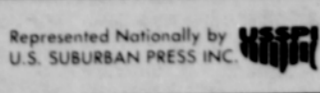


### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In Multnomah and Clackamas Counties, per year	\$5.00	In Northwest and Pacific Coast States outside Oregon per year	\$7.00
Servicemen, any address	\$5.00	Outside Northwest and Pacific Coast states, per year	\$9.00
In Oregon, outside Multnomah and Clackamas Counties, per year	\$6.00		



## An Active Race is Welcome

It would be good for the city to have an active race for the mayor's post in the next city elections.

So far the first candidate to announce his intentions to run for office, Bruce Cook, has brought out some good ideas for residents of the city to consider. For instance, he's right on target when he says people don't realize how important the current revision of the city's comprehensive plan is going to be to Sandy's future.

He also makes a good point when he says that the city needs to start

### Have Your Say

Clackamas County recently became eligible for a Community Block Development Grant from the federal Housing and Urban Development project. It is the only county in Oregon to receive the "urban" designation which qualifies it for the funds.

Sandy is due to receive its fair share of the funding and city officials are trying to involve area citizens in the planning process.

A public meeting was held recently in the Sandy City Council chambers. Citizens were urged to attend and participate in determining how the federal funds should be spent.

Eight people attended the meeting.

The Community Block Grant project is an opportunity for citizens to have their say—something we all talk about wanting. Officials estimate \$2.3 million to \$2.5 million will be

planning now to set aside more area for future industrial use. If Sandy does become a strictly bedroom community, the taxes for property owners will be a larger than necessary burden.

Some persons have suggested that Councilman Jim Duff may also seek the mayor's seat. But if he is, so far he isn't talking. We hope Duff or someone else will join the race. An active campaign may lead more citizens to become involved with the workings of their city government. No one can lose when that happens. (SAL)

allotted to Clackamas County this year for projects.

The people are the ones who are being asked to decide what the projects will be—and the possibilities are endless. Project titles range from residential rehabilitation to historical preservation. Any ideas will be The next chance for area citizens to have their say will be Wednesday, Feb. 22, at noon in the Community Service Room of Far West Federal Savings and Loan in Milwaukie.

At this meeting, initial proposals will be prioritized by a development policy board of 15 Sandy city representatives and one county representative.

City and county residents need to attend future meetings and workshops so projects they're interested in can be funded.

Put quite simply—it's your money, how do you want it spent? (BB)

## The High Cost of Negotiations

Local school districts are in the middle of contract negotiations and while whatever settlements are reached will significantly impact local taxes, that's only the tip of the iceberg.

The Foundation for Oregon Research and Education estimates that the annual cost of collective bargaining in Oregon education exceeds \$7 million.

This includes \$3.3 million in management costs, \$1.6 million in OSEA costs, \$400,000 in state costs and \$1.8 million in school board costs.

Not included in the \$7 plus million are released time costs, costs of any arbitration or litigation, school

supervisory time, conference and seminar fees, cost to the districts for substitute teachers during negotiations, and time contributed by negotiation teams.

We're sure teachers feel the \$7 million is well spent. So, perhaps, do the administrators and board members. But what about the taxpayer? The \$7 plus million spent in salary talks would buy a lot of books, a lot of equipment, a lot of extra teachers.

There ought to be a better way to conduct negotiations than the protracted, expensive fashion common in all too many districts today.

## We Report It, We Don't Make It

Attention of the working press was recently drawn to Tennessee where the governor, Ray Blanton, issued an edict that he would answer only positive questions at his news conferences.

The public is tired of negative stories, Blanton claimed, and rarely receives a balanced view of the news. He said his goal is to insure a fair and objective look at both sides of a story.

Therefore, his new guidelines say that "if members of the media fail to present the positive side of a story, I will decline to entertain any questions pertaining to the negative aspect of state news."

So much for a look at both sides of the story.

