

# Editorial & Opinion

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## Beautify downtown Sandy

Sandy Chamber of Commerce has been granted full responsibility for landscaping areas between sidewalks and businesses and promises to do a good job developing an attractive downtown.

Bryon Tolle, beautification committee chairman, offers to meet with any business owner who's interested in lot improvement. He will coordinate downtown landscaping with uniformity and offer some professional landscaping advice.

He's also discussing beautification of state-owned property at the Y where Pioneer and Proctor Boulevards meet at either end of town. He feels that state Highway Division OK's are imminent for

landscaping these eyesores at the entrance of town.

Tolle and his committee plan to begin immediately and meet one-on-one with business owners who are interested in downtown landscaping.

He and his group of workers rate both applause and support in their efforts to beautify downtown Sandy without a lot of community expense and bureaucratic red tape.

Business owners who want to discuss landscaping plans with the Chamber's committee should make inquiry through the Chamber office by calling 668-4006. (VB)

## Sandy can be proud of '83 Fest

Sandy can be proud of its recent Sandy Mountain Festival and weeklong Sandy Mountain Days.

Despite impending rain, some 5,000 spectators crowded into town for a large parade of approximately 200 entries.

Many booths in the park report their best year ever here. A Sandy High alumni booth reportedly sold more Saturday than both days last year, and the elephant ears booth increased sales from approximately \$11,000 last year to approximately \$15,000 this year.

In fact, some park vendors did business as early as 9 a.m. Saturday, two hours before official Festival opening.

The 12-vendor Chamber Wine Fest and Feast tent across the

street didn't hurt park sales, but seemed to complement Festival activities, according to Festival spokesmen. And the tent sale made the Chamber some \$5,000 to show a profit and operate the Chamber in the coming year.

Only one minor incident rippled the fun in the park, and a half dozen security guards quietly escorted the two drunks outside.

It was such a well mannered crowd that even movie star Lindsay Wagner was able to walk unhassled two days through crowded Meinig Park. Behavior like that may encourage her to return, along with thousands of other welcome guests to Sandy Mountain Festival. (VB)

## Senator's report:

### Labs claim right to know

by STEVE STARKOVICH  
State Senator, Dist. 14

The following report is somewhat different from those I've written in the past. I concerned legislation which shouldn't be controversial yet it was killed in the House of Representatives last week after passing the Senate 20-10 two months ago.

HB 2414 was an attempt to guarantee employees the "right to know" about toxic substances that are used in the workplace. Few Oregonians can disagree that workers are entitled to know about hazardous substances they are exposed to, yet special interest groups who worked to defeat this bill have denied workers this fundamental right.

Imagine that you a hospital laboratory employee. Part of your daily job is to sterilize laboratory equipment with a disinfectant. After performing this function for months, you begin to experience severe headaches, nausea and skin rashes, which you begin to suspect are somehow related to the disinfectant you work with.

You try to find out more about the substance, but after requesting information from your supervisor, hospital officials, the Health Division, the federal government and even the manufacturer of the product, you still do not obtain it. Finally you reach the end of your options—there is simply no legal means by which you can learn about the potential dangers of substances you are required to work with.

Unfortunately, the situation I just described is not hypothetical, but a true story. Linda Harry, formerly a lab technician in a Portland hospital, experienced the physical reactions described above, which eventually included passing out. When she attempted to find out more about the chemical she suspected was causing the problems, her long search proved fruitless.

Ms. Harry's condition worsened to the point where now her body's defense system has been so weakened she is unable to lead a normal life. She is currently confined to living in a specially-enclosed cabin that contains only natural products and limited to consuming foods that are absolutely free of all additives. If she ever breaks this regimen, she immediately passes out.

Linda Harry's case is perhaps one of the more dramatic examples of toxic exposure, yet in today's world, with hundreds of new chemicals found in the workplace every month, cases of occupational disease due to exposure to these substances are becoming more and more common.

We need to establish and protect a right most Americans think they already have—the right to know whether the substances they work with can cause them harm and how to handle those substances in order to prevent exposure. Currently there are NO laws that guarantee a worker this right.

Opponents of HB 2414 argue that the bill



would have created "mountains of paperwork" for employers, and thus the bill was "anti-business." This simply is not true. By the time the bill reached a vote of the House, it had been amended in such a way as to incur only negligible costs to the employer in terms of time and money.

