

Editorial and Opinion

Vote yes for five-commissioner plan

Voters in Clackamas County will have the rare opportunity to decide an issue of far reaching importance in terms of representation at the county seat in the Nov. 7 election. Ballot Measure 3-11, the only measure on the ballot exclusively for county voters, offers a plan for direct representation by five county commissioners, each elected from a district in the county of roughly equal population.

There is really little doubt that the people in the outlying areas of the county will be better represented by a commissioner directly answerable to them. The three commissioners now in office all live within five miles of each other and all in close proximity to Oregon City.

It's time the voices and concerns of rural citizens were heard. Too often decisions are made at the county seat with little thought given to the needs of the people not in direct earshot. We want to hear and be heard.

Nowhere is the need for a directly elected representative more in evidence than here in the eastern portions of the county where decisions on land use planning arise daily. We need a representative in Oregon City who

will see to it that the Sandy area and Mt. Hood corridor are not gobbled up by speculative land grabbers intent on destroying its beauty and livability.

The only argument against the district representation plan that appears to hold any water is the one against paying the salaries of two more commissioners. But on closer inspection, the five commissioners will not cost taxpayers any more money because property taxes are limited to no more than the six percent annual increase. Commissioners' salaries will come out of the regular county budget.

In the long run the addition of two commissioners could well be a savings for the people if they do their job right and look out for where the county dollars are spent.

In addition, the five commissioner system would do away with the present 2-on-1 syndrome now in evidence. Too often the coalition of two deafens the voice of the third so that he becomes a silent but unwilling partner in vital decisions affecting the county.

The old saying is true: Officials elected by all of the people are answerable to none. Vote for direct representation in Oregon City. (JK)

Post recommends how to vote on measures

The Sandy Post recommends the following votes on ballot measures in the Nov. 7 general election:

NO ON MEASURE 1:

Judges should continue to be held up to public scrutiny in popular elections — not appointed by an inside group of peers behind closed doors. Judges already hold immense public power, so why make them less accountable to the people by foregoing elections?

YES ON MEASURE 2:

Senate confirmation on a governor's appointments displays an improved check-and-balance system in democratic government.

YES ON MEASURE 3:

Oregon vehicle license fees are now among the lowest in the nation, so increased revenue from higher fees wouldn't burden vehicle owners unduly. The increase is long overdue.

YES ON MEASURE 4:

The multiple power resources of the state must be developed, and this measure would create public utility districts that could yield lower rates for that power. Obviously, private industry opposes this measure, but the people would profit by it at this time of growing energy shortage.

YES ON MEASURE 5:

The scare tactics and half-truths being presented in opposition of denturists by the Oregon Dental Association with out-of-state money are a disgrace and should be ignored. Medical costs are too high and inflationary, and breaking the monopoly of government-sanctioned medical associations by introducing less costly paramedical technicians is an important first step toward reducing these costs.

NO ON BOTH MEASURES 6 and 11:

We recommend a "no" vote on both tax-limitation measures. Measure 6 would radically limit local control and Measure 11

represents a hastily conceived alternative whereby the state assumes half the tax bill of property taxpayers up to a \$1,500 limit. Let's watch California's experience with a similar Initiative 13 for a while and meanwhile trust legislators to untangle the tax mess in Salem.

YES ON MEASURE 7:

The state should get out of the abortion business and leave this public service to special interest groups. Surely, needed abortions represent a societal problem, but tax dollars spent on sex education and contraception would be better spent. Abortions are an emotional experience for mother, infants who survive them and family, with long-lasting psychological damage, as dianetic research is finding. (VB)

NO ON MEASURE 8:

The answer to control of major crimes is not the murder of murderers, but more responsive government attention to crime prevention and criminal rehabilitation. Also, capital punishment singles out the poor, as Gov. Bob Straub has said.

NO ON MEASURE 9:

While construction costs of private utilities burdens all customers the power companies should nonetheless retain encouragement for expansion in the face of an energy shortage.

NO ON MEASURE 10

If you vote for nothing else on the ballot, be sure to vote against this attempt to do away with land use planning goals as established by LCDC. That governor-appointed body certainly has its faults but gradual reform of the state comprehensive plans prescribed by LCDC is certainly better than doing away with them altogether or putting them in the many hands of the Legislature. We need LCDC to keep the growth of the state within prescribed guidelines for ourselves and future generations.