The Tennessee governor apparently feels the public would be better served by not hearing negative news from the statehouse, even if it be accurate and its dissemination vital. Perhaps he feels his constituency needs to be buoyed by good news, that

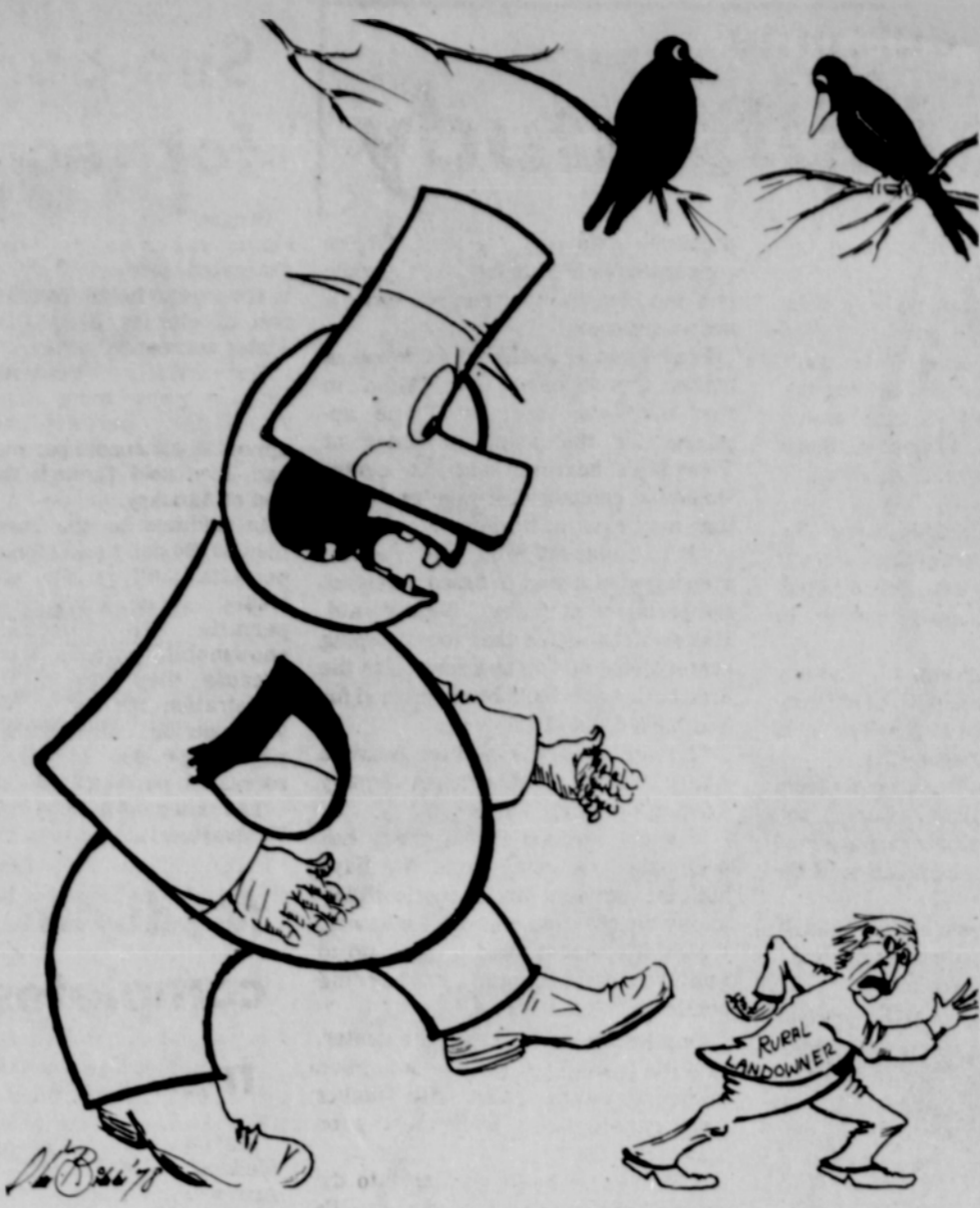
somehow all would lead better lives by being shielded from the "real world."

