

Editorial and Opinion

Council Should Lead in Handling Growth

Although the evidence has not yet surfaced, there will soon be substantial changes in the city of Sandy in the not too distant future. From a small town where small problems could be managed with a phone call or two to a neighbor or local official, Sandy is on the verge of a population boom which will greatly alter the lives of the people living here.

Already over 500 housing units have been approved for construction by the planning commission and city council which will total out to somewhere in the neighborhood of 1,500-1,800 new residents. More developers are waiting with additional plats.

The narrow 4-3 approval of council Monday night for construction of Wewer Road Estates near Sunset Boulevard will add 146 new housing units to the city. Despite the objections of three of its members, city council appears

to be bending over backwards to accommodate developers — and with a greater housing density than is called for in the present city comprehensive plan.

If "controlled" city growth is the intention of the people elected to run this city, they have so far not achieved that end. With a very small industrial tax base to support city services, Sandy is rapidly turning into a bedroom community where property taxes will continue to rise.

Instead of having out-of-town developers, (whose interest in the city is strictly of an economic nature) determining the housing patterns, council should be taking that initiative.

The growth of Sandy is inevitable — LCDC urban growth goals have seen to that. But the growth should be one where the quality of life and flavor of a rural mountain setting are not seriously threatened. (J.K.)

City Enlists Market Help; Brochure Needed

Sandy city officials have enlisted Port of Portland aid to prepare an updated city marketing study that could promote the city to its fullest potential. The market research should prove most helpful to Sandy as a market hub for the area, and city manager Paul Helton, councilman Jim Duff and administrative planning aide Susan Greer deserve commendation for their involvement.

Helen Greenough, area development representative for the Port's Economic Development Division met with the city officials in Sandy last week to review possibilities of a port technical assistance project here.

The port's technical assistance program is designed to promote economic development in the tri-county area. As many as 300 hours of port staff work could go into preparation of marketing research data on Sandy. What the city chooses to do with the data is a local matter. The port would send a project team of 3-5 people who are specially trained in areas such as planning, research, real estate development and graphic arts. Greenough said that some local

city staff assistance might be needed, but that the project team pretty much does it all.

Now the Sandy City Council needs to pass a resolution to request the port's assistance, a prerequisite desired by the port. There are only two major projects ahead of Sandy's request, so Greenough expects her staff to return to the city with a proposal within a week or two for work to begin around the first of October. The assistance will address the city's comprehensive plan which calls for more economic growth.

There are no grants available through the port to bind all that new market data in a brochure to promote Sandy, Greenough said, but cities such as Estacada have pushed the project one step further on the local involvement level.

Estacada compiled its market research data in a handout titled, "Take a Look at Estacada, Oregon." Sometimes, as in the case of Gresham's community profile, the port has provided cities with a camera-ready copy of their report.

Sandy should prepare to publish such updated market data, if and the port extends its assistance. (V.B.)

The Kennedy Bandwagon Begins to Roll

It is pretty obvious that Massachusetts Sen. Ted Kennedy is cranking up for a run at the presidency.

