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Traffic was closed in the westbound lanes of Highway 26 Tuesday afternoon for nearly an hour following a two-car collision at the intersection of Highway 26 and Kelso Road. Details of the accident were unavailable at press time, but Larry Comella and James Davenport, both of the Gresham area, were taken

to Gresham Community Hospital after their late-model Mazda collided with a car driven by Catherine Cornelius, who was taken to Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Center.

Shooting victim found in Brightwood field

A grouse hunter Saturday found the handcuffed body of a shooting victim in a field near Cherryville.

Trooper Bill Lewis of the Oregon State Police said the victim, a white male, 22 to 26 years old, was found 1.8 miles up Wild Cat Creek Drive, just off Highway 26.

The body was discovered lying in a field about 20 feet off Wild Cat Creek Drive. His hands were handcuffed in front of him.

The victim, according to Lewis, had been shot. He would not say how many times but said the medical examiner should release this information when he makes the results of his autopsy public.

OSP detective John Downey said the victim had been dead from two to seven days. He said his office had received no leads as to identity of the person or the circumstances leading to his death.

Downey said very little informa-

tion surrounding the case is being released to the public at this time, including a description of the victim. He said because of the decomposition of the victim's face, a sketch cannot be made and circulated to help with identification.

Even the description of the clothing is being kept confidential, said Downey.

Les Worley, of the Clackamas County district attorney's office, said the information is being withheld to insure the investigation proceeds in a timely manner.

"When we've exhausted all the normal routes we will contact the press," said Worley, "but right now we have to keep something back that isn't known worldwide."

One of the directions the investigation will take, said Worley, is to examine previous unsolved homicides in the area during the past few years to see if there are any possible links.

Fire thought 'out', flares, damages house

by DAN DILLON

Despite the good intentions of a neighbor who thought he had extinguished the fire, smoldering ashes sparked last Thursday evening and damaged an Aims home.

Rick Peterson, 45230 Connett Ranch Road, told Sandy fire investigators that he spent the day working on the house, painting and cleaning up. When he left at 4 p.m. he left a pile of garbage in the kitchen.

About 6 p.m. a neighbor noticed smoke in the area and investigated. He saw some newspapers and garbage burning on the floor of the kitchen. With the help of another neighbor, he loaded the burning material in a wheelbarrow and dumped it next to the house.

Because the two thought the fire was out, they did not call the fire department.

About 9 p.m., the neighbor looked out again and saw the side of the house on fire. This time he called the fire department.

Firefighters from the Corbett Fire District were first on the scene and put out the blaze, but not before it had burned part of the front wall and a kitchen window.

Damage to the structure from the original kitchen fire and the second

blaze totaled \$1,000, according to Sandy Fire Marshal Jim Gallagher.

He said it appears the fire was the result of spontaneous combustion from cleaning rags.

He noted that the fire offers a lesson for fire district patrons.

"Even if you think you have the fire out, call the fire department," he said. "It's a lot easier for us to check the situation out than to respond to a structure fire."

There is no charge for the fire district to inspect a fire in such a situation, Gallagher pointed out.

He said the second fire occurred because the rags which started the initial blaze were still hot and packed in the garbage. When it was dumped outside, the hot spot got more oxygen to breathe and sparked.

Some 35 firefighters from Corbett, Sandy and the state Forestry Department responded to the blaze.

A car fire last Tuesday heavily damaged the engine compartment of a 1969 Volkswagen Bug on Pioneer Boulevard, near Sandy Auto Body.

Gallagher said the rubber connector between the fuel line and carburetor apparently leaked, allowing fuel to leak out and ignite.

The Volkswagen, owned by Marlene Nichols of Sandy, sustained \$500 damage, Gallagher said.

Welches teachers, board talks stall

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

The teachers at Welches Grade School have rejected the latest and reportedly final contract offer from the school board.

In turn, Tuesday evening the teachers made a counter-offer to the board.

Tom Well, chief negotiator for the Welches Education Association, which represents the 22 full- and part-time teachers, said the board's offer was delivered to him last Friday. Three days earlier, after a frustrated state mediator adjourned a negotiating session between the two disputing parties, the school board reportedly delivered a similar offer, but the teachers rejected it because it was presented orally.

Jeanine Boldt, a negotiating team member, could not discuss the specifics of the offer but did say the school board has threatened "this

will be their last offer." If rejected, the teachers would have to work the rest of the year without a contract.

If it comes to that, the teachers are split over what attitude to take into the coming school year—business as usual, a slowdown or strike.

