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The Tri-Met Board

A legislative measure which provides a new method of selecting Tri-Met board members has been described as a "headache" for Gov. Bob Straub.

We prefer to label it a "breath of fresh air."

The legislation, sponsored by Sen. Vern Cook and Rep. Glenn Otto, both of Troutdale, provides that Tri-Met board members shall be appointed by district. This is in contrast to the old method which found both Gov. Straub and Gov. Tom McCall packing the Tri-Met board with Portland residents.

Bonus a Good Idea

We like the proposal that the State of Oregon provide a bonus for veterans of the Korean and Viet-Name wars.

John B. Derr Jr., veterans' coordinator at Clackamas Community College, thinks veterans of those two undeclared wars are just as deserving as veterans of any other war.

He thinks the State of Oregon should provide a bonus for these veterans and is asking for a ballot title to put the issue up to the voters next year.

College Enrollment Up Slightly

Enrollment at Mt. Hood Community College is up a bit over last year, according to preliminary figures released by the College.

However, the increase apparently is in off-campus and extension classes; enrollment on the MHCC campus is about the same as last year.

At the end of the first week last fall, MHCC had 5,303 full-time equivalent students. This year the figure is 5,452.

A Break for the Middle-Class

Sen. Bob Packwood has co-sponsored legislation which finally may do something to help middle-income families meet the soaring costs of educating their children.

His measure would allow tax credits of up to \$500 to offset tuition payments.

It would particularly benefit middle-income families, those who aren't affluent enough to send their children away to school but who aren't poor enough to qualify for federal assistance.

Which means a substantial share of the vast American middle-class.

Federal aid now goes primarily to poorer families. Middle-income parents pungle up taxes for this aid,

What TV Does To You

The most damning indictment yet of television programming is coming out of a murder trial in Miami, Fla.

Defense attorneys for a 15-year-old who is accused of the execution-style slaying of an 82-year-old woman are pleading something called "involuntary television intoxication."

In other words, the young man was so hooked on television violence that

Congress Is Back in Business

Political historians have been telling us for years that ever since the presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt, Congress has been declining in importance.

We wonder. It seems to us that a couple of recent happenings—Watergate and the Bert Lance affair—demonstrate pretty conclusively that Congress is back in business.

Watergate, of course, was brought to a light in a host of different ways

The Cook-Otto measure divides the Tri-Met area into seven districts, all of them roughly equal in terms of population. East Multnomah county is one of the districts, Clackamas county and Washington county constitute two more. The balance are in Portland.

Obviously, there is no guarantee that Straub's East County appointee will please everyone. But any bill which had the united opposition of Portland Mayor Neil Goldschmidt, the Transit Workers union and the Tri-Met board can't be all bad.

The maximum amount a veteran could receive would be \$800, compared to \$600 for World War II vets. Derr says he thinks the bonus would be a psychological boost as much as a monetary help.

Korean and Viet-Nam veterans, particularly the latter, participated in unpopular wars. But they still were pulled off of their jobs, taken from school, sent overseas for their country. Derr feels some monetary compensation is long overdue.

We agree.

(An FTE student would be one taking 15 hours or more, or several students whose combined hours would equal 15 or more).

These figures are about what the College had anticipated, in other words an increase of about 3 per cent.

Obviously, the time of spectacular growth for MHCC is over, as it is for most community colleges. Planning, budgeting etc. should become easier as a result.

but at the same time, can't afford to send their own children off to school.

It's pretty much a waste of time for a middle-class parent to fill out a scholarship application. People at either end of the wage scale fare much better. . . the rich can pay their own way and the government foots the bill for the poor.

Under Packwood's bill, a taxpayer could deduct half of the tuition costs at any level of public or private education up to a maximum of \$500. It's estimated the total revenue loss to the federal treasury would be less than 1 per cent of the total budget . . . something the nation can well afford for the education of its middle-class families.

he was not responsible for his acts.

It's inconceivable that this kind of defense should prevail. If it did, almost any kind of act, anywhere, could be excused.

But the very use of such a defense is the ultimate indictment of television. It might even lead to a few less murder scenes on your typical family hour-type program.

...but nothing much would have happened had not Congress demanded a complete explanation.

The same thing occurred with Bert Lance. Newspapers, bank examiners, etc. could say what they like . . . but not until Senators and Congressmen got into the act was the heat really applied.

