

Sandy Post

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Election Results: A Mixed Bag

You can read in national magazines how "angry taxpayers" are "up in arms" over tax increases and how special levies "are being voted down in droves."

That just isn't the case here in Oregon. Final results from Tuesday's balloting remain to be tabulated, but there just wasn't massive resistance to school and municipal levies.

Here in our area, Mt. Hood Community College lost again. So did Reynolds (by two votes), Gresham Union High and Corbett. But Gresham Grade won easily, likewise Fire District 10, Centennial (the latter by three votes), Sandy Elementary, Orient, Bull Run, Oregon City, Parkrose, Lake Oswego, etc.

Voters obviously were in a mood to pick and choose but just as obviously

were not in a mood to reject everything that smacked of tax increases.

Mt. Hood Community College continues to have its problems, losing its fifth straight money issue over two years. Further deep cuts seem inevitable.

Recounts may be called in some of the elections . . . Reynolds loser by 2 votes, Centennial winner by 3, etc. A further spate of elections this spring must be scheduled by those districts who were defeated Tuesday.

There may be some "angry taxpayers" in our area, but that sort of feeling certainly isn't universal. A lot of people obviously feel the schools and municipalities are doing a good job and are willing to increase their taxes as a result.

Those Extra Costs

We've been hearing a lot lately about "mandated costs", costs assessed against a government entity through legislative action.

The legislature decides, for instance, that every county should have a grunion inspector. No money is provided to fund the new office but the counties have to obey the law and provide one. This is a "mandated" cost (mandated by the legislature).

An excellent example of just how expensive these costs can be was outlined in a staff memo from MHCC Pres. Stephen Nicholson this week. The Public Employees Retirement System (State of Oregon) has raised employer contributions by 1.30 per cent on each as of July 1, 1978, 1979 and 1980. This eventually will boost the College's current 7.6 per cent contribution to 12.81 per cent on July 1,

1981.

It means MHCC will have to increase its present retirement contribution of \$561,250 per annum to \$931,233.

What else does this mean? Funding for 357 less full-time equivalent students for one. Or to put it another way, nine of the College's fourteen departments have budgets of less than \$500,000. Which department should MHCC eliminate to take care of the retirement program mandated by the state?

Local governments have complained bitterly about these kinds of uninvited costs. We can understand why. If the legislature wants to impose new burdens, perhaps they should provide the money to pay the freight.

They Just Don't Believe

We listened to a radio talk show Monday evening just after Pres. Carter's message on energy conservation.

Not a single caller, not one, believed the energy shortage was real.

All felt it was contrived, manufactured or just not true.

Some of the reasons were weird, others made sense.

One caller said that as long as the government allowed illegal aliens to enter the country by the thousands and thousands, he couldn't believe there was any shortage.

A Call for Order

We hope that the April 25 school board meeting will be more orderly and have less of a zoo atmosphere than some of the past few meetings have had.

The controversy involving the school board has gone beyond issues at hand—many personality conflicts are involved and The Post staff does not believe it is the purpose of the newspaper to nurture such conflicts. Issues should be brought up in the open—at public meetings. We dislike unsubstantiated rumors floating around the community.

Last week we wrote about a session which, at least during one portion, disintegrated into a minor fiasco. The board chairman and a district patron were yelling; other members of the audience were chiming in.

We think patrons have a right to come to meetings and state their opinion. This is a public forum and we like to see patrons who take a constructive interest in the district and its students.

We do not appreciate members of the audience muttering, talking back and forth and generally speaking out

of turn like several did at the last meeting. We also think the board should retain a tighter control on meeting order and insist on the use of parliamentary procedure at all times.

Last week we reported that Phil Sober and Board Chairman Charles Marsh got into a shouting match after Sober stood up to make a point at the meeting. Sober had been trying to get the chairman's attention for some time. But Sober was clearly out of order when he spoke, in our opinion. Don't get us wrong—he had a right to make his comments—just not at that time.