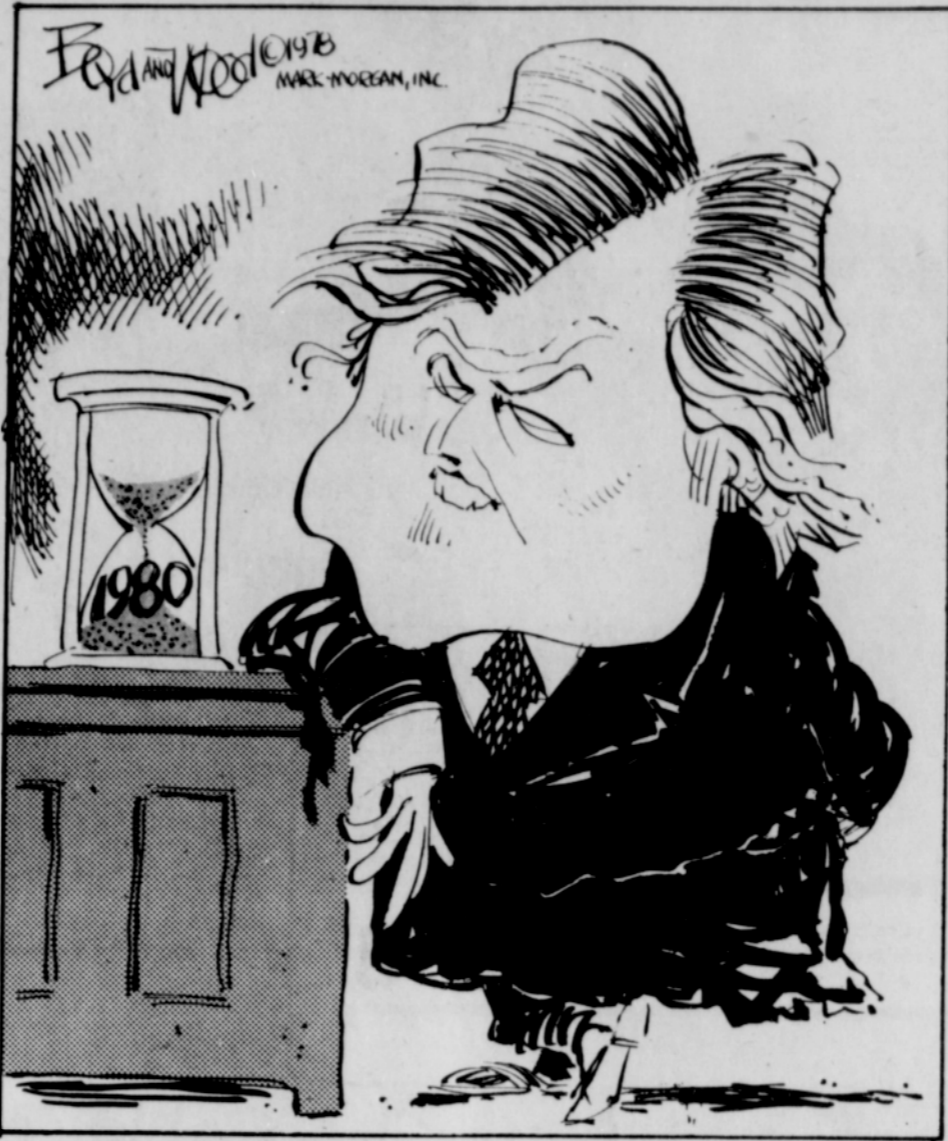
He is rapidly becoming the leading congressional advocate of national health care. He has openly broken with the Carter administration, preferring a much more rapid approach than that favored by the administration.

He also has announced plans to hit the campaign trail this fall in a number of states. Ostensibly, he will be speaking for Democratic congressional candidates across the country, but his appearances will be carefully orchestrated for maximum exposure.

Finally, Kennedy's staff is said to be preparing a bill which would enormously enhance the government's ability to break up big corporations. It may or may not be good for the country, but it ties in perfectly with the populist-style politics Kennedy is embracing.

Is Kennedy really a candidate? Has he overcome the legacy of Chappaquiddick? Does the Kennedy name still have the magic of the John Kennedy years?

Ted Kennedy apparently thinks the answers all are in the affirmative. If Carter's popularity keeps slipping, the Democrats almost certainly will hop onto the Kennedy bandwagon.



From other editors:

Frank's 'free time' jolts the taxpayers

He has been called Oregon's third senator because Gerald Frank has been Sen. Mark Hatfield's good right hand.

While it's generally known that Frank has little or no salary from the U.S. Senate, it turns out he's been costing a little more than had been thought. It took the Wall Street Journal to headline the information that Frank, in his first four years on the job, deducted \$117,000 from his income taxes. The Internal Revenue Service barred the deductions, but recently an appeals court ruled that expenses of bona fide public employees usually are deductible.

The Wall Street Journal on Aug. 2 noted that Frank could afford such hefty expenses, even though the Senate paid him only \$1,200 a year. His business provided the Meier and Frank heir \$88,000 a year, it reported.

