

Editorial & Opinion

SANDY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1983

Debate parking petition

A parking moratorium petition tabled for action by Sandy City Council until Aug. 1 warrants popular attention.

The large number of local business persons who signed (143) suggests many businesses no longer are satisfied with stringent city regulations that call for paved offstreet parking for all new businesses.

Certainly conversion of old residences along Pioneer and Proctor Boulevards—while attractive, unforced urban renewal—presents parking problems to new businesses forced to comply with regulations.

However, what laws men have written can be changed by men, should their perception of needs change. While Sandy merchants and Council opted for paved, offstreet parking as early as 1972 and continued to support it in ordinance review in 1978 and 1981, things here may have changed.

Money saved on paved parking in these tough local economic times may aid entrepreneurs more than suddenly unneeded parking spaces.

As the city engineer reported in a recent city manager's report to council, paved parking for 10 cars costs some four times more than gravel parking.

Certainly the city is right to question what poor impression unpaved parking may present of the commercial core here and

maintenance problems created by dust and mud from gravel lots.

Despite the logical arguments made by Otto Rode and Ned Dyal in their one-year paved parking moratorium petition signed by 143 persons, the city needs to weigh carefully how many will benefit from relaxing city regulations.

Indeed, only a few business persons like Dyal and Rode come to mind as recently battling the city over paved parking compliance.

Another major example might be Fred Proctor, personal representative of the Eugenia Alt estate property. Part of the estate yet unsettled involves a nice gravel parking lot on Proctor Boulevard next to the Oregon Trail Plaza. The city has ordered the "unfinished" lot, that temporarily served offstreet parking needs of downtown workers, chained off. Proctor said he was trying to do the city a favor by providing the lot and would gladly reopen it without payment, should the moratorium on paved offstreet parking pass the Council.

The Council, however, must weigh all these pros and cons carefully. Drafting ordinance change, if even temporarily, must be done with great deliberation—not like the wording of the petition.

Public hearings on the petition request would be the best way Sandy City Council could navigate these uncertain straits. (VB)

Market city for visitor traffic

Marketing Sandy as a great little city to do business on your way over the mountain is an aim of Dan MacDonald that deserves support by local service clubs and agencies.

MacDonald and partner George De Witz of De Witz Association of Portland Tuesday challenged Sandy Chamber of Commerce to poll residents about what kind of city image they want to project.

Through participation, residents would become involved in a great Sandy public relations campaign to boost the image of the community.

As De Witz told the Chamber here, it doesn't take a lot of money. It mostly takes a lot of time to market a city to its best

advantage.

It was the observation of the marketing firm partners that Sandy's claim to fame as "gateway to Mount Hood" was a hollow-sounding boast, especially with Gresham interests encroaching on the title.

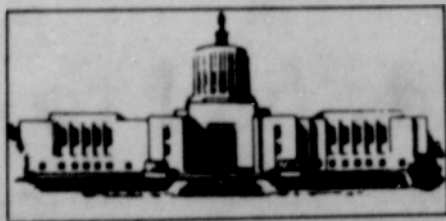
"We are missing a golden opportunity," MacDonald said of Sandy's idyllic setting on Highway 26—one of three major roads over Mount Hood.

Indeed, his aim to better promote Sandy to tourists warrants city-wide support. Perhaps Chamber can draft a questionnaire for residents, and local civic groups and agencies can help circulate it to stimulate a groundswell of support. (VB)

Salem scene:

Salem chickens lay an egg

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries



During what many Oregonians must have hoped were the waning hours of the regular session of the Legislature in Salem last week, lawmakers were considering raising their pay. The pay-raise package evoked memories of that ancient riddle that has no answer: "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?"

And the riddle's recollection involves the relationship between length of biennial deliberations in the capital city and the amount of recompense lawmakers receive.

In other words, are legislative sessions lasting longer because the pay gets better, or does the salary increase because it takes longer to get the job done?

Legislative oratory may support the latter view, but the Assembly's own statistics suggest the opposite.

The raise that popped out of Ways Means and sailed handily through the Senate would restore a 6 percent salary cut enacted during budget-balancing special sessions last year. It restores to \$700 from \$650 the monthly year-round salary for Senators and Representatives.

Other parts of the package boost from \$300 to \$350 the monthly expense allowance each receives when not in session and increases from \$44 to \$51 the daily expense allotment paid during sessions. From a percentage standpoint, the raises equate with a 13 percent increase in daily expense pay, 16 percent expense increase between sessions and the 6 percent salary increase.

Approved by party-line balloting, the raises drew nay votes from the nine-member Republican minority.

Also approved was a biennial legislative budget of \$11.6 million—up 13 percent—to handle most interim expenses and the cost of the next regular session in 1985. It marks

the first time Oregon lawmakers have attempted the two-year budgetary process under which other agencies and branches operate.