We're sure Pres. Carter is intelligent enough to come out of the Lance affair with a better Congressional working relationship.

It only seems that way



THE COMMISSIONERS

First Commissioner: How was your public meeting the other day?

Second Commissioner: Just fine until the public started to butt in!

letters to the editor

Bull Run Reserve

To the Editor:

The Little Sandy River, as a future superb water source for our children and grandchildren, is going down the drain, due to failure of citizen involvement. This is the case because citizens haven't been told what is going on.

Perhaps as soon as next week the House of Representatives will be asked to repeal the 1904 Trespass Act and replace it with a law that establishes a "Bull Run Watershed Management Unit" and does not even mention the Little Sandy. Portland may be given some say about what happens to the water her citizens receive, but no control would be given to other citizens, unless Portland also uses the water.

The Little Sandy produces about one-fifth as much water as Bull Run, is well protected now by the 1904 Act, and could be used in the future by communities from Gresham on up the Mt. Hood corridor in case Portland does not want it. Portland is making no effort to protect this water source for their future.

Despite the fact that a 1974 survey concerning planning for the Mt. Hood area showed overwhelming support for protecting water resources, the public hasn't even been informed that the Little Sandy is a potential future water source. The Bull Run Planning Unit in their brochures seeking public comment do not mention this potential.

For further information, please visit the Bull Run Interest Group open file in the central Public Library in Portland. Results of the above survey are in reference 63. The present 1904 Trespass Act is discussed and interpreted by Judge Burns in reference 96a. Currently proposed new bills to replace the 1904 Act are also in this file.

If you wonder what is happening, you can still find out, and if you are not happy, you can still write your city officials; or more important, Congressman Teno Roncalio and Morris K. Udall; and (from Oregon) Les AuCoin, Robert Duncan, Al Ullman and Jim Weaver - House of Representatives, Washington, DC., 20515. But please hurry!

Joseph L. Miller Jr.
52815 E. Marmot Rd.
Sandy, Ore., 97055

Errors

To the Editor:

In reply to an article appearing in The Sandy Post, Sept. 22, 1977, front page, regarding a city council meeting which took place on Sept. 19, 1977, there are a few gross errors which I would like to correct.

The first point is that the issue was not brought before the council as action against Trimble Construction Company, but rather that in an earlier meeting of Sept. 5, 1977, certain points were brought

before the council by Bill Trimble for their consideration concerning the paving and fencing of his six-plex in Sandy.

The council asked that decision be postponed until the next meeting for staff report. The important considerations which Trimble brought to the council's awareness that needed immediate attention were whether paving and fencing should be placed in unsettled fill areas and if these improvements fail (if installed on unsettled fill) because of conditions under which they were installed, who should be held responsible for their repair.

Thirdly, the important point which put Trimble in a difficult position was the necessity for occupancy permit which required these improvements. In this circumstance, the ordinances contradict themselves for they require certain items prior to occupancy, but building code forbids construction in unstable conditions.

Subsequently, in the later Sept. 22, meeting a number of items which did not pertain to these original requests for determination were added to the discussion. The result was basically total confusion. It was at this point that The Post picked up the story and wrote an extremely inaccurate account of what the issues were.

The final point is that it is not Trimble Construction's obligation either moral, legal or implied to supply fill dirt in that ravine and there would be no way of estimating when that monumental task could be completed.

Anyone familiar with the area would immediately recognize the terrific improvement which has already taken place. Also, it was never intended that this area would be anywhere near this close to completely filled in this short a period of time. If it had not been for an unusually active construction season in Sandy, there would be much more fill lacking.

So, we are back to our original question: If Trimble Construction supplies fill as it is available and can be practically placed are improvements going to be forced in unstable conditions?

Sincerely,
William Trimble

Be a donor

To the Editor:

Although most people have blood to share many are not blood donors because they have not experienced the need for blood. However, millions of individuals are living today because of donors who have overcome their fears and realize the importance of giving blood.

Help save a life. Join the donors at the Red Cross Bloodmobile at the Sandy Union High School library on Monday, Oct. 10, from 1 to 5 p.m.

After the last blood drive, Bob Beehler, one of Bull Run's old time residents, had an emergency open heart surgery. Bob's surgery required 20 pints of someone else's life giving blood.

