

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

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Horse therapy promising

A local effort to offer mentally, physically and emotionally handicapped persons special therapy through riding or handling horses deserves grassroots support.

Jill and Carl Swanson of Boring are well on their way to patterning a big service center after the nation's finest horse therapy program in Fremont, Calif.

With already 10 donated horses and support from Easter Seals and PGE, they hope to certify physical therapists in horseback riding.

They are moving things into Mt. Hood Equestrian Center where they hope to locate, and have high hopes for big fundraisers like a rodeo or horse show that could blend with Sandy Mountain Festival.

But more help is needed. With a million-dollar plan to help handicapped persons and offer horses to scouts and others, the local advocates still are counting nickles and dimes. They're applied to 35 public foundations for grants, yet only one—Clark Foundation—so far has offered aid.

So they're looking for individuals and businesses willing to sponsor a horse or a rider. They're looking for people to donate grain or hay. They're look-

ing for money for a home stable they hope will be local.

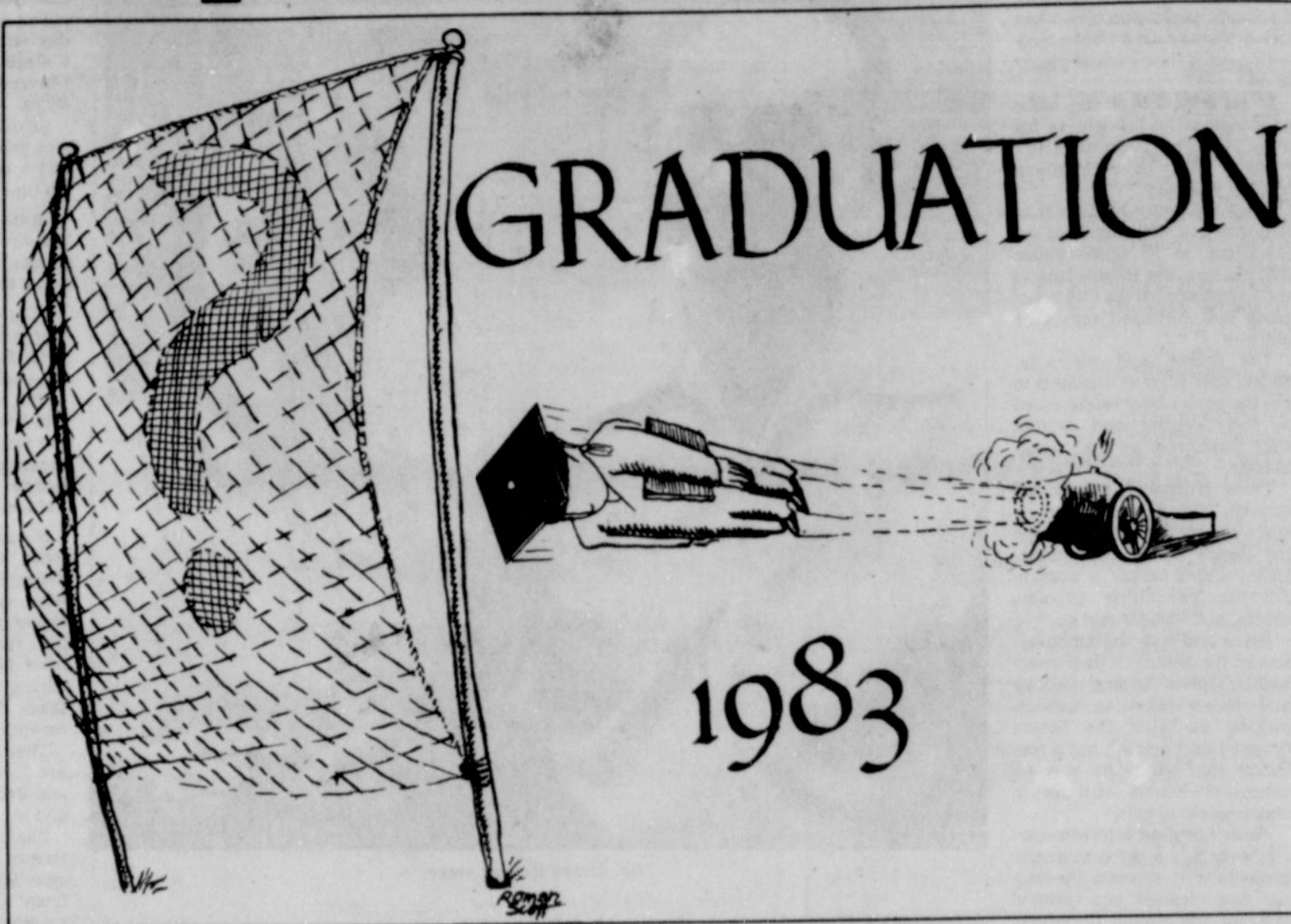
There're no such facility in the Portland area. In fact, the nearest horse therapy site is in Battleground, Wash.

