

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Van Braschler, Publisher
Caroline Duff, Office ManagerDan Dillon, Editor
Scott Newton, Sports Editor

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Crime watch needed here

It's good to see Neighborhood Crime Watch interest surfacing again in the Sandy area.

Last week Roland Cartisser and Jack Gallagher of Gresham Alarm in Sandy addressed a Community Presbyterian Seekers adult group of 24 persons interested in stopping crime in their neighborhoods. Area police agencies and insurance companies sent along brochures to help spread the word.

As Cartisser pointed out, crime in many areas increased last year locally. While businesses for the most part have secured themselves pretty well now, residential burglary continues to be a local problem.

The alarm installers advised the crime-conscious group here to know their neighbors, know their schedules and watch out for them by observing and reporting any suspicious persons or vehicles.

They also advised some consideration of burglar-proofing homes by landscaping to avoid shrubs that block a house from street surveillance or allow stepping stones into windows.

Neighborhood crime watch programs have been attempted here in the past, but failed due to lack of citizen involvement. Meanwhile, such watch programs have become popular in crime-conscious Multnomah County—primarily in Gresham and Portland.

The Boring area also has involved crime-conscious neighbors in two active groups.

The big potential here now is for that group of Presbyterian couples to go back to their respective area neighborhoods and start similar neighborhood crime watch programs. It's sure to cut down on easy residential burglaries in this area. (VB)

Sandy EDC drive help needed

The city of Sandy Economic Development Commission in its third year is trimmed down to fighting weight with a fall-out in active membership and a big task ahead. That task is the actual marketing of Sandy as a prime spot to relocate small industry.

In some ways this lean, mean look is good, while in others it looks shaky. Certainly more active members will be needed "to take the bit in their mouth and go with it," as city planner Don Wilson said of workhorse EDC chairman George Morgan.

Nonetheless, the city developers as a sitting committee appear ready with brochures on Sandy, the county and fellow Three Small Cities Attraction Program members Estacada and Molalla to approach prospective industrial residents by mail and in person. Of course, personal contacts will prove more beneficial, but like mailing costs will cost the city developers plenty.

There lies a possible snag. Sandy city council funded its EDC \$1,500 next fiscal year, contingent on similar funding by Molalla and Estacada. The united three small cities through the county have secured a matching grant from

U.S. Bancorp's state "We're with you" program for economic revitalization. The snag comes with the Estacada city council who haven't committed yet to their share. It's likely their fair share as a slightly smaller city could be reduced from \$1,500 to \$750 to keep the grant alive.

Unfortunately, Washington and Clark Clark Counties now are viewed downtown as hot spots for investments, so local developers must work to turn that feeling around. Realtors locally can share information to help sell industrial land. Photographers and artists locally can help by putting together a slide show to sell Sandy as a great place to start a business.

With or without outside funding and assistance, local EDC boosters at this point are poised to attract new industry to Sandy. They figure they're ahead of other regional cities in what they have to offer in site resources and sales presentation. For residents and shops who need more local jobs, fresh cash flow and wider shoulders to share tax burdens here, such small non-pollutant industry would be welcome. (VB)

Salem scene:

Call Legislature toll-free

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

Although the Legislature meets in Salem, it's really only a toll-free call away from anyone in the state.

These are calls seeking information of status of specific bills being considered for enactment into law. Callers dial 1-800-452-0290 and are greeted by one of two operators manning the Legislative Information Service.

They are Jessa Morisky and Linda Hawkins, both of whom have extensive experience in state government and legislative procedure. Mrs. Morisky is a 12-year veteran of the state's telephone system and was chief operator on her retirement. Mrs. Hawkins worked in the system two years under Mrs. Morisky and this marks the second consecutive regular biennial legislative session they have performed the bill status service together.

Inaugurated during the 1973 session, the information service is designed to provide up-to-the-minute data regarding the progress of specific pieces of legislation as they make their way through the process.

And a tedious process it is. Potential new laws are introduced in either the Senate or House of Representatives, referred to appropriate committees for public hearings and undergo extensive deliberation before being tabled or recommended for passage in the originating chamber. Once passage is achieved, those bills are subjected to the same routine in the other chamber. Consequently, progress of any individual bill is time-consuming and complex—particularly for those who cannot be in the capital city on a daily basis.

Hence the Legislative Information Service. Interested parties simply dial the toll-free number, find out when and where hearings are scheduled and learn the latest developments in the moments it takes to place the call. Mrs. Morisky and



Mrs. Hawkins just as readily relay the requested information by referring to the Assembly's daily calendars or a television terminal linked to the computer system tracking all bills.

At least that's the process when callers know the number assigned to bills in question. Callers who do not know bill numbers but are familiar only with the proposal's purpose also are satisfied. Operators quickly locate the bill in question through an alphabetized cumulative index and the measure's status is reported, along with its official number for future reference.

