

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

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Communication problem?

Two women, insisting that their actions be perceived as those of two private citizens, presented the exact opposite image at a Sandy City Council meeting recently.

They insisted city of Sandy employees are not being treated fairly in all ways, and they made numerous allegations about supervisory personnel at City Hall.

Management responded on the spur of the moment with credible answers. On the whole, it is fair to say that management did a very good job of defending itself.

The two women might say that they had the citizens of Sandy in mind, as far as putting a stop to unnecessary waste and creating a safer working atmosphere for the employees.

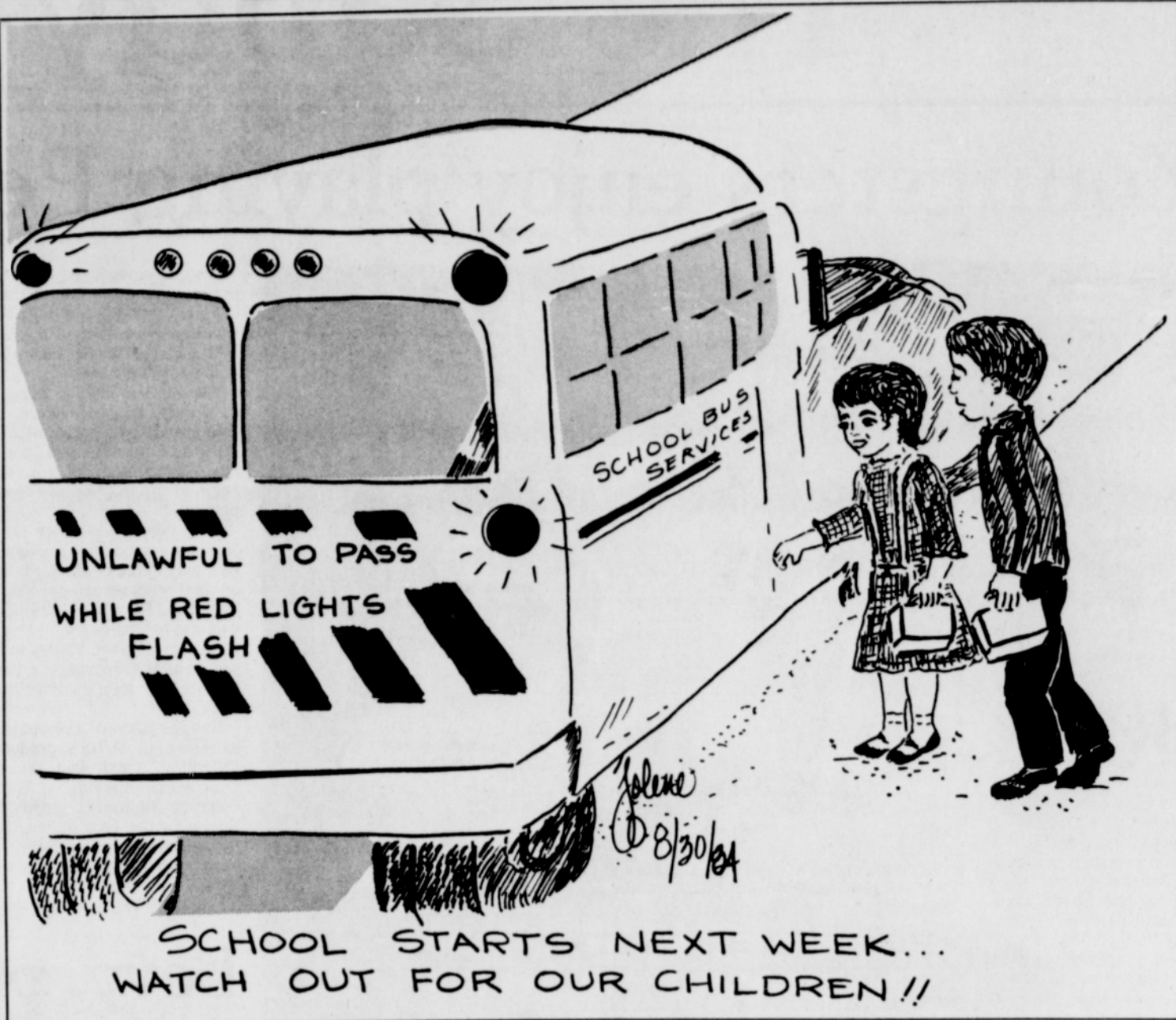
They should consider, however, that to most people they simply had too much inside information to have been speaking as private citizens. No matter how much they wish to deny it, they came off as two wives venting frustration over a failure of communication somewhere in the chain of command.

