

Budget should keep police strength

The city may have trouble passing even a simple maintenance budget this year, and residents concerned with public safety may worry where cuts could come.

Sandy's 24-hour police protection, a major city expense, might be whittled to trim the tab. At least that's what some budget-observers fear.

Sure, the department is penciled into the rough draft at full strength of seven members again. Still, it could be in trouble, if forced to stand on its own in a supplemental levy.

That's why some insiders hope the whole city budget can fit on one A Levy. Concern, therefore, should peak with release of the draft document by end of this week, followed by a budget committee meeting Monday and public hearing Wednesday.

Never has police protection been so needed. Burglary is rampant and increasing each year.

This is a national trend that quiet bedrooms like Sandy have not been able to avoid.

Resident burglary alone rose 19 percent nationally, according to FBI Uniform Crime Reports. Police Chief Fred Punzel said Sandy mirrors this rate of burglary increase, with resident burglary growing most dramatically.

Perhaps budget-minded local taxpayers can find ways to trim the city government's operating costs in fiscal 1982-83, but police cuts probably shouldn't be among them.

Since the budget committee meets just once 7:30 p.m. Monday before public hearing next Wednesday, concerned residents would be wise to attend.

Then the time for public input on city priorities comes 7:30 p.m., Feb. 10. Don't let city hall and a handful of citizen volunteers make all Sandy's key decisions.

Sandy should defend its 'honor'

So the challenge has been issued.

The claim as "Gateway to Mount Hood" has been stolen by Gresham to promote a jazz festival.

The cause seems worthy, of course, but the mountain crown always has been worn by Sandy.

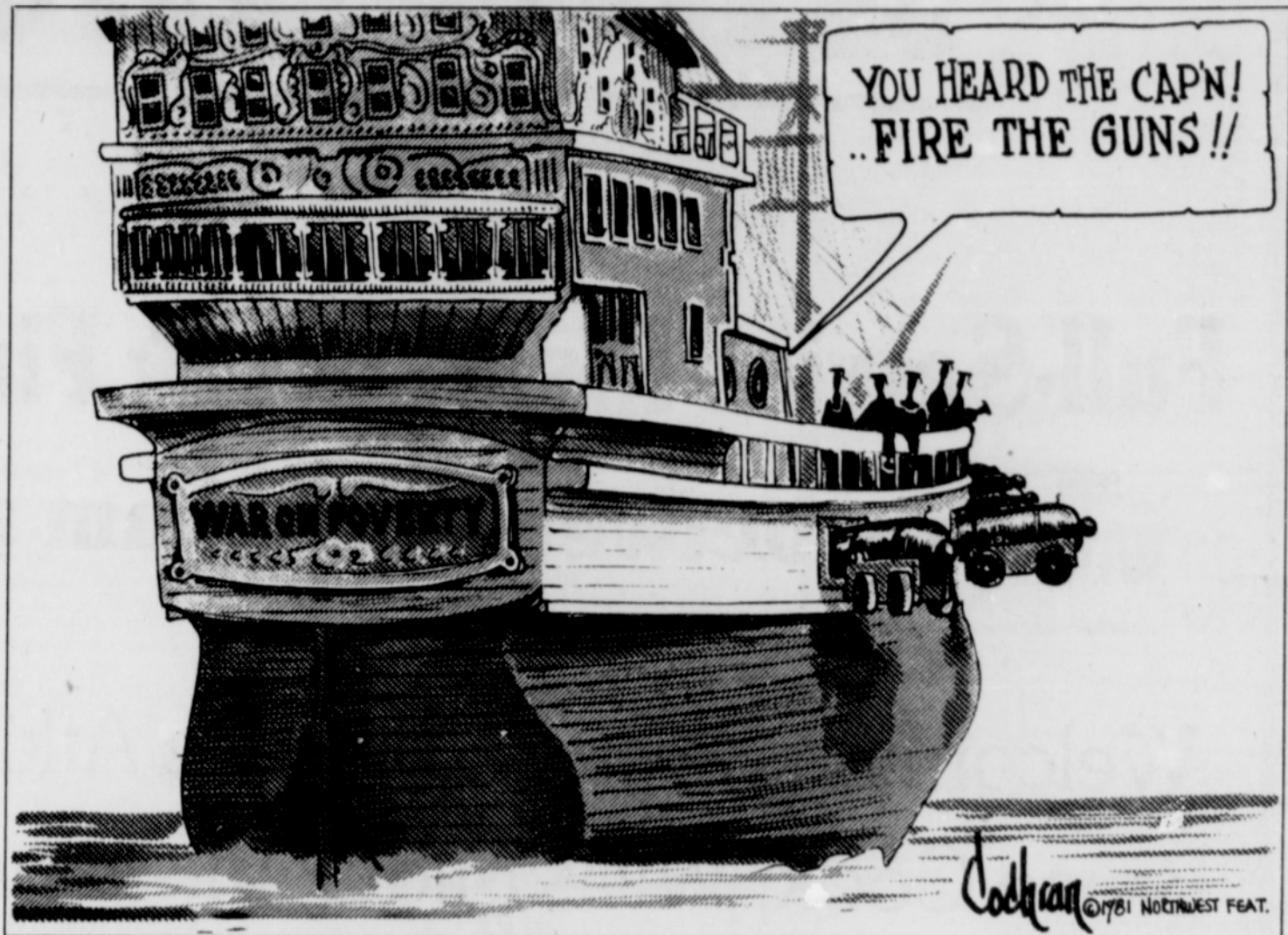
There are ample documents and writings to validate Sandy's early claim on this distinction. The Post's front-page flag for years until recently even noted "Gateway to Mount Hood" as