So far, this session major public interest has focused on the initial sales tax bill introduced, bills relating to child safety restraints, naturopathy, mopeds, the Public Employee Retirement System, wood stove regulation and medical care for the needy.

Vocational retraining while drawing jobless pay also prompted many calls and anything dealing with marijuana produces a high percentage of calls every session. Attracting little attention so far is a measure dealing with the death penalty and the massive 475-page revision of the Motor Vehicle Code.

An indication this session's callers appear relatively sophisticated about the process is the fact one caller in three requests a free copy of a specific bill. And the information operators forward the requests to the Legislature's distribution center, which promptly mails requested bills to all interested parties.



Schools, county draw mail

Hear candidates

I apologize to those patrons of the Bull Run Community who found the recent editorial in the Sandy Post offensive, and to those who felt I needed their permission to specifically mention their names.

To myself, the editorial struck a deep chord of truth. The word "turbulent" may be harsh (for some), but was an accurate description of our special meeting held on March 22. I also believed in the importance of an open forum for our candidates for the March 29 election.

Certain candidates who "don't feel good about getting up and speaking in front of a group" should reconsider their reasons for wanting to sit in front of a group of people each month.

People who faithfully attend meetings with positive attitudes occasionally surfacing create an atmosphere where very little positive growth and community healing can occur. It is my hope that those patrons who support positive growth and community healing voted in our election for board members.

Karen Rollins,
Chairman,
Bull Run Board

Elect Hoard

Debra Hoard, a very active lady in our community, is running for position 4 of the Sandy Elementary School Board. Debra is president of Sandy School Parent Teacher Club and Sandy Optimists and is actively involved in Sandy Cascade Soccer Club, Soap Box Derby and other community services.

Debra has two sons in the Sandy school. She really cares what happens in the education system for our children. I have worked with Debra on many occasions at the school. She is a person who gives her all for something she believes in and gets the job done in an efficient manner.

Debra is very competent and would be a great asset on the Sandy Elementary School Board.

Mary Marshall
Sandy

Fields secured

In light of the Sandy High School Board's attempt to present a budget that will have a chance to pass at the next levy election, I feel there should be an explanation of the item in the Sandy Post March 17 concerning the school authorizing a request to have the National Guard help prepare four new softball-baseball fields adjacent to Bell Street.

Our organization has been in contact with and working through high school personnel to develop these four fields for the use of the high school, our youth organization and the adult softball association at no cost to the high school.

One method possibly available is the National Guard. Gary Sandblast has contacted the Oregon Na-

tional Guard for us, and their reply was that they might be able to do the grading and leveling of this project during their two-week summer camp. However, they must have the school board's authorization before they can even consider the project. With the board's authorization the Guard now can make the land survey and present their plan to the school board for their final authorization.

Our organization became involved in this project because of our need and the need of the high school for more playing fields. The

by leaving their names and addresses at Sandy Community Action Center, 668-4746.

W. Pete Sulzbach
Sandy Community Action
Center

County wrong

I hope the public will strongly oppose the decision by the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners to sell Hillside Park, a tract of 100 homes and duplexes off 32nd Avenue in Milwaukie.

For the last 40 years these homes have been rented to families with low

income. This revision has insured that Sgt. Lowery and other Sheriff's employees injured in the line of duty will suffer no benefit or financial disadvantage by being in the disability status.

Sgt. Lowery returned to duty at the Sheriff's Office March 15.

Again, our sincerest appreciation to all who have helped and supported Sgt. Lowery and the Sheriff's Office during this unfortunate ordeal.

Neil James, president
Peace Officers Assn.

Easter key

As another spring approaches and the freshness of new life begins, the cold darkness of winter ends. So it was until 1,950 years ago when a "man" died. By so doing, He changed the history of mankind forever.

Today, people are still exploring the truth and wisdom of His life and teaching. Yet, all of this is in the shadow of His death, burial and resurrection. For this "man" died not for what He did, but for who He said He was—not just a man but God come in the flesh. If He was just a good teacher and a founder of a religion as some people claim, according to the Apostle Paul, "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that He raised Christ from the dead. But He did not raise Him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins... If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men." NIV These are sober words.

If Christ did not arise then who took the body? Only three possible groups could have been involved: the Romans, the Jews or the Disciples.

The Romans would have had no reason to steal the body since they wanted to keep the peace in Palestine, and taking the body would not have accomplished this.

The Jews would not take the body and hide it. They would have shown the body to put an end to the resurrection story. Also, they asked for the guards to watch the tomb, so no one would steal the body.

The disciples of Jesus had no reason to steal the body, but if they had they later died for something they knew to be untrue. The teachings emphasized how important it was to tell the truth so they, themselves, would not have lied.

Therefore, I believe the witness of 500 people who physically saw Him arise. I cannot prove or disprove the resurrection based on scientific evidence.

