

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

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An identity for Sandy

A number of people at the Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce's issue identification forum last week expressed an interest in giving Sandy more of an identity.

One of a number of ideas with potential borrows from the lights of the Tollgate Inn. Recognizing the Tollgate Inn as a landmark for travelers, the thought is that maybe all of Sandy could get in on the act of lighting their businesses. Thus, the "City of Lights."

The drawback, of course, would be the cost of electricity. But perhaps an increase in the electric bill could be seen as an advertising expense. Certainly travelers from Portland and other places know of the Tollgate Inn in Sandy. And, small displays probably wouldn't be too expensive to light.

Tasteful displays on Proctor and Pioneer Boulevards, if the entire city participated, would draw the attention of motorists. This theme might just create enough interest for some of those passers-by to stop in one day and browse through some of the stores.

One current and tasteful sign that could serve as an example is at Paola's Pizza Barn.

However, a change in atmosphere comes from within, and it will take more than electric signs to create a city with "Personality."

Arnie Poutala, Chamber president, came up with an idea earlier this fall that deserves consideration.

Dan Stevens, popular potter and storyteller from the Sandy Mountain Festival, has created an entire myth about the Sandimites.

Even if he doesn't live in Sandy proper (he lives in Boring and is a teacher at Gresham High School), he'd be an ideal spokesman for the city of Sandy.

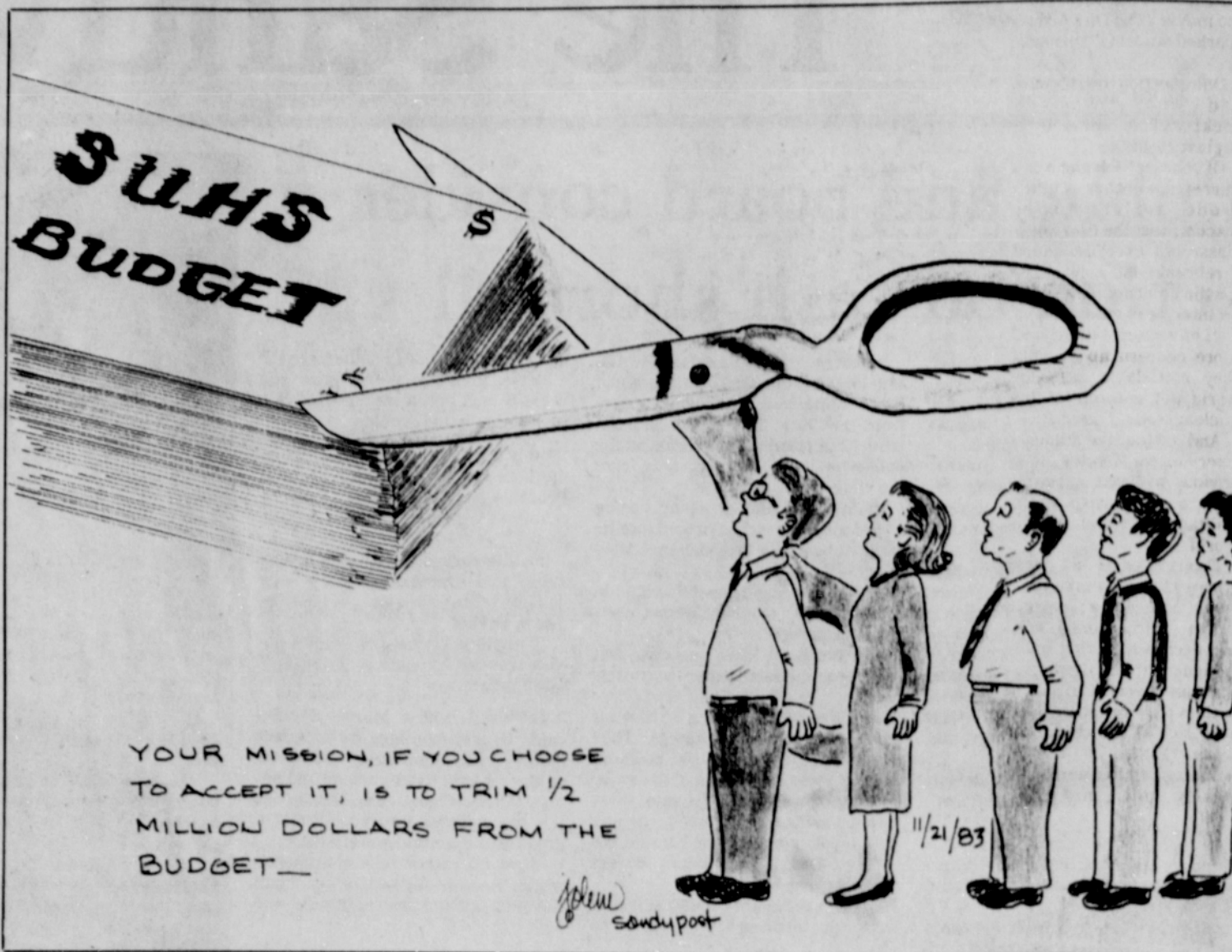
Stevens is willing to share the myth of the elfin-like people with the city of Sandy—but don't ever tell Stevens you don't believe in Sandimites. He is convinced it is the Sandimites who keep the city clean. (Talking about a clean Sandy, that was another major consideration at the issue identification forum.)

