

Editorial & Opinion

Von Braschler, Publisher Dan Dillon, Editor
 Caroline Duff, Office Manager Scott Newton, Sports Editor

SANDY, OREGON, THURSDAY, JULY 28, 1983

All should obey weed law

The city of Sandy should uniformly enforce weed abatement requirements according to city ordinance.

Some 75 percent of cited property owners in the city already have responded cooperatively to June notices by agreeing to clean their lots.

The city and property owners in question deserve a lot of credit for such speedy attention to neighbors' perception of yard work shortcomings. It isn't easy to admit one's yard is messy or for the city to finger owners of weedy yards.

But all should live by the ordinance to insure a more attractive community for all.

It remains the responsibility of all property owners and persons in charge of property in the city to keep their property clear of weeds, tall grass and other noxious vegetation. Indeed, property should be mowed periodically in the summer.

Law provides city power to hire mowers to weed and clean lots of owners who don't comply and then bill those owners for the work.

Thus far, most neighborhoods in the city have cooperated with the

city's notification to comply where needed. Even realtors who hold vacant lots have complied in most subdivisions.

However, some work remains in the Highview subdivision and downtown commercial sites.

While the FFA has clean much of the downtown sector and the Chamber of Commerce has agreed to work with businesses to accomplish landscaping, some honest weeding and cleaning is needed in a few spots.

The large Leathers lot next to a convenience grocery in the center of town is a major eyesore and should be confronted by the city. The lot is visible from either direction through town on the highway, and shouldn't be exempted, whatever the political skeletons buried there.

The city has come a lot way in beautifying Sandy and positively reinforcing the value of beautification with recent Design Review Board awards to outstanding businesses.

But the city's sword should be double-bladed to cut through weeds wherever they appear with punishments for those few neighbors who don't cooperate. (VB)

Speak now on parking proposal

Sandy residents concerned with a recent petition effort to place a one-year moratorium on business paved parking requirements might attend the City Council meeting Monday.

Council will address the petition request in regular session then and determine whether the 143-signature petition warrants ordinance change by Council or a public hearing.

It should be noted, however, the petition only requests a one-year waiver on requirement to pave mandated offstreet parking of Sandy businesses. The businesses still would be required to provide offstreet parking.

There remains some question

whether the vast majority of the 143 signatures represent business persons of Sandy, and whether those business persons who signed represent the majority sentiment of the commercial core.

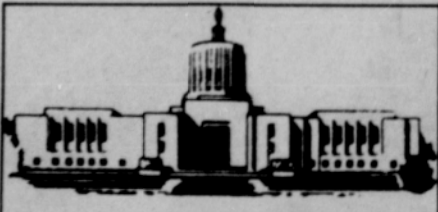
Hence, public involvement is wise at this time. After all, time is provided at regular Council meetings for such comments as input by the audience.

Later Council may provide a better forum to hear the people out on this issue. But until a public hearing on the parking moratorium petition is scheduled by Council, concerned residents should jump in with comment to make sure 143 petitioners don't speak for everyone. (VB)

Salem scene:

Final Salem hours hectic

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
 Associated Oregon Industries



The proverbial dust is settling in Salem in the wake of final adjournment of the 62nd Oregon Legislative Assembly's 1983 regular session.

And emerging are indications this Legislature may have produced a record of accomplishment almost as astonishing as the startling end of deliberations.

The surprise ending, of course, saw the House of Representatives quit at 11:10 p.m. Friday, July 15, and the Senate give up the ghost an hour and 20 minutes later at 12:30 a.m. next day.

This uncommon occurrence typified the rancor that developed between Senate Pres. Edward Fadeley and House Speaker Grattan Kerans—both Eugene Democrats—regarding attempts at revenue reform, expanded property tax relief and spending limitations.

Irrked at Fadeley's eleventh-hour manipulations with House bills, Kerans gavelled the sine die resolution leaving the upper chamber with no other recourse but to follow suit.

Consequently, the Assembly's property tax relief action—a slightly scaled-down version of that provided during the previous biennium—was termed inadequate by Gov. Vic Atiyeh and is expected to prompt a late summer or early autumn special session.