Sandy's honor.

But honor is hollow, if claimed by all.

Come on, proud Sandy residents. Defend your honor as keepers of the mountain gate. If you think Sandy deserves sole credit to this claim, then sound out and be heard.

Honk if you think there should be payoff for putting up with the approximately 10,000 cars that pass through here each day on their way up Mount Hood.



Letters to the editor:

Engineer vows danger bridge check

Two recent articles in your paper expressed a concern about safety on the Salmon River Bridge near Brightwood on U.S. 26. Your particular concern was for vehicles losing control on the structure east-bound when the bridge is icing.

I would like to share with you and your readers that as the regional traffic operations supervisor I will be making a complete investigation of traffic conditions on this section of highway to determine the extent of difficulties being experienced by motorists and then what steps might be taken to correct that situation.

I want to thank you for bringing this section of highway to my attention and would encourage you at any time to write directly about areas of traffic concern on the highway system.

Ronald W. Failmesger, P.E.
Region traffic operations supervisor

Youth benefit

The Sandy Youth Basketball League has drawn to a

close, and if there ever was a dramatic community response to fill the gap of youth basketball school programs lost when after-school sports was voted down, just ask the 140 plus boys and girls who were involved with the Sandy Youth League.

If it weren't for parents, the program never would have flown as it did. They volunteered to coach the teams, spending many afternoons and evenings practicing and playing, referee games, and supervise gyms to prevent problems. Though league president, Walt Scott, and vice-president Jan Donovan deserve thanks for their tremendous effort, secretary-treasurer Denise Redman requires special recognition.

In the early going, there was a lot of fragmentation, and it looked like the league would not get off the ground. Denise stepped in and organized the parents, then the entire program. She helped create a strong organization and through her high enthusiasm made the league a very notable success.

Bill Knight-Weiler
Sandy

Tap resources

Oregon is in trouble. We rank third highest in the nation in unemployment, and our mills continue to close. Budget deficits threaten our quality of life.

I am running for governor to propose a practical economic recovery program. I will stress self-reliance and our abilities to prosper in spite of federal policies.

I propose the establishment of a state bank to make funds available, at low interest, to small business and to keep Oregon money in Oregon. We must use our resources wisely. Conservation and weatherization programs in home and industry will save energy and make jobs.

We must enact plant closure legislation. We must end raw log exports and sell finished lumber products, thus bringing money and employment back to Oregon.