From this viewpoint, that attitude can be stowed in the round file along with the mindless adage that what you don't know won't hurt you.

We wholeheartedly support the goal of balanced and fair coverage, of giving each side a voice. We cringe when we see stories that make no pretense of objectivity or no effort toward responsible reporting.

But the role of the press is to report what happens, not what someone wants to happen. The press attempts to be the eyes and ears of those who are not there, not act as a public relations tool and present only the good side of a "product."

We report the news, we don't make it. Perhaps those who complain about negative press ought to check their headline to see if their slip is showing. (BW)



Chirp: Does it eat the people? Twirp: Only when they are spread on thick slices of lands and homes.

## Letters to the editor

### Need bike paths

To the Editor:  
 I think we should have a bicycle path in the Boring area. Now we don't have any place to ride our bicycles because the highway is so busy. Also, we could ride our bikes to school and to the store.

It would conserve energy by not making our parents drive to the store all the time and having them pick us up.

A lot of families would go bicycle riding because it is very good exercise. It will help build strong bodies and will help keep kids from having heart attacks. (My mom is a nurse). It helps keep families together.

And most important, when our mothers are busy they wouldn't have to drive us around.

Sincerely,  
 Joanne Richard  
 14230 SE 215th Court  
 Boring

### Thanks

To the Editor:  
 Thank you for your participation in DECA's 4th Annual World's Greatest Trike Jump event at Mt. Hood Community College. The event was a success with nine jumpers attempting to break the world's record. Thank you again, and we will be looking forward to your involvement next year.

Sincerely,  
 John D. Mirmak  
 Chairman

### Electric bills

To the Editor:  
 The last Oregon legislative session was not a good one for the people who pay Portland General Electric's bills. A new consumer group has decided to go directly to the public with an initiative petition because the legislature seems incapable of slowing PGE's skyrocketing utility rates.

Oregonians for Utility Reform's initiative will stop PGE from charging for construction projects that do

not provide any service to the consumer. Currently PGE has \$193,000,000 in the rate base that would not be allowed in Washington, Idaho, California and 19 other states.

This will cost PGE customers over \$17,000,000 in 1978. Oregonians who are concerned about the high cost of electricity should write O.U.R., P.O. Box 12763, Salem, 97309.

State Rep. Bob Vian  
 1845 Claxter Rd. N.  
 Salem, Ore. 97303

### Keeping posted

## Renfro to address Sandy Chamber

THURSDAY, FEB. 16  
 Oregon Trail Coffee Hour will begin at 9:30 a.m. Donuts, sweet rolls and coffee will be provided.

TUESDAY, FEB. 21  
 Clackamas County Sheriff John Renfro will address the noon meeting of the Sandy area Chamber of Commerce at TJ's Restaurant.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22  
 The Take Off Pounds Sensibly Club of Sandy meets every Wednesday at 9:30

a.m. in the basement of the Sandy Community Action Center. Call 668-4537 for more information.

