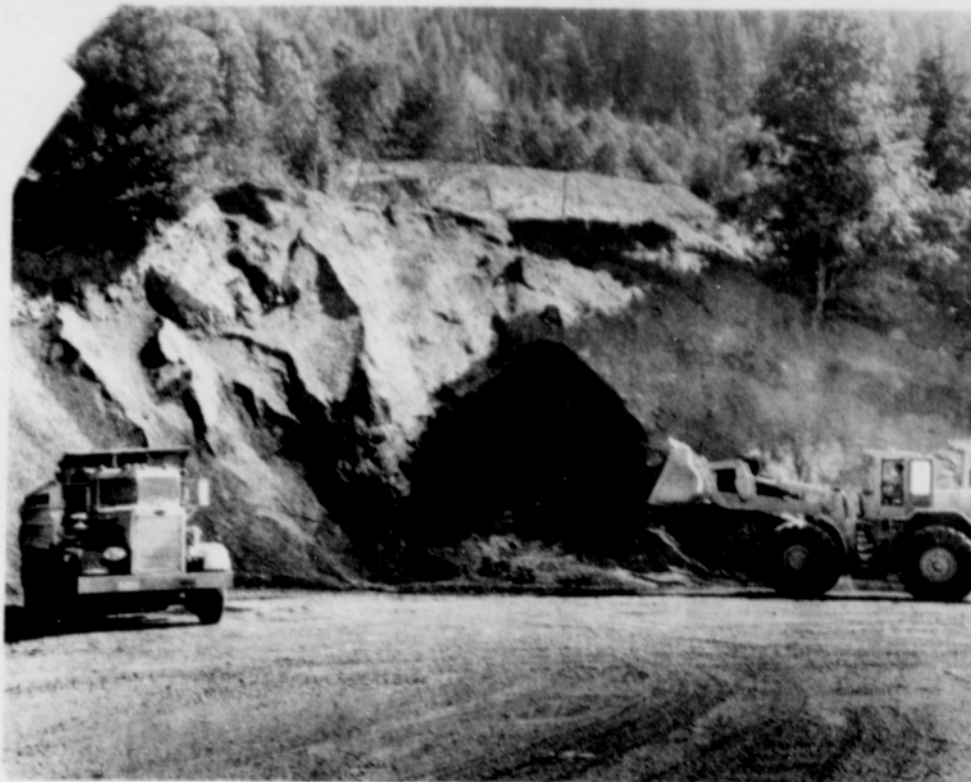


Obrist to install asphalt plant in Brightwood



The gravel pit operated by Don Obrist brought some angered reactions but the fight was stymied by the cost of appealing the decision by the Clackamas County hearings officer.

by CYNTHIA DILLON

Don Obrist is preparing to install an asphalt plant at his rock quarry in Brightwood within the month.

"We've been cleared by the county, DEQ and the whole works," said Obrist. "It will be a 6,000-pound batch plant, and it will be a great asset to the people on the mountain. The Forest Service, highways, Bull Run — they'll all benefit. It will cost a lot less than transporting asphalt all the way from Portland."

Obrist of Troutdale, who runs a sand and gravel business, bought the 150-acre gravel pit off Truman Road from Brightwood resident Dewey Plaster approximately two years ago. Before the sale to Obrist, Plaster leased the quarry to other businesses.

"It's one of the only private gravel pits around," said Mrs. Plaster. "We felt like we were helping everyone because they do employ quite

a few people, and it's good for the community."

The good of the community also was on George Walker's mind when he attended the county hearing which approved the installation of the asphalt plant.

"My family has owned property up here for 50 years and I read about the hearing in the paper and went. I just don't think (the county) did enough homework before the hearings officer made his decision. They didn't even do an environmental impact study," said Walker.

Walker looked into the situation and went to the planning commission for an application for an appeal, which was scheduled for Aug. 3.

Walker said, "I just wanted people to be aware of what's happening. I posted the notice at Ted's Store, but I couldn't do it all by myself, so I gave the papers to Joe Keszler to see what he wanted to do."

Keszler, a Brightwood resident, said plans for an appeal "just didn't pan out."

"I got the papers for the re-hearing application just a few days before the August 3 deadline and it required a \$100 deposit. I don't think I could find four people up here who'd chip in \$25 apiece for the hearing. Nobody seems to mind, and I've been working 10-hour days, so I really didn't have time to pursue it."

Keszler's and Walker's main objection is the increase in truck traffic on Truman Roads and through Brightwood.

"They roll through here from 7 in the morning till 7 at night, seven days a week. I don't know how many run now, but they're talking about 70 to 75 trucks a day now with the asphalt plant. This is only a two-lane road and it's not in that good of shape anyway," said Keszler.

John Day, a dump truck driver for Obrist, said the company is doing its best to work with the people of the community.

"We only drive 10 miles

per hour through town — that's company policy — and we don't go across the little bridge. I've lived in this area all my life, and we need more commercial interests," said Day.

Along with the increased traffic, Keszler, a former dump truck driver, objects to what he refers to as "dirty steam."