There are many ways in which the traditional resourcefulness of Oregonians can be focused. Fresh revenue can come from the development of

renewable energy sources. I pledge to explore all sane alternatives to our current nuclear energy problems. Reforms must be made.

Federal and state policies have exploited the people and resources of our beautiful state. We need a change in leadership and a change in economic policy. I will work for these changes to gain prosperity for the people of Oregon.

Jerry Rust
Eugene

Turner 'wrong'

Ted Turner
Turner Communications Corp.
1018 W. Peachtree Street N.W.
Atlanta, Ga. 30309

Dear Mr. Ted Turner:

Are you aware of the following enclosed attachment, typed verbatim from an article in The Review of the News Dec. 2, 1981?

What do you have in the way of a rebuttal of this article? Or do you profess to the purpose of your Cable News Network, to promote all that is mentioned in the

article?
I'll be waiting for some type of reply on the above, Mr. Turner.

(P.S. I go along with President Reagan to disallow what you propose.)

Charles M. Sharp
Portland

Typed verbatim from The Review of the News Dec. 2, 1981:

"While Ted Turner has been out promoting his Atlanta-based Cable News Network, his programmers have arranged a new weekly half-hour feature of interviews with Soviet officials and 'experts.' Called 'Moscow Live,' the propaganda show was scheduled to start Nov. 29. Producer Stuart H. Loory says topics will include disarmament, U.S. theater nuclear weapons in Europe, arms control and women's rights. Officials of the Reagan administration have wisely refused to cooperate with this effort which gives Soviet propaganda and 'disinformation' specialists direct access to a large segment of the American public. Conservatives should complain directly to Turner."

Salem scene:

New aid sought for jobless

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

The current dilemma that faces Oregon workers and their employers demonstrates a need for Congress to return powers from federal to state governments.

Skeptics after the president's state of the union proposals last week only need witness the mess Washington has made of Oregon's state-operated job placement program.

It's enough to cause an unemployed job seeker and any potential employer to muse that the fed has power to take what we give and respond with nothing in return.

It was bad enough when taxes paid for unemployment compensation administration came back shrunken from the Potomac laundry. It has become downright ridiculous in recent months, however, as taxpayers have watched their payments disappear down the national capital's bureaucratic drain.

The situation prompted Gov. Vic Atiyeh to send an urgent plea to Sen. Mark Hatfield in late December that lead to his personal parlay later with the president in Washington.

With considerably more at stake than simply maintaining numbers in his own bureaucracy, the administrator of Oregon's Employment Division has come up with a solution to the problem. Atiyeh is trying to sell it.

What's more, that solution appears to mesh precisely with what President Reagan told Congress and the nation.

Simply put, the problem involves two taxes paid by employers to finance jobless pay for the unemployed with a division of state government to administer the program.

One of the taxes, based on a percentage of each \$100 in payroll, is paid into a state-controlled trust fund to furnish benefits for those temporarily out of work through no fault of their own.

Benefits and the taxes to support them are established by state legislature.

Congress levies still another tax on those same employers called FUTA (Federal Unemployment Tax Act), collected by Internal Revenue Service and returned to pay for functions of the state Employment Division. That agency along other things—does out jobless pay to those who deserve it.

Among the other things the Employment Division does with those returned FUTA tax receipts is operation of a free public job placement service, a special similar service for veterans plus collection and dissemination of labor market data.

This federal and state partnership evolved since 1935 Congressional passage of the Social Security Act.



Legislative Report from the State Capital EXCLUSIVE to Oregon's Weekly Newspapers from Associated Oregon Industries.

It has worked with varying degrees of success during the years. It also has contributed significantly to bureaucratic growth in Washington at the expense of employer taxes from the several states.

The Johnson Administration in the sixties lumped those dedicated FUTA taxes into the federal budget to make that document look better than it actually was. The Reagan Administration, determined to pare the size and cost of government, began cutting budgets.

Oregon's problem grew out of a federal Labor Department faulty estimate of the cost of cutting employment service employees from 30,000 to 21,000.