They claimed to have used information gathered out of one man's diary without his knowledge. The fact that they would do this, and then compose a long letter and mail it to City Council members, indicates that they were driven by a great deal of concern or frustration.

Whether they were right or wrong in what they did will remain a judgment call, but the fact remains that there was a problem in communication that wasn't dealt with properly in its infancy.

All in all, things have gone pretty well for the city in the past year. First citizens approved an operating levy, and in May they were presented with a tax base, and were told it would last "at least six years." The voters approved it.

With things going so well, perhaps time could have been found to solve internal conflicts before they festered in the public's eye. Hopefully, good communication between management and employees will become a goal of city supervisors.



Patience is required

Automobiles are great because they allow us so much freedom and power. Punching the accelerator of many cars allows one to speed off with a throaty roar.

But along with the freedom to fly down the highway at 60 miles per hour comes a monstrous responsibility, and that is to drive safely.

One shouldn't have to be reminded of that fact, but unfortunately some people do not gain any maturity or common sense

through the years.

In the past couple of years bus drivers have complained about people who ignore the flashing lights when they stop their buses to pick up or drop off children. People are required by law to stop when they see those flashing lights.

Yet we continue to hear scary stories about close calls.

The buses are going to be back out on the streets. A little patience isn't too much to ask, is it?

Letter to the editor

Water agreement is fair

The Aldercreek-Barlow Water District gratefully acknowledges the fairness and cooperation of the city of Sandy during recent negotiations between the city and the district for a water purchase agreement.

As was stated in the August 16 issue of The Post, the agreed upon wholesale rate was determined by an independent consultant and is based upon a pro-rated share of the actual cost to produce the water at the treatment plant, plus a 9.5 percent rate of

return to the city.

The rate does not include costs of service and distribution lines within the city.

The district is responsible for the intertie line to be constructed, distribution to the district water users and administration within the district. The agreement provides for timely review of rates.

Again, our thanks.

Margo Dempster, president
Aldercreek-Barlow Water District

Salem scene

Voters face decisions

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

It will take an uncommon amount of careful consideration to cast an intelligent ballot during the Nov. 6 general election. At least as far as the statewide ballot measures are concerned.

That conclusion is based on the number of challenges, lawsuits and threatened lawsuits involving several of the nine measures currently certified for ballot status.

One of the measures, Ballot Measure No. 1, achieved ballot status via the legislative referral route. In other words, it was enacted by the Legislature during the 1983 regular session and referred to this election for voter approval because it amends the Oregon Constitution.

The other eight measures all qualified for the ballot by the initiative petition signature-gathering route.

For the casual voter next November the trouble may begin with Measure No. 1. The official explanation indicates the number of signatures needed to recall a public official is being reduced mathematically from 25 percent of votes cast for Supreme Court Justice in the last election to 15 percent of gubernatorial electors.

Sort of sounds like a 10 percent reduction in the number of petition signatures required.

But that's discounting the undervote for seldom-challenged Supreme Court positions. With only one name on a ballot, Supreme Court candidates receive a lot fewer votes than candidates for governor.

So in fact, passage of Measure No. 1 might well reduce the total number of signatures required to recall a public official. On the other hand, the Supreme Court incumbent in this year's election has a challenger and the vote total may well soar over previous totals.

Begin to understand how complicated this is? Read on.