"It's been two years since I hauled my last contract of asphalt, but I know we had to wipe off the windshield so we could see to drive out of the place. The trucks were all covered with a film of asphalt. And it was so noisy, I had to wear earplugs. You couldn't hear yourself think," said Keszler.

Day said the noise from the asphalt plant will be far less than the newly installed rock crusher, or a sawmill with a barker.

"The smell is nothing to what we already get from Camas, Wash., and up here on top of the mountain we almost always have a breeze so nothing will stagnate over the valley. Day added that the Obrist business tries to put everything to use.

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business tries to put everything to use.

"We've got a whole mountain full of rock up here, and we're trying to put everything to use. We don't just push it over the bank if we don't want it."

A spokesman for Obrist said the company has a landfill on Troutdale Road that will be deeded to the city for a park when completed.

Obrist, who also runs a construction company, equipment rental, and dump trucking firm in Troutdale, is planning to move to Sandy in December. A spokesman said the offices would be located at the old Cook's Mill across the road from Janz Berryland. A truck repair shop is planned at that location, which also will serve as a stockpile for gravel from the Brightwood pit.

Obrist, who employs approximately 25 people, also bids on demolition work, and according to a spokesman has prepared sites for most of the shopping centers in the Gresham area, including the Fred Meyer Shopping Center on Burnside.

School awaits trailer use OK

A decision is expected from the Clackamas County hearings officer this Monday, Aug. 20, on a Boring man's request to reduce the 20-acre minimum lot size requirement in an exclusive farm use area.

Doug Phillips has proposed to reduce the 20-acre requirement to 3.7 acres to allow a lot line adjustment between two tax lots which would reduce the size of one of those lots from 12.83 acres to 3.7 acres.

The property is located on the east side of Southeast 352nd Avenue approximately 500 feet south of its intersection with Southeast Bluff Road. The present zoning is EFU-20, exclusive farm use with a 20-acre minimum lot size.

Next Thursday, Welches Elementary School will learn if it is OK for it to use two trailer houses as classrooms for the upcoming school year. The school had filed the request for a temporary permit to help alleviate overcrowding in the main building.

The permanence of the two trailers will be decided Sept.

18 when Hoodland-area voters go to the polls for a \$19 million bond issue to construct a 12-classroom addition.

At the same Thursday session, the hearings officer will interpret a technicality in the transcript in the Clackamas County records relating to File No. PCU-19-66. The purpose is to determine if the conditional use pertained to the total 39.37 acre parcel. The request came from L.G. Brian.

The interpretation pertains to land on the east side of Southeast Brian Ranch Road approximately one-third mile south of its intersection with Southeast Wildcat Mountain Drive. The area is zoned GT-40, general timber, 40-acre minimum lot size.

Margaret A. Anthony's request for a staff temporary permit will be heard at Thursday's session. She has proposed to use a mobile home as a residence for her daughter and family who will provide care for Anthony and her husband.

The trailer would be placed

in an area zoned FF-5, farm forest, five-acre minimum lot size. The location is on the east side of Southeast 362nd Drive, approximately one-third mile south of the intersection of Southeast Bluff Road and 362nd Drive.

Reuben Pearson also has requested use of a mobile home. It would be a temporary single-family residence for a husband and wife so that they can provide care for their 7-year-old granddaughter.

The mobile home would be located on the east side of Southeast Eagle Creek Road approximately one-fourth mile north of its intersection with Wildcat Mountain Road in the Eagle Creek area. That area also is zoned FF-5.

Both sessions, Monday and Thursday, begin at 7 p.m. at the Clackamas County Courthouse in Oregon City. The applications and records are available for inspection at the Planning Division, 902 Abernethy Road, Oregon City, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

All interested parties may testify.

Wrecks keep police busy

Sandy police responded to a variety of traffic accidents including a hit and run, a non-injury accident and a single-car wreck.

Billy R. Bess of Southeast Bumpy Lane reported to police last Thursday that a vehicle backed into his car in the parking lot of Sharon's

Food King. Police are investigating.

Sandy police cited Dennis Ray Lake for driving under the influence of intoxicants Sunday morning after the car he was driving smashed through the gate of the Oregon State Highway Department shed on Proctor Boulevard.

A non-injury accident was reported to police Friday after a salesman for Paul Koch Ford was sideswiped while taking a customer for a test drive.

Police arrested one man Sunday at approximately 2 a.m. on a charge of assault three. He allegedly struck Harold Lesley Hilton of Wildcat Mountain Drive. Police reported the weapons used were a wooden board and beer glasses. The incident occurred behind the Gateway tavern.

Rice Electric reported the theft of a utility trailer from a construction site at the intersection of Davis and Gary streets. The trailer was taken sometime over the weekend and was reported missing Monday. The trailer was valued at \$2,000. The property inside was listed at \$9,000. The incident is under investigation.

Opening day announced for new students

The opening day of school for freshmen and new students in the Sandy Union High School district is Sept. 4. All other students begin the school year on Sept. 5.

An extensive orientation program is planned for the opening day to acquaint students with Sandy High School's academic and extracurricular activities, according to Vice Principal Dennis Crow.

Counselors and teachers will be available to assist with the advising process.

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