This means less FUTA tax receipts that came back to Oregon at a time unemployment was hitting 11.4 percent and need for job placement services at a peak.

State Employment Division Administrator Ray Thorne was faced with necessity of closing job placement centers to eliminate more than 200 state employees, whose job was to place the unemployed.

Meanwhile, employers continue to pay the same amount of FUTA taxes with less service in return.

Thorne's plan—enthusiastically pushed by Atiyeh—in essence would consolidate the two taxes into one collected and administered by individual states, according to their specific needs. It like would reduce the total cost of the remaining single tax, by eliminating that part of the federal laundering process.

Congress still would maintain order and standards for state operations. Power and responsibility, however, would shift predominantly onto the shoulders of individual legislature, best able to assess and cover their own needs.

Gov. Atiyeh is asking Congressional action on the plan this year, so Oregon's Legislature and others can take appropriate action during 1983.

Steps have been taken to restore job placement funds for states in straits, such as Oregon finds itself. Still, such a solution is only temporary.

The ultimate goal of the Thorne-Atiyeh proposal is tailormade for adoption by the Reagan Administration. Hopefully, supporters in Congress will recognize its merits.

Personally speaking:

Cats would make ideal space colonists

The national space program invites brave civilian volunteers for America's first shuttles into outer space. Would-be pioneers on distant planets leave their names at NASA in hopes of being included. Well, I have a candidate for them.

Take my calico cat—the bravest, meanest, most persevering creature this side of Mount Hood.

Her fierce bravery is legend here in the Shadow of WyEast. Like the sleeping Indian warrior hidden in the mountain, she springs from cat-naps under brush in Brightwood to pin her prey. She's cleared the territory of field mice, squirrels and many birds.

She's death on big dogs. The little ones she lets pass, but the big dogs pay a price for meandering near her domain. Gus, the hunting dog, found no escape through the yard, under the porch or in the woods last summer. This spring a caller at the front door was foolish enough to bring his Doberman on a leash. The crazed calico leaped through the doorway with all four claws extended and landed on the deady Dobe's head. She roared him with claws around his eyes and snout, as he howled down the street. Finally, he threw the wild cat and cut into the woods. But the cat picked herself up and tackled him again. The



by VON BRASCHLER

90-pound killer dog, feared by man, lost the main event to a five-pound grandmother house cat.

She's also domestic, though. A space colonist would have to be that.

Up until her operation, she raised a whole household of children every year. Last year, she inherited an extra four babies, when her year-old daughter abandoned her own. Grandmother cat picked up the orphans one by one and added them to her box of babies downstairs. How

many mothers could nurse eight babies at once, and then slip outside for a minute to outrun a squirrel?

She stays on the job until the pet shop representative across the street relieves her of her responsibility, too. What a trooper!

Imagine if she'd been aboard one of those U.S. helicopters that attempted to rescue Iranian hostages? Anyone who can jump on a roof and race down a hand-drail would complete the mission with stealth and vengeance.

What most recommends my crazed calico cat for space duty, however, is her inbred lust for exploration. Being lost for hours in the rafter's maze meant only adventure for her. Trapped nine days under the house when some stupid human boarded the exposed pipes, she prowled every dark nook and only later howled for release.

By nature, a cat's much more curious than a man—and that's what's needed in space exploration. And why send a dog that just

sleeps, eats and scratches? The Soviet space dog died, spinning around up there in space. Little wonder. A dog's easily bored. A monkey's not much better, unless you design the spacecraft with phoney trees and crates of bananas. Sure, they know a couple dozen human words. But the first 15 pertain only to bananas and how to win or lose them. Cats, like dogs, know an average of 25 words or phrases, but they couldn't care less about making friends just to win a banana.

A cat would find fish-flavored Tang fake in no time, and proceed totally on its own to find a better world. With nine lives to risk, a cat's sure to win the Congressional Medal of Honor along the way, too. Clawing out a brave new world would be a cat's kettle of fish.

Getting a crazed calico off my sofa and onto Saturn is my idea of paradise, too. Let her throw around her five pounds and sink her rapier sharp claws somewhere else.

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