

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Chris Hale, general manager Scott Newton, editor

Law on drug use apparently works

Nearly 1,000 Oregon youths between the ages of 13 and 17 were denied driving privileges in 1984. Denials were based on court convictions involving alcohol or drug possession under a law passed in 1983.

According to information provided by the Motor Vehicles Division, the law is one of the first of its kind in the nation.

Most of the 952 denials ordered in 1984 were for offenses involving alcohol. Minors in possession of alcohol accounted for 713 of the total. There were also 69 denials for either having an open container or drinking alcohol in a motor vehicle, and 13 were for intoxication or driving under the influence.

Other grounds for denial last year included minor in possession of drugs, 139; theft of alcohol, 12; and delivery or manufacture of drugs or controlled substances or criminal activity in drugs, 6.

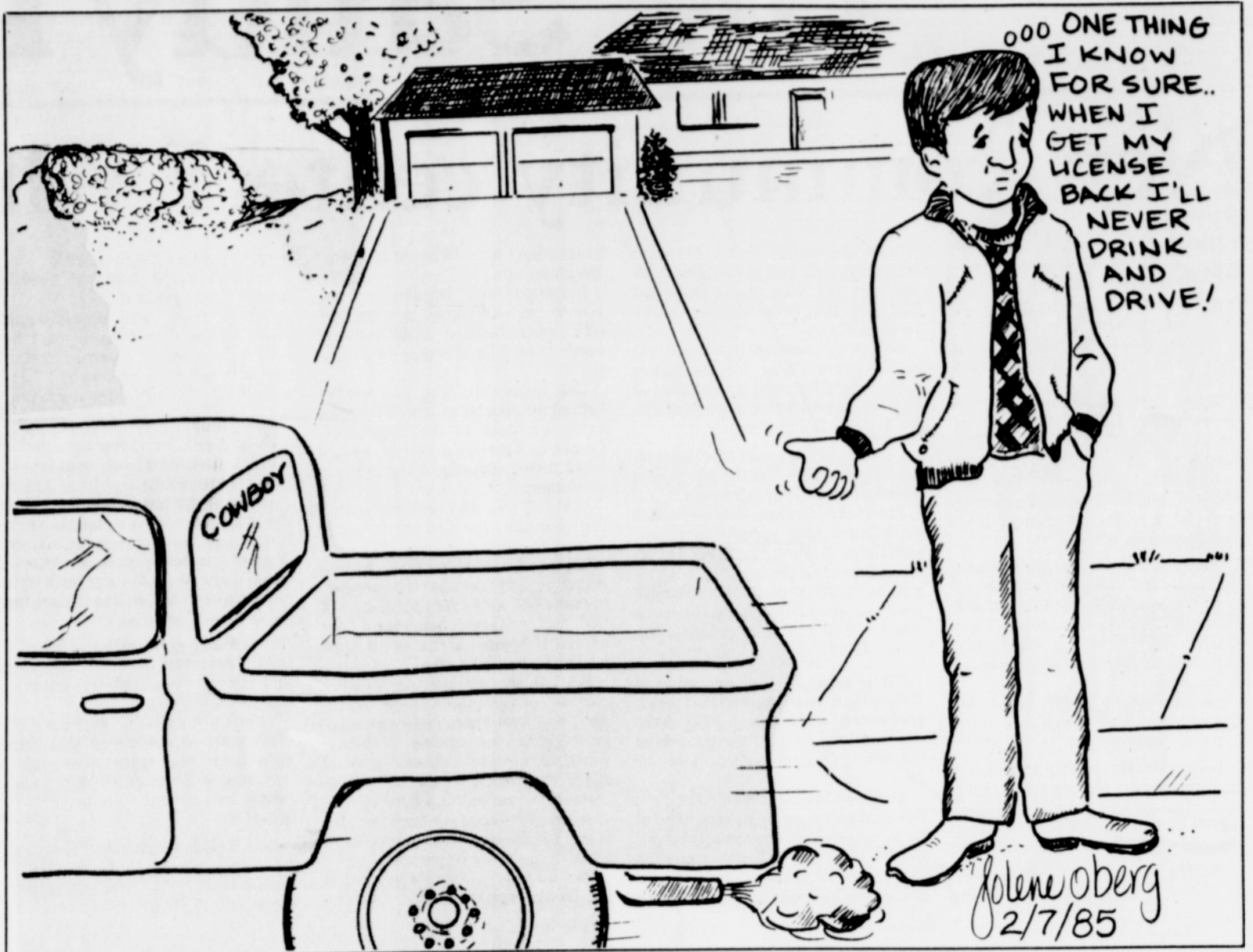
Denial of driving privileges for first offenders is one year or until the person becomes 17, whichever is longer. Repeat offenders are suspended for a year or until the person becomes 18, whichever is longer.

