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Body found in Brightwood identified

The young man found slain Sept. 4 in a field near Brightwood has been identified as a Portland automobile mechanic.

The body of Herbert Eugene Weed, 25, was found handcuffed in a field 1.8 miles up Wild Cat Creek off Highway 26.

He had been shot. Officials are not making known some facts in the case as they continue investigation.

Death is believed to have occurred about Aug. 26.

Weed lived in Southeast Portland and was self-employed.

No decision reached yet on manager

Following a day-long session last Saturday interviewing prospective candidates to serve as the city of Sandy's new city manager, local officials are undecided who will fill the position.

Former City Manager Roger Jordan resigned Aug. 31 to accept a similar position in Dallas, Ore., where he had previously served as assistant city manager. Jordan has been retained as a consultant by local officials to assist in the search for a replacement.

Mayor Ruth Loundree said the City Council spent Saturday interviewing six finalists but it reached no decision on a successor.

She said Jordan has been asked to do some research before the final choice is announced.

"We haven't settled on anyone," she said. "I'm hoping Monday night we can decide."

The City Council will meet in executive session—not open to the public—to discuss the selection, she said. The regular council meeting will get underway at 7:30 p.m. in Sandy City Hall.



A Boring firefighter stands in the mist as he sprays out the last of a fire that destroyed an abandoned shed on Richey Road in Boring last Friday. The shed was destroyed in an unauthorized burn, according to Fire Chief Matt Shields. Because the shed was abandoned, Shields said no loss was estimated.

Photo by Dan Dillon

Dips slightly, but turn-around seen

Sandy enrollments reflect state trend

by DAN DILLON

First-week enrollment figures for Sandy area schools dipped slightly this year, going right along with predictions that enrollments in Oregon would drop.

In the Sandy Elementary District, 1,426 students had enrolled by Monday this year, compared to 1,453 on a similar date one year ago.

At Sandy Union High School, enrollment was down "about 20 students" from a year ago.

Verne Duncan, state superintendent of public instruction, had predicted a dip in school enrollments in his annual prognostication, citing the state's poor economy as the chief reason for the decline.

"We had predicted steady growth for the 1980s," Duncan said, "because of a sharp increase in the number of Oregon births since 1973."

"But fewer Oregon jobs mean fewer Oregon students," he said.

"Unemployment chased thousands of families out of the state last year, giving our schools our biggest student loss in history."

Duncan said the number of students attending elementary and secondary schools in 1981-82 was down 1.9 percent and represented the lowest total since 1964-65.

"I don't believe we've hit bottom yet," he said. "Many parents who left the state last year for work came back this summer to move their families."

Locally, school administrators are so sure that will be the case in Sandy's future.

"Our current enrollments reflect a cycle in the drop in population growth," said Sandy Elementary Superintendent Clark Lund. "We have a trend going the other way, though, now."

He expects Sandy Elementary District's enrollment to climb over the next three to four years, noting

that local kindergarten through second-grade classes have larger enrollments than upper grades.

Currently, the district's second largest class is the first grade. The largest class is the sixth grade and, when combined with this year's fifth grade class district-wide, Lund anticipates that Cedar Ridge School will experience one of its all-time largest enrollments next year.

Throughout the district, only Kelso School shows an enrollment increase. The other schools, however, have experienced only a "slight drop."

At Sandy High School, Dick Harrison, director of student services, said part of the school's attendance drop can be attributed to the loss of students from the Redland District. Last year's graduating class represented the last of the students from that district who will be bused to Sandy.

As a result of that anticipated loss, he said he planned the curriculum to accommodate approximately 1,160 students by the end of the first semester.

"If indeed, we do have 1,160 students at that time, it will be down," Harrison said.

However, he pointed out that Sandy High School has had a stable enrollment for the past 10 years, never fluctuating more than 80 students.

"I don't envision any drastic rises or drops in the next two to three years," he said.

Neither administrator expects the lower enrollments to affect their district's state Basic School Support.

