss the project over WFOB at 10:15 a.m. Friday.

"Everyone I have talked to is for it," she remarked.

# Community Lodge Expected To Top Goal This Month

Sept  
1966

Subscriptions are coming in steadily for the community lodge proposed for Wintergarden Woods and are expected to reach even higher than the \$5,000 goal by the end of October, according to a report today by Mrs. William F. Schmeltz, a member of the fund drive.

Latest name to be added to the Patron List — those who give \$250 or more — is the H. J. Heinz Co. Eight patrons previously were reported.

Eight more names have been added to the Contributors' List — \$100 or more. These are the Adjusto Equipment Co., Bargain City, the Bud Gallier Fund, the Soroptomist Club and four individual families.

Besides these donations, other smaller contributions have been received either from individuals or downtown business concerns. Cash and pledges to date amount to \$4,000.

"It is quite exciting to see the different organizations sponsoring dances, peanut sales, restaurant coupon books, etc. with the proceeds promised to the building to be erected in Wintergarden Woods for the community, and we hope to hear of more money making projects for the lodge in the future," Mrs. Schmeltz said.

Organizations planning to contribute to the lodge during this year should contact Robert Westfall, president of the Jaycees, so that their contributions

can be listed in the proposed budget. Individuals or businesses wishing to contribute may mail their contributions to "The Community Lodge Fund" in care of the Bank of Wood County or First National Bank in Bowling Green. Both banks are keeping weekly records of contributions.

The total deposited in banks to date is \$2,000.

Public donations to the lodge will be matched by city funds up to \$5,000.

## \$4,100 Pledged Toward Lodge

Sept.  
8,  
1966

Community lodge plans were discussed Wednesday at a committee meeting.

Eli Joyce, city recreation director, was delegated to contact the firm that erected the latest building in City Park. A similar building with electricity, plumbing and heating in Wintergarden Camp is being considered.

Robert Westfall, president of the Jaycees, who are spearheading the financial drive for the lodge, reported more than \$4,100 in pledges. City funds will be used to match up to \$5,000 on a 50-50 basis.

Latest patrons — those contributing \$250 or more — are the Jaycees, Rotary Club and Youth Hostel Club.



obs  
 ond place  
 American  
 g up third  
 two sea-  
 Bowling  
 ams won  
 cham-

sored a in the park.  
 Park Recreation Direc-  
 tor Eli Joyce is complying with  
 the ordinance by placing a sign  
 and chain at the lighted en-  
 trance of the park at closing  
 time.

# Community Lodge Assured

1947

A total of \$4,200 for the pro-  
 posed Community Lodge in Win-  
 tergarden Woods has been de-  
 posited in local banks, accord-  
 ing to Thomas Roth, president of  
 the Jaycees, who are helping to  
 spearhead the drive for funds.  
 Additional pledges and offers of  
 material bring the total to \$5,000,  
 which, matched with the \$5,000  
 from the city recreation fund,  
 will provide enough funds to pay  
 for the shell.

However, the steering commit-  
 tee for the lodge believes that  
 the over - all project will cost  
 more because of additional ex-  
 penses of electricity, sewers,  
 plumbing, etc. It is hoped that  
 funds which could be used to  
 take care of such costs will be  
 contributed by the public. Con-  
 tributions may be mailed to:  
 Community Lodge, c-o Bank of  
 Wood County or First National  
 Bank, Bowling Green. Offers of  
 materials, or other help may be  
 made to Mr. Roth or Mrs. Wil-

liam Schmeltz, member of the  
 lodge committee.

Mrs. Schmeltz reported a total  
 of 11 patrons (those donating  
 \$250 or more) so far with the  
 latest contributors being the Ki-  
 wanis Club and A. L. Potter.  
 There are 19 names on the con-  
 tributors' list (those donating  
 between \$100 and \$250) with the  
 following being added to previ-  
 ous lists: Lions Club, American  
 Legion Post of Bowling Green,  
 Woman's Club and Marathon  
 Special Products. Those donat-  
 ing materials include Columbia  
 Gas of Ohio and Baron Steel.

