

Sandy Post

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An Interesting Amendment

House Bill 2902 requires that any party outside of the boundaries of a mass transit district shall pay the full cost of any transit services provided.

What this means, in effect, is that Tri-Met's costly venture into Clark county (Vancouver), Wash., would be at Vancouver's expense, not by Tri-Met taxpayers, at least partly.

But an interesting amendment also may be tacked onto the bill. HB 2902 initially had 15 sponsors and all have assented to a possible plan to make Tri-Met directors elective.

As the law is now written, directors are appointed by the governor. They are supposed to be named on a representative basis according to

ORS 267.110 (2) which reads:

"The board... shall consist of seven members. In appointing directors the Governor shall endeavor to assure representation of the most populous city, other cities and unincorporated territory in the proposed district proportionate to their respective populations."

Since make-up of the present board falls far short of the legal requirement, some legislators feel the people would do a much better job of picking directors.

We concur, totally. We hope the legislature makes the necessary change.

Important Election Coming

This is an "off-year" as far as elections are concerned, but it's not an off year for money matters.

Voters will decide in May on three constitutional changes, one of them the so-called "safety net" approach to school financing. That is SJR 7.

HJR 10 would increase funding for veterans' farm and home loans by \$750 million, while SJR 53 will clear up some technicalities in the veterans' loan program.

School districts, most of them, vote on April 19. Mt. Hood Community

College, which lost four levy elections last year, will be the local levy most watched although you can't minimize importance of any of the school district levies.

We hope the safety-net proposal is thoroughly aired before the May balloting. Basically, it canonizes the most recent year's levy... plus 6 per cent. We don't like it because it would remove any opportunity for the voters to reduce school taxes; it guarantees they'll always be more. It may become a very controversial issue.

Trojan Mishaps Frequent, Bothersome

We believe in nuclear power, we believe those scientists who say that present safeguards are adequate.

But the continuing, puzzling series of minor mishaps at the Trojan nuclear plant near Rainier must give all of us pause.

The Trojan works had been closed since March 21 for minor repairs ("not involving the nuclear operation") and finally opened again Friday.

Just two hours after starting up, the

plant was closed down again, this time for another "minor, non-nuclear problem."

We take PGE at its word, that nothing major was involved. But if so many other things are wrong at the plant, is it impossible to suggest that a "major, nuclear" malfunction might sometime occur?

We would feel a whole lot better if the Trojan plant could promptly eliminate these "minor mishaps."

SCAN to air plan

Landowners in the Sandy area will have another chance to offer their opinions on proposed land use amendments Monday night at 7:30 p.m.

This will be the last in a series of public meetings sponsored by the Sandy Community Association of Neighbors (SCAN)

Public to voice opinions

Sandy Union High School patrons will have a say on what qualifications are necessary for a new SUHS superintendent at Monday night's board meeting.

The board has asked anyone wishing to make a statement concerning the selection of a successor to Supt. Joe DeMarsh to appear at the 8 p.m. meeting and submit

Neighbors to meet

An election of officers will be held at the April 14 general meeting of Firwood's Neighbors, Inc., to fill the five seats open on Firwood's executive board.

Candidates for president, vice-president, secretary, and two executive board seats which have routinely been held by representatives chosen from Alder Creek, Dover, Cherryville, Firwood and Hillcrest (Firwood's five communities)

Environmental awareness goal of Earth Week

Clackamas County students will increase environmental awareness and win prizes during Earth Week festivities, April 18-25.

A poster and photo contest, sponsored by the Clackamas County Earth Week Committee is the key event. Open to Clackamas County students,

kindergarten through twelfth grade, the contest theme is "Building Oregon's Tomorrow."

Students, kindergarten through sixth grade may enter posters (only) individually or as a group. Entries may illustrate positive or negative use of

human or natural resources and may be any size. Winners will be selected based on the creative use of the theme, originality and eye appeal. Deadline is April 19.

Send all entries to: Sue Plaisance, Clackamas County IED, Marylhurst, Ore., 97036.



On his own terms?

Letters to the editor

Commissioners

To the Editor:

Your lead article of March 24 offers all of us a chance to review county government. Senate Bill 1002, sponsored by Sen. Walt Brown of our county, proposes that we have five county commissioners each elected from a certain district rather than three elected at large as we do presently. Four of the commissioners would act as administrators of departments and one would act as chairman.

