

## Salem man joins race for House in Fifth Congressional District

Salem Democrat Mike Kopetski announced his candidacy for Oregon's 5th Congressional District last Friday.

At a stop in Sandy, Kopetski, 32, said he was "the candidate of hope" in the primary election.

A Pendleton native, he has served as legal counsel and administrator to several legislative committees in Oregon and was on the staff of the Senate Watergate Committee. He also worked on writing workers compensation and unemployment benefits legislation adopted by the 1981 state Legislature.

"Economics has to be the major issue," Kopetski told The Post. Oregonians have to have jobs and get back to work, he said.

"Our people... are in trouble because they're not doing what gives people dignity—they're not working," Kopetski said in his announcement speech.

He cautioned that poor economic times bring out extremist actions and a loss of hope. But, he said, "Our nation is not going to fail. I know this because we are a nation that has imagination, the ability and the desire to work and accept a challenge."

Kopetski challenged the Reagan administration's proposed defense expenditures and tax cuts, and offered suggestions to reduce the national deficit and lower interest rates.

"We must reduce this deficit in a responsible in a responsible manner to free up private capital so that investors will make job-producing investment," he said.

To accomplish this, he suggested increasing the windfall profits tax rate on new oil until



Mike Kopetski

1986; delaying or scrapping the B-1 Bomber program ("It's an Edsel," he said.); delaying the implementation of the MX Missile basing system, and suspending implementation of the next round of the federal personal income tax cut.

Energy costs are a major cause of inflation, Kopetski said. He wants America to reduce its dependence on oil, to enforce existing anti-trust laws if violated by major oil companies, and to encourage a diversity of energy sources.

The candidate pointed out that the U.S. government has not been eager to tackle the oil companies because these companies are major contributors to political campaigns.

"Denny Smith is the third highest recipient of campaign contributions from the House of

Big Oil," he said.

Kopetski said funding research projects for the study of agricultural production is a "proper role of government spending." With that research, he said, the United States can be prepared for bad-harvest years.

He favors low mortgage-payment plans for those caught in the middle, \$25,000-\$30,000 annual income, who cannot get low-income loans and who cannot afford current interest rates in the open market.

Kopetski addressed other social and economic issues. "We must stop scaring our older Americans with 'test-balloon' proposals regarding the Social Security System," he said. "Let's not pull the rug out from those on Social Security now, or those who are ready to retire."

Kopetski managed the 1980 U.S. Senate campaign for state Sen. Ted Kulongoski and the 1976 Presidential campaign for Sen. Frank Church in Oregon.

This is his first campaign as a candidate. He told The Post that he needs to raise \$40,000-\$60,000 for the primary campaign and another \$150,000 for the general election.

Kopetski, a graduate of American University and the Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College, is the fourth Democrat to enter the race for the new House seat. He is joined by state Sen. Ruth McFarland, David McTeague and Larry Gray.

Current District 2 Rep. Denny Smith is the only announced Republican candidate at this time.

## 'Good Morning America'

### Sandy program's little sister airs

Christmas morning an estimated 4 million television viewers will get a look at the "little sister" of a program that began in Sandy five years ago.

ABC-TV's "Good Morning America" will present a segment on a Silver Threads program now operating in Portland. Locally, the program will be aired on KATU-TV, Channel 2, at 7 a.m.

"I think it reflects back on these kids here in Sandy and tells what's going on in our nursing homes here," said Judy Sheppard, who began the Sandy program in 1977 as an offshoot of the Sandy Community School.

After leading the Sandy program for two-and-a-half years, Sheppard left to work with the Clackamas Community College Foundation to interest other areas in forming their own Silver Threads program and that appears to be a success.

Three states now have Silver Threads programs underway, Sheppard said, and officials in California

are "very interested."

The Silver Threads program began when Sheppard found there was a community need to serve the elderly, particularly those in nursing homes. By combining the two generations, there is a chance for both to give and receive affection.

The opportunity is provided for intimate contact between children and the nursing home residents.

The group that will be featured Christmas morning attends Gilbert Heights School in Southeast Portland. Class members there are regular visitors at Graystone Manor Convalescent Center.

Although it is out of the area covered by the CCC Foundation, Sheppard volunteered to go into some Portland schools to work with teachers and activities directors to launch the new program.

Just as it was in Sandy, the program in Portland has been a success.

According to Sheppard, officials at the nursing

home contacted the nationally-broadcast program with the idea of airing the show.

"They've really been excited about what's happening," Sheppard said.

"Good Morning America" got excited about the project, too, and four weeks ago sent a crew to film the segment.

That isn't the end of it.

Sheppard said the segment's producer is now talking about a follow-up in the spring that would

feature her telling the Silver Threads story from its beginning in Sandy.

At that point, she said, the local Silver Threads program has a chance to be featured, although nothing is certain currently.

The producer, who has called Sheppard regularly leading up to air date, does plan to use the sentiments expressed by a Sandy participant as a lead-in to the Christmas broadcast, however.

• Hoodland Happenings •  
every week in The Post.

Our wish to you for a Joyful Holiday and a Prosperous New Year

The following have chosen this method to express season's greetings to all their friends and customers. A contribution in their names has been made to the Clackamas County unit of the American Cancer Society.

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- Cedar-Oaks Farm
- Joseph E. McMahon
- Earl & Trudy Meier
- Arletha Mills
- Emil & Grace Reich
- Cy & Dorothy Smith

## National magazine highlights Kelso

Kelso School is featured this month on the cover of a national magazine.

School Business Affairs, the monthly journal of the Association of School Business Officials of the United States and Canada, highlights the local school with a color photograph of one of its classrooms. The issue is devoted to planning new school facilities.

The accompanying article, written by district Superintendent Clark Lund, gives hints on architect selection when planning a new school.

Lund said the story originated last spring, originally for publication in a state school-oriented magazine. When that didn't occur, the architectural firm, Broome, Oringdolph,

O'Toole, Rudolf & Associates of Portland, suggested a national publication and turned the manuscript over to its marketing department.

Lund said he forgot all about the article until members of the firm began

calling him, thanking him for the story. He obtained a copy of the December issue and "there was Kelso School, on the cover in living color," he said.

In the article, Lund outlined the process the school district followed in

its selection of the architects and the result of the association between the firm and the school district.

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