



The new Sandy Decor Center

STANDING PRECARIOUSLY, workmen from KLM Construction apply rows of shingles to the new home of the Sandy Decor Center. The decorating

center will occupy the building formerly used as a lumber yard, a bowling alley and a movie theatre.

County citizens seek more commissioners

by JOHN DEAN

Are five heads better than three?

Several Clackamas County citizens and politicians think so. They have placed an initiative measure on the November ballot that would increase the number of county commissioners from three to five.

The measure would also change the method of electing commissioners from the present at-large system to election from districts.

Proponents of the measure envision placing different county departments, such as human resources and environmental services, under the supervision of each commissioner.

The measure's chief citizen sponsor is Doris Gately of Milwaukie. She has been aided by Wilbur Sulzbach of Sandy.

Lending strong support is the county chapter of the Democratic Party. Lending even stronger support is Commissioner Stan Skoko, who is up for re-election this fall. Skoko has frequently wound up on the short end of 2-1 commission votes, and some observers interpret his support of the measure as an effort to break up the domination by fellow commissioners Ralph Groener and Robert Schumacher.

Groener, Schumacher and various county staff, who argue the measure is too expensive and will hurt county government.

Both sides agree that Clackamas County government is antiquated. Their solutions, however, run in two different directions.

"I don't think a county commissioner should have someone else do his work," said Skoko. Skoko felt that the commissioners' administrative assistants, Jerry Justice, Mike Bateson and Don Williams, are making many decisions the commissioners themselves should be making. "I feel I am somewhat subject" to their decisions now, he said.

Steve Starkovich, Democratic committee chair for the county, echoed

Skoko's point. "With five commissioners, the coalitions would break up. It's much more difficult to draw alignments from five commissioners," he said, the "alignment" being Groener and Schumacher versus Skoko.

We would not be making the mistakes we are now with five commissioners, citing the lease of the defective Mason Building in Gladstone Skoko said.

Skoko feels many of the decisions the commissions makes are based on personalities rather than facts.

Starkovich, a Redland resident, feels the commission currently favors the Tri-City area, at the expense of the rural areas.

obituaries

Verne Crone

Services for Verne Crone were held Tuesday Aug. 1, in the chapel of Sandy Funeral Home. Interment was at Forest Lawn memorial Park in Gresham.

Verne Terrence Crone was born Nov. 27, 1930 in San Diego, Calif. His family moved to Oregon to live in Sandy where Verne began school.

After completing his education at Sandy High School, he began work. He worked at various occupations, moving throughout the state, keeping Sandy his permanent home where he was a member of the Church of Christ.

He died in a Portland hospital on July 27. He was 47.

He is survived by his mother, Letha Markgraf, California; a brother, Charles Crone, Springfield; and a sister, Maridine Douglass in Sherwood.

Merle Lintner

Funeral for Merle Keith Lintner, 66, Brightwood, was Tuesday at Bateman Funeral chapel. Lintner died Saturday in Tacoma.

Lintner was born in Blue Springs, Neb. He spent most of his youth in Payette, Idaho, moving to Oregon in 1930. He married Beverly Williams Crawford in Boring on Oct. 20, 1946.

For 19 years Lintner was employed at the Portland Air Base. From 1968 until his retirement in 1976, he worked at Welches Grade School in Welches.

Lintner was a veteran of World War II and was a charter member of Sandy V.F.W.

Survivors include: his wife; his daughters, Sandra

Clifton of Los Angeles, Elaine Ramey of Portland, Beverly Peralta of Wemme and Vicki Lindrooth of Brightwood; his son, Keith of Albany; his brothers, George of Gresham and Lyle of Bend; and his sisters, Florence "Marie" Boschke of Eugene, Peggy Hergert of Brightwood and Barbara Bridgman of Clackamas.

Private interment was in Willamette National Cemetery.

Viola Lasher

Viola Jane Lasher, 18001 SE Powell Blvd., died Wednesday at the age of 76.

She was born in West Virginia. In 1920 Lasher married Edward B. Hagedorn in Moscow, Idaho. After Hagedorn's death in 1949, she married Frank Lasher in 1951.

Lasher moved to Gresham in 1966. She attended Central Bible Church and was a member of the Christian Business Women's Club.

Survivors include: her son, Eugene Hagedorn of Lewiston; her daughter, Virginia Jevons of Sandy; her brother, Floyd Lyon of Tacoma; and her sister, Cletus Nichols of Sunnyside, Wash.

Funeral was Friday at Carroll Funeral Home with private vault interment at Lincoln Memorial Park.

Contributions may be made to the Student Aid Fund of Multnomah School of the Bible.

Correction

An error was made in last week's Post concerning a theft from the home of Larry Housden of Sandy.

The Post incorrectly stated that a brother-in-law was suspected in the theft. The information was obtained from the Clackamas County Sheriff's office.



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Drilling company explores for volcano-heated water

by MARK FLOYD

It's not often that a company wants to get into hot water, but the American Deep Drilling and Exploration Co. is hoping to

do just that up on the slopes of Mt. Hood.

Under the supervision of the Northwest Natural Gas Company, the exploration team is drilling a hole near Timberline Lodge to search for volcanically heated water. The gas company hopes to eventually heat the lodge by geothermal means.

Another company has set up a separate drilling operation at Old Maid Flats off the Lolo Pass Road near Zigzag. Both projects are being partially funded by a \$350,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy.

The Old Maid Flats drilling site will determine if the geothermal potential of the area is enough to warrant a \$50 million pipeline system to supply Portland industries.

The drilling at the Mt. Hood site is going slowly, due to thick lava. As of Tuesday, the hole was only 190 feet deep, a far cry from the 2,000-foot goal of company officials.

To make matters worse, a temperature reading taken early this week measured only 45 degrees. It was hoped that 180-degree water would be found, or at least the 120-degree minimum water

temperature required to heat Timberline Lodge.

The low water temperatures can be attributed to snow water, according to one of the drilling supervisors. The 45-degree reading was taken from air pumped in and out of the hole; actual water temperatures may be as much as 10-15 degrees lower.

Should the drillers find water hot plentiful enough to heat Timberline, the eventual savings could amount to over \$100,000 a year.

Meanwhile the drilling is continuing at a slow rate. When the hole reaches 400 feet, the drillers plan to switch to a heavier rig and an eight-inch bit to reach the 2,000 foot goal.

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