

SUHS Board 'hiding' public notices

Sandy High boosters who long for closer rapport between the school and community have a bit longer to wait.

The school board in a surprise move this week voted to print public notices in Portland's morning newspaper, rather than their community newspaper.

The switch was suggested by board member Wayne Johnson and passed unanimously by the board.

What better way to keep more than half the district in the dark? The approximately 40 percent of Sandy area residents who read the Portland newspaper daily may not notice the change, but the other 60 percent may discover a new communication gap—self-inflicted by the school.

Those little legal notices, after

all, tell how a school is spending the district's money and advertise upcoming public hearings. To hide such information in a Portland morning paper of low readership locally may be considered irresponsible by the school's elected community representatives.

Curiously, the board voted to advertise in the five-times more costly statewide publication without requests for bid proposals, despite the fact the Portland AM paper is not considered an official newspaper of record by any other local government body.

So for that half of the district left in the dark, we would like to print the appropriate number to call. Phone the school at 668-8011 in the future to have your high school public notices read to you. (VB)

Parade outgrows its time and place

The recent Sandy Mountain Festival parade with a record 91 entries was a glorious site, indeed, and a fountain of pride for local residents who have seen their parade grow into one of the state's largest.

For the purpose it originally was intended, however, it may have outgrown itself. The big parade also ran a record 75 minutes (without breaks), causing the sponsoring Sandy Area Merchants to abbreviate their planned two-hour moonlight sale afterward.

The merchants would like to start the parade earlier than 7:30 p.m. to allow two good hours of moonlight shopping, but closing down state Highway 26 during heavy dinner-hour traffic poses problems.

An alternative suggestion might be to relocate the parade on a street such as parallel Pleasant Street, which is nearly as long as Pioneer Boulevard through town

and nearly as wide. Parking and spectator room would be comparable, too, and the city wouldn't have to hassle the state highway division with closure of half the highway route through town.

With such an alternative parade route, the city even could accommodate desire of some merchants to direct the flow westbound downhill, rather than eastbound which is uphill.

The suggestion may not be feasible, but at least it's worth discussion. Only let's lay plans now—not bicker at the final hour over which way the parade goes.

The Festival committee deserves a lot of credit for assembling such a big and trouble-free parade as Sandy enjoys each July. It appears, however, that little Sandy finally may have outgrown the state highway that so long has dominated the rustic landscape. (VB)

Caution needed on Meinig turnoffs

Some motorists here appear confused. The law is more concise.

Left-hand turns from Meinig Avenue onto Proctor Boulevard are illegal against the light.

The confusion, of course, comes with the fact motorists are turning onto a one-way street. The catch, however, is that they are turning from a two-way street. That's not permitted by state law—only free left-hand turns from a one-way street onto another one-way street.

A reserve Clackamas County deputy here notes a number of local motorists making this mistake. It's probably an honest error, he notes, but one that should be corrected.

The state highway through town

makes Sandy much too busy for such sloppy, careless driving. More than 10,000 cars each day travel each way through town on the split highway. Trucks roar through town, closely pursued by impatient travelers over the mountain. Transport vehicles halt traffic, as they back up on the highway to unload. Some drivers disregard stripped center medians where the busy one-way thoroughfares rejoin. Other drivers disregard crosswalks downtown.

Why make the highway through town any more dangerous with sloppy driving by local residents who should know better? Maybe we all could straighten up our acts. (VB)

Salem scene:

Ball strike, Salem marathon alike

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

Speculation in Salem these days involves which will last longer—the current session of the Legislature or the baseball strike.

You may wonder how anyone could draw a parallel between these two events. At first ponder, it does seem a little far-fetched. To those keeping track of both, however, the strike and the session do have distinct similarities.

Both are lasting longer than they should. They are costing a lot of dough.

They are upsetting loyal fans of baseball and politics, too. After all, major league ballplayers are expected to play ball—all season—from early spring until late fall.

Politicians who make it to the State Legislature's big leagues are supposed to gather up to six months, figure out how much tax money there is to spend for two years, decide how to spend it and go home.

