



SANDY AND GRESHAM area women pick up petitions for a weekend drive to gain signatures to end state-funded abortions.

Area group starts drive to end state-paid abortions

Organizers say the heart of the issue is taxation without representation. Opponents say it's an anti-abortion move. The formal name of the group is Oregonians Opposed to State-Financed Abortions. They are organizing an accelerated statewide petition drive in hopes of obtaining enough signatures to place a initiative before Oregon voters which would prohibit the state from paying for abortions. "We're not for or against abortions," said Betty Morgan, a Portland resident who is one of an 11-member core group spearheading the drive which will start this weekend. Morgan, who describes herself as "a concerned grandmother," spoke to

about 30 women from Sandy and Gresham Monday afternoon at Sandy City Hall. The issue, she said, is taxes. "This is one area we feel we can be doing something about," she said. "We're against our tax money being used indiscriminately and without a voice." Morgan said the five women and six men who decided to organize the initiative petition drive are not members of the anti-abortion group Right to Life and are not operating on any religious premise. Sandy resident Joan Berglund has been named Sandy and Gresham area chairman for the drive. Mary Beth Egan and Michael Jordan will be among the persons can-

vassing for signatures in Gresham this weekend. The petition blitz will begin with simultaneous rallies in 20 cities Saturday morning. As soon as the rallies break up, volunteers with petitions will head for shopping areas, parks and other public places. The goal is to obtain 36,000 signatures by 9 p.m. Sunday. "This is an average of 1,000 signatures per hour, 17 per minute, one every 3½ seconds, for 36 consecutive hours," said Chris Kowitz of Portland, a spokesman for the sponsoring organization. If successful, "this will put us well on our way toward obtaining the 46,235 valid signatures needed by July 7 to place the measure on the November general election ballot," Kowitz said.

Morgan said a substantial majority of the 50 states do not subsidize abortions. Literature for the group says "there is no compelling reason for the people of Oregon to subsidize them and possibly become a haven for out-of-state non-taxpaying abortion seekers." The initiative would also prohibit the state from spending money to promote abortions. Area chairman Berglund said anyone interested in helping may telephone her at 668-6687 or 668-6015. "I have faith in Oregonians, but I also have faith in God," she told supporters Monday. "He's going to bless the work we're going to do."

Obscene phone calls reported

A rash of obscene phone calls has been reported to city and county law enforcement officials in the past few days. Sandy Police Chief Fred Punzel told The Post that between 40 and 50 obscene calls have been reported in

the Sandy-Gresham area since Monday. According to one woman who asked not to be identified, the man who is making the calls is mature sounding — "not a teenager." She said he uses the guise

of being with the board of education and sometimes says he is taking a survey on how the child feels about school and his teacher. "Then when the child is on the phone he begins speaking in a sexually abusive way to them," she reported. The woman said she was the victim of such a call early Wednesday morning. "When I reported it to the telephone company, the woman I spoke to was so disinterested she didn't even bother to take my name," she said. "I reported it to the police who were interested. They said they have had many reportings such a mine." Punzel advised anyone receiving such a call to hang up. "We haven't found any who have called back," he said. If someone does receive a third call, they should leave

their phone off the hook and call the police from a neighbor's house. Henry Kutschia, general manager of General Telephone's office in Gresham, said summer months — when school's out — are popular months for crank and obscene phone calls. "Most callers dial at random," he said. Kutschia said the phone company does not have the equipment to trace crank calls, but will give a case special attention when a residents is regularly harassed or threatened. "We can't tie up equipment so it's not available when a life threatening situation does take place," he added. He also suggested hanging up on a caller or tapping the phone with a pen or metal object to discourage the caller. There are some 50 MVD offices throughout the state.

Estacada possible MVD site

Estacada might rate a new Motor Vehicles Division office to serve the growing area, but a lack of funds might delay construction. Computer models show that Estacada needs a Motor Vehicles branch office, and at some point we're going to have to put one there to serve this growing area," division administrator Harold Grover told the Sandy Chamber of Commerce this week.