Meanwhile, the session that became history's second longest, did manage to address major problems it faced when first convened last Jan. 10 and provided solutions for most. Preliminary figures indicated lawmakers this year considered 2,072 measures of all kinds and enacted more than 900—a production record of about 44 percent and an achievement unmatched in more than a decade.

A week after adjournment it appeared something like 400 measures were pushed through to final passage in the last 10 days of the session, prompting some observers to ponder whether such haste may have produced uncommon waste.

An early indication might be the number of measures so far vetoed by Gov. Atiyeh out of the total number that had been considered for his signature. With 419 already

scrutinized, Atiyeh had axed seven and permitted two to pass without his signature. With something in the neighborhood of 500 to go, observers were pondering the likelihood total vetoes might match the 17 he killed two years ago.

Outcome of this bit of post-session suspense will be known on Aug. 9, the 20th day (not counting Sundays) following adjournment pegged July 16, the session's 188th day.

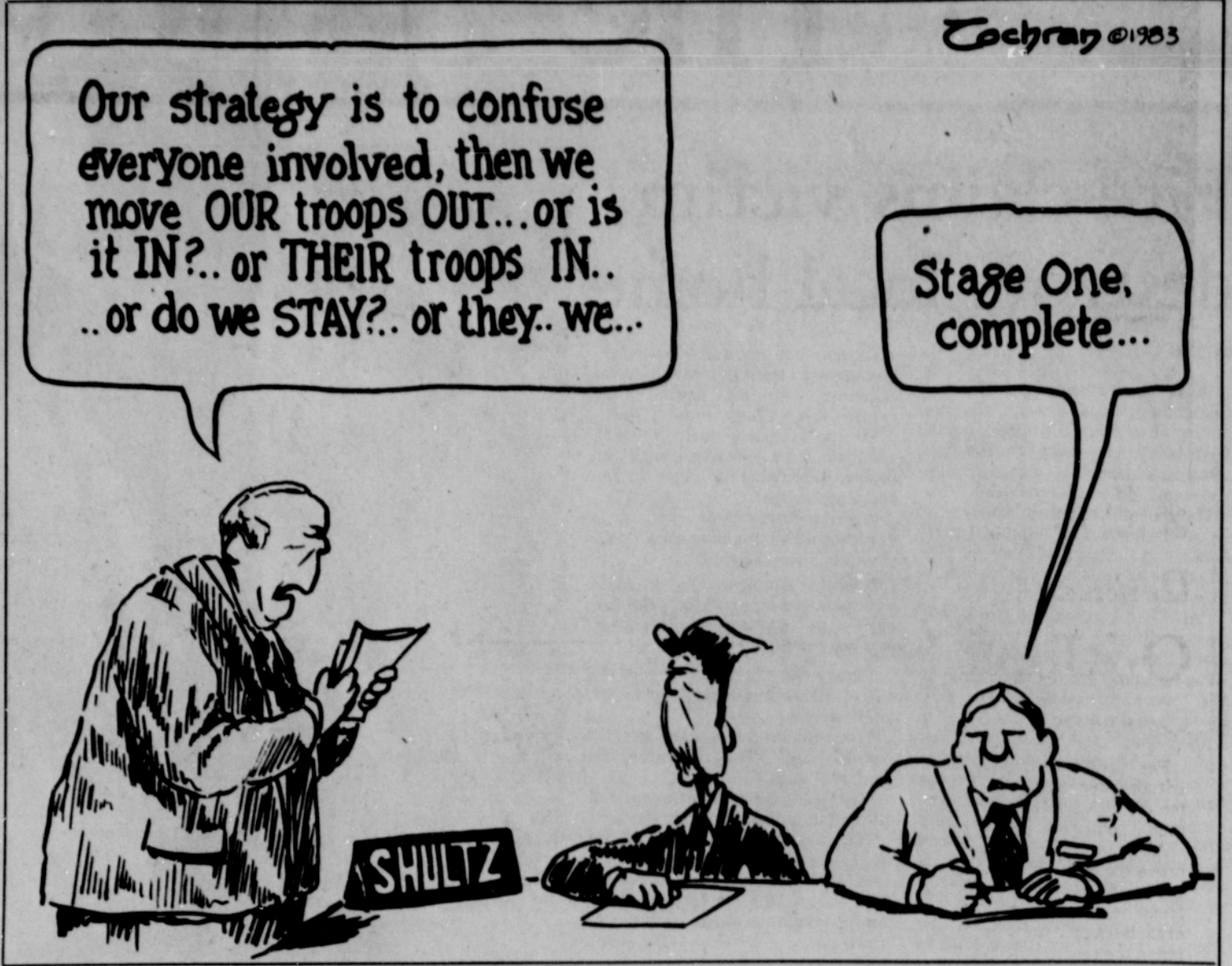
By comparison, the 1981 session that lasted 203 days, considered 2,533 measures and enacted 998.