Steve Taylor of Rippling River anchors an impressive board to launch the horse therapy project, and noted promoter David Mirich who handles stars like Lindsay Wagner and put on the Rippling River golf tournament may even help raise funds. Jill Swanson thinks big; she wants no less than Roy and Dale Evans to sing at her rodeo.

Obviously with such interest and success of horse therapy around the country, it's an idea whose time has come. And there could be no better setting than Clackamas County—horse country. Already here there's a waiting list to come ride.

Public support could make this dream come true for a fine center that would make this area most proud.

Attendance at an organizational meeting with guest speakers 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 1, in Boring Grade School would be a good first step in getting intimately involved. (VB)



Letters to the editor:

Abortion likened to war

Abortion 'war'

The following letter I have sent to both of my congressmen in order they gain wisdom necessary to vote correctly on the abortion issue:

Dear Congressman,

Every person in this country has a belief of one kind or another. Some of these beliefs are contrary to each other, and this reaches as far as the Congress of the United States.

These past 10 years have been very enlightening to me. Especially the use of federal money by "special interest" groups to promote abortion. I've also discovered that people of this nation who confess a religious belief or point of view concerning the policies of this country have "less" representation in Congress than those who have another point of view.

This obvious discrimination toward those with religious convictions has been based on an erroneous constitutional idea—separation of church and state. Specifically, article one of the first 10 amendments: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."

The founding fathers make it quite clear that religious ideas were to remain a vital factor in guiding and restraining when necessary the selfish

designs of those people we put in office.

Some pro-Israeli groups are found of relating to the holocaust in order to kindle a guilt feeling and re-establish monetary aid to that nation. Alright then, Congressman, we have our own holocaust going on right now, called abortion. They needed a body count to justify the Vietnam War. I invite you to visit the abortion clinics and count the bodies there and see if we're not in a war.

The issue of abortion is coming around again, Congressman, and if you vote for abortion to continue, then I and everyone I can talk to will try to vote you out of office. It's that simple. I'd rather vote against you over the abortion issue than vote for you over all the federal funds that you could promise for this state.

I heard a story that maybe you know—some blood was spilled one time because someone collected "30 pieces of silver." Do you know that story, Congressman?

Ralph A. Sandercock Jr.
Sandy

Respect signs

This is an open letter to the people who think it is great sport to steal or vandalize our mailboxes and street signs.

I would like you to know why it is so important for

our road to be identified. Naturally, in case of fire, we definitely need our road sign, plainly visible.

An even more important reason is that my husband has heart disease. Did you ever stop to think that by our road sign the paramedics would not be able to find us as quickly as we would need them? That extra five or 10 minutes while they are going up and down the main road looking for our turnoff could be a matter of life or death.

There also are children here that could need medical help quickly.

It is about time you have some respect for life, if not private property.

Your late-night pranks could have serious consequences.

C. Gibson
No More Name Lane
Sandy

Bureaucrats fat

I am tired of watching and reading news about the state and federal congresses discussing ways to get more money out of the American citizen. If they can't get money, they take away a benefit, except the one that covers their own salary.

It seems that while the rest of the working world is taking pay cuts or being laid off, the politicians can vote themselves a raise.