The information wasn't lost on Vern Cook, Sen. Hatfield's Democratic opponent in the November election campaign. He'll add it to this list of reasons Oregonians should retire Sen. Hatfield.

Frank's compensation, and his claim for expenses, was not an under-the-table or improper thing except in one regard. Whether or not the Senate was giving him a paycheck, the impact on the taxpayer was there. In his case, it's a deduction from taxes he would otherwise have to pay.

And if that is the case, then the cost of Hatfield's staff increases by the \$30,000 a year Frank didn't pay in taxes because he was working for the senator.

The image of the Senator's top aide changes somewhat in light of the tax write-off report, and it's good for the public to be aware of the true picture. There's certainly no scandal attached to the case — it was debated openly by the IRS, and it was a difference of opinion. But it remains that those trips he took for Sen. Hatfield to bring reports from various parts of the world really didn't all come out of Frank's own pocket, as some had believed. The \$117,000 he didn't have to pay in taxes helped out considerably.

Hood River News

Letters to the editor

On Alder Creek

To the Editor:

The recent letter recalling memories of Alder Creek canyon brought back memories of my own of Alder Creek trail.

The year was 1924. On a warm, summer day when the wind blew to the west one might smell mash cooking at one point on the trail. At that time more moonshine was being distilled in the Oregon woods than perhaps ever ran through copper tubes in the Kentucky hills. I had no wish to investigate where it had been located.

It was between Alder and Wildcat creek and was barely more than 200 yards from highway 26 and concealed by a grove of alders. A large pit had been dug where the old mash tubs were still resting. It was five years after prohibition had been repealed, and the obsolete wooden vats were not worth the expense of removing, I suppose.

I wish to point out that contrary to an editorial in the Oregon Journal, the "ivy bear" on an old tree stump. The frame was made from lumber of a garage shared by two persons who had summer home sites on Alder Creek. Prior to that it was a garage in Portland.

The Journal editorial implies that Alder Creek was "discovered" when two fine restaurants were opened. It was discovered in 1924 when summer home sites were opened up in this pristine wilderness. It was not a resting place for those "eager to reach the cool trees of Rhododendron."

The journey up Alder Creek trail was pure delight. It wound beneath the towering shade of giant evergreens and the banks were lined with moss. If one

wished to find an enchanted forest there was not need for a further journey.

We drank the water from Alder Creek and I have survived as a senior citizen. If it is now polluted, while other streams in the area are not, the cause should be investigated.

Donna Tucker
Sandy

On ripwrapping

To the Editor:

About the ripwrapping on the Sandy river: it isn't going to help me or my family, but I think it's nice to know where my tax dollars are going for a change. They are going to help my neighbors and friends!

Cindy Peetz
13333 SE Marsh Road
Sandy

On forestry

To the Editor:

I just read your July 27 editorial entitled "Industrial Park Answer to City's Woes." Some figures are attributed to me which I cannot support in the context in which they are used.

I do not recall saying "112 forestry jobs are lost annually in a dwindling industry." I provided your editorial writer with an estimate of potential job losses should the Bull Run Reserve remain completely closed to logging. I did not say those jobs would be lost every year, nor did I say industry is dwindling.

The editorial contains other misinformation not attributed to me. The Bull Run was never "deeded" to the City of Portland. Legislation passed last year changed the boundaries of the Reserve and opened up about half for multiple use

management.

The remaining reserve was also opened for management pending consultation with the City of Portland. However, the Forest Service will release the final impact statement; it will not be a joint statement between the city and the Forest Service.

The forest products industry is still the biggest in the state, employing 90,000 and providing support, directly or indirectly, for nearly half the State. While the loss of the Bull Run (and it isn't lost) to timber management would have been a blow to the Sandy area, it would hardly justify the flippant dismissal: "So much for logging's future as Oregon's top industry."

Michael D. Sullivan
Director of Public Affairs
Industrial Forestry
Association
Portland

In response to Mr. Sullivan's letter:

The forest products industry is shrinking from its traditional role as primary employer in the state, and the Bull Run partial logging shutdown — while a temporary situation, has reduced logging in this area.