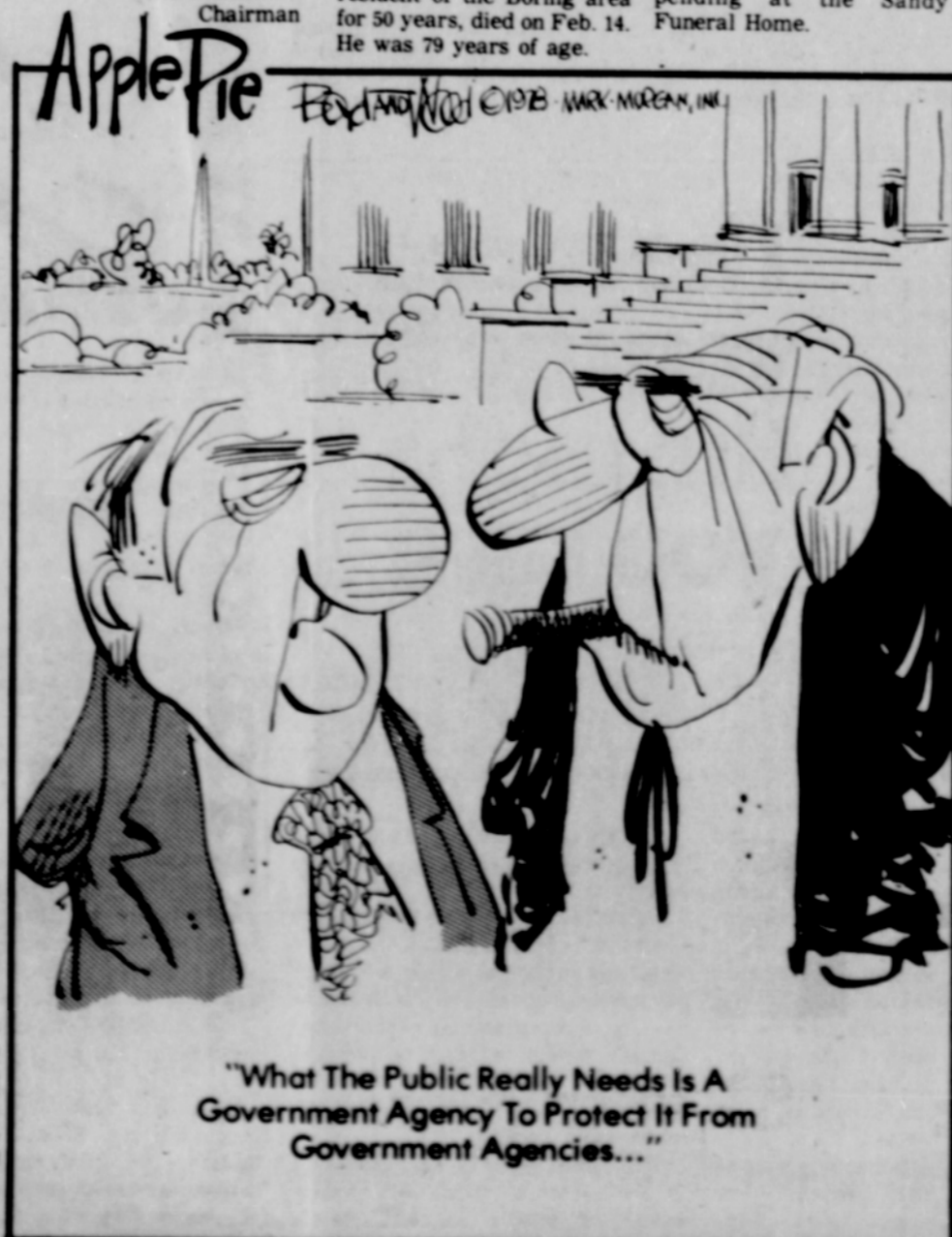
Linda Vlahos will show her slides taken during a four month stay in Europe last summer from 7:30 to 8:30 in the Sandy Public Library.

The Sandy Area Merchants will meet from 7-8 a.m. at TJ's Restaurant.

### John Karlen, Sr.

John R. Karlen, Sr., a resident of the Boring area for 50 years, died on Feb. 14. He was 79 years of age.

Funeral services are pending at the Sandy Funeral Home.



"What The Public Really Needs is A Government Agency To Protect It From Government Agencies..."

## County comments

# Smoke points to fire

by Bill Sanderson

If the adage that "where there is smoke there is bound to be fire" is still viable, the smoldering fires of resentment are sending up clouds of smoke from around the Land Conservation and Development Commission.