Other contributions to the  
 fund have been made by the  
 National Campers and Hikers  
 Association, Boy Scout Pack  
 358 from Kenwood School, BG  
 Rambler Sales, Chrysler-Ply-  
 mouth dealer and several indi-  
 viduals.

"So far, the Jaycees and I  
 have made personal contacts

with industries and service or-  
 ganizations, and now we hope to  
 make an appeal to other busi-  
 nesses in the near future," Mrs.  
 Schmeltz said.

The committee plans to meet  
 within the next two weeks to dis-  
 cuss several building plans and  
 to view a movie on constructing  
 such a building.

"Now that we have the first  
 \$5,000, we hope we'll have sup-  
 port from others who haven't  
 yet contributed, so that we can  
 begin construction this spring,"  
 one committee member stated.  
 "Our boys and girls are looking  
 forward to using it this sum-  
 mer."

Present at the last meeting of  
 the Community Lodge commit-  
 tee were Mr. and Mrs. Eli Joyce,  
 Richard Brown, Dr. Samuel  
 Cooper, Mrs. Schmeltz and Mr.  
 Roth. Others on the committee  
 are Wilfred Williams, Melvir  
 Johnson and Paul Ladd.

# Wintergarden Lodge Project Pushed

*Tues. Dec. 17, 1968*

Mayor F. Gus Skibbie told City Council Monday night he would like to see Council take additional action on the Wintergarden Lodge project.

Mr. Skibbie said that the project had been discussed for over two and one half years, but little had been done on it.

It was pointed out that the Recreation Board advocated the rebidding and prompt construction of the building.

Last April council authorized Safety-Service Director Walter Zink to advertise for bids and enter into contract for the construction of the building, in accordance with plans and specifications already on file.

It had been estimated that the building would cost about \$30,000, according to Mr. Skib-

bie. But the bids ranged from \$42,900 to \$53,250.

The mayor said that, with additional costs such as an adequate driveway and parking facility, the cost would be about \$50,000.

In financing the new figure of \$50,000, the mayor suggested \$5,000 from donations and pledges already received be used, plus \$30,000 from the Recreation, Playground and Park Fund, with the remaining \$15,000 being secured by borrowing from the Electric System Fund.

Mayor Skibbie also reported on his trip to New Orleans to attend the National Council of Cities. He said it was most interesting to note that municipal problems are basically similar all over and that

there are few, if any problems that money cannot solve.

In this relation, he said that the major topic of discussion revolved around municipal financing. The mayor pointed out that 70 per cent of the population live on 1 per cent of the land in this country.

It was reported that the City of Bowling Green has been certified by the secretary of Housing and Urban Development of the Workable Program for Community Improvement. This certification expires Dec. 1, 1969.

Councilman Charles Barrell, chairman of Bowling Green's Urban Renewal Committee, along with the mayor, had gathered material that was presented to the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-

ment.

It was pointed out that to qualify for federal aid of grants, a workable program had to be presented and approved.

An approved workable program carries no direct federal aid, in itself. It is a prerequisite for federal aids to communities in several areas, including code enforcement aid, urban renewal rehabilitation and code enforcement, low rent public housing and mortgage and home improvement loan insurance.

Mayor Skibbie stated that the city has less than one year in which to give evidence of its activities in producing results with the program for community improvement in order to have the certification renewed.

Friday, December 27, 1968

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids will be received by the Safety-Service Director of the City of Bowling Green, Ohio, at the office of said Director in the City Building, 175 West Wooster Street until 12:00 o'clock noon, Eastern Standard Time, on January 14, 1969 for the construction of Wintergarden Lodge Recreation Building in Wintergarden Camp in accordance with plans and specifications on file in the office of the Safety-Service Director. Bids to be accompanied by certified check of \$5,000.