While the industry still employs 10-13 percent of all workers in Oregon, it's growing at a rate less than the rate of employment in the state. In 1950, lumber and wood products with agriculture and food processing employed one-third of the state. Average annual employment of logging in 1977 totaled 12,300, down somewhat from the 1976 total of 12,700 and the 1974 total of 13,700. Gary Barker of the state Employment Division, Research and Statistics Division provided these

figures, along with the explanation that 1975 employment rate dropped from 13,700 to 12,000 due partly to a recession. In 1973, however, there were 13,200 workers annually employed in logging.

The forest products industry is up 3.4 percent this year, but enjoys a less spectacular growth rate than either transportation (up 22 percent) or instruments (up 22.6 percent), according to Dr. Edward Reed, head economist for U.S. National Bank in Portland. Total employment in Oregon this year is up 6 percent.

The mention of 112 forest jobs lost annually came directly out of a November, 1976, Industrial Forestry Association newsletter. Also, the Beuter Report has projected a 22 percent decline in annual harvest in western Oregon.

As for Bull Run, President Benjamin Harrison established the Bull Run Forest Reserve in 1892 to protect the water supply of the area. The land was not deeded to Portland. Some 68,000 acres were set aside for physical drainage for the City of Portland's water supply. In 1972, the Forest Service and the City of Portland signed an agreement for a land management plan to protect Portland's watershed.

Dr. Joseph Miller sued the Forest Service in July, 1973, for Bull Run management procedures, primarily logging in the area. In November, 1976, a court decree stopped all recreation and logging within established boundaries of the reserve. Oregon's Bull Run Act reopened the reserve in 1977, except for 95,000 acres set aside for a Bull Run management unit as part of Portland's watershed. The

act also provides for cooperative management by the Forest Service and the City of Portland which will review management plans annually.

There are no new timber sales issued for the reserve pending a Forest Service final environmental impact statement, which a special City of Portland city advisory committee is now reviewing in draft form, according to Myron Blank of the Mt. Hood National Forest land use planning department. The city's water review committee has provided input into draft of the impact statement, which should be released and available in public libraries in about a month. (V.B.)

On Nell

To the Editor:

A goodly number of people on the mountain regret to observe the demise of "Nell's Notes", a column that for many years has served to relate the ordinary happenings of Hoodland in a delightful sort of way.

At present, when there are more permanent residents living in this area than ever before, important events taking place more frequently, and greater development occurring and being planned. One would think additional reporting would be needed, not less.

Nell Howe's folksy, down-to-earth style struck a cord mountain people responded to. Her column will be missed.

Lowell Njust, President
Gus Turner,
Executive Secretary
Hoodland Chamber
of Commerce

Weekly editor answers government searches

I suppose that I am the only newspaper editor and publisher in these United States who isn't losing any sleep over the recent ruling of the U.S. Supreme Court which permits officers with warrants to search news offices for evidence of crime violation, going through files and combing waste baskets, even if no one on the paper is believed involved in said crime.

Welcome, thrice welcome, I say. And when you gentlemen, you spies, you agents come snooping, I have a little list:

See if you can find that missing manuscript for Pearl Buck's "My Mother's House." I know the manuscript came to me from

the publishers, but for years I have been hunting it. And even worse, I have mislaid the manuscript of Tom Kromer's second (first was "Waiting for Nothing"), but unpublished novel.

And while you are at it, try to find (without too much

expenditure of time and tax money) the packet of pictures of Greenbrier taken before 1900. Also, for years, I have been trying to find a Peyton Family History that I borrowed from Angus Peyton and have lost. And the glass negatives that the

paper bought from Finley Taylor. If they haven't been stolen, they are around the place somewhere. Only we can't find them.

This is just a short list. I have a list that would make that of the High Lord Executioner's list look like a

grocery list. I regret, however, that you won't find much that will lead to a crime solution. We use that all for blackmail as soon as we get it. That's one way of keeping a weekly paper solvent.

— West Virginia Hillbilly

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