In the meantime, Gov. Atiyeh has announced a scenario regarding the special session's prospect. He has said he will meet with Fadeley, Kerans and Republican leaders Sen. Tony Meeker of Amity and Rep. Larry Campbell of Eugene. Together they are to achieve a consensus plan for resolving the property tax relief problem. They then are to seek agreement within their individual caucuses, alert revenue committees to draft a proposal and gather in a brief, single-purpose session to enact it.

In the process, Atiyeh has said there are only two practical solutions to consider—a sales tax with revenue dedicated to property tax relief or his plan to merge present property tax programs and eliminate benefits to households with more than \$30,000 annual incomes.

Fadeley, who thwarted the House-passed sales tax during the regular session, remains adamantly opposed to any sales tax tied to a spending limitation and has said he really doesn't believe a special session is necessary.

Both Meeker and Campbell pushed for spending limitations during the session and Kerans' position was to bow to a narrow bipartisan majority in his chamber. Not one of the five key players in this melodrama have favored a sales tax.



Letters to the editor:

New's Dover barn historic

Barn recalled

A recent issue of the Post showed a nice view of an old barn near a pond or back of it, taken by a young local photographer to be used on a new calendar.

Has anyone wondered how old the main structure in the background is or who built it? These I can answer somewhat. Anyone reading about Dover community church in a recent issue of the Profile should have noticed the name Samuel Erv New and family as among early settlers there (not a known relative of the New presently in business in Sandy).

They came by way of Foster Road from Kentucky in 1886, took a homestead with some improvements, and bought a team and cattle from the owner so he could leave. As the children grew older, Frank New worked in the Meinig General Store in Sandy. Others soon went as far as central Oregon to an area that later became Jefferson County when Crook was divided. There

was lush bunch grass and a better place for cattle.

The family had moved to Firwood which is nearer Sandy and built this barn of boards. The house then was already there of logs. The barn had paint, but not red like so many were that were built about 1900.

News soon moved to the other side of Mount Hood. None came back to live in this area. Samuel Erv New was my great-grandfather. I remember seeing him several times. He had visited his two brothers in Kentucky, but returned.

Mrs. Fred Decker
 Music Camp Road

appropriate to the heritage with which he endowed our state.

I suggest that we call the severe economic slump from which we are just now may be emerging, the McCall Depression.

Or, if a topographic feature seems required, there is a great crater east of Lapine which now bears the ignominious name—Hole in the Ground. How about McCall Hole in the Ground?

Milton M. Fox
 Brightwood

Derby aided

I would like to thank the people who cooperated in

the recent very successful Soap Box Derby. It couldn't have been done without the help we got from so many!

I would especially like to commend Barry Fretz on his fortitude and imagination in bringing to Sandy the Ail-American Soap Box Derby.

Further, I think I can speak for all of Sandy in wishing Byron and Greg the very best of luck at the Akron race!

Next, let me emphasize the need for continuity in the various programs that the Soap Box Derby board has in the hopper. The first must be a permanent track. Then we can really get on to the fun part—rac-

ing. We hope to get a program worked out to include the younger boys and girls in a peewee group, as well as the present 9-15 age group and also something for the over-15 age bracket. Please feel free to contact us in regard to any additional information in any of the above programs.

Come on, Sandy. Let's all work together on this and really put Sandy on the Soap Box Derby map!