**SIGNS CONTRACT** — Richard Smith of Paulin-Smith Contractors, Toledo, signs the contract for the construction of the Wintergarden Community Lodge on Wintergarden Road at a cost of \$44,563. Safety-Service Director Walter L. Zink (seated left) looks on as do Dr. Samuel Cooper and Mrs. William F. Schmeltz. Dr. Cooper, recreation board member, and Mrs. Schmeltz were part of a local group and committee which raised about \$5,000 in funds for the project. (Sentinel-Tribune staff photo)

*FEB. 1, 1969*  
**Community Lodge Contract Okayed**

**Improvements**

Western Sewer Districts, when finished, will cost more than \$2 million, but the mayor said he believes that, with federal aid, these two projects can be engineered, constructed and financed by 1972.

Storm water drainage, however, is something else, estimated to cost more than \$13 million for the city.

The mayor also listed some other capital improvements which could be included under projects to do with income tax money:

- Major street overhaul program, including elimination of "jog" intersections.
- Closing of Poe Ditch from the Penn Central Railroad to Yount Road.
- New cemetery and other projects already named.

In the last eight years, the city has spent more than \$1.3 million for capital improvements, not including the new sewer projects, the mayor reported.

The Wintergarden Community Lodge has taken another step toward becoming a reality. The contract for construction of the building was signed Friday afternoon.

The contract was awarded to Paulen-Smith Contractors, Toledo for \$44,563. Although early estimates of the cost of such a structure were reported around \$10,000 nearly three years ago, expansion of ideas have upped the cost.

The new community lodge to be located on Wintergarden Road will have dormitory areas, a kitchen and a common dining area. It was reported that the building could be used for teenage dances, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, university and independent camping groups, bicycle clubs and various other community activities.

The building, designed by Dick

Brown and Fred Arn will be finished in about 130 days after construction begins, slated for next week, according to Eli Joyce, city recreation director.

When the project was initially proposed, a group of citizens got together and canvassed the city for donations. About \$5,000 of the cost will come from these gifts. The remainder will come from the city.

In a speech to City Council Dec. 16, Mayor F. Gus Skibbie suggested that about \$30,000 of the money be taken from the Recreation, Playground and Park Fund while the rest, not including the donations, be borrowed, if possible, through the Board of Public Utilities.

The committee involved with getting local gifts for the project included Eli Joyce, Dr. Samuel Cooper, Mrs. William Schmeltz, Wilfred Williams, Tom Roth, and Dick Brown.



**INSPECTORS** — New officers of the Bowling Green Youth Hostel Club inspect construction of the community lodge in Wintergarden Camp. From left are John Alexa, president;

Emilie Simmons, vice president; Debbie Zellers, secretary, and Janet Martin, treasurer. (Sentinel-Tribune staff photo)



the  
ter-  
om

Lodge shows a total of 14 groups using the facility with 336 people participating.

There were three American Youth Hostel activities with the first out-of-state club spending the weekend when Prof. Richard Smith of Detroit AYH brought a group to the lodge. The recreation department scheduled two morning outings for women and the hobby night met during the month.

Five Bowling Green State University groups used the facility. There was one scout leaders' meeting, a county leadership meeting and the Friendly Visitors.

During November already 12 activities are scheduled, with the dormitory filled every weekend beginning this Friday with the PEM Club and Youth Hostel Club. The German Club will stay next weekend and the last weekend will find the McComb Community College AYH from Michigan.

The reservationist, Mrs. Eli Joyce, has many openings during December. The lodge will have a Christmas tree and be decorated in the holiday spirit.

## Wintergarden Attendance Record Set

The highest attendance figures since the opening of Wintergarden Lodge were reported for November by Mrs. Eli Joyce, reservationist. During the month 446 different people used the facility, making the total of 1,283 since the dedication in July. The dormitories have been used by 180 over-nighters.

Groups during the month included three Ladies Morning Outings, Hobby Night, three Bowling Green State University departments, women's physical education, German Club and mathematics department, Jay-Cettes, Cub Pack 338, Coy Family Holiday Happening, two American Youth Hostel groups, Toledo family potluck and the second out-of-state group, a college AYH club from Macomb Community College.

The schedule for December includes Ladies Morning Outings, Hobby Night on Dec. 16, a taffy pull for the youth hostels on Dec. 19, a caroling party by a local church group, a DeMolay and Rainbow Christmas fete and a family holiday happening on the 25th.