May this Easter be a special event to all in the newness of spring and this hope of newness of life.

Dave Baylis
Brightwood

Letters to the editor

high school has the property but no money, and we have the means but no property for this project. Thus we are able to help the school at the same time they are helping us.

In addition, we currently are working with the adult softball association, Sandy soccer association and the city recreation department to try to develop other sites for both softball-baseball and soccer fields.

In view of all this, I felt the situation could be clarified in that the public should know the work already has begun. With the help of both the adult softball and soccer associations, National Guard and any other interested volunteers, we might obtain good recreational facilities that will be of benefit to the people of Sandy without the additional burden of more taxes on the school district taxpayers.

Glenn W. Abbott, president
Sandy Area Summer
Recreation Assn.

Jobless aided

I expect that you have received literature concerning Take Charge Day at Clackamas Community College. The object is to provide help and encouragement for unemployed men and women of our county.

Sandy Community Action Center wishes to help in this project by recording names and addresses of persons interested in attending the Take Charge Day so that these may be forwarded to the college well in advance of April 16. The college then will forward literature on the day's activities to the persons listed.

If unemployed people lack transportation to the college campus and wish to attend Take Charge Day, Sandy Community Action center wishes to know that, too. We will try to have one or more vehicles ready at the center at 7:30 a.m. on April 16 to take those without transportation to the college and return them after the activities are over at 2:30 p.m.

The college plans to provide a free lunch to all who come.

Unemployed persons planning to attend Take Charge Day may register

incomes. The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development subsidizes this public housing project so that the rents can be kept low, usually 30 percent of a tenant's income.

If Hillside Park is sold to a private corporation, rents would substantially increase. Many of the present tenants would be forced to move, and where? County Housing Authority Director Nick Knapp told the commissioners that if the property remains in the county's hands, the only alternatives would be to do nothing or demolish Hillside Park.

I appreciate that these houses need renovation. But I also know—as Knapp admits—that these houses are "in no worse shape than any private sector rentals of that age would be."

Times are tough. Why make them tougher on the families who live at Hillside Park, not through choice but because that's the best they can afford.

Why don't the county commissioners ask their five registered Salem lobbyists (Jerry Justice, Jono Hildner, etc.) to use their persuasive powers and expense accounts here at home instead—to organize a sound renovation project based on volunteer labor, donated materials and some of the block grant money that the county receives from Washington for projects like this. It is not necessary to tear down or sell off everything that can't be conveniently repaired.

Walter F. Brown
State Senator, District 12

County costly

In the 1980 campaign for Clackamas County commissioner when my slogan was "hold-the-line budgeting," my opponent Commissioner Schumacher stated he did not know what it means. It is now apparent, no truer words were spoken.

Clackamas County is approximately \$1.5 million in the red—the deficit is the second in two years. To quote the Lake Oswego Review editorial of Feb. 8, "County Running Out Of Budget: We Excuse:" "After last year's deficit they had ample warning to be on guard for a bad finan-

cial situation this year... Due to an inability to get its computer system untracked, the county is without the information it needs to manage the budget efficiently. What's more, the county failed to make good on an idea to have its budget committee meet at the end of each quarter to review the budget. The committee didn't meet, the computer still isn't working right and look where we are now... County officials used up all of their excuses to explain the continuation of a seemingly inept financial management system.

Once again, we see the result.

Layoffs could run as high as 130 employees. While people are losing their livelihood, it appears the commissioners are making a token gesture by cutting their \$43,320 salaries by a mere 10 percent for just the next 4 months. In view of their job performance, salaries should be reduced 25 percent permanently.

On the other side of the coin, Clackamas County has two high-priced, all expense paid staff members, Jerry Justice and Jono Hildner, as lobbyists and each is a dues-paying member of the prestigious Capitol Lobbyist Club. No other county in Oregon has this luxurious expenditure.

Meanwhile, the commissioners are determining what amount of the "one-time-only" tax levy (up to \$3.5 million) to place upon the voters. The real question is, should more money be allocated to county officials who appear to have fiscal responsibility management problems?

Bey Henderson
Lake Grove

Officer aided

The members of the Clackamas County Peace Officers Association would like to extend their sincerest thanks and appreciation to the citizens of Clackamas County for their overwhelming support of Sgt. Jack Lowery.

A peace officer with Clackamas County Sheriff's Office since 1967, Sgt. Lowery was the victim of a gunshot wound Jan. 7. At the time he was shot, Sgt. Lowery was at the scene of a homicide that had occurred in east Clackamas County.

The hundreds of cards, letters and phone calls that have been received demonstrate the support and concerns that exist for law enforcement agencies and peace officers who serve our community.

A special thanks also is extended to the Clackamas County Commission and especially Commissioner Ralph Groener who always has been a strong voice for law enforcement in our community. The county commission has worked with the Peace Officers Association to correct a flaw in the county's system of compensation for on-the-