

Take bus and leave hassle to us?

It's commendable Tri-Met is working to reduce operating expenses, but they're also making it harder and harder to ride the bus.

That's especially true at this end of the tri-county district. Here no classes are scheduled by the public transit's 10-minute "bus school" that shows riders how to cope with a new self-service system in September.

Of course, relatively few of the bus system's riders anywhere will know the computerized "honor system" with validators, fare inspectors and world of zones we're told could baffle us without schooling come September.

The idea of a bright yellow school bus with slides, hands-on training and "diplomas" is clever. It's not practical communications, however, since so few will attend. The first day of "bus school" at Lloyd Center drew 1,000 students, but subsequent school days in Beaverton and Gresham have drawn fewer riders to school.

The closest Sandy-area riders will get to that Tri-Met yellow school bus is Gresham Fred Meyer from noon until 7:30 p.m. July 20-24.

Written directions distributed throughout the three-county service district would better impart this important information. After all, riders from the tri-county area as far east as Ten Eyck Road also are patrons, and the entire taxing district is entitled to convenient transit service.

Service here is "skimpy"

enough, to quote one Tri-Met phone information specialist. There's weekday service by Bus 19 only seven times daily in Sandy starting at 5:09 a.m. and ending 7:08 p.m. Estacada has just one morning bus at 11:10 a.m. and 11 afternoon buses ending at 8:04 p.m. on Bus 31.

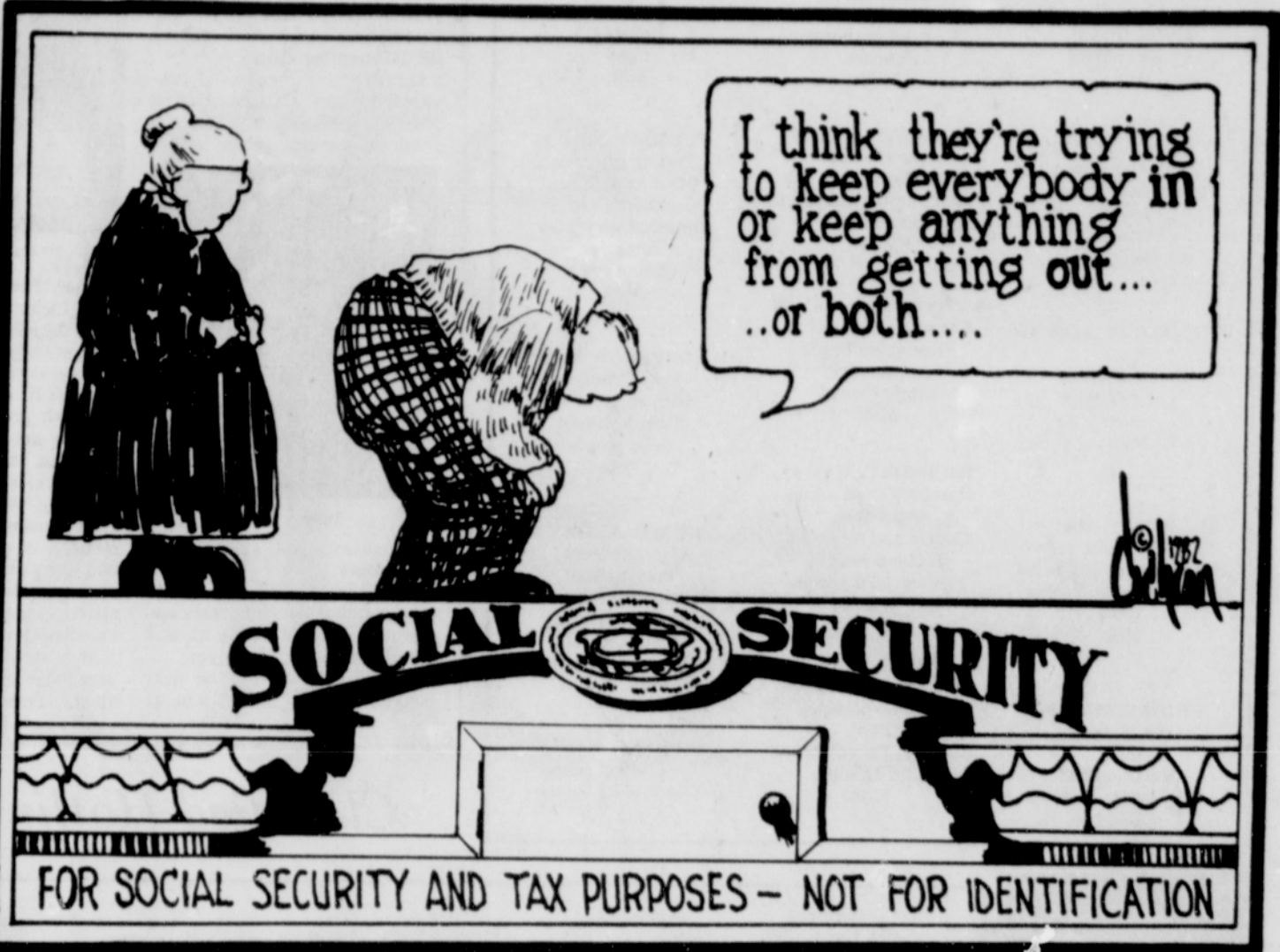
If it snows, bus lines here generally are the first cut.

