

Sandy Post

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Getting the Facts Straight

To hear most politicians talk, one would think that the average U.S. business is somehow evading virtually its entire tax burden.

The facts are considerably different.

A just concluded federal study indicates that tax loopholes which aid the private citizen are roughly three times as costly to the federal treasury as those benefitting business.

Tax breaks for individuals, all of them approved by Congress, cost the government roughly \$67 billion per year in lost taxes. Tax breaks for business cost \$23 billion.

The biggest breaks for individuals are deductibility of state and local taxes (\$6.6 billion), exclusion of pension earnings and interest (\$6.4 billion), favorable tax treatment of

capital gains (\$6.2 billion), deductibility of mortgage interest (\$4.7 million), exclusion of employer-paid contributions toward health care (\$4.2 billion) and deductibility of charitable contributions (\$3.9 billion).

The biggest break for business is the investment tax credit which costs the Treasury \$6.5 billion per year.

The various tax breaks have been written into law over the years and are difficult to change, even if Congress had the political courage to do so. It is important that any changes which are proposed don't adopt the "Oregon plan" of soaking business and business alone. As far as federal taxes are concerned, the individual seems to be doing quite all right.

A New Use for Old Newspapers

One of the hottest items at Christmas time was a device for rolling old newspapers into fireplace logs. It helped solve one of life's little problems: What to do with your old newspapers.

Development of the gadget came about as a result of the 1974-75 recession. Several years ago, a substantial demand for old newspapers hiked the price for scrap to \$30 per ton. But the recession almost totally wiped out any demand and the price plummeted to \$2 or \$3 per ton.

The price has risen somewhat since then but nowhere near the old figure. As a result, someone came up with the idea of converting last week's newspaper into a fireplace log.

Several firms have come up with

attractive packages. The New York Times even packaged old copies into a log and sold them as "The Daily Log."

Environmentalists, who would have gagged at the suggestion of burning old newspapers a couple of years ago, now seem to have conceded that the logs are a good idea.

Recycling of old newspapers continues, meanwhile, with somewhat indifferent success. Total U.S. consumption of newsprint is about 8.5 million tons per year; recycling mills need only about 400,000 tons.

Since recycling obviously isn't the whole answer, using newspapers as fireplace logs makes sense. Better to heat up your house than burn them at a garbage dump.

Government by Leak

We think Pres. Ford and the U.S. intelligence community have very legitimate complaints against some Congressional committees.

We're referring to those who prepare "secret" reports, then leak them to the media before the ink is dry. No matter how sensitive the subject matter, some Congressman or one his aides manages the leak. Nothing is sacred... as long as it is detrimental to the intelligence apparatus.

Some people sincerely feel it is better to err on the side of too much disclosure rather than too much secrecy. But obviously, there must be

Mass Transit No Energy Solution

It has become a matter of city, county and state policy here in Oregon that major dependence be put on mass transit, as opposed to the automobile.

A lot of people question the wisdom of such dependence, particularly if it is passed off as a means of saving energy.

A just released federal study should give further pause to mass transit advocates.

The Federal Energy Administration says that even doubled use of mass transit would save only 50,000 barrels of oil per day. This usage would require 100,000 new buses and the assumption that every new mass

a middle ground.

If we were a foreign diplomat, we would be very chary about telling anything of a sensitive nature to a U.S. Congressman. Chances are the whole thing would be leaked to some unfriendly newsmen by next morning.

It's perfectly obvious that every great power today has to have an intelligence capability, we have to know what other people are doing. In their haste to create headlines, we're afraid some Congressmen really don't care that they're destroying our intelligence network.

transit patron previously had driven his own car.

The FEA says a much greater impact could be made if automobile mileage were improved and car pooling increased. The savings from just these two areas would amount to 690,000 barrels per day. Compare this to the 50,000 mass transit would save.

The problem with mass transit is that so few people use it. Nationwide, the average is only 2.5 per cent of all urban passengers. The meagre savings in fuel oil offered by mass transit certainly make some recent decisions here in Oregon horribly suspect.