Grover told The Post that he's asking for eight new offices throughout the state, but that the governor and legislature have not yet reviewed his proposals. Other sites would be in Salem, on the coast, in southern Oregon and in the Portland area.

Grover admitted that Gresham, along with Beaverton and the east Portland office, is one of the busiest MVD offices in the state, with waiting lines of one hour or longer.

While the east Portland office handles 35 percent of all state business, "the Gresham and Beaverton offices probably suffer the most based on their size and the impact they face," he said.

Three pilot offices feature "kiddies' corners" for parents transacting MVD business with tots, but the Gresham office hasn't requested such innovation, Grover said, because "the lobby area is probably too small."

He said that all future branch offices would feature such facilities.

Grover said the defeat of Ballot Measure No. 5 stifles expansion plans of his division. His 750-employee department is funded by the gasoline fuel tax along with the highway department.

The 40-mile drive from Government Camp into the Gresham office presents the longest drive required to visit a state Motor Vehicles Division office with the exceptions of eastern Oregon and the southern Coast, Grover said.

He added that a computer model looks at an area's population and coverage distance, as well as cost in recommending new motor vehicles offices.

There are some 50 MVD offices throughout the state.

MO-PEP CONCERN
Glover said the department is concerned also with mo-peds, consumer protection and inauguration



HAROLD GROVER Motor Vehicles Administrator

of the new mandatory liability insurance July 1. Mo-peds, he said, "are almost a motorcycle, and we're looking at how they should be licensed or have a licensed driver. I'm sure we'll have to pass some legislation."

MANDATORY INSURANCE
He described the new mandatory liability insurance law effective July 1 as a "paper shuffle" costing half a million dollars and necessitating 37 new department positions to administer.

The law, he said, is designed for the Oregon driver who currently drives without liability insurance. Without certification of insurance, the Motor Vehicles Division cannot register nor renew vehicle license plates.

After July 1, a police officer may cite a driver for driving without insurance, with a fine of up to \$100. Motor Vehicles Division will check certifications on a random sample basis and verify insurance coverage on all reported accidents. Drivers who falsely claim insurance must get insurance within 30 days or become subject to financial responsibility law for three days. Public hearings, Grover said, may be scheduled to acquaint drivers and auto dealers with the new law and possible limitations.

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County space committee to meet

A meeting of the Clackamas County Citizen's Committee on Space Planning will be held at the Sandy City Hall June 26 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting, was originally scheduled for June 13, will be a public hearing to solicit opinions from county residents in the Sandy area on various alternatives for future location of county facilities. Similar hearings will be held this month for other residents throughout Clackamas County. Sandy's meeting was postponed due to a lack of adequate notice, officials said. The county currently

occupies 207,000 square feet, including leased space. To meet present needs, another 45,000 square feet will be required. According to projections from the Facility Sciences Department, 16 to 18 courts will be needed by the year 2000. A facility this size would require a complex three times larger than the existing facility. Auxiliary needs are included in this projection. It is also estimated that parking facilities would be needed that would accommodate approximately 1,000 automobiles.

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Cliffside Cemetery directors chosen

Three directors were elected at the June 5 meeting of the Cliffside Cemetery Association. Barbara Johnson was named to a three year term as secretary clerk, with Howard Vaeretti chosen for a four year term as treasurer and Emil Reich for a five year term as member-at-large. Harold Kitchen and Barbara Boswell will remain on the board. Retiring members of the

board are Carl Bell, director, and Melvin Haneberg, secretary-treasurer. The Cemetery association adopted by-laws at the semi-annual meeting held on May 22. New rules and regulations governing the cemetery have also been approved by the association. Interested persons may contact the secretary-clerk for a copy of the by-laws or cemetery regulations.



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