Several dates remain open during the month. Bowling Green youth groups with adult chaperones may use the dormitories for \$10 per night per group. The kitchen is equipped with service for approximately 40 people. However, donations of dishes and pans are still most welcome. The City Recreation Department is to be contacted for reservations.

league pra  
day night  
gymnasium  
schedule:  
vs. Comed  
vs. Highb  
Junior Hi  
ers; 9 to  
Bubbles,  
List and

### Won

The Cit  
ment's  
league w  
season T  
12 teams

The le:  
three tea  
when th  
individu  
tournam  
Both tea  
their re

The l  
two gy  
with the  
Connea  
Senior  
Connea  
take or  
neaut  
Highba  
mediar

Play  
the hi  
bles at  
court  
ers ar  
court  
ers w  
on co  
sched  
court

The  
ball  
neaut  
some

At  
test  
takin  
at 6:

Th  
any  
their  
gam

as  
ig

en Hobby  
eting Tues  
intergarden  
ers present  
es.

owed wood  
emote con-  
made, and  
with wood.  
ow to make  
h of IBM  
gg shell the  
e soap and

amp and a  
lamp were  
Eborg.  
eet at 7:30  
day of each

bers are to  
othy Joyce  
wrap them.  
lead th  
t pic

me  
69

en Hobby  
st meeting  
in Winter-

fruits inter-  
s, learning  
apping in-

r the club.  
s are asked  
-down lists  
erests and  
ies current-

is available  
Eborg, 353-  
ion Depart-

bering  
ed

ting of the  
Hobby Club  
Wintergarden  
1. Activities  
pictures and  
with plas-

gift.  
open to men  
he Bowling  
is no fee,  
erials. Those  
coat hangers  
hanger

# BG's Wintergarden Lodge will get a facelift

By ANDY WOODARD  
Sentinel Sports Writer

Wintergarden Lodge will get a facelift and its purpose changed from a overnight facility to a meeting place if funds can be raised.

Bowling Green's Parks and Recreation Board on Tuesday unanimously supported the proposal, which likely will cost between \$40,000 and \$50,000, according to the parks director Dr. Robert Callecod.

In another major announcement, the board was told the Parks and Recreation Foundation has two fund-raisers planned which will provide money to hire an architect for the proposed community center.

Foundation and park board

members are selling mum plants at \$4.50 each. They will be available for pickup on Community Day, Sept. 18, from noon to 5 p.m. at City Park.

Order forms are available from the Parks and Rec Office. The order forms will also be included in the upcoming mailing for fall programs. For more information, call the office at 354-6223.

The other fund-raiser is a cow drop, which will take place at the tennis courts at 4 p.m. on Community Day. Tickets are \$5 each and the person with the space in which the cow makes its deposit will win \$1,000. This event will raise about \$6,500 after the payoff.

While the exact amount of money needed for this initial stage of the community center is known, the cost of improving Winter-

garden Lodge is not.

Callecod told the board he has asked several contractors for estimates on the improvements, but has yet to receive a figure. He also said a local service club may offer financial assistance when the exact price is set. He would not name the club.

The parks and recreation department has budgeted \$10,000 this year for renovations to the lodge, Callecod said. If the entire project cannot be completed this fall, the budgeted money will go toward safety improvements this year.

The project then would take place next spring, funding-permitting.

The lodge, located on the west side of the city, has been available for rental during its existence. But

board members and city council members discussed exiting the lodging business during a public hearing last month.

That meeting was set up after the park board rejected in May a proposal to allow the Toledo Area Council of American Youth Hostels to take over the facility.

The board cited the loss of the space for traditional service organizations and the small amount of money pledged for renovations as its reasons. The hostel agreed to spend \$5,000, but Callecod said that figure would not cover expenses for American Disabilities Act improvements.

If funding is found, the major improvements to the lodge would include:

□ Rebuilding the roof.

□ Making the building meet ADA standards.

□ Renovating the bathroom area.

□ Changing the women's dorm to a nature center with a one-way picture window.