Library needs easy readers

The Sandy City Library is looking for old paperback or clothbound books for donation to the Clackamas County library system.

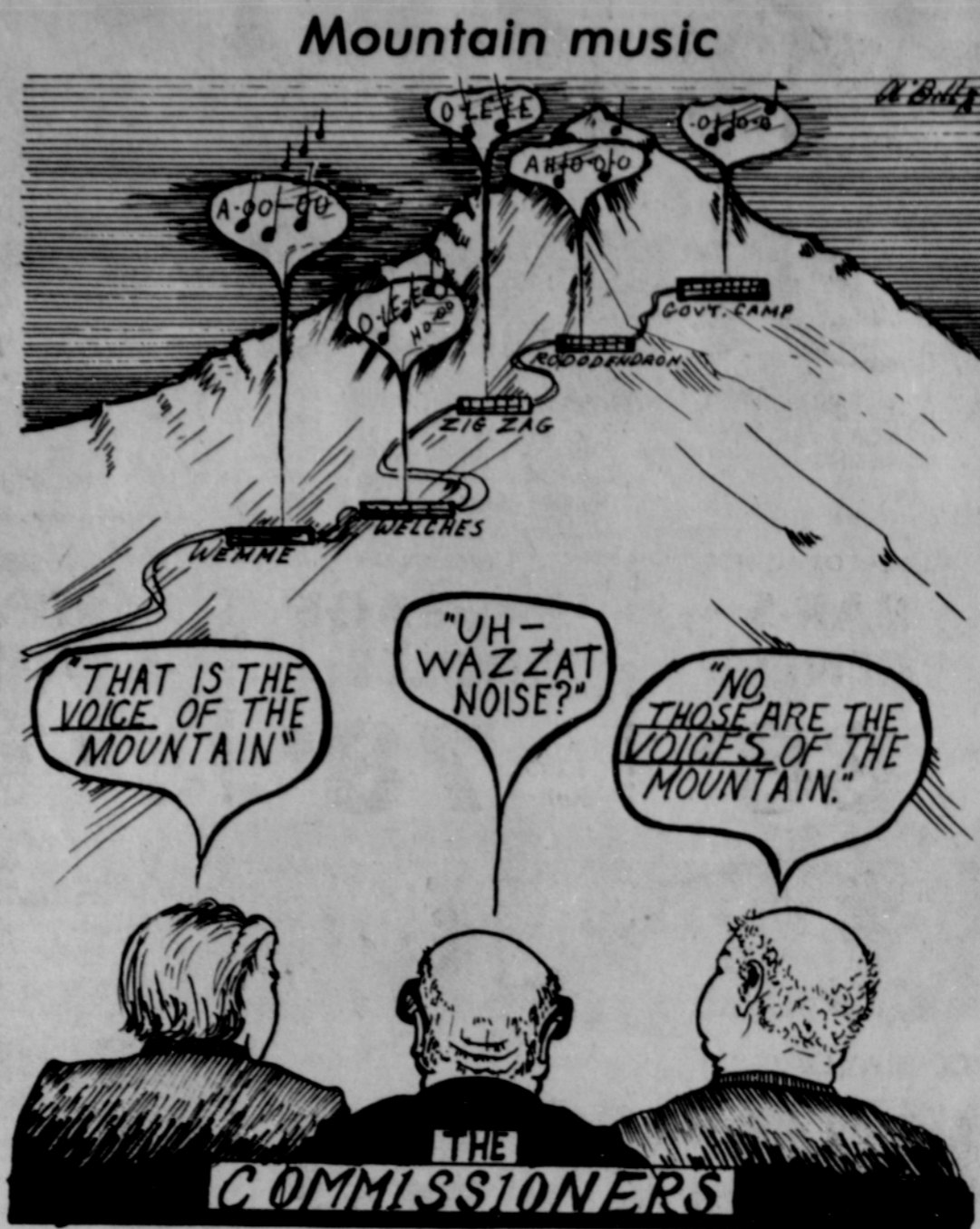
The library system needs paperbacks for people who are shut-ins, in nursing homes, boys and girls in juvenile

detention, prisoners in the county jail, boys at Timberlake Job Corps camp and patients at Damascus State hospital.

