

The Sandy Post

## Editorial &amp; Opinion

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## Care rekindles economy

You have to feel good about a growing new community feeling in Sandy. After parking lot problems with the city and tough business sledding, it looks like Sandy business is on the move again.

Plaid Pantry's coming to town. McDonald's and Coast to Coast Hardware are believed headed here. There's also a new winery by Janz, a spiffy readerboard to greet skiers passing through and a few new shops. Mercury Development's going ahead with plans for a west-end shopping center, with Albertson's apparently major tenant.

Even the city and chamber joined hands recently to help troubled new ski shop operator Otto Rude finish required improvements to operate here. Real help, however, came from four dozen Sandy High FFA teens who worked hard to give Otto a needed sidewalk.

People here really care, and they care that others realize Sandy citizens are involved and primed for a better future.

Pharmacist Olin Bignall said it well at a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting:

"Now the image of this community has to be turned around."

"Chamber president Arnie Poutala, who formed a welcome

committee and even a welcome-back-to-Sandy committee for defectors, also sees the task as informational.

The new message to learn about a reborn Sandy is "finding out the city isn't against business and the city does want new business here," he said.

Chamber membership already this year is up to 86 from 82 last year. A new tourist brochure about Sandy's benefits is planned by the Chamber. Organizers Chris Carey and Don Weber are busy soliciting beautiful pictures that show Sandy's attributes in work and play.

Sandy's economic development committee now is going after industry to come to town, and the Chamber is planning a fancy new directory to show off its present businesses.

Sandy Mountain Festival and adjunct fun will be bigger and better than ever this year with new involvement and booths run by the Chamber.

Careful planning and community concern seems to have made a difference here in Sandy. And the town's weathered one of its worst recessions in fine shape, the lighthouse still burning warmly. (VB)

## Youth putting Sandy on map

Sandy should get big recognition this summer with an expanded Mountain Days schedule, thanks to local Soapbox Derby organizers.

Indeed, Sandy gets a new, big dot on the map with recent sanction of local races. Since Sandy's races in Sandy Industrial Park will be the only qualifying event for miles around, Sandy's fastest boys and girls in motorless cars they build themselves will carry the town's banner to Akron nationals August 8.

More work remains to pull all this off here, however. Many would-be local boosters unfortunately have that traditional Sandy wait-and-see attitude that keeps some ambitious towns small.

Chief organizer Barry Fretz

reports only \$1,800 of \$5,000 needed has been raised, although a pro wrestling card May 1 at Sandy High should help pay bills.

Also, another senior level racer 12-15 years of age is needed to have enough to race. Two merchant sponsors wait in the wings to provide cars for interested boys or girls.

Sandy Optimists came through with \$575 race franchise fee. Another recent pro wrestling card here drew a thousand supporters in benefit for Sandy's derby.

Next year Ashland, Oregon City and Portland programs will compete for attention and necessitate a regional run-off for national qualifications. But this year the spotlight should belong to the boys and girls of Sandy. (VB)



## Personally speaking:

## Punk-rocker cat shocks neighbors

There's nothing as persistent as a crazed cat. Just ask my neighbors.

He perplexed us at first. Sure, we heard strange noises on the roof and saw strange white shapes on the window screens. The last thing we suspected, however, was a mentally deranged cat on the prowl.

Then my son admitted seeing something he didn't want to talk about, because it didn't seem real. He saw these fiery little eyes peering down from the skylight window in the living room. Some kind of spook, we guessed. We kept our mouths shut.

Only then I'd be awaked by the sound of little feet on the roof and the plop of some small body jumping from level to level on our twin A-frame house. Soon the little fiery eyes were peering in my bedroom window.

"Oh, Freeway does that all the



by VON BRASCHLER

time at home," the girl next door said to settle the mystery. "He hops around the roof and paws at my window to get in. He even knows how to open doors with his

little paws."

Charming Neighbor Girl is a sort of snake charmer when it comes to Freeway. Either this cantankerous ball of fur was named for the clever dog in television's "Heart to Heart" or else a Portland rock band. I suspect the rock influence, because the cat's definitely a punker.

His tail's pig-shaved on one half and fluffy on the other end. His ears are slicked back from wild action. All that's missing is a pin through the cheek.

For a long time, we called him Nutsy. He'd brush against us outdoors, blocking path to car or door, and demand to be petted. Only if we'd stroke him the wrong way (he'd decide instantly), he'd growl. If we picked him up, he'd flash those switch-blade claws.

Soon the strange white cat with

polka dots became the scourge of the neighborhood, and even my killer cat Egor hid under the car or in the woods. It's not that Freeway is so big. It's just that the insane have such unusual strength and devil-may-care attitude about plunging into deadly battle.

With respectful admiration each morning I watch his ritual. It's sort of like those snake charming sessions in mystic India where generations of flute players have been trained to summon deadly serpents from baskets with seeming immunity.

Charming mistress Yvonne, keeper of the cat, each morning carries his limp and passive body to the corner bus and bids him farewell with a welcomed stroke.

Then Freeway charges to the hilltop in front of my house to stand guard over all he surveys the rest of the day.

## Letters to the editor:

## School minutes, power stir readers

## Minutes wrong

I would appreciate the opportunity to inform the parents, patrons and teachers of Cottrell School District that contrary to the minutes of the meeting of the budget board (of which I am a member) dated April 4, 1983, I most definitely am not a proponent of the elimination of any program.

I feel that the portion implying otherwise was taken (non-maliciously) completely out of context, and I would like to explain that I merely mentioned exploring deletions or cuts on those items (lunch, kindergarten, etc.) as op-

portunities to alleviate a very real financial problem.