Another idea concerns the Sandy Pioneer and Historical Association's fund raiser for a museum and people's desire for a performing arts center.

Perhaps the two could be combined for the benefit of the Association and those who would like to quit spending money in Gresham and Portland for large-group gatherings.

The Sandy Community Players and the Mountain Festival committee have proven that a rural community can be an exciting participant in the world of the arts.

Instead of considering our proximity to Portland as a slam (i.e., the bedroom community), it is time to cash in on our location while maintaining Sandy's aesthetic value, which is why we live here in the first place.



Letters to the editor

Getting education's been a battle

Monday night after sitting at what I would call a very positive school board meeting, I came home, dug out my scrapbook and thought I would take a good, long look at the past.

On the pages of my scrapbook were pictures of my friends and teachers, a ribbon here and there from past track meets, a clipping from the first time I got my picture in the paper and even a dried flower from a boyfriend. I had to smile as I remembered all the good times I've been able to share with both my friends and teachers through participating in activities and athletics. I looked over at my clock and realized it was getting late, and as I went to tuck my scrapbook away in a drawer, a tear ran down my face. It's a sad realization that the real story is told in between the pages.

For my classmates and I, the last three years have been a constant battle to receive an education and to

reach the goal of graduation. Even with just a little more than half a year left, we are threatened with the fact that maybe our school will close early or our activities and athletics will be taken away.

How hard it is to concentrate on our schoolwork while always worrying whether or not we will be able to receive our diplomas or have the chance at much needed scholarships to further our education.

The board is faced with a very difficult decision this week. I hope with the positive input they heard Monday night they will hold back on cutting and vote again on a B levy in March.

We (the students, the public and the school board) must come together sometime and the time is now! Let the board know that all of us individuals working as a team will get that levy passed in March.

To the board, I say, please give us one more

chance.

Sharon Jensen
Senior class president

Thanks

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, the Sandy Business and Professional Women's Club wishes to thank all the merchants who contributed to make our Fashion Show a success.

Included are Calico Country Fabrics, Edgren's Jewelers, Gordon Stone's Key to Fashion, Gresham Equestrian, J.C. Penney, Janz Berryland, Larry's Sport Center, Montgomery

Ward, More To Love Ltd., Oak Bay Clothing Co., Patti's Bridal, Pauletta's, Sandy Country Florist, The Flower Garden and the Sandy Post.