"High interest, easily read paperbacks such as westerns, mysteries, science fiction and best sellers are needed for most

of these readers," says Sandy librarian Margaret Crowover. The Sandy library will pass on any material donated to the county system could use.

Persons wishing to donate books can call the library at 668-5533.



letters to the editor

Vote questioned

To the Editor:

The abundance of misinformation on the front page of last week's Sandy Post is demoralizing. How could Howard Scott reverse the outcome of the voting after the Hoodland Chamber of Commerce president, Neil Jackson, plainly stated the tally of 24 votes was a majority vote against the Chamber sponsored land use group?

Paragraph one indicates the Hoodland Chamber is proceeding with their plans for their Chamber sponsored land use group even though the second issue on which a vote was taken was to ask Clackamas County to mail a questionnaire to all property owners and voters to solicit their opinions. If the Chamber wishes to poll the Corridor shouldn't they, not the County tax payer, foot the bill?

Clackamas County Commissioner Tom Telford and Planning Commission member Fred Wickersham were asked to this so-called Townhall Meeting. Telford plainly stated the Board's position in favor of the small neighborhood groups. Apparently this fell on the deaf ears of the Hoodland Chamber, particularly those of Bill Simmons.

It is unrealistic for Gerald Redding to assume his is more knowledgeable than the State LCDC Goals and Guidelines and the County's Comprehensive Land Use Plan, both of which specifically state the individual's right to be involved and participate in land use planning.

Maryanne Hill was quoted as saying that "apathy" rules the Mt. Hood Corridor. I disagree. I believe it is a case of misinformation and a lack of responsible information by the Hoodland Chamber to the citizenry at large. They seem to have set themselves up as the criterion for the entire Mt. Hood Community.

Joie Smith
 PO Box 120
 Rhododendron

Guided missive

To the Editor:

With all of the accuracy of a misguided missile Joe Stein of ZigZag zeroed in on the wrong target in his open letter to Clackamas County Commissioner Tom Telford in the Jan. 22 Sandy Post.

Comm. Telford and Fred Wickersham, member of the Clackamas County Planning Commission attended the Jan. 15 meeting, sponsored by the Hoodland Chamber of Commerce at the specific request of concerned and interested

citizens and adequately clarified the position of the board favoring small neighborhood groups and citizen participation and involvement in land use planning.

Better were it that Stein had rhetorically castigated the chamber, its satellites and adherents and Robert Moody, coordinator for Clackamas County neighborhood groups, who set up this townhall meeting.

After apologizing to Comm. Telford, Stein might well read and evaluate Moody's letter of Jan. 7 directed to "Registered Voters in the Mt. Hood Corridor," and also concern himself with a like evaluation of the Hoodland Chamber of Commerce as to its credibility, its ability and its reliability.

M. Kasper
 1725 NE 64th Ave.,
 Portland

Telford answers

To the Editor:

In answer to Joseph Stein's open letter to Commissioner Telford, may I state the following facts: Commissioner Telford did not call the meeting or invite anybody to the Welches School Town Hall meeting. I was invited to attend.

The meeting was called by the Hoodland Chamber of Commerce and the only rules I know of that they are bound by for calling a meeting is their own charter.

Thomas D. Telford
 Commissioner,
 Clackamas County
 Oregon City

CRAG hearing

To the Editor:

The Sunday Oregonian, Jan. 25, published an article on the CRAG (Phase I) land-use plan.

Accompanying the story was a map of the tri-county area printed on a scale so small, reading it required the use of a strong magnifying glass.

The article stated that a 20-page tabloid explaining the plan was available at CRAG's office, 527 SW Hall St., Portland.

The article further stated that hearings would be held "to take-written and oral testimony, not to answer questions, or listen to complaints about CRAG in general." The Clackamas County hearing is to be held at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11, in courtroom 4, Clackamas County Courthouse, Oregon City. Schedules for other hearings were listed in another section of the paper. One of these is to be at Sandy City Hall at 7:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 16.