Margaret Tucker, board member, said the board would ask the Wood County Park District and Bowling Green School District for help in establishing nature programs.

The board also:

□ Learned attendance for the aquatics complex is down 41 percent this month compared to one year ago due to the mild weather, Callecod said.

When the new toddler pool became operational earlier in the month, the old toddler pool quit working properly, he said.

The department will not spend money to fix the pool. Instead state funding likely will be sought to finish renovations to the aquatics center, including expanding the main pool, removing the old toddler pool and adding deck space.

□ Was told Joel Klinger, who helped spearhead BG's side of the OhioOntario Friendship Games, has been hired full-time in the parks and recreation department. Klinger had been working as an intern.

□ Learned between 35-45 softball teams will be in BG for the USSSA National Corporate B tournament at Carter Park on Labor Day Weekend.

□ Learned the dog park at the Wood County Fairgrounds has 50 animals registered.

Sept 1994

COMING... ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10!  
SPONSORED LOCALLY BY NOON KIWANIS CLUB  
BG PARKS & REC PRESENTS THE NFL GATORADE

## Punt, Pass & Kick Contest

Saturday...  
September 10th  
9:00 AM  
Bowling Green  
High School  
Football Field

Register At The Football Field on September 10  
Open to Boys & Girls Ages 8-15 (As of Dec 31, 1994)  
Only Soft-soled Sneakers will be allowed - No Cleats!  
Age Must be verified by Birth Certificate if Winner!  
Top Finishers in Each Age Category Advance With Opportunity  
to Compete at Halftime of a Cleveland Brown Football Game

36-13

## Community Day will offer 'A Taste of BG'

9-6-94

A new activity for families and a replacement for the chicken barbecue will be instituted at this year's Community Day, scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 18, from noon to 5 p.m. in Bowling Green's City Park.

The new activity is a sand castle building contest for families, with at least one adult and one child in each team. Financial institutions are donating prizes and coordinating the judging. The contest will begin at 12:30 p.m. Only the first 10 entries will be accepted.

A food court, entitled "A Taste of BG," will provide food items for persons wishing to eat lunch at the park.

Jim Corbitt and Melinda Slusser, co-chairpersons of the Community Day, explained that

the committee considered financial, logistical and philosophical factors in deciding to change the food part of the event. Committee members felt it would be appropriate to offer businesses in Bowling Green the opportunity to provide food a community-wide event.

To date, four businesses and two organizations have signed up to be part of the food court. Details on food items which will be available will be announced later.

Also, four local businesses have donated \$500 each to become Spotlight Sponsors, assuring that all activities will be funded adequately this year. They are National City Bank, Sentinel-Tribune, Society National Bank and Wal-Mart.

Other activities will include arts and crafts for children, horseshoe tournament, entertainment, opening ceremony, 3-on-3 hoop-la, displays and exhibits by organizations and arts and crafts persons, and a kite-making workshop.

A free shuttle van will run continuously from the park to the Bowling Green High School parking lot, so that attendees will be able to park easily.

This is the 11th year for Community Day, which was begun during the celebration of Bowling Green's sesquicentennial anniversary in 1983.

Community Day is sponsored by the Promote Bowling Green Committee, a division of the Chamber of Commerce.





### Batter's boxes replaced

Joe Scaffadi (left) and Mike Furnas replaced a batter's box on a softball diamond Wednesday morning at Carter Park. Furnas

said the material needed to be replaced because the material had been torn. (Sentinel-Tribune photo by Mark Deckard)

5-26-94

### Lunch in Park starts Friday

The Lunch in the Park series begins Friday with Mayor Wesley and Ruth Hoffman grilling Polish hotdogs. Also available this week will be homemade pies from Cranker's Eats & Sweets.

Running from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. rain or shine, the event is held under the Martin and Kiwanis shelter houses in City Park.

Music this week will be provided by David Rogers.