Marguerite Kehrli
Chairman

Closed

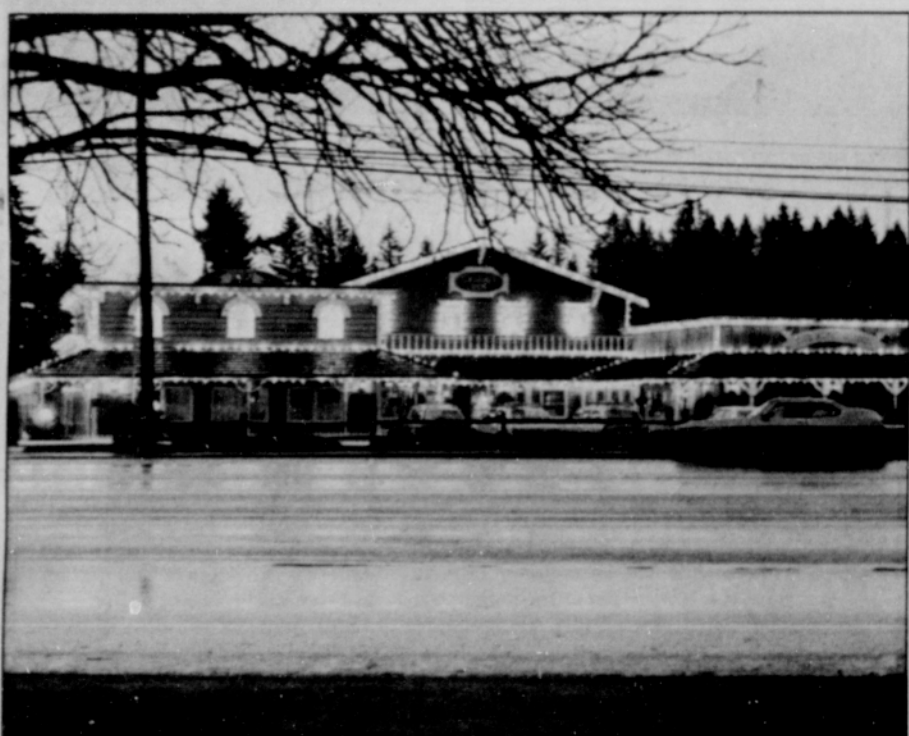
This letter is addressed to the bureaucrats running the Sandy office for the Department of Motor Vehicles. It seems that it is nice that our tax dollars found its way to providing the citizens of Sandy an office to take care of their vehicle and drivers

licenses. The personnel at this office seem to find it at their convenience to close their (or our) office between 11 and noon for lunch. This is not very considerate of people who work and have only their lunch hours to take care of this task.

With two or three people in this office, they should be able to juggle their precious lunch hours and have at least one person in the office so the office can be open during this time, or maybe close the office altogether.

Roger Garland
Sandy

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.



Comment

Beall a stride ahead in race for House seat

by SCOTT NEWTON

A week ago Monday I heard Jim Beall speak at a coffee at Roberta Hutton's house. A week ago Tuesday Peter Courtney was at The Post asking if I liked the rabbit rollerskating across the top of his press release.

And so, it could be argued that this article is over a week old. However, with the election of a Congressman from the 5th District months away, I like to think I'm a half a year early.

The two Democrats are running for the office currently held by Representative Denny Smith in what could be one of the key races in Oregon.

Though Denny Smith gave the Congress as a whole an "F" for its last session, he said it was his best session to date.

"The leadership failed to lead on our biggest national problem: controlling the deficit," according to Smith, a Republican. "Not only did Congress lack the courage to control spending, it allowed new programs to start and old ones to grow."

"It was a little like opening the spill gates on Bonneville Dam as a way to hold back more water," said Smith in a press release (only six days old) that would have taken up about 45 column inches had I decided to run the whole thing.

Beall also addressed the federal deficit. Saying the issue in this campaign will be jobs, he said there is no way the Willamette Valley can return to prosperity while the government is borrowing billions of dollars.

The discussion at the coffee at Hutton's took a fascinating twist. Spurred on by Pete Sulzbach, Beall said, "Education is a defense issue."

A strong defense depends on a nation's will to fight, said Beall. "Everyone must have a stake in the United States."