Sen. Brown's proposal has Republican support including Sen. Ken Jernstedt and Rep. Roger Martin of our county and Democratic support from Representatives Wayne Fawbush, Glen Whallon, and Curt Wolf. The bill is a matter of practical consideration and not a Democratic vs. Republican or conservative vs. liberal deliberation.

Rural residents have long wanted a voice in county government responsible to them. As it is now, the urbanized Oregon City-Milwaukie area dominates elections through weight of population. Election by districts would help.

The public presently cannot pin down responsibility for malfunctioning of any department of county government since it is diffused through general responsibility of all commissioners.

Commissioner incumbents are naturally inclined to favor present circumstances. The argument that two additional commissioners would add expense to government is not a very strong one when one considers the size of the county budget in millions of dollars and the present tendency of the commissioners to hire well paid assistants to run departments. The latter are subject to civil service and not directly responsible to the public.

We are invited to meet with Sen. Brown to discuss Sen. Bill 1002 at Sandy High School April 7, 7:30 p.m. or at Boring Grange, April 8, 7:30 p.m. We may also write to him or to members of the Committee on Local Government and Elections, Oregon State Legislature, Salem. The members are: Senators Blaine Whipple (Chairman), Del Isham, Ed Fadeley, Ken Jernstedt, John Powell, Frank Roberts and Mary Roberts.

W. Pete Sulzbach, 38630 SE Hudson Rd., Sandy

Food stamps

To the Editor:

I attended a Nutrition Education and Emergency Delivery System meeting that the branch supervisor from Clackamas County food stamp program also attended.

She said if we could give her a week's notice and have at least five people signed up she would

provide transportation to and from Marylhurst for food stamp certification.

She also stated that if we signed up at least ten people, with a week's notice, she would provide two food stamp certificates in our center.

Also it seems as though the Clackamas County food stamp program is unaware of the people's problems in receiving food stamps.

If you or anyone you know of has or has had problems receiving food stamps for any reason, please call or write in your complaints to me.

I would like to help you, but can only do it if you, the people, voice your problems, so we can let the food stamp office know where help is needed.

Bonnie Wheelock
Out-Reach worker for
Neighbors of Estacada
Acting Together (NEAT)
Estacada

Cherished

To the Editor:

To the approximately 140 people who attended our 60th Wedding Anniversary Open House, we wish to thank them for making it a day we shall cherish always.

We didn't realize we had made so many good friends in the 30 years we've lived in Sandy.

We also want to thank the many friends who brought gifts and sent flowers, and also for the many, many cards we have received. They were deeply appreciated.

Sunday, April 3, 1977 was one of the "HighLites" of our lives. We will remember it always.

Mike & Josephine Lamb
and family
38787 Pioneer Blvd.
Sandy

Salary increase

To the Editor:

In recent weeks there have been several news articles and letters to the editor in various Oregon newspapers concerning the recent pay raise for members of Congress. Because some confusion seems to exist regarding my stand on the matter, I would like to make my position clear to your readers.

I opposed the proposed salary increases because, as did the majority of Oregon residents, I felt such raises were inappropriate in both timing and amount. I am on record as having opposed every pay increase that has been proposed since I entered the Senate in 1967, and I voted to block these pay increases, as well, when the matter was brought to a vote on Feb. 2.

More recently, on March 11, I voted to bar members of Congress from receiving any cost-of-living increases that may be granted to federal employees in October. This legislation, S.984, is now before the House of Representatives

for their consideration. I have indicated my support for salary increases for federal judges should they be considered separately.

Thank you for this opportunity to explain my position on these issues.

Mark O. Hatfield
United States Senator

Early bird

To the Editor:

The early bird catches the worm—everywhere except at the Division of Motor Vehicles in Gresham. There you will catch a line of patient waiters who don't seem to mind waiting in line for upwards of one hour. Or maybe they do mind waiting. Else why would there be almost 100 people outside the office door at 8 a.m. when they open? Word must be out.

The only place you will find any sympathy is in the dictionary. One who seemed to be in charge at our local office was asked if he felt badly about so many people waiting so long. He simply replied, "Not at all."