Measure No. 2 is the 1½ percent property tax limitation initiative. It was placed on the ballot by the Oregon Taxpayers Union, the

same organization that successfully initiated Ballot Measure No. 3 two years ago. That measure came within a whisker of being approved by voters and many Oregonians assume Measure No. 2 this election is the same proposition.

Wrong. Read it carefully. It has been rewritten extensively. Furthermore, a suit against the measure is pending in Marion County Circuit Court.

Measure No. 3 this year would create a Citizens' Utility Board to represent the interests of utility customers. Sounds good. But the same proposition failed to be enacted by the last Legislature. And it is a controversial issue!

Measures No. 4 and 5 would establish a state lottery to raise money for economic development. They may sound good, too. But it's controversial for two reasons. First, its promoters paid to collect necessary signatures to make the ballot.

And, second, an error has turned up in the ballot title of Measure No. 4 that likely will require litigation if it's approved by voters.

Measures No. 6 and 7 deal with restoration of the death penalty. American Civil Liberties Union lawyers have threatened to file lawsuits challenging the proposals but no papers have been served.

Measure No. 8 deals with criminal prosecution procedures and victims' rights. It has been challenged and the Supreme Court has accepted the suit.

Measure No. 9 is a real sleeper. It deals with disposal of wastes containing naturally occurring radioactive isotopes. As with No. 3, No. 9 sounds good at first reading. But it primarily applies to old waste stored at Teledyne Wah Chang in Albany and would prevent uranium mining and milling in Oregon. Wah Chang is challenging the official explanatory statement in the Voters' Pamphlet.

All things considered, it appears the process of making law by popular vote is easily as complicated and confusing as the process undertaken by Oregon's 90 lawmakers in regular session every two years.

Letters to the editor

Time for Humanism to bite back?

Whenever the religion in school question comes up, someone has to blame Humanism for the sad state of affairs. Now it is high time that Humanism bite back.

First we are not evil ogres, waiting to pounce on your kids and lead them astray. We are not bigoted satanists out to destroy the world and everything in it.

We teach our children HOW TO THINK, NOT WHAT TO THINK. We encourage them to study the various religions, philosophies and sciences. They then are free to make up their own minds.

We will work with anyone for the betterment of the Human race and our fellow species.

After accepting Humanism, I have come to the realization that a closed mind is stupidity's abode and paranoia's workshop.

If the Christians are able to pass their literature out in the schools, I must insist on the same right.

Albert C. Harper
Eagle Creek

Shirt-tails, skirt-tails

November is getting closer, and the 1984 election seems to be shaping up to a repeat of 1980. A choice of not necessarily voting for President Reagan, but voting against Walter Mondale.

I got a kick out of Ferraro when just days after her selection she boldly announces that this year we're going to tell it like it is! The humor of that statement is, they obviously haven't been telling it like it is in the past. Of course, this is no surprise to the

electorate. We are accustomed to being lied to by the politicians. It's just interesting to hear them admit it.

It appears the two party system is finally caught up in the economic lies that have been created the past thirty years. With Americans busy creating a life for themselves after WW II and Korea; no one seemed to notice the wave of low interest money being invested in "cheap labor" nations at the expense of business and labor here in the United States. The foreign nations became successful and the Internationalist investors reaped the profits. So where do we go now bright boys!

In order to maintain our rate of spending and still keep our worthless dollar from eroding further there's talk that our taxes may need to be increased.

If that's truly the case, then who occupies the White House doesn't really matter. What is important though is what is done with the extra revenue. If the big spenders take control our deficit will not be reduced, but they sure will have fun buying votes with new federal programs and of course more bureaucrats to run them. The tax payer will see no benefit; just shut up and keep paying those increased taxes.

This I'm afraid is the kind of attitude that Mondale will bring to the White House. In general Walter Mondale's entrance into national politics was an attempt to find a running mate for Carter that would not offend anyone. Considering Mondale's mediocre career, his selection was a safe bet. Ah yes, from the shirt-tails of Hum-

phrey and Carter; to the skirt-tails of Ferraro. If Walter doesn't make it, he should do the Democrats a favor and return to the oblivion from which he came. Jimmy did!