Denial of driving privileges may occur even if the offenses are not tied to driving a motor vehicle.

Officials report receiving letters and telephone calls from people in other states and countries asking how the law works.

Despite the criticism regularly bestowed upon the 1983 Oregon Legislature, this is one law that is definitely catching the attention of young people. Whether it will reduce the incidence of alcohol and drug abuse remains to be seen.

Regardless, it will keep them off the highways. The message is clear to people of any age: Mixing drugs and alcohol with driving is not being tolerated.



Letter to the editor

FFA, VICA clubs say thanks for the support

On behalf of the Sandy High School chapter of the Future Farmers of America and the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America, we would like to thank the following businesses and organizations of the area for contributing their time, people and finances to make this year's Donkey Basketball game a big success:

All Breed Dog Grooming, Assembly of God-Boring, Action Auto and Truck Parts, Band B Tanks, Band B Rentals, Alpine Tree Service, Belcher Nursery Inc., Barlow Timber Inc., Burns Feed Store, Clackamas County Bank, Buckboard Pizza, Big Valley Mobile Home Park, Boring Tavern, American Mechanical, Concrete Paving Stones Inc., Crown Carpets Inc., Classic Auto Parts, Church of Christ, Custom Farm Services Inc., Jeffery A. Crook Attorney, Bruce E. Cook and Associates, E.A. Installation Inc., Gentle Ben Enterprises LTD, Fancher Auto-Truck Parts, Don Sandy Oregonian, Furgussons Power Equipment, Gordon Stone's Key to Fashion, The Hair Mill, First American Title Company, Bandit Graphics, Calamity Janes, Dairy Queen, Baerts Metal Products Inc., Carlson Chevrolet, Grokett Jewelry, The Flower Garden, Family Hypnosis Center, Harris Stud Mill, U.S. Metal Works, Sandy Assembly of God, Deane's Auto Repair, Linda Hertz DMD, Holt's Shopping Center, J.R.'s Auto and Truck Parts, Helicopter Support Services Inc., Elton Leavitt MD PC, Lee Buxton Meat Company, Misty Meadow Kennels, Mt. Hood Refuse Removal Inc., Maiden Bronze, Mt. Hood Body Shop and Towing, Kreugers Nursery and Landscaping, Northwest Tractor Part and Equipment, Northwest Stepping Stone Company, McCall Country Store, Griff's Longburger and Breakfast Company, Mt. Hood Cleaners and Laundry, The Hairline Coiffures, Gardner Plumbing, Montgomery Ward Catalog Sales Agency, Janz Berryland, Paola's Pizza Barn, The Pressworks, Rick Asai DMD, Paradise Tan, Portland General Electric, Mark M. Mullens DC, Precast Concrete Specialties, Quality Tank Construction Co., Oregon Liquor Control Commission, Obrist Incorporated, Trimble Construction Company Inc., Vernon Richards-