I am raising four children on a \$20,000-a-year

budget, and that's before Uncle Sam takes his share. If this is possible, why do these people need such enormous salaries? A lot of these people not only have their government salaries, but make more than I get for my full-time job on the side in the way of the lecture circuit and other private ventures.

If they really want to balance the budget, they should bring their wages down to the level of the rest of us—the average American. They might even be able to make better decisions, if they were living the same way as the people they are supposed to be representing.

No one needs to make more than \$30,000 a year, and there should be a 20-year minimum limit on retirement just like any other job. Retirement should be cut down to a level that is in line with the average retirement plan.

If this were done, there could be some money to spread around to the people who really need it.

Gareth J. York
Sandy

Voters thanked

Patrons of Sandy Union High School District,

I thank you for your support during the recent special election. I appreciate your votes and all who voted (not just for me.) Yes...regardless of

your convictions.

Blessed are they vote vote. Voting is a duty, beside being a real privilege.

Voting is like so many other things in life; 'If you don't use it, eventually you could lose it.' Please, folks, next election let's all turn out to vote the issues.

Dan MacDonald
Board member
Sandy High School

Many helped

Chris Jones and his family would like to express their appreciation to the community of Sandy for their support and prayers.

Sincere thanks especially goes to the Sandy High School staff and students since Chris' accident and all during his rehabilitation.

Thelma Jones

'Thank you'

On behalf of my entire family, I would like to offer a heart-felt thanks to all those individuals who sent flowers, cards and memorial fund remembrances—as well as those who offered prayers and spiritual support—during the recent illness and unfortunate loss of my husband, Wayne R. Johnson.

Words can not express how grateful I am for your kindness, thoughtfulness and encouragement.

Doris Johnson
Boring

State study gives city high marks

A recently released Oregon Economic Development Department study of Oregon communities gave Sandy a pretty nice report card to impress potential residents and visitors.

While Sandy's remains a rustic town with small town niceties, the city nonetheless appears to be a city on the go with a whopping 112.1 percent population growth between 1970 and 1981 (1,544 to 3,275). That's more than the county's 46.3 percent growth from 1970 to reporting year 1981.

Salem scene:

State economic plan fuzzy

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

The enigmatic 62nd Legislative Assembly began sending signals to Oregonians this month.

But the mystery persists. The signals were mixed.

The enigma of this session involves whether this Legislature will succeed in accomplishing the several major tasks with which it was confronted when this regular biennial session first convened last January 10.

Among those tasks were balancing the state's budget for the next biennium, paving the road toward economic recovery and job-producing development, easing problems in the land use control system and providing tax relief while adequately fulfilling state and local government funding needs and those of education.

A tall order, and only budget-balancing appeared a sure thing at session's start because of constitutional mandate. But that chore was not without its own mysterious factor, namely: How to get that job done?

Mid-May marked a temporary solution to that dilemma when House speaker Gratton Kerans apparently patched persistent rifts between money-raising House Revenue Committee and the Legislature's spending arm, Ways . . . Means Committee. The House succeeded in passing budget-balancing measures and sending them to the Senate only to discover two days later that Executive Department revenue estimates skewed that plan with another projected deficit.

Meanwhile, all-important spending decisions were being made with relative dispatch in Ways . . . Means, indicating the session might well be able to adjourn by the end of June as predicted steadfastly by speaker Kerans since its beginning.

Introduction of bills continued to lag considerably behind previous recent sessions and production of assorted measures through both chambers proceeded at an exceptional pace. Most of the action came from the House, a traditional occurrence because that body introduces must bills, acts first on revenue measures and has twice as many members as the Senate to act on proposals.

Indeed, late June adjournment does appear possible, if all this Assembly accomplishment is its constitutional obligation to match income with outgo.

However, with only one real exception, the remaining tasks dogging this Assembly since well before it convened,



appear no closer to achievement than they were on that second Monday in January nearly five months ago.

The single exception is resolving problems involving rigidity of land use law. The House this month took a first step by moving its version of mitigating reform to the Senate, where that chamber appeared prepared to tack on amendments aimed at providing additional flexibility.

Proponents hope such action to ease present restrictions will blunt another post-session initiative campaign favoring land use repeal—a tactic that came closer than ever to winning voter approval last fall.