Ralph A. Sandercock Jr.
Sandy

No union affiliation

We, the undersigned police officers of the city of Sandy, wish to express that we have no association or involvement with AFSCME, in the distribution of leaflets, or any other activities pertaining to the union.

Officers Kelly Adovnik, Edmund King, Carl Faught, David Farmer, Mark White, Sgt. Harold Skelton and Animal Control Officer Jerri Ellis.

In a different sense

A red face won't get you hired

In an election year, one political party would have you believe the employment situation is promising and the other would have you believe the streets are filled with jobless people.

However, most people that are unemployed cannot afford the funny hats that are necessary when attending political conventions, so there is not too much actual contact between politicians and the unemployed. Except for Anne Buford and Ronald Reagan, who keep bumping into each other.

While it amazes some people that Buford could be offered job after job, it is obvious that she merely knows the proper techniques involved in applying. These are skills that anyone in the market for a job could put to use.

Foremost in preparations for job hunting are the materials presented to prospective employers. If a resume is required, it should stand out. If applying at a "youth-oriented" company, a video resume may be helpful. Simply tune in to MTV and follow that format. The services of some unemployed backup singers may need to be enlisted to prepare the video. If you can't dance, use a double. If you can't sing, dub voices. If you do not look good on camera, wear an outlandish costume.

It may sound dishonest, but millions have been made using just that formula. The video resume is the wave of the future.



by Hank Emrich

As soon as they figure out how to set "Four years at Slippery Rock College, majoring in economics" to music.

If the expense of preparing a video resume is prohibitive, flash cards and tape cassettes can also be effective. For more conservative firms, a job hunter should stick with standard resumes, but even the standards can be spiced up.

Send letters of recommendation with the resume, but contrary to popular belief, content of those letters is not important. The letters need only have a flattering first sentence and an impressive letterhead. If the rest of the letter is long enough, it can just be full of sentences that don't

mean anything, like "Punctuality, productivity and willingness to take under consideration the views of less punctual and less productive individuals have always marked the work-a-day relationships that are often necessary in a marketplace with conceptual ramifications where manufacturing ties hand-in-hand with goal setting and output of the managerial status for the rapidly increasing evidences of computerization."

It does not hurt to have the letter of recommendation end with something like "It is my feeling that this individual would be an asset to your fine company." A personal note such as "these feelings are shared by the individual's co-workers, his business associates, civic leaders, his paper boy, his neighbors, his family, and the Grand Punjab of Kuwait," also adds a nice touch.

Most personnel managers do not have time to read entire letters of recommendation. That is because they are busy thinkin' of confusing and unnecessary questions to add to job application forms.

While most personnel managers look remarkably like game show hosts, they do not all think alike. Therefore, the job hunter must be able to put forth the proper image to fit differing personalities of the managers. If the interviewer is eating an egg salad sandwich while talking, it is

probably safe to loosen your tie and relax a little.

If the office furniture is covered with clear vinyl and the room smells like Pine-Sol, watch your posture and use impeccable English. Do not worry about getting too relaxed because it is impossible to relax on vinyl-covered furniture.

One other thing to remember before looking for work is to "test-drive" your clothes. The clothes that are worn to look for a job are seldom the same clothes that are worn to work. This means it is very easy to put on a shirt that has not been worn in a while. Wearing a shirt with too small of a neck makes for a ruddy complexion, and nobody likes to hire someone with a red face.

Always remember in an interview to maintain eye contact. From the moment the job hunter enters the personnel office, he should keep his eyes glued upon those of the interviewer. Because the prospective employee's eyes are glued on the interviewer, he should also walk slowly to prevent tripping over furniture. It is very difficult to maintain eye contact from a prone position.

A job hunter who is currently employed and just looking for something better has a definite advantage. He can pretend he does not really need the job. The best way to do this is by talking about how great the current job is. This is one point where eye contact is not required.