Sober has told us that our indirect quote that he said the board would have to physically throw him out of the meeting was inaccurate.

We believe Sober, however, when he said we should have attributed that one statement to another man, whom we haven't identified. We apologize to Sober. But if people would wait until they're recognized by the chairman before speaking, their chances of being misquoted would be dramatically reduced. (SAL)



They want a 'running' shot

Letters to the editor

Staff likes visits

To the Editor:
The teachers of Sandy Union High School are good teachers dedicated to providing the best possible education to each student that they have in or out of class, contrary to the article appearing in last week's Sandy Post, suggesting that teachers are put out by citizenry visiting the classrooms.

We believe that part of the best possible education is parent-teacher communication; we therefore, encourage parents to become involved in their school and its activities by visiting the teacher's classrooms, not just one a year but often.

We also encourage patrons of the school who have no children or have no children in school now and the school board to visit the classroom to become acquainted with the staff and the quality education being offered.

We also support the visitor's procedure.
Paul Montgomery
Sandy Education Association (SEA)
Sandy Union High School

Thanks

To the Editor:
The Boring P.T.A. would like to extend their thanks to the area's businesses and individuals who donated prizes, supplies, and advertising space.

Your contributions along with the enthusiasm of our Boring students helped make our Annual Carnival a beautiful success.

Clarice Moss
P.T.A. Secretary

SUHS budget hearing May 9

The Sandy High School Budget Committee Monday night finished work on a proposed \$3,138,903 budget for the 1977-78 fiscal year.

A public hearing on the budget, which is due to go before voters June 28, will be held Monday, May 9, at 8 p.m. in the high school resource library.

The proposed budget is up from this year's total of \$2,767,481.

SUHS Business Manager Willard Boring said even though the total proposed budget is higher than last year, the levy will be less.

"That should be good news for voters," he said.

The proposed levy for 1977-78 is \$1,597,016—down from this year's levy of \$1,707,541.

The reason for the reduction in the proposed levy is the addition of more revenue from state sources, as well as extra income from tuition students from the Redland district.

The 1977-78 financial resources will amount to \$1,197,470, said Boring. This year the district received a total of \$982,570 from sources such as the State of Oregon and Redland tuition.

Copies of the proposed budget document may be inspected or obtained between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the high school administration office.

Visitor?

To the Editor:
I am appalled by the statements of Supt. DeMarsh and SUHS Board Chairman Marsh, as reported in The Sandy Post April 14. As a parent, I rejoice in Mrs. Brewster's dedication and initiative.

I consider Mr. DeMarsh and Mr. Marsh's behavior irresponsible and ungentlemanly.

It is disturbing that an elected representative of the public should be considered a "visitor." As a taxpayer, I consider her part of the school. It is also disturbing to realize that the administration and personnel of the school, and the board chairman, not only do not appreciate a selfless hard working board member, but actually seem to resent her.

I feel strongly that we need more board members with Mrs. Brewster's dedication, and would therefore like to recommend for Board Position 2 Pete Griffen, who will be a

Stolen auto gets wrecked

An automobile stolen from a Sandy resident ended up wrecked on the outskirts of Gresham last Wednesday.

A 1963 Buick belonging to Dan Greer, Bluff Road, was taken from Greer's home and was involved in a high-speed chase, ended by the driver's wreck on Highway 26 near Gresham. Oregon State Police apprehended a juvenile in connection with the theft.

hard working and responsible member. I hope that the arrogant behavior of the administration will not deter other qualified people from seeking board membership.

Dorothy C. Bruns
P.O. Box 57
Sandy, 97055

Editor's note: This letter was received after the publication of the pre-election edition of The Post.

School superintendent says:

Growth seen as challenge

Last of a series.

by Sue Lafky,
Sandy Post editor

Sandy Supt. Clark Lund said he isn't looking at the projected growth of the Sandy Elementary School district as a crisis situation.

"I see this as part of the day-to-day process," he said.

Growth can lead to a crisis situation in a school district, but Lund doesn't see that happening in Sandy.