So if the cute radio spots tell you nothing and you miss "bus school," we'll fill you in a little. Come September Tri-Met will sell you a computerized ticket with date, time and fare code. It's sold on an honor system, but a fare inspector might check your ticket and eventually fine you, if you cheat.

Adults must secure adult zone passes, because adults must pay to travel from zone to zone. Kids under 19 can ride through any zone for 50 cents, while senior citizens will pay only 25 cents.

There will be five zones, and adults must pay according to the number of zones they travel through. A two-zone ride will cost 75 cents, while four-plus zones will cost \$1.25. Adult 10-ride discount tickets and monthly tickets are savings options.

Tri-Met's proud to be the nation's first transit to use self-service buses and expects the program to work for Gresham's light rail, also. It's just a shame the public system isn't introducing the new procedures a little better and including more of its service district in the secret.



Letters to the editor:

Reader says teach creationism, too

Teach religion

A great deal of publicity has arisen recently on the issue of teaching creation versus evolution in the public schools. It has become a controversial issue, because many people feel teaching creation in the public schools would be violating the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, which states "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibit the free exercise thereof..."

While religious implications are obvious, the issue of creation versus evolution is not a question of religion versus science. No one is trying to introduce the Bible into the classroom. We have on one side the theory of evolution—devoid of direction, design or goal—and on the other side origins by special creation through design, purpose and specific goal of a creator.

The fossil record gives evidence life appeared suddenly (on the geological time scale) in great diversity and at a high level of complexity without evidence of evolutionary ancestors. The fossil record, then, reveals a remarkable absence of the many transitional forms predicted in the basis of evolution theory. The gaps are regular and systematic between higher categories of plants and animals. For example, there is no trace of intermediate stage between invertebrates and vertebrates.

Under our present curriculum, students are being brainwashed in evolution. They are being taught all of the evidence related to the evolution theory, but no exposure is made to its weaknesses and fallacies. No attempt is made to teach the manner in which scientific evidence can be correlated and explained by concept of special creation.

I never have been forced to be tested on evolution, but I never was given an opportunity to be tested on creationism, either. There are teaching materials on both theories. All available scientific proof fit into both creationism and evolution. Teaching creationism along with evolution easily could be done.

I would like to see creationism taught alongside evolution in Sandy High.

Tamra A. Kunkel
Sandy High student

Deaths humane

There are a lot of beautiful people in Clackamas County. My sister, Diana Palmer, and I

would like to thank all of you who helped us change the method of euthanizing animals from the decompression chamber to sodium pentobarbital at the Clackamas County Animal Control.

We would like to thank the 1,915 people in Oregon City who voted for and passed Measure 52 Nov. 3. We also would like to thank Oregon City Commissioner Jim Johnson. Without his help we would not have been able to get it on the ballot.

A few weeks ago I asked people to call or write Commissioner Stan Skoko to urge him to vote for a change to sodium pentobarbital. I had stated that Commissioner Ralph Groener already had voted for the change, but that we needed the vote from one more county commissioner to make the change from the decompression chamber.