If worse comes to worse, Boldt said, the teachers will have to examine the options available to them. These are to continue working without a contract until the school board decides to re-open talks, do only the minimal amount of work required by their job, or strike.

Well said the school board gave WEA until the district office closes today, Thursday, to reach a decision. Because the teachers rejected the offer Tuesday evening, Well said, the board has said it won't meet with the teachers again until next year.

In the meantime, the contact talks have postponed the start of the school's fall athletics program. Last week during the teacher's in-service

day, the teachers individually decided not to apply for the boys football and girls volleyball teaching positions until a contract is signed.

Vice Principal Gary Dietrich acknowledged Monday there are problems filling the coaching positions. He feels confident the two coaching positions for football will be filled by teachers sometime this coming week. For the volleyball coaches, however, he said the school may have to go outside the school to find a coach.

"Volleyball is usually hard to fill," said Dietrich. "Every year we have someone different as the coach."

Dietrich is confident that Well and fellow-teacher, Mark Hamby, will accept the football coaching positions later this week.

Well, however, said his priority is not coaching, but "working towards a settlement." He said he won't commit himself "not to coach football."

He and Hamby will make that decision after all efforts to get a contract signed have been exhausted.

"If we have Association business to cover, it will always come first before sports," said Well. "But it is safe to say, regardless of whether the coaches are from within the school or from outside the school, fall sports will begin one week later."

Boldt said anyone from the outside who is considering any of the coaching positions "should seriously look into the situation and understand the background."

"How can they even think about doing a job that we wouldn't even take?" said Boldt. "They might say they will do it for the kids, but are they really? We know the kids and they respect us. It would be very difficult to coach without being close to them."

"It's also very disappointing that the students will be missing out on us."

City nixes after-hours water hook-ups

by DAN DILLON

If the city of Sandy turns off your water for nonpayment, city crews will no longer come out at all hours of the night to restart the service when you pay.

That wasn't exactly what Public Works Director Greg DiLoreto had in mind when he approached the City Council about after-hours service. He just wanted to up the fee by \$5 for hook-ups between 5 p.m. and 8 a.m.

In researching the move, however, he contacted neighboring water districts for a sampling of how they handle the after-hours service.

While most districts utilize an escalated fee, as DiLoreto proposed, one district—the city of Troutdale—said it doesn't turn delinquent accounts on after hours.

That idea struck the local Council's fancy, so Tuesday evening it unanimously directed City Attorney Jack Hammond to prepare an ordinance that will tell residents that their water won't be turned on after hours when their accounts are delinquent.

The proposal also says that the city won't turn off delinquent accounts on Fridays.

Once water bills are sent out, the owner has about 45 days to pay before the shut-off notice is issued to a city crew. Additionally, the owner has been notified twice of the delinquency of his account.

After passage of the new proposal, City Councilor Don Blair commented, "Here comes a lawsuit."

He is concerned about the section of the local ordinances that deal with health and life safety and advised Hammond to study those provisions carefully when drafting the new ordinance.

More Road Repairs

The city will mark a "major accomplishment" within the next month when the last two gravel roads within the city limits are eliminated.

Council voted 6-1 Tuesday evening to upgrade McElroy Street and Olson Road with an oil mat surface.

Funds for the project will come from State Revenue Sharing and Sidewalk and Street Maintenance.

In addition to elimination of the gravel roads, funds will be spent to put a "chip seal" on the first 500 feet of Langensand Road, south of Highway 26.

DiLoreto termed the Langensand work a "short-term solution to the ever-increasing structural degradation of the road." He said, "The chip seal is a fairly inexpensive means of allowing us to pursue other alternatives to a permanent repair of that street."

Blair objected to fixing the gravel roads when other streets in the city—particularly Revenue Avenue, he said—are in bad shape. He noted that only one home is on McElroy Street and the street serves basically as that resident's driveway. Just two houses in the city limits are on Olson

Road, he noted.

DiLoreto said the idea behind the project is to "get these out of our maintenance hair."

Currently, the city gravels and grades Olson Road twice annually, DiLoreto said. With the oil mat surface, he said the road will stand up to its current traffic for five to eight years.

In other action Tuesday, the City Council:

—Agreed to continue with the weed abatement program as it has been in the past. The present approach requires the City to declare a property a nuisance. The property is posted and a certified letter sent to the property owner. After 10 days, the city may clean up the nuisance and bill the owner.

If the bill isn't paid within 30 days, the cost may then become a lien against the property.