A co-worker piped in, "You have to wait everywhere."

An hour is excessive to wait just to purchase renewal license tags.

J.W. Kent III
1811 N.E. Liberty Av.
Gresham, Or.

OSHA proposal attacked

Sen. Ken Jernstedt, R-District 26, said he is opposed to a proposal which would extend the powers of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

SB 461, he said, "would allow a judge to issue an administrative inspection warrant to a public officer for investigation and inspection if there was probable cause to believe that a state or local law was being broken."

Jernstedt said he has received numerous complaints about OSHA inspections within his district.

"This bill would not only reinforce OSHA's powers but would extend them to other agencies," he said. "Opponents believe it is a fishing license

Dumping reduced

The Metropolitan Service District is sponsoring a campaign to help get rid of unwanted junk tires.

Until April 21, anyone wishing to dispose of tires may do so at one of two tire disposal centers for a reduced fee of 18 cents a tire.

The sites are located at 1101 17th Street in Oregon City (Rossman's Land Fill) and at 8501 N. Borthwick in Portland (Metropolitan Disposal).

County Comments

The 'average' voter continues to lose

by Bill Sanderson

If all the voters in Clackamas County could somehow be "totaled up" and then divided by their aggregate number to get a raw average, I wouldn't believe it. But just suppose such a thing were possible, what do you suppose we would have in terms of what that one composite voter stood for?

Fortunately for me, the impossible, hypothetical voter was described with crystal-clear accuracy by my paternal grandfather many years ago as he commented on a neighbor's too frequent excursions into the horse-trading business. He was, my grandfather said, the only man he had ever known who could trade horses on his own terms and get beat every time.

Of course not everyone was blessed with a grandfather like that and consequently the subject needs a little more attention. Let us take our hypothetical and composite Clackamas County voter and run him through the past 10 or 12 years to see how much he traded away, and what he has received for it. We will start with the most basic of all commodities: land.

Before the Columbia Region Association of Governments (CRAG), the Land Conservation and Development (LCDC), and the full-blown expansion of the present county planning bureaucracy, our hero, (the hypothetical, composite and impossible "average" voter) would have owned a house and lot, a 19 acre share of his father's farmland estate and 20 acres of cutover land out near Sandy that his wife inherited from Uncle Frank.

He could sell, trade, subdivide or farm any or all his holding. His taxes were high, but bearable. He could grow trees, wheat or grass-seed, and

he could build a couple of houses to rent if he so chose.

He could join with his neighbors in a majority decision to save their little corner of Clackamas County from urban sprawl or the sickening results of some fly-by-night developer's bad dream.

What happened? Why, he voted, and every time he voted things got worse. Or was it that he "didn't" vote and things got worse? At any rate, right now he has over a hundred big-mouths telling him what he can, but mostly he can't do, with his home and his property. His taxes have gone up several hundred per cent while his authority and his freedom has diminished.

As the man says, when you let someone else regulate your property, you should also make some arrangements to let him pay the taxes and upkeep.

And how about the relative price of the land? When you really owned it; when you could make all of those decisions concerning its use and potential it was only worth three to five hundred dollars an acre.

Now that a bunch of fat-cat bureaucrats are making those decisions it is suddenly appraised at several thousand dollars an acre. That ought to tell you something about what is taking place, or do you think YOU were really benefited by that fiscal myth?

Well, everytime we voted, two things happened. One, the majority always won, and two, things always got worse!

We still remind me of my grandfather's neighbor who traded horses just like he wanted to, and got beat every time!

Maybe we are even less smart than he. We even let the same people do it to us every time!

Ullman to appear at breakfast session

Congressman Al Ullman, an Oregon Democrat and chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, will stop in Sandy next Thursday, April 14, for a breakfast meeting.

The representative from the Second Congressional District will meet with local business people and civic leaders at 8:30 a.m. at TJ's Restaurant. The public is invited to attend.

Ullman was first elected Nov. 6, 1956, to serve in the 85th Congress. He has been re-elected to each subsequent Congress.

Ullman was a member of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs between 1957 and 1961. He became a member of the Committee on Ways and Means in 1961, and

served as acting chairman of the committee during much of 1973 and 1974.



Rep. Al Ullman

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