6-1-94

**Lunch-in-the-Park**  
Every Friday - Rain or Shine - 11:30-1:00  
JUNE 3 - MAYOR WES HOFFMAN & "1st Lady" RUTH  
GRILL POLISH DOGS...SANDIE CRANKER BRINGS THE PIES

**Concert-in-the-Park**  
Every Sunday - Rain or Shine - 7:00 PM  
JUNE 5 - THREE TIME REGION 17 CHAMPIONS  
"PRIDE OF TOLEDO" SWEET ADELINE CHORUS

6-1-94

# Park Board turns down AYH proposal

By ANDY WOODARD  
Sentinel-Tribune Staff Writer

Bowling Green's Parks and Recreation Board Tuesday night rejected a proposal that would have allowed an American Youth Hostel to take over Wintergarden Lodge.

The board cited the loss of that facility for use by traditional service organizations and the small amount of money pledged for renovations as its reasons.

The Toledo Area Council of American Youth Hostels, Inc., proposed to spend \$5,000 to renovate the lodge. But Dr. Robert Callecod, city parks and recreation director, said that figure would not cover needed repairs to satisfy American Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

The board spoke with hostel officials after the regular meeting to discuss its decision in detail.

During the meeting, the board's lone comment on the issue came from Margaret Tucker: "We felt it was in the best interest of the city not to" enter into an agreement.

The board approved forming a committee which would seek public input for the future use and renovation of Wintergarden Lodge. Tammi Sharp, board chairperson, said the board wants groups or individuals who have used the lodge to help in the process.

The next board committee meetings, set for June 14, have been moved to Wintergarden Lodge so members can better view the facility.

Besides the lodge, the city's aquatics center and the proposed community center were discussed.

The aquatics center was opened last weekend and Sunday's attendance was 587, Callecod said.

In another swimming matter, Designer Pools of Columbia Station, Ohio, was awarded the wading pool project for \$122,000. City officials and representatives from the company will meet June 1 to discuss construction, which should begin in several weeks.

Callecod said he is optimistic the wading pool will be ready for use before the end of the season.

The director will be in Denver June 26-29 visiting 12 community centers in that area.

A community center has been

proposed to be constructed in Bowling Green within the next three to five years.

City officials and interested persons were scheduled to tour community centers in the Cleveland area today. They did the same in the Cincinnati area last month.

Bob Hastings, the city's recreation coordinator, announced the Sun 'N' Fun booklets are out. In the first two days for program registration, 397 persons signed up.

The board also learned the dog park committee has raised sufficient funds to begin construction of a perimeter fence at Wood County Fairgrounds.

Applications for use of the dog park are available at the parks and recreation and 4-H offices.

5-25-94

# BG lodge is renamed Rotary Nature Center

By ANDY WOODARD  
Sentinel Sports Writer

Wintergarden Park's transformation into a nature gathering place is well on its way, and community members observed the first steps on Sunday.

Following the Walk for the World/March for Parks fund-raiser from the Woodland Mall to here, Wintergarden Lodge was re-named Rotary Nature Center.

The brief ceremony was held in honor of the Rotary Club, which donated approximately \$44,000 to remodel the former lodge.

"It's great. We are so grateful to Rotary," Margaret Tucker, a member of Bowling Green's Parks and Recreation Board, said after touring the facility.

The building was used primarily as a hostel and community meeting place for nearly three decades before the city's parks and recreation staff recommended the change.

Rotary Club took a lead role because it has been active at the lodge since its inception, according to Edward Brandeberry, Rotary Club president.

"This is a tremendous addition to the community," he said.

The nature center is not yet open to the public, and the date when it will be is unknown, said Dr. Robert Callecod, the parks director.

The observatory room features six windows, three of which face the wildlife area the parks staff began cultivating a year ago. Those windows will be replaced with a 15-foot wide, one-way glass window, allowing nature-lovers to observe wildlife. An infrared lighting system and sound system with speakers also are scheduled to be added.

Rotary Club has a meeting scheduled for Thursday, when its members will view the nature center for the first time.

Brandeberry said Rotary Club may donate the money necessary to complete the project, but added that decision will be made by its board and entire membership.

The club raised the first total through its annual auction, scheduled this year for June 6 at the Wood County Fairgrounds.