I did have the chairwoman of the budget committee explain the real intent and context of my statement at the meeting on April 11, but since my name is on those minutes, should anyone not attending that meeting read them, I felt a dire need for them to know my correct intent.

John Alexander  
Budget board member  
Cottrell School District

## Curb privilege

I wrote once before about teachers and professors be-

ing privileged state workers. They can be elected to the Legislature and still hold their state jobs. No one else can. In this position they can pass laws to set their own salaries, they can pass laws to set beneficial policies. Is this fair play?

Consider this: In the most powerful legislative committee, the Ways and Means, the Senate chairman and vice chairman are retired educators. The House Chairman is a college administrator. The chairman of the House Revenue Committee, where tax bills originate, is a public school teacher. The vice-chairman of the

Senate Revenue Committee, is a professor at a state university. In the Education Committee there are four chairmen. Three of them are educators and on the public payroll.

Now do you wonder why half of the general fund and 80 percent of property

taxes are slotted for education? Is education that much better? Are you getting your money's worth?

Urge repeal of the law that gives this privileged status to a few. You are paying them twice. (Bill HJR 19).

Jean Roberts  
Mehama

## LETTERS POLICY

The Post asks that all letters to the editor be typed, double-spaced and signed. Deadline is noon, Tuesday. Letters should be accurate, free of libelous remarks and in good taste. This newspaper attempts to publish all letters it receives and may edit material lightly to conform to guidelines. Maximum length is 200 words.

## Salem scene:

## East asking LCDC split

by JACK ZIMMERMAN  
Associated Oregon Industries

Every once in a while, someone threatens to split off a portion of Eastern Oregon from the rest of the state.

Secessionist activity rarely has gone beyond the talking stage, however. It usually serves to vent growing frustration of Oregonians who live east of the mountains.

That frustration has two major sources. East Oregonians often believe laws regulating the more populated western portions of the state tend to discriminate against the sparsely populated eastern area. Over the years the number of voices in behalf of eastern Oregon interests have been halved in the body that makes those laws, namely, the State Legislature.

Eastern Oregon boasted 16 representatives and 8 senators during the forties. Today the same region is represented by eight House members and four senators. While the region still represents two-thirds of the state's land area, a growing population in the west, coupled with the one man-one vote doctrine, has reapportioned away half of the east's number of legislative districts.

Last week this burgeoning unrest came to a head in the form of a Senate Bill that formalizes a request for secession. But not from the sovereignty of Oregon.

Just from the state's present land use law.

SB 768 was introduced by Sen. Eugene D. Timms (R-Burns) at the request of Donald R. Oakes of Ironside. Timms, newly appointed to fill the unexpired term of freshman Congressman Bob Smith, is what they call sole sponsor of the measure. And Oakes, also a Republican, had the distinction of serving Eastern Oregon in the House of Representatives in 1973 when the current Land Conservation Development Act became law.

In essence, the Timms-Oakes bill would remove the 17 Eastern Oregon counties and their cities from jurisdiction of the



LCDC.

These cities and counties would not have to comply with current land use law. Instead, those counties and cities would regain local control of their land use destiny, utilizing statewide goals (which have the force of law) only as guidelines in establishing their own planning.

It would divorce eastern Oregon cities and counties from laws that apply to western Oregon jurisdictions once comprehensive plans have been adopted and remove scrutiny of the Land Use Board of Appeals over decisions made by eastern Oregon cities and counties.

Under terms of the proposed bill, county comprehensive plans could only be adopted by a majority of legal voters.

Certainly an attention-getter among the maybe 100 land use-related proposals currently before the 62nd Legislative Assembly in Salem, hardly anyone expects SB 768 to go very far. Not that it doesn't have sympathizers. But really, how much real clout do 12 members of a 90-person Assembly have when it comes to shaking up something as sacrosanct as Oregon's pace-setting land use law?

SB 768 adds a little more pressure on the current Assembly to modify land use law by calling attention to the fact 57 percent of voters in those 17 eastern Oregon counties voted in favor of repeal. The balance was so close that if total votes cast for and against Ballot Measure 5 last November from the three most heavily populated counties—Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas—were ignored, repeal would have won 302,713 to 302,512.

## Representative's report:

## Public bargaining costs curb eyed

by BOB SHIPRACK  
State Representative, Dist. 23

Last week the House on a 41-19 vote passed a bill that would eliminate mandatory factfinding for certain employees. Factfinding is one part of public bargaining that does not exist in the private sector.

Currently either labor or management may ask for a factfinder report, and it must be done. The House felt it unnecessary and expensive. It is hoped this legislation will result in speedier settlements of public sector negotiations. Teachers, classified school employees and public nurses are not affected by the bill.

The latest proposal to change



our election laws was rejected on the House floor. It would have restricted citizen access to the Voters Pamphlet. This bill would

have required arguments pro and con on various ballot measures to be drafted by committees, rather than submitted by interested individuals or groups.

The House rejected this measure, but substituted a report that increased fees to buy a page in the pamphlet in order to lessen the losses the pamphlet is currently suffering.

H.B. 2825 limits the number of state employees to a maximum of 1.5 percent of the state population. Because of the recent budget cuts the number of state employees is down approximately from four years ago. This bill mandates that state government have a hiring ceiling to stop any future "bureaucracy boom."

I haven't reported anything

before on the fisheries bills, but there are several before the Legislature. With all the fine fishing streams and rivers in our district, it is an issue. House Joint Resolution 15, which passed the House, says that sport and commercial fishing seasons on the ocean will be restored if and when our salmon stocks are replenished, and asks that priority be given to that issue. I also co-signed a letter to our Congressional delegation protesting the shut-down of the 20 federal fish hatcheries on the Columbia River.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me by writing Rep. Bob Shiprack, Rm 1200, State Capitol, Salem, OR 97210 or calling 578-6766.