Ballplayers aren't playing. Also, the Legislature won't go home.

There are some differences. Ballplayers aren't getting paid. Legislators are. Don't try comparing relative wage scales, though. That could lead to an attempt to explain both the reason for the strike and the reason the session hasn't ended yet. Both are beyond comprehension of respective fans.

By the time you read this, the strike will have lasted more than a month and the session more than six. Both are records. Both records aren't pleasant for the more than 30 million Americans who fill ballparks each season or the 1,855,400 Oregonians eligible to vote.

The number of baseball fanatics cited here is strictly speculative, based on seasonal attendance figures. It ignores the vast number who never see a game live and follow the na-



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tional pastime on radio or the tube.

Estimating the number of Oregonians actually following the Legislature even is more difficult to determine. Those eligible to vote are a preponderance of the state's 2,530,600 total population. Those actually registered to vote number only 1,569,222. Of that number 1,209,691 cast ballots last year—a fallout that hints that baseball fans are more loyal than fans of the Legislature.

Last week the session eclipsed longevity records of 177 days in 1977, 178 days in 1979 and even 180 days in 1973. Those statistically inclined might consider the fact the Legislature worked on the Fourth of July, but ballplayers didn't. That's one for your record book. Dyed-in-the-wool lawmaking fans will immediately recall the '77 session when that particular Assembly worked on Good Friday, but took a holiday on April Fool's Day.

Maybe this isn't a good comparison after all. Baseball fans thrive on statistics. The strike has all but obliterated those fascinating figures for this season. But many of the numbers keep growing in Salem—per diem and other expenses, for instance.



Letters to the editor:

Readers eye schools, wildlife

Schools our hope

After noting how many school districts in Oregon have not even passed an 'A' ballot, I have come to the conclusion that many Oregonians consider education itself as a frill.

This is a big mistake, and the future of Oregon and the nation as a whole will suffer. The Reagan administration wants to bring our defense and industrial capacities back to the exalted position they once held. At the same time, our educational system is getting knocked on its ears by federal and state budget cuts, as well as local budget election defeats.

Who is going to staff the technical positions in industry and the military?

Check the "help wanted" section of the newspaper, and you will find many openings for well qualified young people. These positions can't be filled. The high school graduates in the military aren't educated well enough in technical fields to master the equipment at current levels of technology.

In order to accomplish the president's wish, we will have to increase our technology far ahead of current levels. How will we do

this and at the same time let our schools fall apart?

The Japanese and the Soviets are upgrading their schools to teach more technical courses at lower grades, because they realize the only way to a strong economy (and for the Soviet Union a strong military) is to continue to increase technological development.

We should be writing our congressmen to tell them education is a strong priority. We should be passing local school budget elections and electing people to school boards with strong backgrounds in business and industry, who know what the job market holds in the way of opportunity.

Instead, we tell our congressmen to slash school funds, fail local budget elections and show such apathy toward school boards that many boards are filled with people who don't know what education is all about.

The United States is at a crossroads, and we can rise or fall based on our treatment of young people. Improve their minds, and we rise. Let them grow up without a quality education, and we will become a poor nation and maybe a dead one, because "Ivan" is nipping at our heels.

Harold Hayward
Sandy

would feel more comfortable in a less free country—say for instance, Russia. I understand they have little or no choice or voice there.

We do have freedom of choice. We can vote. If we choose, we do not have to vote.

If I, for one, am pushed hard enough and long enough like Homer-I'm going to speak out, rebel and probably organize. Judging from the reaction of the voters, apparently a lot of other people feel the same way.

My father's family is from the south. Mother's family were migrant workers. Many were uneducated. I presume this is the caliber of person dumb Homer is supposed to be. I never met one of them that was a stupid as Shara'Deen tried to make Home out to be. Yes, I am offended. In fact, it makes me think I should take one of my illiterate "younguns" and go "fishin'."