Both Commissioner Skoko and Commissioner Groener stated that they never had had such an overwhelming response from the public on any other issue. Because of this response by people in Clackamas County, animals soon will have a merciful death with sodium pentobarbital at the Clackamas County Animal Control.

Commissioner Skoko voted for the method to be changed to sodium pentobarbital April 22. Commissioner Skoko's vote, along with the prior decision by Commissioner Groener, was all we needed to stop the decompression chamber and change to sodium pentobarbital. Commissioner Robert Schumacher, who has been consistently misleading on this issue, also voted for the change, if you can call "what do I have to lose" a vote in the affirmative.

We would like to thank Commissioner Skoko for reconsidering his original decision, investigating the methods of animal euthanasia and ultimately deciding on sodium pentobarbital. He based his final decision on information he received from National Humane Organizations and professionals in the field of animal euthanasia, who recommended sodium pentobarbital as the best and most humane method of animal euthanasia.

Commissioner Skoko also stated he did not believe it would cost much more. We agree. It will cost about \$1,000 to set up. After that it will cost \$1,000 a year for sodium pentobarbital and syringes combined.

Commissioner Groener said the changeover process should have been completed by May 15.

Donna Sebastian
Oregon City

Church vs state

After reading our U.S. Constitution recently, I'm sure the general public know what that is. They learned about it in school!

In it, I failed to find written anywhere a requirement of separation of church and state. It does say that the government will not establish a state religion, thereby protecting the rights of the different religious philosophies that found their way to this country and helped establish this nation.

Unlike the belief of some ultra-liberal groups, there is nothing unconstitutional about American citizens insisting the government reflect their religious values. To refuse them the right to voice their opinion would be unconstitutional. It seems to be forgotten that those who founded this nation were themselves religious by inclination. Adding the First Amendment to protect that right of religious freedom proves their devotion.

So if there seems to be less motivation in this country to keep a "fear of God" in our society, then you can't blame the atheists—only ourselves. They just worked harder at making this a Godless country, than those who do believe in God!

When traditional religious celebrations by any faith start to be trampled on by these extremist groups I spoke of and do it in the name of the Constitution, then this country is sick.

When we live in a country that screams society has no right to kill a convicted murderer and then subsidizes abortion, well somehow the reasoning escapes me that one is alright and the other is wrong!

A hundred years ago the professional politician was unheard of, until the industrial revolution placed large amounts of wealth into small groups of individuals. Indeed, their ideas did not necessarily work to the advantage of the people of this nation (Federal Reserve). And by controlling who the people have to be selected for elected offices, you control the government and the kind of legislation that comes out

I think they're trying to keep everybody in or keep anything from getting out... ..or both....

of it!
Ralph A. Sandercock, Jr.
Sandy

Save colleges

My generation holds the future in our hands and in our minds. The question is: Will we be able to use our minds and ideas and able to grow in both areas? Will we be able to go to college?

College is an essential tool in preparing people to control the future of a country. However, if the economy holds to its present course and Reagan pushes more federal responsibilities onto state governments, price of college will become less attainable to more people. This means that a larger percentage of people won't get any education beyond high school. Let's face it, a high school diploma is not enough education for someone running our country.

If we allow the state to balance its budget by cutting funds to colleges, someday only the very rich and athletes will attend college. Who, then, will control our destiny? Many college athletes are more concerned with becoming pros than becoming leaders of tomorrow. Besides, Marcus Allen has a better chance running for a touchdown than running for president.

This leaves us with the rich in total control of our government and our future. This would be like regressing to colonial times, when a college education was left for the rich. We have come so far, why start over?

It is the responsibility of each citizen to make sure this doesn't happen. Write your congressman. Let the government know how you feel. Tell them you're concerned with the future of our great nation.

Doug Baucom
Senior, Sandy High

MHCC musical

I would like to show my appreciation for the great job the music department

at Mount Hood Community College is doing, and whether you know it or not, they have really put our area on the map recently.