Attorney, Timberline Construction Company Inc., Quality Service Electric Company, Suburban Ford Incorporated, State Farm Insurance Company, Northwest Equestrian Liquidators, Living Way Fellowship, Sandy Rexall Drug, Sandy Ready Mix, Triple XXX Drive-In Restaurant, Sandy Sentry Market, Sandy Funeral Home, Sandy Fast Print, Metro Auto Wrecking, Sandy Travel Service, Je T'Aime Photography, Sandy Lock and Safe, Sandy Auto Body, Toni's Restaurant and Lounge, Toney's Farm Market, Tim's Gateway Tire and Wheel, Bowman's Sandy Thriftway, Taco Time, Sandy Farms, 7-Eleven Food Stores, Sandy's Country Store, Sandy Office Supply, Cascade Hair Resort, Cascade Animal Clinic, Boring Fire Protection Dist. 59, V.K. Precision Machinery, Jim Turin and Sons Inc., Sandy Arco Inc., Wellness Insurance, Sandy Chiropractic Clinic, Sand9 Truck Lines Inc., Country Doughnut House Restaurant, T.J.'s Fireside Dining & Lounge, Building Structures Inc., The Sandy Post, Scenic Fruit Company, The Movie Place, P & C Meat Inc., U.S. National Bank, VanMeter Nursery, Wasson Brothers Winery, Walrad Insurance Agency, Sandy Insurance Agency, Frank J. Schmidt & Sons Company, Konell Construction, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4273, Vanport Manufacturing Company, Kell-Home Construction, Albert J. Lamke DMD, Mt. Hood Raceway Inc., Land L. Fabrication, Pro-Met Machinery, Stuart Anderson's Cattle Company Restaurant, Nagae Farms, Mountain Cable, Johnson Aerial Applicators, Methan Hardwood Floors, Uncle Sam's Fireworks, Sultra Health Systems and Sandy Fire Department.

It was great fun to see the gym filled with families and friends enjoying the action and fun. We hope this will continue to be an annual event with this kind of community support.

Thank you very much.

Kelli Kappel
FFA chapter president
Jim Clark
FFA chapter advisor
Chris Haney
VICA chapter president
Don Olson
VICA chapter advisor

Policy on letters

Letters to the editor should be typed, double-spaced and signed. An address and telephone number should also be provided, although only the name of the letter writer and the city or area he is from will be published.

Letter writers may also wish to include a title or office held if it is appropriate considering the subject matter of the letter.

The news deadline of noon, Tuesday is also the deadline for letters to the editor.

Letters should be accurate, free of libelous remarks and in good taste. This newspaper attempts to publish all letters it receives locally. We reserve the right to edit letters to conform to style guidelines or for length. A preferred maximum length is 300 words.

Letter to the editor

Beware of school-city public auctions

Recently the high school, grade school and city had a joint auction sale, with the public bidding on their surplus commodities. Anyone is permitted to look at all the articles going up for auction, to see any defects or broken parts.

In an auction like this you normally assume the articles are not in tiptop condition and need some repairing. However, when it is known a certain piece of equipment is beyond repair

and practically useless I think it is a fraudulent act to deliberately put this in the sale for someone to purchase without at least a warning that it has been repaired numerous times or needs repairing.

I'm referring to a movie camera I bought at this auction, paying almost a week's wages. After taking it to different camera shops, and talking to numerous people, I find it has been repaired quite a few times, had hard

use, and it would be unadvisable to put any money into it as it would still not work properly. It was completely worn out and useless before it went on the auction table.

This from the same people that want our support and our yes votes to pass their levies so they may spend thousands to update their schools.

I work for the school district and draw a salary from the school district, but I think the public should

be aware just how useless discards are passed off on unsuspecting voters who have already paid for that merchandise through their taxes and then pay again to buy it back at the auction.

It's hard to say how many more got stuck with worthless merchandise but hopefully next time we will all be better informed.

Mrs. George A. (Ruth) Burg
Sandy

Commentary

'Air Farce One' is funny, but no joke

by GOV. VIC ATIYEH

Seldom have so many people had so much fun trying to get a good idea from getting off the ground — literally.

That idea is my recommendation that state government purchase a used, twin-engine turboprop aircraft for the governor and other state officials to use.

Almost immediately, some news reporters began good-naturedly calling it by names such as "Air Farce One" and "Atiyeh's Flying Carpet."

But this idea is no joke. This is a serious proposal that will benefit the people of Oregon — especially those who live in rural communities away from the Willamette Valley.