Just one more thing, Mr. Editor. Is Shara'Deen going to be paid to write her column in the Sandy Post? If so, would you please cut out Shara'Deen's articles from my paper from now on, before you mail me my paper, and send me a refund for my portion of the subscription fee that would go to her? I don't feel that I want to contribute to further her type of education. If I really am lucky in life, I'll never be educated like Shara'Deen, nor as narrow-minded.

Dixie Marshall
Sandy

Offended, too

I guess that the majority of the voters in our district are all ignorant, according to Anderson.

If Anderson is the product of our school system, then I think we are in bad shape, indeed.

I found the article poorly written and an insult on the intellectual integrity of the majority of the people.

W. H. Tuttle
Sandy

Hood wildlife

For 25 years I have lived within a mile of the "supposed wildlife refuge" that Michael P. Jones wrote about in the Sandy Post July 2. That was my first knowledge we had such a thing up here.

I have hunted deer all through that area for years, and I never once ran into a bear, elk or mountain cat. I did see two bears about 20 year ago—one over at the county dump on North Brightwood road and one up behind Barlow Trail, while I was hunting.

In the Alderwood site he wrote of (the wildlife refuge), I have not seen a deer in years (lots of dogs, however.) We all know how well dogs and wildlife get along together. The story about the land on the other side of the road has as many untruths, as does the Alderwood story.

Please let me state that I am not gung-ho about either development, but it sure sounds like someone up here doesn't want any competition for the monies that such development might bring to the mountain.

Mr. Sheets, of ECOS complains that the county doesn't notify him of things going on up here in time for him to do anything about it. Well I didn't see any Public Notices of ECOS being formed. Therefore, I think it would be nice, if he would let the rest of the mountain know all about how ECOS got it's start and just what it's main purpose is—other than sticking your nose in other people's business. Is he afraid some of the wrong people might want to join?

If he is so sure these two developments are going to ruin the mountain and wildlife, just where was he when the fully treed, filled-with-wildlike area behind the golf course was turned into a city? Where was he when ZigZag Village ruined some of the very best natural wildlife habitat and turned it into a city? Where was he when Timberline Rim turned acres and acres of wildlife habitat into a city? And let's not forget Rippling River. I could go on and on.

Would you believe that some people up here would have you think that Don Obrist's rockcrusher is the only "raper" of the mountain! His rockcrusher is a pebble, compared to the mountain of developments.

As I said, I'm not in favor of either development. Still I don't think telling lies is the right way to stop the problem. I think we already have too much "big brother," telling us what we can and cannot do.

It seems as if all any of us can do with our own property anymore is pay the ex-

cessive taxes!

Maybe now is the time to start "GROUPSTERS" (Get rid of useless, pesky, secret, troublemaking environmental, rampaging solicitors.)

Ethel Annis
Brightwood

Parade great

Fantastic! Incredible! How else can we describe this year's Sandy Mountain Festival. We have attended the event once as spectators and for the last two years as exhibitors. Each time the warmth of our Sandy community dominates the atmosphere in Meinig Park.

Exhibitors from outside Sandy love to be part of our Festival. Some attend this event only, but those who have booths in other festivals say our Mountain Festival is the best.

What draws them here is the natural beauty of Meinig Park and the special attitude of the Mountain Festival Committee.

Congratulations, people of Sandy. Thank you, Mountain Festival Committee.

We love being part of this community and knowing you.

The Poutala Family
Sandy

Thank you

Thank you for the wonderful display of our "beloved flag" July 4th from Brightwood to Wemme. On every electric pole our flag was waving to, we, the free people.

I wonder how many people noticed them and took time to slow down, so they could really enjoy the wonderful sight and say "Thank you."

This is the only country in the world that could have so many flags flying for everybody to see and enjoy. I was almost overcome with emotion. Such a beautiful sight showed much community spirit.

Again I say, thank you, thank you, thank you. I appreciated it so very much.

Mrs. Greta Ourecky
Boring

LETTERS POLICY:
The Post asks that all letters to the editor be typed, double-spaced and signed. Deadline is noon, Tuesday. Letters should be accurate, free of libelous remarks and in good taste.