

## SUHS asks 1-year levy

Sandy Union High School District is asking voters to approve a \$199,379 special levy April 3. The funds will be used for additions and improvements to the high school facility.

Improvements scheduled include replacing a leaky, hazardous roof made of a substance which is toxic if it ignites; repairing and resurfacing the athletic track and converting it to the metric system; constructing two science laboratory classrooms and installing new lighting, heating and ventilation in the art classroom.

School officials say that several of the repairs are necessary to the school program. They have been notified that the school's fire insurance will be cancelled unless the roof is replaced, and the high school is ineligible for competitive track and field unless the track is converted to the metric system.

Track coach Randy Hutchinson pointed out that the \$50,000 allocated to track repairs will cover more than the conversion to metric.

The drainage system will be improved, curbs installed, and the track resurfaced.

"For the past five years, we've held the district track meet at Sandy," Hutchinson explained. "Unless we make these improvements, we can no longer hold it here."

Board members have discussed the improvements repeatedly during district board meetings, with member Ginny Brewster urging the addition of the science laboratory rooms so freshmen students can get "hands-on" lab experience in addition to the theory they get in the classroom lecture.

Superintendent Jack Peters told the board during the March 12 meeting that the art classroom sorely needed lighting because a light meter reading showed seriously inadequate illumination.

Repairs in the art room will include

installation of a suspended grid ceiling with lighting, ventilation for the kiln area and insulation.

School administrators pointed out that installing the ceiling would reduce heating space, since the facility presently has bare rafters. Installation would further cut the heating costs and reduce noise as well.

Peters emphasized that the levy is a one year assessment only, and will cost land property owners 54 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for the coming year only. "It's a one-shot deal," he said.

To determine public response to the high school's levy request The Post interviewed approximately 20 random pedestrians, asking them the question,

"On April 3 the high school will be asking the voters to approve a \$199,379 levy. The money will be used to make repairs and additions which the high school administrators and teachers say are necessary to the school's operation. The levy will cause a one-year increase of 54 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in property taxes. What is your view of this levy?"

Here is a sampling of the answers received:

ELLEN TEN EYCK  
49549 S.E. Marmot Rd.

"I definitely will vote for it. I feel the money will be well spent and my kids are students there."

TERRY MURRAY  
25810 S.E. 452nd St.

"If it's needed, we'll pass it." "Do you always vote for levies?" "Almost all the time."

KATHERINE DE VERE  
34881 S.E. Gunderson Rd.

"Too damn much... I can't understand why they have to have so much. We can't support Mt. Hood Community College, but by our tax structure, we give a whole lot more to the high school and the grade school."



### Come on in

Birdwatchers in the Midwest have filed reports this spring that north-bound geese and ducks have turned back to the southland, apparently finding no ice-free lakes to the north. It is unknown in which direction these

fowl were headed, but they stopped for a breather on a local pond and found the water quite temperate.

Dan Dillon photo

## Little waiting, however

# DMV office opens to crowds

Sandy's new Department of Motor Vehicles Office (DMV) is proving itself with 50-75 customers daily and service to outlying areas, according to district

supervisor Arnold Storhoff.

His early appraisal came on the occasion of the office's open house and ribbon-cutting ceremonies Monday, after a short break-in period of operation.

"People are driving here from places like Eagle Creek, and we've been very busy," Storhoff said. He added that many area drivers had let their licenses lapse or become outdated rather than drive into the Gresham DMV office with waiting periods up to two hours.

Last week, the department announced plans to reduce the pressure on its Gresham office with a new office east of Gresham. Department speculation, however, called for location of the new office in Estacada. Sandy Chamber of Commerce President Marjory Hoffman changed all that with a couple of phone calls.

"I had worked on two or three Mark Hatfield campaigns," she said, "so I figured I'd call up Hatfield and ask why the new office couldn't be located in Sandy."

Storhoff credits Hoffman with location of the office here.

The three-man Sandy office is located in the Oregon Trail Plaza at Proctor Boulevard and Smith Street and is open from 7 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Storhoff refers to the early opening hours as "flex hours" to allow commuters, students and busy workers a chance to get a new driver's license or register a vehicle.

He said that the location may be temporary, although he is happy with the small office the state department has leased from Oregon Trail Savings. He continues to view the Highway Department maintenance shed in downtown Sandy as an ideal permanent DMV location, should the Highway Department relocate out of the city core area.

### LOCAL MANAGER

Local DMV office manager is 10-year department veteran Jack Martin of Sandy. Another police worker, Jerry Campbell,



LICENSE EXAMINER Jerry Campbell helps customer Donna Campbell (no relation) renew a license at the new Department of Motor Vehicles office in Sandy.

plans to move to Sandy also.

The Sandy office claims fast service, with no waiting period normally required for registrations, renewals or driv tests with application in order.

Storhoff said that no customers here should have to wait longer than 15 minutes "and that's coming in here cold for a driver's test, so you have to get a manual, fill out an application and everything."

Deputy director Harvey Ward, present for ribbon-cutting ceremonies Monday, said that Sandy could be one of the first stations to get new stand-up electronic testing devices, as opposed to written driver's tests.

The electronic tests, with pictures of actual road conditions, are figured to be more realistic than present multiple choice questions on written exams, and speedier for the department.

## For rural zoning

# County revises ordinances

Revised ordinances for farm and forest zones were adopted by Clackamas County Commissioners on March 12 and will be used in the upcoming rural re-zoning project, according to Ardis Stevenson, coordinator for the Department of Environmental Services.

The ordinance revisions

add provisions for "homestead lots," "non-forest uses" and establishes two new zoning categories — a General Agricultural District (GAD0) and a General Timber District (GTD).

First possible application of the two new zoning districts will come next

month with county proposed re-zoning of 343 square miles to implement last year's Rural Plan Amendments.

Land included in the rural zoning stretches from Wilsonville and the Lower Tualatin Valley to Colton, Estacada and Sandy. Carus, Mulino, Molalla, Redland Viola and Clarkes-Highland

are also included. These areas were identified in the Plan Amendment as agriculture, rural or forest lands.

Notices are being mailed now to property owners telling them of the proposed zoning and citizen meetings and public hearings at which the proposal will be discussed. First citizen meetings are scheduled in Estacada, Molalla and Oregon City for early April.

Lands labeled agriculture in the plan will be proposed for either exclusive farm use zoning with a 20-acre minimum lot size or for general agricultural district zoning. Forest lands are proposed to have either general forest district zoning or the transitional timber zone. Lands labeled rural in the plan may be zoned for 2-, 5- or 10-acre minimum lot size.

Maps showing the proposed zoning will be included in notices to property owners, mailed to the appropriate county community planning organizations and available at the April citizen's meetings. The Department of Environmental Services hopes to provide enough information in advance of public hearings so that property owners and residents can express clear and informed views to the Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners.

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