The airplane would serve Oregonians in two ways:

• By bringing state government officials closer to the people and,

• by assisting state officials in showing off Oregon to corporate prospects.

With more than 97,000 square miles, Oregon is the nation's 10th largest state.

As governor, I have worked hard to get out of Salem and visit citizens in every corner of our state. Seldom does a week go by that I do not travel from Salem more than once.

Nevertheless, citizens in some regions of our state still see their governor and other state officials infrequently, if at all.

That is because from Salem, driving to Medford requires four hours, 45 minutes; to Ontario, eight hours.

An airplane can shrink these travel times substantially. Flying to Medford and Ontario, for example, would require only 40 minutes and 65 minutes, respectively.

The airplane also would assist us in transporting corporate officials to Oregon communities that need new industry.

Never in our history have companies been so interested in Oregon, but they are not interested in spending huge amounts of time traveling by car.

Because the state does not own an all-weather, pressurized aircraft, we often must hire or borrow private planes. However, private planes may not be available on short notice, nor do we have control over their maintenance or safety. State officials cannot fly military aircraft unless they are traveling on military business.

We estimate a used airplane for state government would cost \$800,000, plus a monthly bill of about \$11,200 for operating expenses.

By contrast, a 10-year lease-purchase option would cost more than \$1.3 million.

Besides bringing state and corporate officials into Oregon communities more frequently, air travel also can save money.

It would cost an estimated \$1,708 for three state officials to drive from Salem to Ontario for an eight-hour meeting. However, we figure flying would cost only \$970. Flying is less expensive because it requires no overnight lodging, fewer meals and far less unproductive travel time.

This is not only a common sense proposal, but a modest one. Neighboring states of Washington, Idaho and California have no fewer than four airplanes each.

This is an excellent idea for making state government still more responsive to the citizens we serve.

In a different sense

Writer thinks waiters have it made

by HANK EMRICH

I have trouble with my penmanship. When I form the letter "A," I sometimes do not make the little point on top pointed enough, which makes it look like an "R."

Because of this problem, I am working at a typewriter instead of serving tables in some fancy restaurant. Because I always wanted to be a waiter, that is what I wrote in a college career counseling session.

Unfortunately, the "A" in waiter, looked like an "R" and I have not seen a filet mignon from either side of the table since.

Many people would laugh at my preference, but being a waiter would have definite advantages over being a writer. For one thing, I have never

heard of "waiter's block." A waiter always knows what he is supposed to do. You hardly ever see a waiter staring at a white tablecloth, wondering where his next thought is going to come from.

Nobody is suspicious of a waiter. When he asks how you are doing, you tell him. Even if it means admitting your wife just left you, your dog just bit the neighbor, or you just had a wart removed from your posterior.

When a reporter asks how you are doing, you lie. Maybe not a lot, but you lie. Nobody wants a reporter to know what is going on in their lives. I don't think it is really dishonesty. I just think that most people assume newspapers print lies, so if you tell a lie, they will print the opposite, which will be the truth. It's a complicated world we live in.

Suspicion makes it hard for a writer to develop friendships. Waiters have it made. They can have all kinds of friends. And their friends give them money, too. That's the good part.

It wouldn't be nearly so bad sitting through a school board meeting or a pet show if I had some loose change I could take home afterward. Come to think of it, almost every time I have interviewed anyone over lunch, they have left money on the table. Maybe it was for me.

Most people smile when a waiter brings his product to the table. It is kind of an automatic reflex that our mouths go through before getting ready to shove food in. This gives waiters the impression that people like to see him.

People sometimes act differently

when receiving a reporter's product. If they have been portrayed as something less than a hero, they sometimes roll the newspaper up and hit the office counter briskly with it, causing the gumball machine to rattle and dispense free gum for their children. All this time they are speaking words they can safely assume will never be printed in a family newspaper. This does not give the reporter the impression that people like to see him.

I am probably too old now to pursue the rigorous training necessary for a career as a waiter. But a support group of people who find themselves also shunned by the general public is considering allowing reporters to attend. I just hope I am not too self-conscious in a room full of tax-appraisers and dentists.