When I first introduced this bill in January, there was agreement among legislators, workers and employers that a worker's "right to know" was fundamental. When it passed the Senate in April, analysts around the state heralded it as a long-overdue worker-protection measure. A poll conducted in the Eugene Register-Guard found that over 70 percent of those polled favored the "right to know" bill.

By the time this bill reached a vote of the House, business and agriculture lobbyists had spread so much misinformation on the bill that even the average citizen had begun to question the desirability of its passage. Members of the House Labor Committee who supported the bill made every effort to find a compromise which was acceptable to opponents of this bill, but those lobbying against it weren't really interested in negotiating—they just wanted to kill the bill. On June 22, the "right-to-know" bill failed in the House by a vote of 37-23.

Most citizens have a rough idea about the legislative process, yet few understand how professional lobbyists fit into the picture. Lobbyists are paid by special interest groups to persuade legislators to vote for their cause. They do this by trying to convince the legislator on the merits of their cause, or, if that doesn't work, by attempting to persuade the legislator that he or she will be defeated.

The "right-to-know" bill was killed in the House, not because it was a bad piece of legislation—but because several powerful lobby groups spent a lot of time and money generating enough misinformation and fear that many legislators gave into the pressure.

If you have questions about the "right-to-know" bill, or any other issue, please write to me:  
Senator Steve Starkovich  
State Capitol, Room 216  
Salem, OR 97310



## Letters to the editor:

### Toast to McDonald's insults

I would like to respond to the "Personally Speaking" column of July 7.

As a member of the business community of Sandy, I applaud the arrival of McDonaldland and its band of merry men. At last the residents of Sandy and surrounding areas of Hoodland, Eagle Creek, Estacada, Boring and Bull run can—when in the throes of a "Big Mac Attack" flock to Sandy for a hamburger.

Let's get serious. For many years Sandy has had good restaurants that serve fine hamburgers and related foods. A very significant share of their business emanates from the fine people from the forementioned areas.

These folks have been very loyal in supporting the local restaurants, and I am sure they will continue to give their support.

McDonald's is a fine organization, and they undoubtedly will run a clean and efficient operation. The Sandy area has somehow survived without a McDonald's in the past, and hopefully we can survive the future.

When the store is complete, if Ronald McDonald

cannot help Mayor Loundree cut the ribbon, could we not entice an old sordid from the Juneau area to do so?

Bob Peters  
Mt. Hood Dairy Queen

#### Halt taxes

Fellow citizens of Clackamas County, please take a bow! You were successful in your defeat of a well-oiled county machine that sponsored the "head tax" June 28.

Yes, your vote counted. Ballot measure 3.1 was defeated by approximately 3 to 1.

All of us should continue to look behind the "glitter" that generally adorns new tax proposals.

Too many tax dollars are wasted in too many ways. You can help put our country back on course, just as you've done here.

Speak up, and we will make ourselves heard!  
Herman Adcox  
Vice President  
Citizens Against Another Tax

#### Dump Metro

MSD, DEQ, LCDC, LUBA, FEMA, CTRC. Can

this be the "Newspeak" 1984 Orwell warned us about?

Control of the land, people, housing, transportation, your property and even control of your garbage! The list only touches a portion of the areas the Metropolitan Service District (MSD or Metro) now has authority in, makes laws on and has police powers to enforce.

Relatively unknown, too many think "MSD" is either an oriental food additive, a life threatening disease, or something you rub on to ease your arthritis. Of these choices, "a life threatening disease" probably is closest to the truth.

The Metropolitan Service District is a powerful mutant of CRAG and the old MSD. The voters adamantly denied MSD a tax base, and yet their annual budget now is more than \$38 million.

Guess what, folks. That's your \$38 million! We need your help! Enough Is Enough In Oregon once again is circulating a state-wide petition to dissolve MSD. Any registered voter in the state is eligible to sign.

62,000 plus signatures are required. If 3500 citizens each would get us only 20 signatures, this measure would be on the Nov. 1984 ballot, and the voters will have a choice. This, most probably, will be your last chance to squash the monster.

Please contact us at 665-5909.  
Katy Manning  
Gresham  
(P.S. We also have a petition placing a two-year moratorium on the DEQ Auto Emission Testing Program.)

#### Fest aided

I would like to express sincere appreciation to the hundreds of people who spent thousands of hours to make the 10th Annual Sandy Mountain Festival and Sandy Mountain Days a tremendous success.