Lund pointed out that the support is only partially based on enrollment and with the minimal drop, it shouldn't adversely affect the district.

At SUHS, the missing students are "mostly tuition students (from Redland), so it will not affect us that much," Harrison said.

SUHS readies for vote, shut-down of school

by SCOTT NEWTON

Joan Hay, deputy clerk at Sandy Union High School, has a file three-quarters of an inch thick explaining school closure procedures.

For someone who cares about educating young people, that's not exactly a productive use of one's time, Hay pointed out.

But, for the last two weeks she has been figuring out how to implement the closure of the school.

"I guess I'm expecting the worst and hoping for the best," said Wayne Johnson, board president.

A major topic at the school board meeting Monday night was the closing of the school, and Superintendent Jack Peters addressed students at an assembly Wednesday morning to discuss the same thing.

On Sept. 21 voters may approve or disapprove an operating levy, which is divided into "A" and "B" ballots.

If the "A" ballot of \$2,069,093 is defeated, all athletics and student activities will cease Sept. 28. The last day of school would be Sept. 29.

On Oct. 19 voters could again consider the district's budget, with a yes vote getting students back in school on Oct. 21. The next election would be Nov. 2.

If the school closes teachers would be laid off, and a skeletal staff, comprised of Peters, Hay, Jerry Swails, maintenance supervisor, Esther Bradford, switchboard operator (half time) and security personnel, would remain.

Though it costs \$25,818.24 per school day to educate the almost 1200 students that attend SUHS, with maintenance, insurance, security personnel and other expenses it would cost \$5,776.62 to have the building sit empty, according to Hay.

School officials have spent some time recently trying to clear up misunderstandings about the budget, and property taxes. Some people have been under the mistaken belief that all the property taxes they pay go to the SUHS district, when in fact those dollars also go to the city, county, the elementary district and the fire district, depending upon where

one lives.

Parents considering transferring their high school-aged student to another school have also had questions. Hay said that if a student changes districts, his parents must pay tuition in that district unless they or a guardian live there.

Tuition at Parkrose High School is \$3,498 this year.

If the school closes an athlete may transfer to another school and compete. However, the Oregon School Athletic Association would not allow that same athlete to come back and participate for Sandy if the school reopens.

Other district patrons know they paid \$4.35 per \$1,000 valuation to SUHS last year, but thought the \$4.70 per \$1,000 valuation being asked for this year was in addition to the \$4.35 valuation. This is not true.

For 1981-82, a \$75,000 house with a \$4.35 valuation cost \$326.25 in school taxes. If the "A" and "B" ballots pass Tuesday that same property, with a valuation of \$4.70, would cost the owners \$352.50, or \$26.25 more.

The "A" and "B" ballots will be voted on separately. The "B" ballot is for \$404,040. Included on the "B" ballot is the \$32,440 swimming pool fund, \$41,222 in athletics, \$15,360 for club advisors and \$134,446 for supplies.

"We're trying very hard to regain some credibility for the school and how it's managed," Johnson told The Post.

He feels the board has responded to what the public wants by "taking the activities out of the daily homework" and returning to a "core curriculum."

Johnson added, "We've carved a pretty good chunk, too."

Peters said, "My contact with people leads me to believe we're going to be successful Tuesday."

Peters had a number of meetings on the mountain Monday, and reports receiving positive feedback.

Peters pointed out SUHS opened in 1914, and has never closed, even during the depression. That "historic consideration" also provides him with a reason for being optimistic.

Mountain high school not tied to SUHS vote

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

Mt. Hood area voters should exercise caution, said Welches School Superintendent Kenneth Blackburn, if they believe voting against Sandy Union High School levies will lead to a mountain high school.

Blackburn is currently gathering facts on 11 school districts in the state that are comparable in size to the Welches area. Not a formal school board or superintendent proposal, Blackburn is gathering information about costs, curriculum offerings and building facilities needed for a small high school with a student population of 145 because of the inquiries by taxpayers.

Even if a new high school proves feasible, Blackburn thinks it will be months before it could open.