Economic development—the buzzphrase during electioneering last year—is in almost complete disarray. This month saw Gov. Vic Atiyeh call business, labor and development leaders to the capitol to request assistance in pressing Ways . . . Means to act on its economic improvement proposals. Earlier this week Joint Trade . . . Economic Development Committee unveiled a package of other measures and so-called strategy to restore economic viability.

But even as those developments occurred, Labor Committees in both chambers passed and sent to their respective floors contradictory bills that would only hamper economic recovery by increasing costs of doing business in both private and public sectors.

Funding both for local government and public education at all levels remained in limbo—largely awaiting resolution of revenue policy. And that issue—including the possibility of tax reform—was equally confined, largely by the inability of speaker Kerans and Senate President Edward Fodeley to agree on a method. Reformation of Oregon's two-pronged income and property tax system is further bogged down by minority Republican insistence in both chambers in favor of limiting government spending.

Given the House Revenue Committee's continuing inability to draft a suitable sales tax, Kerans' lukewarm acceptance of any such plan and Fodeley's adamant opposition, proponents sagely fear this Assembly will wind up providing only token property tax relief funded by yet higher income tax burdens.

Representative's report:

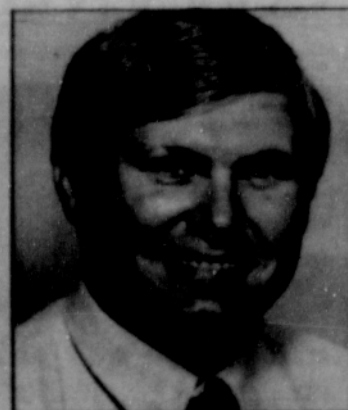
Business offered recovery choices

by BOB SHIPRACK
State Representative, Dist. 23

The economic development plan of this Legislature is rapidly getting adapted. There are five major areas of concern and government action.

Providing capital for business expansion is important to small and medium businesses, since they lack easy access to national capital markets. Obtaining long-term, fixed-rate loans will greatly strengthen the economic outlook of Oregon. HB 2737 would give small business the same benefits that large firms receive through the Industrial Development Revenue Bond Program. General obligation bonds through HB 2002 could be used as a source of debt or equity capital to assist Oregon businesses directly. SB 220 provides a means to distribute these funds.

Our educational resources are a valuable asset for economic development. SB 749 would provide state grants to train workers for new or expanding firms. HB



2373 which has already started to be implemented provides for local control of Federal job training funds. A bill currently being drafted would allow community colleges to provide management skills, training and one-on-one advice to owner-operators of small business.

Local government infrastructure needs are being addressed in two bills which will provide funds for industrial sites and public works. HB 2002 expands the use

of state general obligation bonds for these projects, and HB 2342 would give local government the advantage of having the state agree to pay a portion of the debt service on the bonds.

House Bill 2230, 2231 and 2232 give local government another tool for public works development. They will allow them to finance projects through revenue bonds, which have not been available to them in the past for this type of work.

State and local decision making is a major complaint of businesses in siting a new facility or expanding an existing one. HB 2295 would require local governments to make a final decision including all local appeals within 120 days of the filing of a complete application. SB 742 requires the state to have a mandatory pre-application conference attended by all appropriate state agencies, to assure that applicants know well in advance what requirements their projects will be required to meet.

The strengthening and unifying of management of economic

development decisions are embodied in HB 2284, 2285 and 2738.

Bill number HB 2041 in the House Revenue Committee will ask for a two-cent increase in the state gasoline tax. This money will be used for matching funds with the Federal highway funds which will bring millions of dollars of needed highway and road monies to Oregon. An inventory of worthy road projects in our district needs to be completed. Suggestions would be helpful to what I have identified already.

I hope you will examine these proposals and send me your thoughts on them. It is important our district begins right now to think about utilizing all of these concepts in order to provide more stable employment and business activity. As a member of the Clackamas County Economic Development Committee, I plan to work with the various affected areas and groups to implement the plans we develop.

(Write Rep. Bob Shiprack at Room H202, State Capitol, Salem, Or 97310 or phone 378-8784.)