Thanks again to everyone who helped get times, handle cars or whatever your part may have been. It was truly appreciated.

Mel Rolofson
 Race committee

The Post gratefully acknowledges essays and written opinions from readers to appear on this page—separate from the unbiased news reports on other pages of this newspaper. Your opinions generally will be printed as letters to the editor, while ours generally will appear as editorials. Occasionally, we are able to print guest editorials. We attempt to print all signed letters of good taste, legible form and reasonable length. Our deadline is noon on Tuesdays.

Personally speaking:

Most reporters gutless adventurers

Most journalists love adventure, but there are few true George Plimptons in our ranks.

Most haven't the raw nerve to put themselves into the action by doing something as reckless as donning pads to crack heads with the Detroit Lions, as Plimpton did for a first-person account.

Also, it's considered poor reporting technique to get involved in a story, such as raising a point at a public meeting. The reporter generally tries to stay detached as a medium to relay information or points of view.

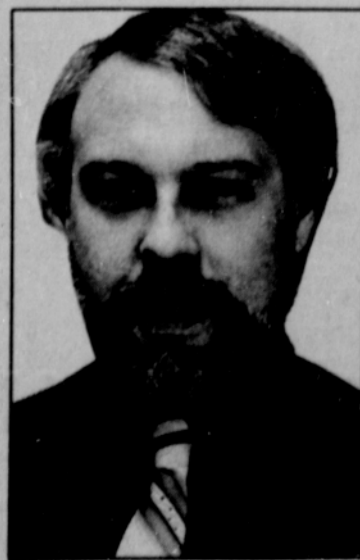
(The exception, of course, is when the reporter arrives first at the scene of some roadside accident or fire and has to choose between reporting and taking part.)

While most reporters are sensitive to human suffering, they're also mostly spineless cowards. I'm certainly no exception.

Oh, I used to get involved a little with my stories.

Once I tried "powder bombing" a small airport in Snohomish, Wash. after taking pictures of others in the airshow sport. Only I nearly fell out of the twin-seater, leaning into my pin-point shot at 100 feet up.

Then there was the time I



by VON BRASCHLER

decided it would be fun to photograph and interview a different "shooting gallery" where druggies gathered in a house overnight. Even working with shadows in the dark was a bit scary.

At my Everett, Wash. sports magazine I once decided the way to photograph offroad cars and bikes would be on the track,

under the airborne vehicles. The shots were spectacular, but the dust and suspense over control of the vehicles was nerve-shattering.

Whitewater rafting for photos on the Sauk River near Washington's White Horse Mountain only cost me one camera to the spray and the slosh. Passengers are defenseless.

Climbing mountains at Index and the San Juans SEEMED the best way to photograph new climbing schools graduates, only I never took the course and forget to bring anything but tennis shoes.

Well, I've pretty much had my share of waking at 4 a.m. for Opening Day fishing from logs over beaver ponds or skiing undeveloped spots in Alaska to show where the action is!

Plimpton can have all this. I must confess to Fire Chiefs Rathke, Armintrout and Shields, however, that I secretly long to take photos from INSIDE a burning building for a more personal perspective.

Maybe there's nothing quite like being near the action, and that's why would-be writers vicariously live off energy of real adventurers.

Saying all this is simple, but following the advice of purchased maturity is tougher. Like my pancake batter, the consistency just isn't there.

My most reason fall from grace involved a bout with herbs after a story I wrote on a local herbalist. I took one little walk, where this herbalist told me a little about local herbs and their properties. Suddenly I was an expert.

So I tried gathering local yarrow plants for wild herbal tea—a wild concoction I threw together with various leaves and clovers. Only the yarrow didn't look just right, when I was about to drop it into the kettle as last chosen ingredient.

Some sort of buzzer like a darkroom timer went off in my head. Suddenly I scrambled for my books—where journalists really live.

Sure enough, I'd mistaken a hemlock plant for yarrow. The hemlock smelled delicious, like the book said. Only the book said one other thing about the yarrow look-alike.

The last guy to brew such tea was a Greek philosopher named Socrates. Guess it carried quite a whallop, too, because he hasn't bothered anyone since.