As presently conceived, the CRAG land-use plan will most certainly have a major impact on the economic life of the entire Sandy area for a long time to come. Every family will be affected by it in one way or another. It is ridiculous to expect our residents to make a special trip to CRAG headquarters for a copy of this "20-page tabloid" of questionable value.

The Sandy Post certainly must be aware of and have access to detailed information on how the plan will affect the area. Why has not the Sandy Post published the details of the plan as it applies locally?

The City of Sandy has a representative on the governing board of CRAG. Why has not this representative supplied the citizenry with the above and other information?

How is the public to provide "Written and oral testimony" at public hearings if it is not informed on the potential impact of CRAG's plan?

I.S. Hartman
 21115 SE Langensand Rd.
 Sandy, Ore. 97055



George Morgan
 Local Representative

WALRAD
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Keeping Posted

FRIDAY, JAN. 30
 Clackamas County Mental Health Program will hold an open house for Dr. Robert William Davis, director, who is leaving county service. The affair will be held from 3 to 5 p.m., at the Education Hall of the Marylhurst Campus.

MONDAY, FEB. 2
 The Sandy City council meets at 7:30 p.m. in city hall.

TUESDAY, FEB. 3
 The next meeting of Sandy Civic Services will be at 7:30 p.m. at Foothills Inn. At this meeting will be election of officers for 1976. It is also time to pay dues for 1976.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4
 The Sandy Business and Professional Women's Club will hold a dinner meeting at the Foothills Inn at 7 p.m. Bobbie Swan is chairman for the evening. Anyone interested can make reservations by calling 668-4054.

THE SANDY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETS AT 7:30 P.M. IN CITY HALL.

Hearing set

A public hearing on the Columbia Region Association of Governments' land use plans for the Sandy area will be held in the Sandy City Hall Monday, Feb. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Next week's Post will include a review of these plans with descriptions of the property involved so that readers will be able to better participate at that hearing.

Jaycee head speak to chamber

State Jaycee president Bob Demilieu, Salem, visited Sandy Tuesday attending Sandy Chamber of Commerce and Sandy-Hoodland Jaycees meetings and stopped by to chat with local businessmen. Demilieu told the chamber of some of the organization's projects conducted in its 7,200 chapters in the United States. Two projects Demilieu emphasized were "Operation Threshold," and "Operation Mainstream." Threshold is Jaycees attempt to help people understand when they have had

enough to drink. "We are trying to teach people to say when." Mainstream is an effort conducted by local clubs to help elderly persons winterize their homes to save fuel bills and protect their health. "Our group runs more programs that are relevant to the problems of the community than any other organization," Demilieu says. The state president says he is very proud of the Sandy-Hoodland Jaycees and "the job they're doing."

CITIZENS FORUM

News and Views About
 Mt. Hood Community College
 by Rus Frank
 Public Information Specialist

Dwight Phelps, Mt. Hood Community Choir director, is still looking for area residents who "sing a lot in the shower" to join the local performing group. The choir is open to people who are willing to meet weekly for practice sessions. Sponsored through the college's community services program, the choir meets at 7:30 p.m. Monday nights on campus in room CA 202.

Monte Fast and Marty Stone of the Mt. Hood Community Arts Council have the task of heading up the council's "76" community membership drive between now and March 5. Mt. Hood drama students will present the musical production of "West Side Story" March 5 for the gathering of council members. Dick Melo, drama coach, noted that the production will also be open to the public March 5, 6, 12 and 13. During the council's monthly meeting the members also discussed its Spring Festival.

TJ's Fireside Dining

Seafood Night Thursday

Fried Oysters \$3.50
 Filet of Halibut \$4.25
 Fish and Chips \$2.45

Sunday Specials

Breakfast \$1.95
 Eggs Benedict (2 Eggs, Ham, English Muffin, Hollandaise Sauce, Coffee)
 Lunch & Dinner
 Spaghetti Plate \$1.95
 Chicken and Dumplings \$2.95

Live Music
 Friday and Saturday Nights
 9 P.M. - 2 P.M.
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