The superintendent said he is approaching the projected steady increase in the student population in a matter of fact, problem solving manner.

Sandy's growth, which is expected to increase moderately during the next five years, will probably be one of the main topics of the Sandy Elementary School Board meetings in the next few months, Lund said.

In a study done by the Field Training and Service Bureau from the University of Oregon College of Education, alternatives were noted such as building a new facility in the Kelso area, going to neighborhood schools and reorganizing grade structure in district buildings.

The study team noted both long and short-range options for the district, and pointed out that both the Firwood and Intermediate Buildings are now being used at more than 100 per cent capacity.

Copies of the study team's report are available at the district office of Sandy Elementary District.

Lund said the board will be considering options besides the ones listed in the bureau's study.

The Sandy district staff is currently doing cost projections on a year-round school program similar to the one now in effect in the Gresham Elementary School District.

Lund said the board has indicated a desire to narrow down the options to one or two alternatives, and working with architects on those proposals.

"By giving the architects the information, they can give us an estimated price tag," Lund said. The growth of the Sandy district could be influenced by a number of factors, including future energy availability and trends in the development of industry and housing in the area.

The bureau, in making the study, indicated that the

County comments Auto production accounts for 'surge'

by Bill Sanderson

The complexities of our economic system bear strange fruit in the unlooked-for and unwanted side effects of "tinkering" with the machinery.

Economists of national stature have never been among my favorite people, and especially those who have attained that preeminence by attaching themselves to one particular sector of the economy—a relationship suggesting the peculiar alliance of the armed hunter and his little beagle dog.

The short-legged mutt cannot catch rabbits with his loud baying and the hunter cannot frighten them into running with his silent gun. But the partnership—hah!—that's a different matter, and the rabbit always loses.

And now, Dear Rabbit, er, that is, "Reader" here is how one of those "side-effects" of tinkering with our wonderful perpetual-motion-economic-money-machine just happened to pop up last week.

In January and February the word got out that something like \$6 billion would be available to the American public through the \$50 tax credit, work programs and various other cash credits or handouts—they mean the same, they only have different names).

Among the very smart operators who could see the woods behind the trees in such a situation were the automobile manufacturers, sadly wondering what they were going to do with hundreds of expensive plants tooled up for the production of big, expensive and gas-guzzling cars.

In the same row of seats at

the government's banquet table—or money trough, according to how hard you have been hit lately) sit the great energy producers, hungrily licking their lips over what could well become another opportunity for another rip-off based on their nationally known economist's appraisal of the situation.

Came the end of March and then the day in April when the economic score card for March would be totaled. What a surprise?

Production for March, buoyed up by the expectation of the soon-to-be-available 6 billion plus was up almost 1.5 per cent, the highest monthly jump in the last nineteen months!

That would have been great for everyone except for one thing.

Much of that rise in national production was caused by a great forward surge in the number of automobiles produced, and an unusually large per cent of them were big, expensive and gas-guzzling ones!

So now we have an indication of an up-turn in the economy which ushers in a greater consumption of our scarce energy supplies, which will contribute to a greater scarcity of gasoline supplies, which will cause another reason for raising the price of THAT power source, which will cause another down-turn in national production.

Well, run, little rabbit, run, and I do hope you won't get shot from behind with a great big brand new car just as the next little beagle of inflation are buying for an absolutely necessary raise in energy prices.

the primary grades.

Lund said the district will want to gain citizen input on the proposed alternatives.

"When the board narrows down the viable alternatives, we will actively pursue community response to the information. We want to know what the mood of the community is going to be in weighing one alternative against the other."

A slide show featuring the district's growth and alternatives for growth is available from the elementary school district.

"I will be taking the slide program wherever I can find interested groups," Lund said.

Round-up slated

The annual Welches School kindergarten registration or "Round-Up" has been scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, at 10:30 a.m. in the school library.

Parents are invited to bring their kindergarten age children to this informational meeting.

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