"We owe a great big debt of thanks to the business community

because we got so much at wholesale or donated . . . and to the community in general for supporting our auction," Brandeberry said.

Rotary Club's contributions greatly changed the dingy, old building, which was in need of repairs. The walls are now a bright white, and the ceilings and window frames are stained.

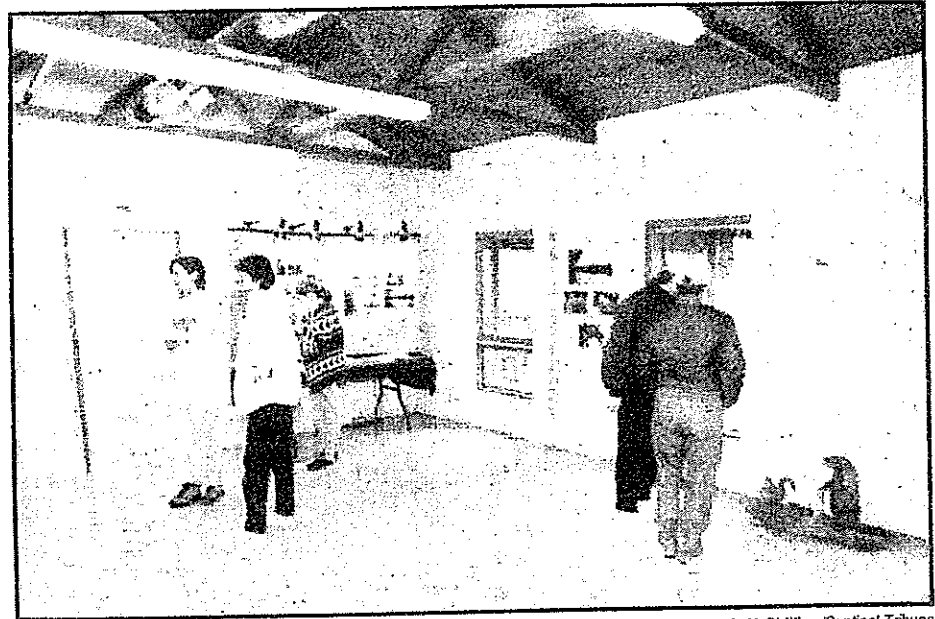
The furniture in the front room has been upgraded, and the kitchen has a new refrigerator, while a warming oven is on the way.

In the nature observatory, bird and animal posters and pictures decorate the walls, and tables are draped with animal pelts and brochures. Stuffed animals also are in the room.

Most of the display items are on loan from the Wood County Park District, Callecod said.

Opposite the nature room is a classroom, where a variety of activities can be held.

Persons visited Rotary Nature Center after the Walk for the World/March for the Parks. The walk lasted between 1½-2 hours, about an hour shorter than expected. The threat of rain and early finish forced the ceremony to



Doyle H. Phillips/Sentinel-Tribune

Visitors look over the renovated Rotary Nature Center

begin at 3:15 p.m., 45 minutes ahead of schedule.

Many invited guests arrived late.

Ralph Olson of the Rotary Club spoke in Brandeberry's absence. Bowling Green Mayor Wesley Hoffman, Kristin Vessey of the Coalition for Green Space, and Jennifer Carter of the Maumee

River Remedial Action Plan also spoke.

The proceeds from the Walk/March will be split 50-50 between the Coalition for Green Space and Remedial Action Plan. Joel Klinger, a parks staff member and Walk/March organizer, said about \$1,900 has been pledged. Nearly 200 people took part in Walk/

March, he said.

The Coalition for Green Space wants to raise \$160,000 for the purchase of the 22-acre Bordner property, which sits next to Wintergarden Park. About \$55,000 has been raised in just three months. The purchase will cost \$154,000.

Walkers toured the Bordner property prior to the ceremony.

Bowling Green Parks & Recreation

**Personal Business Session**

**DEVELOPING A W**

Illustrated, 1991, Vol. North 800p - \$5 per person - Call 354-6923 for info. Pre-Registration R. Park Office or at the