For Straub, McFarland, Hatfield, Ullman

Following are endorsements for county, state and national offices in the Nov. 7 general election.

BOB STRAUB:

We endorse Gov. Bob Straub as the least dangerous of the two candidates. State Sen. Vic Atiyeh has embraced Measure 6 which he admits needs work and may be unconstitutional. He also favors the barbaric death penalty and opposes denturism, to ride the crest of popular sentiment more as a follower than a conscientious leader.

RUTH MCFARLAND:

The Post also endorses Dr. Ruth McFarland of Mt. Hood Community College as an outspoken, energetic candidate for superintendent of public instruction who would review Oregon public schools and work to "sell" education for greater public in-

volvement. The former one-room school teacher finds things lacking in today's schools, so let's see how she works to remedy the situation.

MARK HATFIELD:

Incumbent Sen. Mark Hatfield remains a strong voice for Oregon but still maintains a leadership role in several areas of national concern. He looks for compromise in divisive issues over industry vs. environmentalists and ranks among the top 10 or 15 senators in terms of spending limits in the national budget. His votes in the Senate reflect his strong views on balancing the budget. We support his reelection.

AL ULLMAN:

As chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Ullman is one of the strongest legislators in Washington. We also support his reelection. (VB)

Welches schools

To the Editor:

Welches School District is placing before the voters on Nov. 7 a measure which would establish a tax base for the school district.

Welches School does not have a tax base and, according to the records, the voters have never had an opportunity to vote on whether we should have one or not. This is the reason it is being placed on the Nov. 7 ballot.

The school board feels the voters should be aware of some points before deciding which way they will vote:

1. Welches School District does not have a tax base.
2. Each year the budget must be placed before the voters for approval.
3. The costs of budget elections are expensive.
4. A tax base will have a tendency to stabilize increases in the budget. We are told the raises in surrounding areas are up to 30 percent this year. The requested base of \$440,000 represents only a 14.8 percent increase, and would be limited to a 6 percent increase in the succeeding years.
5. This base would assure an education of the students even if a future levy outside the 6 percent were defeated. The voters would not be threatened with a closure of the school.
6. More time and energy will be able to be put into the formulation of the curriculum knowing the school will have a budget rather than have to wait and only plan one year in advance.
7. Goals and competencies for the students may be planned and implemented for future years.

The Welches School Board urges voters to consider the facts before casting their ballots.

Welches School Board

Denturism

To the Editor:

The current "Vote No on 5" campaign has been flagrantly mishandled. The mud-slinging tactics employed are a disgrace to our profession.

The dental lab technicians are members of a team of personnel. The entire team (which includes the dental assistant, hygienist, receptionist, supply salesperson, the dentist, as well as the lab technician) works together to provide the high standard of dental care that each patient expects.

Each member of the team has a specific duty to perform, and when in harmony, efficiency and lowered cost result. When any member of the team tries to perform the duties of another, inefficiency and duplication

result.

The dental profession has kept costs below the consumer price index for a good many years due to new equipment and increased efficiency. A lab technician is trained in a technical capacity and in no other. With the team approach in mind, Measure 5 has no place in modern dentistry.

The Oregon dental profession has made low cost dentures available to the need through "Project Open Wide." Lower costs are also available to the general public at the University of Oregon Dental School.

The consumer trends have been for increased produce liability and accountability and decreased government involvement. Measure 5 would take the lab technician away from the dental team

and expose him to the malpractice that has caused the health industry prices to increase.

The team concept in dentistry is not new to business. This important concept insures you the consumer of a quality product for your money.

Please carefully weigh the consequences of Measure 5 and most of all, Vote!

Wally McKenzie, DMD
Jim Flerchinger, DDS

For Measure 11

To the Editor:

In studying both Measure 6 and Measure 11, it's hard for me to understand why the proponents of Measure 6 can justify sending \$60 million more of Oregon tax dollars to Washington, D. C. every year. And Ballot Measure 6

will cut revenue for local governments in Oregon by nearly 40 percent, forcing them to turn to Salem and Washington for replacement revenue.

Does this sound like a good deal for the people of Oregon? Measure 11 provides tax relief for the people of Oregon and at the same time protects local control. What's more, Measure 11 is aimed at the homeowner and renter not the businessman.