Beall, a young and handsome Democrat

—at a Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce meeting Jim Patrick said Beall looks young because he has never been married — is a lawyer who lives in West Linn.

Beall's main qualifications include experience in international trade and work on the staff of the Ways and Means Committee, which he said handles 26 percent of all legislation that goes through the house.

Beall said, "We've lost our East Coast market, but there are new ones in the Pacific Rim." He believes those markets are available to lumbermen, farmers and those involved in high technology.

Courtney is also an attorney, and is currently a State Representative in the north and west Salem district.

He has a variety of experience in government, from the Salem city council to his present position.

"I believe in paying dues," he said. Courtney, who is fond of saying he is not "certified smart," feels he has the record to show he would do well in Washington, D.C.

"I'm going to be a player," said Courtney, adding that he does indeed feel one person can have an impact.

Courtney had a hand in drawing up the current sales tax referendum, but he said the property tax limitation doesn't have the bite he wanted. He felt a \$2 per \$1,000 assessed valuation — for the schools — was all the burden property owners should have if they were to approve the sales tax.

The most interesting thing about last week — which is of course old news — was a discussion among the 14 people at Hutton's about how people don't trust government anymore. But that's another story.

Courtney declined to say what issue would be the most important in this race, which puts him one stride behind Beall with a lot of distance yet to be covered.

Beall is right when he says the issue that concerns Oregonians the most is jobs.

Personally speaking

A man can still feel like a king

I am a family man. Half the forms I fill out ask for "head of household." That's me.

"Head of household" really has a nice ring to it. It is a lot like "head of state" or "head-quarters," there is a certain amount of authority there.

Unfortunately neither my children nor my wife understand the meaning of the term. It seems to me that if I fill out the ridiculous amount of forms I do (and in the process make some little form-maker in Pawtucket rich), I should get a certain amount of respect. After all, my name has been listed first at least 300 times this year alone.

It was different when I was a kid. It was different when everyone else was a kid too, for one thing we were all younger.

I can remember when my father was king of the house. He would always come home and make some kind of royal proclamation like "what is for dinner?" and all of us peons would help the queen set the table. Actually about the only one who would really bow was the family dog and I am not sure he wasn't just falling asleep.



by HANK EMRICH

Nevertheless, he was king and we all respected it. I am not saying that was right in the light of women's liberation and all, but it sure looked like fun. The only problem was there didn't appear to be a lot of king things to do besides say "get me my slippers," so the king had to spend a lot of time having a beer and watching football.

However, there is still a place for royalty in America. That is

what all those little bells are for that say "ring for service."

All anyone that wants to feel like a king has to do is go out and find a business that has one, ring it a couple of times, and watch somebody come running.

The only problem is that the person who decided to put the bell on the counter is not usually the one who has to answer it. Chances are the guy who put the bell there is out ringing someone else's bell on company expense. In the meantime, someone with a lot of responsibility and a little bit of pay is left with his bell.

What this means is you will not always be treated like royalty as soon as you press the button. You may have to use your imagination. After all somebody else did when they said you would get service if you rang the bell in the first place.

When searching for places to ring bells, it is important to find one where there is not a sense of humor. There are places where people hide behind the door until your hand is halfway to the button. They come out just in time to make you feel like an idiot for ringing when they are obviously right in front of you. This is not a

king type of experience.

There are other ways to behave like royalty without wearing a lot of purple velvet. Going to hamburger places that offer little cardboard crowns does not top the list, but neither should it be discouraged.

A favorite of many people seems to be driving slow on the freeway. Using this method, a person can have his own royal procession in a very short time, especially during rush hour traffic. Again imagination can be helpful as one visualizes automobile horns as the royal trumpeters.

My last experience with this method was a little disconcerting when a neighboring monarch in a semi-truck and trailer decided I should abdicate the throne.

At one point I decided the best place to feel like a king would be around the house and started a program whereby I would refer to the family as "my people." It was purely psychological, but it looked like it could have merit. Unfortunately, the only one who responded with any kind of approval to being referred to as "my people" was "my cat."