Usual practice is for an adjourning Assembly to pass an interim funding measure with seed money to start the next session. The incoming lawmakers pass a budget designed to carry them through the session and like as not have to come up with yet another funding measure to complete the session.

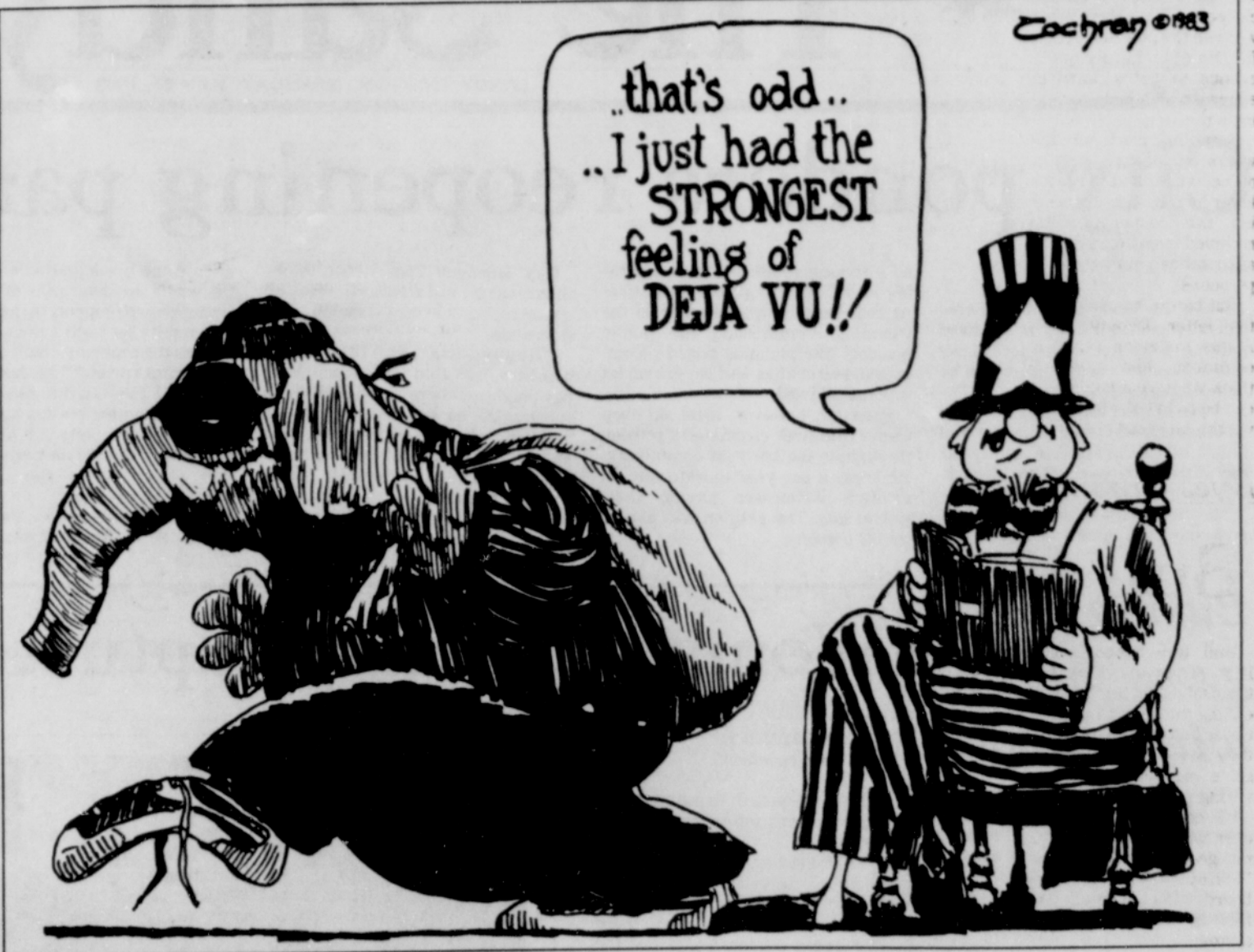
Oregonians querulous that this Assembly would consider raising legislative pay at this particular time might take the action as a sign lawmakers know something they don't. Like recovery from persistent recession is really under way and will provide additional tax revenue with which to fund the raises.

But if that's the case, they might wonder why those same lawmakers believed it necessary to raise taxes again to balance the budget?

During the record-smashing 1982 session, lawmakers enacted 983 measures. But it appears the total will be down to around 700 this session, averaging about 850 for this decade so far.

The foregoing prompts some observers to conclude Oregon lawmakers are being paid more longer to do less.

Oregonians can only hope there's a better answer than they ask their lawmakers why they spend so much time in Salem this year.



Letters to the editor:

Do Fest booze rules vary?

Fair's fair

I am not writing this letter in criticism of the Mountain Festival. It was great this year!