Measure 6 guarantees an immediate annual limit on assessment but it also provides for property to be reassessed at full market value when it changes ownership. Is this fair to a senior citizen when the house is jointly owned and one spouse dies? Is it fair to you

when you could be paying property taxes three times higher than your neighbor who has a house of similar value and receives the same services for his tax dollar as you?

Measure 6 is a poorly written, inequitable tax measure. It provides no renter relief, will slow down housing starts, provides no protection for senior citizens, and cuts revenue for local services, not state or federal programs. On the other hand, Measure 11 does none of these things and still provides tax relief to the people who need it the most.

The choice should be simple. Vote NO on Measure 6; vote YES on Measure 11.

Melvin Haneberg
16950 Hoffman Ln.
Sandy

Guest editorial:

'Center can bridge community gaps'

Following are remarks made by Matt Shields, Sr., a member of the Sandy Senior Center before the Sandy City Council last Monday night. It is an eloquent statement on the function of the center as a "bridge" between seniors and the community at large.

I am Matt Shields, Sr., and I live in Boring. I have been retired for eight years and am active in the Sandy Senior Center through volunteer work and serving on committees. I would like to speak to you this evening regarding the senior center and the services it offers and especially about our craft outlet.

Our center is one of three full service senior centers in Clackamas County. We are one of a very few such centers in the nation who have as their sponsor a city. Most centers are sponsored either by a church or some public minded club or organization. We, I believe, are most fortunate in having the city fathers interested enough in their elderly to sponsor such a facility and we at the Sandy Senior Center thank you for your sponsorship.

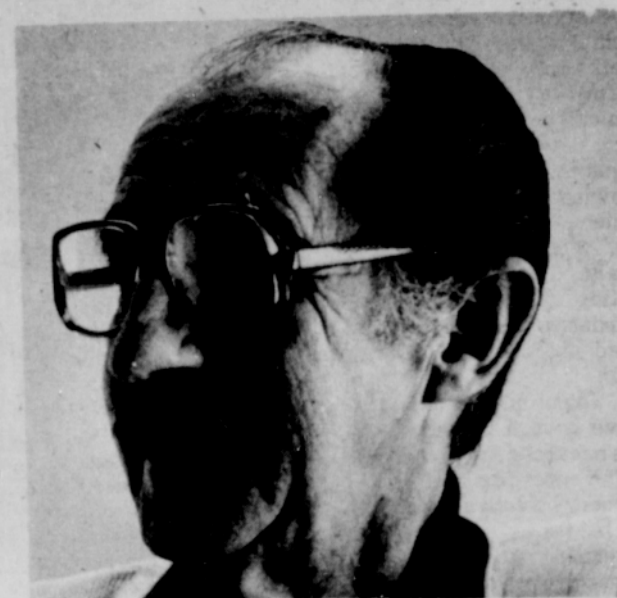
I would like to speak to you about the center and its programs. I like to consider the senior center as a bridge, a broad two-way bridge, linking the loose knit senior community to the community at large. It is a bridge over which people and ideas, services and resources, may pass back and forth freely to the benefit of the whole community.

The center is bridge which offers the older citizens in the entire Sandy High School District opportunities to create a very special community of their own without isolating themselves from the community locked away in lonely apartments, rooms, or rest care facilities. I believe the center helps prolong for many of us the day when we will all one day have to face a decision about a care facility.

The center is a bridge where local seniors can cross to avail themselves of vitally needed services such as nutritious meals, health care, transportation (to clinics, doctor, dentist offices and the like); also to join their peers in recreation and vocational programs geared to them in a non-competitive atmosphere under direction and supervision of a trained staff.

Our center is extremely fortunate in having as back-ups to our staff a large group of dedicated, community-spirited citizen volunteers. Without them, gentlemen, there would be no center. You could never begin to operate on the money you have budgeted if it were not for these volunteers. As you know, these volunteers who deliver and serve the meals, wash the dishes and the like, come to us from this community's lodges, clubs and churches. Volunteers serve all the meals prepared through the Loaves and Fishes program (which, by the way, are paid for in cash by the seniors — not the taxpayers).

Then there are the volunteer men and women from the community who, five days a week, deliver Meals on Wheels to the area shut-ins, the blind, the sick and the bedridden. These volunteers deliver meals in all kinds of weather and use their own cars to deliver these meals. In order to keep this bridge open for traffic there must be cooperation and



Matt Shields, Sr.

communication. According to HUD Secretary Califano, one out of every 10 people you represent today is an old folk or senior citizen and by the time most of you will have joined our ranks the ratio will be one out of five.