The city currently spends from \$200 to \$500 per year fighting weed

nuisances and the majority of the costs come from subdivision developers, according to City Planner Don Wilson.

—Advised Brad Picking, owner of Janz Berryland, that the sewer construction fund is down and an annexation to the city of property behind his produce stand will go before the Portland Metropolitan Boundary Commission for final decision. The combination of those two could delay his construction of additional warehouse space and a wine-making facility.

Picking approached the Council because he wants to expand the produce stand and needs to annex three acres into the city. He would need another septic tank. However, the city has discouraged commercial development on a septic system.

City Attorney Hammond told the Council the sewer question could be "critical" when Picking takes his proposal to the Boundary Commission.

City courts electronics company

A California electronics manufacturing company has asked the Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce for information about locating in Sandy in their search for a new home.

The inquiry from Data-Chron, Inc. of Santa Ana arrived totally unsolicited in the Chamber's mail Tuesday and has left civic leaders scratching their head and fidgeting with anticipation.

"Nobody seems to know anything about it," Chamber secretary Dixie DeLorme said of the inquiry. "I just hope they're sincerely interested in Sandy and didn't just send out hundreds of form letters to different chambers in many towns."

She said the letter was handed over to city hall where the City Council and Economic Development Commission will phrase a reply.

The Chamber office, she said, has only "three or four" copies of the new marketing packet prepared for Sandy's economic development thrust along with Molalla and Estacada in the Small Cities Industrial Attraction Program. The sales brochure that promotes Sandy as a place to relocate a business is hot off the press.

The inquiry from the California firm requested a 10,000-square-foot facility, medium-skilled labor force of 20 or more persons and a nearby airport serviced by com-

mercial carrier. It would seem Sandy could meet all requirements.

"Our object," wrote engineering manager Scott Seabaugh, "is to find a living and working atmosphere away from the traffic, smog and cultural side effects of a high population density area."

"In our research, our staff selected your area as a possible candidate."

The inquiry also uzzed civic boosters about industrial building availability, housing costs, nearby educational institutions, a list of other local industries and local average temperatures.

The small electronics firm is located in the heart of Southern California.

One killed, two hurt in Mt. Hood accident

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

One climber was killed and two others injured Sunday after a fall at the 10,400-foot level of Mt. Hood.

Dead is Clint Keyes, 29, of Portland. Two other climbing companions, Neil Lamothe, 21, of Troutdale, and Tracy Minier, 36, of Portland, suffered injuries as a result of the fall.

According to Deputy Don Hartman of the Hood River County Sheriff's Department, the accident occurred at 1 p.m. as the climbing party began its descent of the peak.

The three climbers, according to Hartman, reached the summit of the 11,235-foot peak around 8 a.m. Sunday morning. They began their descent around 8:30 a.m. and got into trouble when they reached the Chimney, an area along the Cooper Spur route.

Keyes, who was roped to the others, was crossing a snow field when he slipped on "almost pure ice," Hartman said.

Keyes warned the others, yelling, "I'm slipping," said Hartman.

"They (Minier and Lamothe) tried to arrest the fall with their ice axes," he said, "but it was useless under those kinds of conditions."

The three slid nearly 50 yards through the snow field and fell into a 15-foot crevasse.

Lamothe, who had been unconscious for "quite some time," attended to Minier when regained consciousness. Minier had a chest wound and both legs were broken, said Hartman. Keyes died in the fall.

It took Lamothe three hours to get to Cloud Cap Inn, where he reported the accident by radio to the Hood River Sheriff's Department.

The 304th Aero-space Rescue Squadron from Portland Air Base sent two helicopters and six paramedics.

Two paramedics were lowered from a helicopter just below the accident scene. They climbed to the victims and began evacuation preparations from the dangerous northeast slope of the mountain.

Minier was flown to Portland Adventist Medical Center where he was listed in serious condition Tuesday morning with two fractured legs, a concussion, abrasions and hypothermia.

Lamothe was taken to Hood River Memorial Hospital where he was admitted for observation and released Monday. He suffered bumps and bruises.

Keyes' body was left on the mountain Sunday night, according to Hartman. Monday morning a ground recovery team removed his body from the mountain.

Hartman, a veteran of numerous search and rescue operations on Mt. Hood, cautioned others to pay attention to the conditions of the mountain at this time of year before attempting to climb.

"This is a dangerous time of year to climb," said Hartman. "The mountain is just loose rocks and what snow there is is hard-packed and frozen to the point of ice."

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