To the Sandy Police Reserves and Clackamas County Sheriff Reserves, to Richard Luczkow for all those "last minute" signs, to Roger and Joyce Atkins, Gene Smith, Gale Meier, Art and Suzie Blaisdell, Jim Patrick and Jeff Jaqua to name just a few. A special word of congratulations to Barry Fretz

and his committee for the welcome addition of the Soap Box Derby.

To Don Wilson, Arnie Poutala and Arnie Becker who proved to a sometimes doubting Sandy Mountain Festival Committee that a wine tasting tent can be a fantastic addition and a real asset to the overall festivities.

Darrell Dempster, Chairman  
Sandy Mountain Festival Committee

#### "Thank you"

To my many friends in the Sandy area:

I want to thank everyone of you for your thoughtfulness in remembering me with the beautiful "get well" cards while I was in the hospital. They were greatly appreciated.

Maybelle Wesselink

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.

## Salem scene:

### Late-inning Legislature low-scoring

by JACK ZIMMERMAN  
Associated Oregon Industries

The Oregon Legislature is absorbed in one vast numbers game.

But that doesn't mean we're about to see the state adopting some sort of lottery. In fact, this game doesn't have anything to do with gambling in the familiar sense of the word.

What it does mean is that at this particular stage of every regular session of the assembly in Salem, numbers assume almost as much significance as baseball statistics during the national pastime's annual All-star break.

And in recent years, those occurrences have fallen painfully close together on the calendar.

Here's an example: If you're following attempts to revise Oregon's land-use law, it helps if you understand provisions of Senate bill 10 (enacted in 1969), SB 100 (enacted in 1973), House Bill 3008 (enacted in 1979) and HB 2225 (enacted in 1981).

These numbers all are significant in the current struggle over final passage of HB 2295 in 1983. Some other numbers also have meaning in this serial tug-of-war between environmental and business interests, entangled by concerns of local governments.

It gets complicated. For in-



stance: HB 2225 in 1981 finally passed both chambers after the Senate combined SB 300 and SB 447 that adds up to 747, but the bill came our SB 945 after ill-fated attempts to make it SB 1000.

And the big struggle so far this session with HB 2225 involves attempts to insert amendments to repeal provisions of 1979's HB 3008.

I would take many times the space this column consumes to explain the various laws created by the foregoing numbers. No matter to those participating in the process. At this stage of the lawmaking game, they simply recite the numbers and appear to understand what's going on.

It's reminiscent of the old comedy routine, in which veteran joke-tellers simply recite the numbers of jokes and get laughs without telling whole jokes.

The major difference is that numbers thrown about the capitol building don't get that many laughs.

Suffice it to say—if you're serious about playing this par-

ticular numbers game—you should understand Senate bills are expressed in hundreds (but can exceed 1,000) and House Bills begin with 2001 (except the Senate has a 5500 series, the House a 5000 series and resolutions and memorials are numbered one-through-whatever in both chambers.)

There are other numbers, each set with varying significance. The numerical makeups of House and Senate are one. In the 60-member House it takes 31 votes to pass a measure on to the Senate. And proposals must garner 16 votes in the 30-member Senate to get that chamber's stamp of approval.

In many instances the 31 and 16-vote totals are compounded by the 36-24 split between majority Democrats and minority Republicans and the 21-9 majority Dems hold over GOPs in the upper chamber.

And when it comes to partisanships, numbers achieve even more consequence in committees. Those panels have odd-numbered memberships, invariably favoring the majority party. Since proposed bills must first be passed by committees before being subjected to floor votes by all members of respective chambers, much effort is concentrated on what are called "swing votes," members of committees

susceptible to persuasion by interested groups. Their ballots tend to equalize the weighted committee numbers.

The particular statistical variety of numbers achieve significance when compared with numbers of days and weeks it takes a given assembly to achieve the foregoing.

It's sort of like figuring batting averages, errors, earned runs, strikeouts, walks, homers, runs batted in and sacrifices.

Actually, it's a little premature to figure the 62nd Assembly's statistical performance. One might say that as it went into extra innings, it became the second-longest game in history, recorded the usual number of errors, hit no home runs and remains in great jeopardy of striking out with voters who don't understand the numbers and won't settle for a scoreless tie.

What's more, they'd prefer this game's players settle the biennial issues before them without returning for special session playoffs that have become so frequent of late.

That big number was four, last time around.

And as various numbers increase, so does the likelihood of replay. On that, you can gamble.