A recent Oregonian editorial says, "Politicians and merchandizers, and others who have kowtowed to the youth market the last few years had no better take another glance over their shoulder, they may be overlooking another impressive group that should receive at least much or more attention that was paid to the groups — that is the Old Folks. (Their numbers) have been growing rapidly in recent years and will continue to grow more rapidly in relation to the younger age limits. It is a group that has just started to make itself heard and will brook no nonsense in getting its problems considered."

I would like now to speak about one small phase of our operation, and that is our craft outlet. We have canvassed throughout the community and those citizens we have spoken with agree with us. And the majority of the business people in this town also agree. One member of this council told us "the majority of the merchants wants your gift shop closed down." But the majority of the merchants we have contacted are appalled by such an idea.

Before the center decided to have a craft outlet, my committee visited seven senior centers in Gresham, Portland, Beaverton, Hillsboro, Oregon City, Lake Oswego and down at the capital in Salem. All of these centers had outlet shops.

To me our craft outlet is another bridge. By having this outlet seniors who generally would be bored to death with inactivity can, by using their talents and ingenuity, create items such as a handmade pillow, a knitted baby sweater, pot holders and others and through our outlet be able to sell their item and then in turn buy more materials to keep themselves busy. Fifteen percent of all sales would go into the coffers of the city where it helps offset the costs of operating the center. Many of us who reside outside the city donate the full sale price of our crafts to the center to help offset the use of the facility since we do not pay city taxes...it is one more way we feel we are helping our center.

Someone has said that they cannot see the difference between our outlet and the craft outlets during the Mountain Festival which is held in (Meinig) Park, or a community dinner benefiting a church or lodge given in a public meeting. Do our local merchants object to these affairs? If every one or at least the majority are for us...who then is against us?

Rather than fearing what little the seniors are going to be selling, the merchants should be grateful for the business we bring to the community. My wife and I since retiring and coming to the center in Sandy, would have been bought in recently purchased a washer and wewelder from local merchants, costing nearly \$400, which, had we not been coming to this center have changed our buying habits. We Gresham. I can assure you that the Sandy Senior Center seniors do trade locally whenever possible. And as craft materials are needed, I can assure the local merchants if they stock our needs competitively we will be happy to purchase from the local merchants.

Our seniors are a proud group. We are not asking for charity...we only ask for consideration and understanding. We are not asking for a handout...we are only asking for a "helping hand." We are only asking for a chance to help ourselves and to be allowed to pay our own way, and to be able to assist a less fortunate brother or sister.

We must all build one more bridge together. One strong enough and big enough to transport us all back and forth across misunderstandings, lack of trust; it must carry lines of communications between all parties; it must bring the community together in harmony and in brotherly love for the benefit of all concerned.

I close with a challenge and also an invitation. We at the center invite each of you gentlemen to come some noon and "break bread with us." The mayor and councilman Cook came and have survived their visits. Also, we challenge you to drop by some morning before 11:30 and take a ride with a volunteer deliver meals to our shut-ins.

Please, come look us over any time — come and become involved in your future and feel the milk of human kindness stirred within you.

Thank you for listening.

High cost of candidacy suggests dollar limits

As the cost of government increases, so does the cost of winning government seats. Witness the three most recent races for the District 56 State Representative seat.

Wayne Fawbush spent approximately \$4,000 when he ran in 1974. Then-incumbent Paul Walden spent the maximum allowed at the time, \$5,000.

The next time they clashed in 1976, the ante doubled for both. The

limits on state campaign spending were lifted and Walden spent \$14,424 while Fawbush spent \$6,615 to gain the seat.

Now Fawbush claims a war chest of \$15,263 through Oct. 22 for his reelection bid while Walden has collected contributions totalling \$26,126.

It's been true in the past and is seemingly more so today: Politics is a rich man's game. It may be time to replace those campaign spending limits. (VB)



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Published weekly Thursdays by The Outlook Publishing Co., Box 68
Sandy, Oregon 97055. Second class postage paid at Sandy, Oregon

668-5548

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In Multnomah and Clackamas Counties, per year	\$7.00	In Northwest and Pacific Coast States outside Oregon, per year	\$9.00
Servicemen, any address	\$7.00	Outside Northwest and Pacific Coast states, per year	\$11.00
In Oregon, outside Multnomah and Clackamas Counties, per year	\$8.00		

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