

Keeping Posted

THURSDAY, SEPT. 7

The Clackamas County Library Bookmobile will be at the Firwood School from 9:30-11 a.m., at the Brightwood Store from 11:30-1:30 p.m., and at the Hoodland Plaza in Welches from 2-4 p.m.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 8

The Milwaukie-East Clackamas County area League of Women Voters will hold their September get-acquainted meeting for members and guests at 10 a.m. The event will be held at the North Clackamas Park, off the expressway at Rusk Road. Call 654-3285 if transportation is needed. Child care will be provided.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 9

The Mt. Hood Preschool is holding a benefit car wash from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hoodland Women's Club in Wemme. The group will provide exterior cleaning of cars for \$1.00.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 10

The San-Cada CB's are holding a CB "break" at Skate World in Gresham from 4-7 p.m. For each person who pays admission, 50 cents will be donated to the Jason Lee Loar fund to benefit the Portland boy who was injured in a

swimming accident in June, 1977. The child is still in a coma, and friends are trying to raise funds to send him to a specialist in Texas.

MONDAY, SEPT. 11

The Sandy Chamber of Commerce breakfast is scheduled for 7 a.m. at Griff's Restaurant. Roger Deaver, from the Zigzag Ranger Station, will speak on RARE II.

The Clackamas County Library Bookmobile will be at the Cottrell School from 12:15-2 p.m., at the Carver School from 2:30-4 p.m., and at the Western Farms Store in Boring from 5-7 p.m.

The Sandy City Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall. The Sandy High School Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the high school.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 12

The Sandy city levy election will be held. The only polling place will be at the City Hall. Governor Robert Straub will speak at the Sandy Chamber of Commerce luncheon, at noon at TJ's Restaurant.

The Hoodland Senior Center will hold its monthly potluck luncheon at noon in the Wemme Lions Club. Keith Thurlkill from the

U.S. Forest Service will speak and show color slides on the geology, flora and fauna of Mt. Hood National Forest.

The Mt. View Chapter No. 125 of the Order of the Eastern Star will meet at 8 p.m. in the Sandy Masonic Hall.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 14

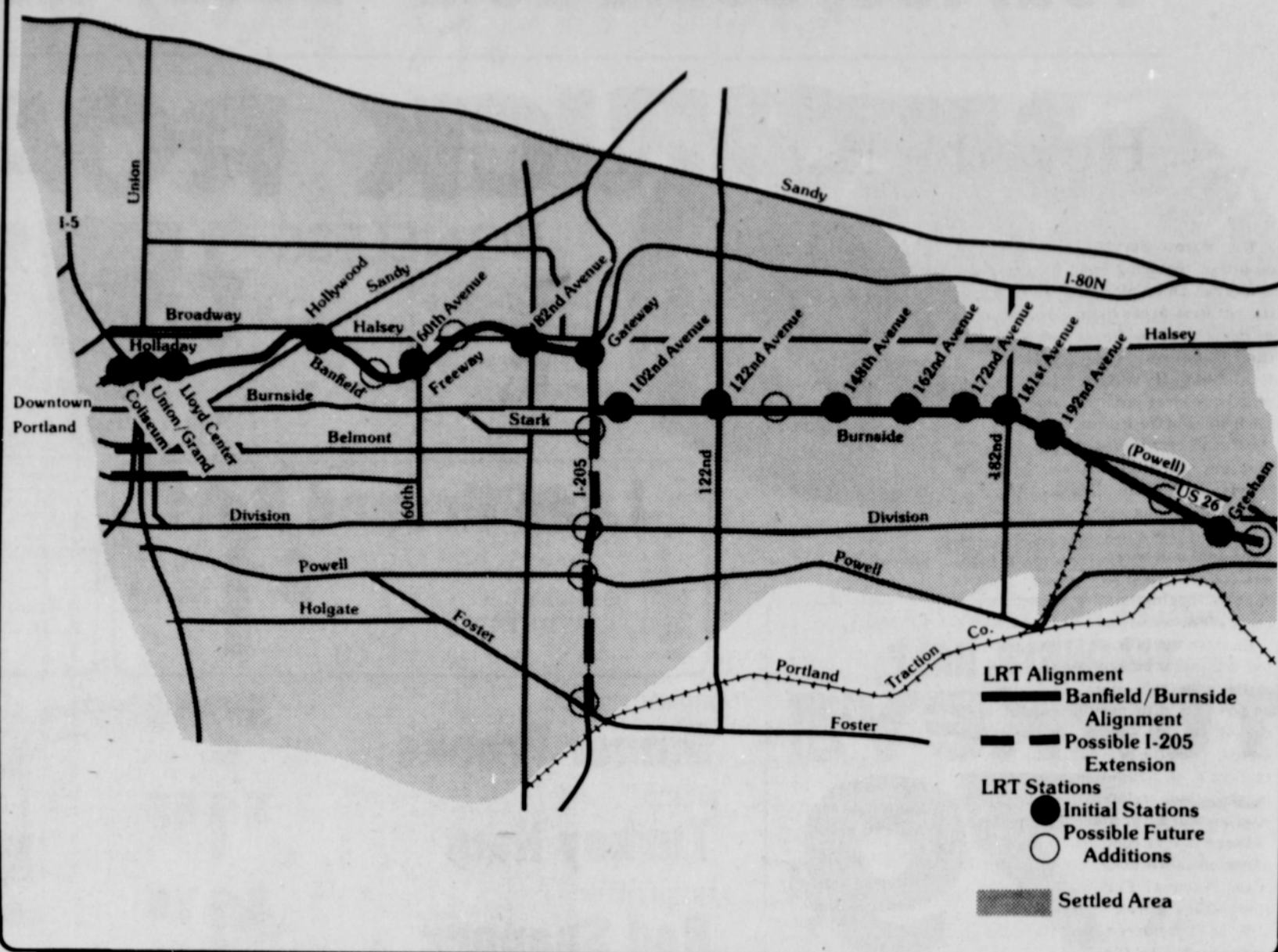
The Sandy Golden Age Club will hold its potluck and meeting starting at noon in the Sandy Senior Center.

