

## Against resource depletion

# SWC District guards county

by MARK FLOYD

Sandy voters going to the polls Nov. 7 should take a long look at the Soil and Water Conservation (SWC) District Board member category. Though many citizens may be unfamiliar with the district and what it does, the outcome of the election could have a significant effect on those who vote — and those who do not.

Sandy is in the SWC district whose boundaries coincide with those of Clackamas County. The Clackamas County district, as well as the other 48 in the state, serve as coordinators for various local, state and federal agencies. The goal of the districts is to persuade local landowners and other residents to protect the environment by assisting them with planning in their area and managing the renewable resources.

To accomplish this goal, the district encourages residents to seek help with the development of land plans, erosion prevention, drainage and irrigation systems, and pasture and woodland management.

In the last year, nearly 3,000 county residents have

sought the help of the district, including three property owners on the Sandy River just west of Dodge Park. Jim Kitchen, Dwight Baum and Richard Surface solicited the help of the SWC district following a winter of high water on the Sandy River which washed away portions of their property.

Through its agency arm — the Soil Conservation Service — the SWC helped the property owners receive special development permits to have erosion prevention devices built to protect their banks.

Unfortunately, the district may be depaupered too heavily on some of the agencies it works with, according to district conservationist for the Soil Conservation Service Ed Olmsted.

"The district at times will go along with anything we suggest," Olmsted said. "Instead of rubber-stamping out proposals, they should work out their own alternatives and recommendations."

"The more active the board members, the more active the district," he added. "If they can provide us with guidelines, we can do a better job."

The county has five district seats and two at-large positions for a total of seven on the SWC board. Four of the seven positions will be filled in the November election: Zones 1, 4 and 5 plus one at-large seat.

Sandy is on the boarder between Zone 1 and 2 (see map).

One requirement for membership on the board is that the officeholder must manage 10 or more acres of property.

Just how important is the SWC district?

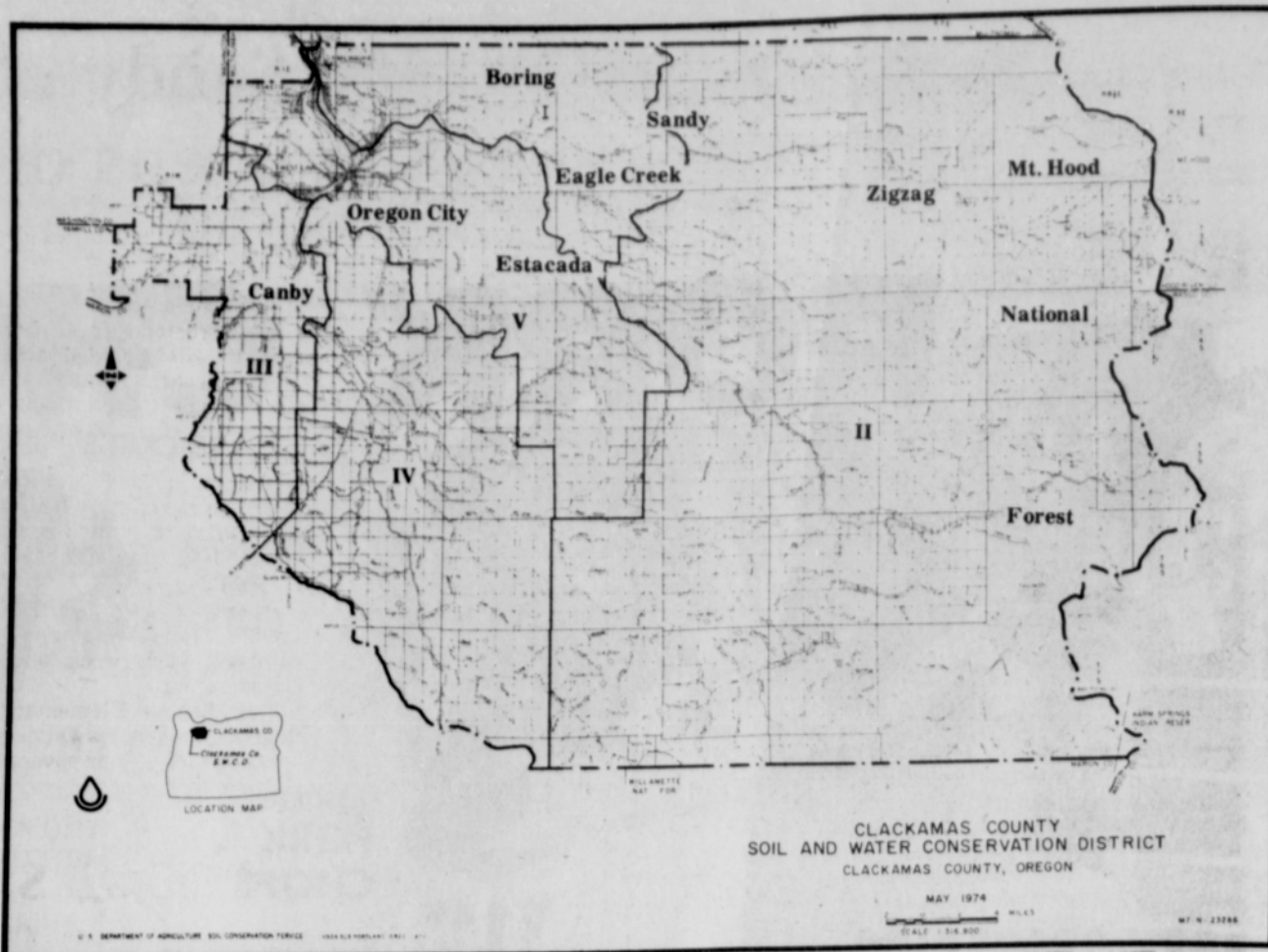
The district is responsible for developing land plans, preventing erosion and managing the area's renewable resources. This means that the district could have a potentially powerful influence on subdivisions,

irrigation plans or timber harvesting.