"There may be people operating under the erroneous assumption that a Welches High School will become a reality with the defeat of SUHS's levies," said Blackburn. "This is not so."

Establishing a high school is a "lengthy process," said Blackburn. During the interim, SUHS needs to remain open.

If the A and B levies are defeated, Blackburn estimated the SUHS District could spend up to \$1 million "closing the system down."

Parents in the mountain area could then look forward to no high school in close proximity for their children to attend, said Blackburn.

To continue the education of their high school-aged children, Blackburn said parents would have only a limited number of options available to them.

The first would be to "physically move" to another district, either the entire family or just the student, said Blackburn. This would prevent the family from being charged tuition which could be as high as \$3,000 or more a year per student. This does not include the cost of transportation to and from school.

Another alternative, said Blackburn, would be to pay the tuition to another school district, "if they would even accept the student." Blackburn also said if SUHS does

shut down, the district would be under "no obligation to pay for tuition in another district for students."

"It comes down to if you cannot provide a school for students in your own district there obviously isn't enough money to pay the tuition for students, or even selective students, in another district," said Blackburn.

Four autos collide on Sandy street

It wasn't as spectacular as recent chain-reaction collisions in Portland's Vista Tunnel, but a four-car accident last Wednesday afternoon illustrates a common problem with driving on Sandy's two main thoroughfares.

Randall Martin of Sandy told police he was driving west on Proctor Boulevard when he saw a car parallel parking in front of Clackamas County Bank. As he slowed, his car was hit from behind by one driven by Neeta Rowe of Portland.

Her car, in turn, was struck by one driven by Cynthia Hauser of Sandy and she was struck by a vehicle driven by Kevin Robinson of Estacada.

None of the drivers were injured. Police said the vehicles were following too close, but no citations were issued.

Commissioners OK golf course change

by MICHAEL P. JONES
Post Correspondent

Despite objections by the Mt. Hood Corridor Citizen Planning Organization, the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners voted Monday to allow American Guaranty Financial Corporation to convert 14.5 acres of Bowman's Golf Course to developable land.

In their new role as hearings officers, the commissioners voted to approve the request. The proposal will allow the modification of a conditional use permit, originally approved in 1985. That paved the way for removal of two parcels of land from the 126-acre golf course.

Following the hearing, Clackamas County planner Gary Naylor said the conditional use change will give

American Guaranty the opportunity to develop that portion of the golf course into housing.

"If they can take it out of the conditional use for the golf course, then they can develop it," said Naylor. "But we don't have any specific development proposal before us. They have only submitted a concept on an aerial photograph."

Naylor said the first parcel to be affected is approximately two acres of grass and small trees. It is triangular and sits between the Green Tee Motel and the resort's former restaurant.

The second parcel encompasses approximately 12.5 acres and lies just east of the golf course fairways. It is forested, contains swampy soils and has a pair of small ponds.

Under the current zoning classification, a proposal such as

American Guaranty's is allowed, according to Naylor. That is backed up in the county's proposed land use designation which goes before the state Land Conservation and Development Commission in December.

In a report to the commissioners, the planning staff recommended approval of the conditional use modification. They said exclusion of these two parcels would not adversely affect the golf course because they are not part of the playing area.

If these parcels are later developed for housing, the planning staff said, this "would be consistent with existing or potential development on adjacent parcels."

The commissioners' approval of the request, goes against an earlier recommendation made by the Mt.

Hood Corridor CPO. The local planning group voted 8-5 on Aug. 30 against the conditional use permit modification.

Bob Dorman, an officer of the CPO, said the biggest problem for citizens who attended the meeting was the lack of available information.

"We got a technical piece of paper (from the county) that told us nothing," said Dorman.

Concerns such as the need for the conversion of 14.5 acres of recreational land to a condominium use and the timing of the proposed project during difficult times in the real estate market, were raised by CPO members.

"The consensus of those present was there wasn't any real reason to change the zoning of the property," said Dorman. "The zoning was proper when they originally did it."

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