Fall sign-up for cub scouts will begin at 7 p.m. in Sandy Elementary School's intermediate gym. Boys who are eight through 10 or in the fourth to sixth grades are eligible, but they must be accompanied by their parents to sign up.

The Sandy-area Campfire Council will hold a roundup for adult volunteers in the Firwood School Library from 7-8 p.m. Leaders, school coordinators and volunteers are needed. Interested adults can learn more about the program and can register at this session. For more information call Linda Mann, 658-5893.

The Rebekah Lodge will hold its meeting in the I.O.O.F. Hall at 8 p.m.

RECOMMENDED LIGHT RAIL ALIGNMENT AND STATIONS



THIS MAP shows the proposed route plan by Tri-Met for a light rail transit system linking Gresham to downtown Portland. The rail plan may indirectly

benefit Clackamas County through expanded Tri-Met bus service.

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In a story last week on the "Keep Listening" wilderness trips, The Post omitted the organization's address and phone number. For more information about "Keep Listening" Wilderness Trips for Women, call 622-3895 or write to Box 446, Sandy, 97055.

Tri-Met proposal

Rail system may aid county

Tri-Met's proposal for light rail transit in the Banfield-Burnside corridor could indirectly benefit Clackamas County residents.

In addition to the light rail line running from downtown Portland to Gresham, Tri-Met plans call for expanding service to the north and south.

Tri-Met staff member Miriam McClure said Tri-Met would install lines south on 182nd Avenue to Powell Boulevard and on 122nd Avenue to Foster Road.

Service on the 82nd Avenue line might also be increased, McClure said.

The Tri-Met proposal includes possible light-rail line running south along I-205 to Foster Road.

McClure said Park and Ride lots would be

established at all stations on the Banfield-Burnside line, with a large lot in Gresham.

Farther west, McClure said some improvement will be made in service on McLoughlin Boulevard. One possibility she mentioned was a special bus land similar to the one now in use on Barbur Boulevard.

"We're definitely going toward a grid pattern," McClure said.

A grid system would make cross-town travel easier, as nearly all Tri-Met lines now serve downtown Portland.

Besides improvements in public transit, the proposal for the Banfield corridor would widen the freeway's lanes and provide shoulders.

Tri-Met staff argue that the light rail alternative will be the cheapest way to im-

prove service in the corridor in the long run.

Besides light rail, Tri-Met considered four other alternatives: no improvements, minor improvements, reserved lanes on the Banfield for buses and carpools, and separate busway parallel to the freeway.

Tri-Met staff argued that the light rail option would attract the most riders.

Light rail "offers greater speeds, safety, rider comfort and schedule reliability," the staff report said.

Tri-Met also argued that the light rail option will be better able to handle unexpected increases in ridership, will add the least amount of noise and traffic congestion to downtown Portland, will have the least

impact on east Portland neighborhoods, is most efficient in energy, and has the most popular support.

Surveys taken at public hearings showed 50 percent of the respondents in favor of the light rail option.