What I would like to know is how the Chamber of Commerce was able to avoid all the restrictions concerning the serving of alcoholic beverages that all others trying to provide this service had to comply with: (i.e. a six-foot fence around the service area and age control in the service area.)

I am writing this letter in the idea of fairness, not in meanness.

If I can take my kids in the wine tent, why can't I take them in the beer garden?

Good job, Chamber, but fair is fair.

Douglas C. Neisz
Sandy

Demo's scary

After listening to work sessions and watching bills in process, it does not surprise me that this Legislature "drags, while production lags." Oregonians have elected 21 Democrats and 9 Republicans to the Senate and 36 Democrats and 24 Republicans to the House.

According to the Democratic '78 platform, some of their goals are:

- Legalized prostitution (p. 26)

- Homosexuals teaching in public schools (p. 27)

- Decriminalization of narcotics laws (p. 30)

- Prisoners on parole boards (p. 28)

- Government competing with private enterprise in producing goods (p. 1)

I understand that they removed a few of the most embarrassing planks in their 1980 platform, but the newer version is still out of step with the rank and file taxpayer.

I hope this Democrat-controlled Legislature passes fewer bills than any other session, because their ability to waste tax dollars on programs like Comparable Worth coupled with their goals is disastrous. I hope we can survive them.

S. Ferrign
Canby

Help needed

Sandy Community Action Center volunteers are busy serving low-income clients in our new location at the former post office building.

It is ours now, more than a year since we won the grant that bought it. Rent is no longer the largest item on our budget.

We wish to thank the many patrons who provide us with usable and workable items that people can wear and use. We are also grateful for those organizations and persons who contribute money and food.

We offer a word of caution about receiving stacks of magazines and appliances that do not "work." These become space and disposal problems for us.

Our board of directors has authorized the extension and enclosure of the loading dock at the rear of our building. We badly need more storage space for such items as mattresses and furniture. When this has been built, the entire building will be painted on its exterior surfaces.

City of Sandy manager Tom Reber has offered to round up a crew of volunteer painters, when we are ready for this job. This is a sample of the interest and help we have had from Sandy's mayor, city planner, secretaries, building inspector and the Plan and Review Board.

W. Pete Sulzbach
Chairman

Many helped

While the memory is fresh in the mind and the exhaustion is fresh in the bones, I would like to thank the participants, contributors, supporters and volunteers who helped to make the First Annual Sandy Mountain Days Wine Fair and Feast a resounding success. My heartfelt thanks and appreciation go out to all of you. Special recognition goes to Carol Wilson who planted the seed for the original idea and who carried a herculean load.

I am impressed with the warmth with which this event was received by the community. In my thinking, this speaks more to the community than to the event. Von Braschler coined the phrase, "the pioneer spirit," however, I believe the spirit has been there all along.

Don Wilson
Wine Fair Chairman

City thanked

We would like to take the opportunity to thank Sandy city planner Don Wilson and Sandy city manager Tom Reber for insuring that a long-standing commitment from the city was fulfilled.

Our property now has 400 feet of sidewalk, markedly

improving the neighborhood appearance at no cost to the city.

My wife and I appreciate the perseverance of Don and Tom and realize that it isn't easy to make tough, unpopular decisions for the betterment of the city at large. Thank you again for your effort.

Joel and Janine Mills
Sandy

Save coastline

This letter is written to bring to your readers attention a very serious problem with the great resource on western Oregon's boundary, the Pacific Ocean coastline.

The writer is a professional engineer in private practice with 20 years of experience dealing with the Pacific Ocean on the central Oregon coast.

This letter was prompted by: (1) the problems experienced on the Pacific Ocean coastline this later winter, and (2) by an article in the July 11, 1983 issue of "U.S. News .. World Report," entitled "America's Losing Battle To Save Its Beaches."

This writer applauds this article for timeliness.

This writer readily admits that his 20 years of experience with the Pacific Ocean has not made him an expert, but he also knows that there are some professional men who sadly lack

the real experience with ocean front protective structures and yet charge fees for sub-standard designs.

This writer wishes to share with your readers his experience with the Siletz Sandspit in Lincoln County, Oregon. About 10 years ago many experts were predicting great problems with the Sandspit. Your readers may recall that there was no mention of the Siletz Sandspit this last winter, a winter which created the most problems in memory in certain areas of the Pacific Ocean coastline.

There was no mention of the Sandspit, because approximately 2 miles of the spit has been improved with a ocean front protective structure of rip-rap rock and shale bedding developed by Morris E. Kauffman, an un-lettered contractor in Lincoln City, Oregon. This structure is so effective many new homes have been erected on the Sandspit, including a new home of the same homesite from which an unfinished house was washed in 1973.

This writer believes that this great natural resource can be protected and improved, as was done on the Siletz Sandspit, by properly designed and constructed ocean front structures to counteract the onslaught of the Pacific Ocean ordinary and storm tides.

Lester E. Fultz
Neskowin