This has been much in evidence since the controversial measure was first adopted. As of today there are upwards of two dozen separate plaintiffs suing LCDC. Many, however, have been combined into joint action. Curry County took with it 18 other local jurisdictions in filing the initial suit. Most recent suits were filed by five new litigants from Marion, Benton, Washington and Clackamas counties.

The newest suits are very similar to the original 19, making many of the same allegations. But if anything these are more definitely slanted toward the "confiscation without just compensation or due process" element.

In Clackamas County John Weber, a long-time farmer of the Canby area; a berry cannery owner; and Don McIntosh, also of Canby, were named as plaintiffs in the new series of suits.

Weber is a member and Don McIntosh is co-chairman of the newly organized Clackamas County Rural Landowners Protective Association.

Attorneys for this latest group to join the move against what they describe as LCDC's improperly broadened operational authority say they may file a motion to join the initial case if that route seems feasible. Those in the know think that there may be more suits filed as the present situation jells and begins to show signs of its eventual shape.

The new suits are represented by Portland attorney Earl Mickelsen and Shreveport, La., attorney Taylor O'Hearne. O'Hearne has been quoted as saying that he has had a long-time interest in cases involving constitutional rights and issues, and that he has several such cases presently pending in several other states as well as his own.

It seems to this observer that most of the legal, if not the philosophical, controversies that rage around the LCDC spring from the well-known rage to control, which is common to almost all non-elected, bureaucratic authorities.

It was no coincidence that placed L.B. Day, well-known Teamster's Union official at the head of LCDC.

Perhaps it was mistakenly felt that the hard-handed tactics of a Dave Beck or a James Hoffa were needed. But if so, the idea backfired and Day stepped down in the strong opposition to the agency developed through an initiative ballot to rescind its statutory base.

The agency was saved by the votes of thousands and thousands of city people who had nothing to lose and nothing to gain in the election but who gave the backers of LCDC a knee-jerk reaction the tremendous campaign put on to save the powerful commission.

The promise of the legislature to amend SB 100 to curb some of the more objectionable and dictatorial authorities of the agency was never fully carried out and the present rash of suits are the inevitable fruits of that failure.

Amendments did, however, take away some of the authority for LCDC to "direct" counties and other local jurisdictions in a close supervisory manner in accomplishing LCDC's Goals and Guidelines.

Instead, it gave LCDC a "review" authority and positive action to command compliance only through the courts.

However, there has been little effect felt in this change, since the state and county and city planning bureaucracies are much more strongly knit than any association between responsible elected officials or dissenting citizens.

The "word" spreads vertically, up and down through the various levels of the bureaucracy, at double and triple the speed with which it is released to the general public.

To the ordinary citizen who had hoped for a state-level court of appeal to which he could take his differences with his tormentors, such as CRAG and the hordes of local planners and boards and commissions that grab so hungrily at control of his land, LCDC has been a vast disappointment and a disaster.

Decisions that mean thousands and thousands of dollars in zoning rip-offs and wipe-outs to rural landowners may hinge on an administration "opinion" perhaps more carefully aimed at preserving vertical bureaucratic loyalty than carefully researched justice.

As another election year rolls around it is to be hoped that a great many more than the courageous few who have now stood up to the bureaucratic giant will become involved in very real, very deep issues of this situation.

## Board spot open

The Welches School Board will be holding an election April 4 to name a board member for position No. 4.

That position is currently held by Bill Dunham. His term will expire June 30 of this year.

Applications may be picked up at Welches School. Deadline for filing is Feb. 27. The term of office is four years.

## Abraham to speak

The Hoodland Chamber of Commerce will hear David Abraham of the Clackamas County Public Works Department at a 7:30 p.m. meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 21.

Abraham is due to give an update on the proposed sewer system for the Hoodland area. The meeting will be held at the Hoodland Women's Club.

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