The next largest group, 11 percent, favored the bus and carpool lanes.

Tri-Met estimated the total cost of the project at \$161 million, with \$63 million going toward improvements on the Banfield freeway.

Federal funds will account for about \$135 million.

Another \$8.9 million is expected to come from state highway funds, leaving \$17.5 million, which Tri-Met says should come from the state general fund.

Tri-Met notes that the financing plan will leave the allocation of Mt. Hood Freeway funds by the Columbia Region Association of Governments intact. "Those funds intended for use in Clackamas and Washington counties will still be available," the report says.

Tri-Met staff presented the recommendation to the Tri-Met Board of Directors yesterday. The board will hold a public hearing on the plan Sept. 20 and act on the plan Sept. 26.

The plan must also be approved by the Multnomah County Commission and the Gresham and Portland city councils before it becomes official.

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Special session begins tax relief issue

The Oregon Legislature did little more than shuffle the cards Tuesday on the opening day of a special session called by Gov. Bob Straub to produce a tax relief package for the November general election ballot.

"It was a little like old home week," said Sen. Vern Cook, D-Troutdale. "We spent most of our time getting organized."

The heavy work on a comprehensive tax package got under way on the second day of the special session in Salem.

"I think a lot of people are

still watching, waiting and observing," Cook said, describing the mood of the 90 lawmakers who assembled for the 18th special session in the state's history.

"There's a very good chance the Legislature will come up with something ... by the end of next week," Cook said.

Straub, addressing the legislators at the start of the session, urged the lawmakers to come up with a simple tax relief plan, one that could outbid Measure 6 for votes in November.

Measure 6, patterned after California's controversial

Proposition 13, would limit property taxes to 1.5 percent (\$15 per \$1,000) of true cash value based on 1975 assessed valuation levels.

Assessed valuation could increase no more than 2 percent annually under Measure 6. The proposed constitutional amendment would permit assessment increases to the current market value upon sale of a home.

Straub threw his support behind an alternative tax plan approved by a special legislative committee last Friday.

The plan would grant homeowners a 50 percent reduction on their property tax bills up to a maximum of \$1,500. The state would foot the bill from general fund revenue.

It also calls for a constitutional limitation on state and local government spending but leaves to the Legislature the complicated task of putting together the specifics.

Reps. Rod Monroe, D-Portland, and Bob Vian, D-Salem, both objected to the 50 percent property tax exemption, saying they preferred the homestead proposal suggested by

Straub last week.

The Straub plan, rejected by the special committee that met last week, proposed a \$25,000 property tax exemption for homeowners.

Monroe and Vian said the 50 percent plan "would favor high-income people, whereas the governor's plan would favor lower-income people more," Cook said.

The 50 percent plan, he said, "would give some substantial help to houses worth up to \$200,000 in some cases."

The latter thought didn't set well at all with Wendell Halseth, chairman of the Oregon Tax Limitation Committee for Ballot Measure 6. The group is one of two statewide organizations backing the 1.5 percent measure.

Halseth, a semi-retired Estacada rancher, doesn't favor the Straub homestead exemption, either.

"Take a \$65,000 home in Salem," Halseth said Tuesday night. "Take the governor's \$25,000 exemption off and that leaves \$40,000. Multiply that by the base tax rate in Salem, which is \$30 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, and we'd be talking about \$1,200 in taxes."

The 1.5 percent tax limitation applied to the same house would reduce the property tax bill to \$975, Halseth said. If Measure 6 passes and the assessment rate is rolled back to 1975, the amount would be even less, he noted.

"We are considering no alternatives of any kind," Halseth said. "We feel Ballot Measure 6 is becoming more positive every day ..."

"I heard Gov. Straub say about \$30,000 a day was being spent on the special session ... If it runs 10 days, we're talking about \$300,000. I don't think the people of Oregon can appreciate that when we're talking about tax relief."

The 50 percent property tax cut Straub now favors would return 25 percent more to the voters than Measure 6, said Michael Hartfield, an administrative aide to the governor.

Measure 6 would return \$425 million while the 50 percent plan would reduce tax bills by \$550 million, Hartfield said.

The deficiency in Measure 6 is that it does not provide a limitation on expenditures for state and local governments, Hartfield said.

"The expenditure limit for the state will be 95 percent of this biennium's budget for 1979-81 and thereafter be tied to personal income growth for the state," he said. "This accounts for both inflation and population growth."

The plan approved by the special committee does not include business in any tax breaks, a chief objective raised by Halseth and other members of his committee. It also does not include relief for renters, although legislators were expected to consider giving them equivalent tax relief.

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