Blood donors are special people. The balance between supply, demand and human life depends on blood donors. What about you? Your concern can be a vital thing.

Stan Bowman
Teacher, Sandy Union High School.

Paper given

To the Editor:

All of the boys and leaders wish to express their thanks to the people of Sandy for their support of our recent paper drive. We collected 17 tons of newspaper.

We also would like to let anyone know that if their son is old enough and interested in becoming a Cub Scout you may register him any time by calling the Den Leader Coach Leala Harris at 668-6826.

Again we thank you for your support.

Cub Scout 248



"It's Funny, But I Don't Feel A Bit More Productive Since They Raised The Age For Compulsory Retirement?"

County comments

Consultant tells on management

by Bill Sanderson

Last week we reported in this column the formation of a new county "super" agency created by the county commissioners by placing the planning department and all of its functions with the public works department in a new Department of Environmental Services.

This week we learn that the county commissioners have employed a "management consultant," a Mr. Robert Elfers, who has already commented on the county's lack of organization and fiscal management.

A reasonable question would seem to be whether that appraisal of the county's organizational structure was made before or after the "super" agency was born.

In approximately the same time frame a new position of "hearings officer" was approved by two of the commissioners for the announced purpose of "relieving" the workload of the Clackamas County Planning Commission.

The pros and cons of such a position for Clackamas County have been around for a long time, with a multi-membered "board" rather than a single person recommended to act in that capacity.

Most of the various proposals submitted by citizen study groups have specified from three to five or seven persons in the position. The same question as to the new consultant's input on the sudden decision of two of the commissioners to limit the position to a single officer is in order.

Finally, some of the board's internal bitterness came out during last Thursday's special commission meeting called to

determine if elements of failure or mal-administration in the county may exist.

Commissioner Stan Skoko suggested that at least some of the county's problems would be solved if all of the present commissioners would resign! Skoko is quoted as also saying that he had little confidence in either of his fellow commissioners or the county staff.

He said that he believed that he had, at times, been deliberately left out of the board's decision-making process.

Although the Elfers report is still in its preliminary draft, its initial findings paint a dismal picture of administrative failures and shortcomings.

This state of affairs in a county that has been putting on high-priced administrative assistants like they were going out of style will, perhaps, raise more questions than the finished report can possibly answer.

It is certain that one of those questions will ask the commissioners just why they are paying a consultant for telling them just exactly what a lot of citizens have been telling them for the last two years!

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Last week Clackamas County's only daily newspaper, Oregon City's Enterprise Courier came out with a 104 page, tabloid-type supplement entitled "In Hood's Shadow."

Without any intentional disparagement of its contents, present and recent history of what has been happening to Oregon City as well as the rest of Clackamas County suggests a more appropriate title: "In The Shadow of Portland, Tri-Met, CRAG and the Metropolitan Service District!"

Manning the Post

Not everyone's ready for sports

by Sue Lafky

The Sandy Recreation Department's basketball program is doing fine, thank you, but rumor has it that the same can't be said of the department boss.

It seems that Dick Halvorson, head of the Sandy Senior Center and Recreation Department, was practicing for league play when he collided with recreation staff member Tom Botbyl in mid-air.

Dick apparently sprained his ankle, but isn't getting much sympathy from senior center patrons who kid him about "playing a young man's sport."

Dick, 27, ("and getting older every day") is keeping his foot under the desk a lot according to senior center staff member.

Another victim of Dick's recreation program was none other than Sandy Fire Chief Bob Rathke, who is also sporting a pair of crutches.

One of his men reported that the injury occurred when Rathke was attempting to

execute a "turn around jump shot but forgot to take his feet off the ground."

Reports received by this office indicate that most of the play league play is friendly, but that fire department basketball players have been known, under pressure, to tell their opponents not to get injured because they won't send the rescue rig to their aid.

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Next week The Post will hail the beginning of a business column written by Post Advertising Manager Carl Weaver. Weaver will include insights to the area business climate as well as notes of expansion in the column.

FAMED CASTLE SLIPPING
Neuschwanstein Castle, the fairytale Bavarian retreat that was the pattern for Disneyland palace, is in bad shape, engineers say. Shoring up the slipping foundations will take about \$425,000, with the same historic Finance Ministry that built the palace footing the bill.

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