Although the district has little or no enforcement authority, its decisions represent the opinion of the residents of Clackamas County.

The Clackamas County Board members are: Zone 1, Byron Emonds (vice-chairman); Zone 2, John Cobb; Zone 3, Ross Iverson; Zone 4, Elmer Lucht (secretary); Zone 5, Elmore Mostul (chairman); at-large, Neal Thompson and Bill Tucker.

Edmonds and Lucht will be running for re-election in their zones, while Mostul is retiring. The final race will be for the at-large position which Tucker is vacating. Tucker will run for board member in Zone 5 this fall.



## Citizen group to review bypass studies

The citizens advisory committee for the Oregon City bypass will meet Aug. 28 to review progress on environmental studies now being conducted by the Oregon Department of Transportation.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m., Department of Public Works, 902 Abernethy Road, Oregon City.

Design features of the two proposed bypass routes will be discussed at this meeting. Representatives from the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Clackamas County Department of Public Works will be

on hand to discuss the project status and answer any questions that may arise.

Both of the proposed alternate routes begin at the Park Place Interchange with I-205 and intersect with Highway 213 (Molalla Avenue) near Clackamas Community College. One alternate route the bypass along Newell Creek Canyon and the other runs along the ridge near Holly Lane.

The 23-member citizens advisory committee has been actively working with the Oregon Department of Transportation for the past eight months. The committee

has worked with transportation engineers and planners in developing the alternate routes.

The committee has indicated it prefers the canyon route in favor of the ridge route. The committee will take a formal position on an alternate route after completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the project which identifies and compares the major environmental effects of each of the alternate routes.

A petition with 69 signatures was recently

received by the Oregon Department of Transportation from Molalla area residents urging construction of the Oregon City Bypass "as fast as possible" and strongly favoring a route in the Newell Creek Canyon corridor.

The City of Gladstone has expressed concern about the effects of traffic on their business and residential areas at the northern end of the bypass route. Their concerns will be the topic of a public meeting with city officials and businessmen set for 7:30 p.m., Sept. 7, in Gladstone.

The bypass will be financed from monies originally earmarked for the now defunct Mt. Hood Freeway. Federal funds will cover 86 percent of the project cost with the remaining 14 percent local matching monies.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement should be available for review in March, 1979, with a public hearing scheduled for May, 1979. The selection of a preferred route and design by City, County and State officials will follow the public hearing.

## Pre-school notes openings

The Mt. Hood pre-school in Welches is still taking registration for the coming school year which starts September 5. The sessions will last from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. each day and will be

held at the Hoodland Women's Club on Salmon River Road.

To obtain more information or to register, call Dawn Morrison at 622-3538 or Caryn Priest at 622-4280.

## Park officials fight vandalism

Due to increasing vandalism and the failure of visitors to obey posted

closing times, the gates to Dodge Park will be locked at 10 p.m. for the remainder of the summer.

Several residents who live near the park had requested the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office and the Portland Parks Bureau to do something about the late night parties in Dodge Park.

"Some activities go on until two or three in the morning," said Bob Gustafson, operations manager for Portland parks. "It's difficult for the city to operate the park; we've given it a reasonable level of maintenance, but the undesirable activity has been higher this summer than others."

One of the major acts of vandalism has been the destruction of the picnic tables, according to the Clackamas County Sheriff's Information Officer Tim

Grolbert. "People have been taking the tables and using them for firewood in the grills," he said.

Park bureau officials are hopeful that the earlier closing time will help alleviate some of the problems. It will be up to the neighbors around Dodge Park to ask people to leave at 10 p.m.

However, the neighbors should not attempt to use force to evacuate park users, Gustafson warned and acts of vandalism should be reported to the Sheriff's office.

## Board to meet

The Sandy High School Board will hold a special meeting Monday night (Aug. 28) at 6 p.m. to hold a work session for review insurance needs for the district.



Scene of a fatal accident Saturday on Highway 26

## Boring woman killed; 2 others die in accidents

A 63-year-old Boring woman was killed Saturday morning in a two-car collision eight miles east of Sandy on Highway 26.

Dorothy E. Robbins was declared dead on arrival at Gresham Community

Hospital after the car in which she was a passenger collided with an auto driven by Steven George Entenmann, 17, of Portland on Cherryville Hill.

The deceased woman's husband was driving the car. Robert Robbins, 59, was reported in good condition at Sunnyside Medical Center.

According to Oregon State Police reports, both autos were eastbound on Highway 26 in the left lane of traffic. The car driven by Entenmann apparently rammed the back of the Robbins vehicle at high speed, causing it to roll several times, said a spokesman for the State Police.

Entenmann is being investigated by the Grand Jury for possible criminal charges. He was not

seriously injured in the accident.

Two other Clackamas County residents were killed in separate weekend accidents. Ronald Drake, 34, of Mulino died Friday when his motorcycle went out of control, overturned and slid into a wire fence on South Beaver Creek Road. His son, Stanton Ward (no age given), a passenger on the motorcycle, was treated for minor injuries at Willamette Falls Hospital.

Lori Ann Ritter, 20, of Mulino was declared dead on arrival at Willamette Falls Hospital Saturday when her car rolled over on South Beaver Creek Road after going out of control on a curve. Deputies report that she was thrown out of her car.

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