The Mount Hood Community College jazz band has been collecting honors and opening a lot of eyes in the music world—not only in Oregon, but up and down the coast, as well. They recently were judged best of all two-year college jazz bands on the Pacific Coast at a jazz festival in Berkeley, Cal. and also tied for second overall, missing first by a few points.

The band that beat them was loaded with graduate students and assistant directors, while Mount Hood's band is comprised mainly of Portland-area musicians, several of which are still seniors in high school.

Since I have two sons in the Mount Hood band, I traveled to Berkeley to hear the competition, and I will say that when the Mount Hood band played, people listened.

If the people in the audience didn't know where Mount Hood was, they did after they heard Mount Hood's band play. What a thrill it was to see our area represented in such a professional manner.

Too many times we hear a lot of negative things about our community college and vote down budgets, etc. to cut them back. But I hope we can appreciate this fine music department we have in our "back yard" and support them when we can.

The first annual Mount Hood Festival of Jazz will be Aug. 6 through 8 at the college stadium. With many big names in jazz appearing, this will bring hundreds of people to our area and could be one of the biggest events this area will ever see.

I hope we all will be proud of this musical "happening" and give the music department and college the support they need.

Gerry Barker
Sandy

Salem scene:

'Equal pay' bill scorned

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

At a time when most Oregonians appear united in efforts to improve the state's economy, it's discouraging to learn those efforts aren't unanimous.

It's downright shocking to learn that lack of unanimity appears to include some members of the present Legislature who seek re-election to serve in the Assembly scheduled to convene in regular session next January.

This conclusion is drawn following a recent conference in Portland, during which some 200 participants explored the possibilities of achieving legislation that would require something called equal pay for comparable work.

Admittedly a women's right issue, it's often confused with the established concept of equal pay for equal work. But the two differ significantly. While the latter is the law of the land, equal pay for comparable work raises issues even the National Academy of Sciences has failed to unsnarl and the Supreme Court refused to consider.

In fact, mere consideration of such legislation by the Oregon Assembly could actually deter improvement of the state's job climate if not actually worsen the situation that's evolved during the last decade.



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

Sponsors of such legislation only need look at the reaction of nationally syndicated columnist William F. Buckley to plant closure bills introduced during the last two sessions of our Legislature.

"The only effect the Oregon bill would have, if ever it got through the legislature," he wrote "would be to cause a massive migration of companies from Oregon to states that practice economic literacy."

One comparable worth bill was introduced last session, but returned on the floor to committee where it died.

Serious consideration of a law requiring equal pay for comparable work doubtless would evoke not only the same type migration Buckley suggested but further brand our state as one that is not interested in new business. Out-of-state entrepreneurs likely would write off Oregon as a place in which to invest capital in any enterprise that would create new jobs.

Ask the superintendent:

Volunteers used in school

QUESTION: How do you become a school volunteer?

ANSWER: In October, 1979, the Sandy High School Board of Directors passed a policy on the use of school volunteers. The board encourages citizens to handle voluntary jobs in the high school, such as serving as tutors, assisting in student activities, issuing textbooks and telephoning parents about children's attendance. Application forms are available in the assistant principal's office. After an initial interview, placement occurs usually within two days. We welcome your interest.

QUESTION: Is it true that Sandy High School students have won several state championships this year?

ANSWER: Yes. Though it would be impossible to list every local, regional and state winner, Sandy High School has had more than its share of champions. Only yesterday we learned that our dairy products team won first in the state at an FFA contest. High-pointer was Amy Ashoff, who, along with Julie Ferdun and Jennifer Mann will advance to national competition. Recently, Brent Plaster placed first in state in cabinet-making and Roman Scott took top honors in commercial art. Both are eligible for national VICA competition. Other state winners include Chuck Kearney, wrestling; Ulla Pearson, skiing;



DR. JOHN PETERS,
Sandy High superintendent

Tim Sysma, wrestling, and Larry Topliff, wrestling. Dan Martin was selected to the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame. Robbie Pomazi, Allison Herget and Terri Bolton all received gold, silver and bronze medals in Special Olympics. Dozens more students received recognition at local and district levels. We are proud of them all.

(EDIT. NOTE: Address questions to Dr. Peters in care of The Post, P.O. Box 68, Sandy, OR 97055)

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