

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
Kimberly Nelson, advertising representative

Fight crime with individual effort

One good result of the Sandy City Council's forum on juvenile terrorism is that some legitimate channels of dealing with problems were brought out.

The focus of the meeting was the leniency of the juvenile detention law, and we agree that it should be easier for police to get juvenile offenders off the street and hold them responsible for their crimes. Equally important is stopping the revolving door of repeat crime.

As suggested by City Council members, people who attended the forum can now write an informed letter to state representatives and senators urging a tightening of the juvenile detention law. People might also be inclined to ask for more enforcement power for local governmental agencies, or for help with liability insurance so that juveniles can be asked to perform meaningful community service.

Besides letters calling for change, the best immediate way to deal with juvenile crime is to make an individual effort. There are several programs that may help.

Winnie Noonan, a counselor at Cedar Ridge Junior High, spoke on the changes that the new Sandy-Estacada Youth Services Team could perform.

The Youth Services Team, which has been in existence about a year, is comprised of school officials, law enforcement officials, counseling services, and representatives of the Children's Services Division, Juvenile Services Commission, Juvenile Court and the Employment, Training and Business Services.

What this means in practical terms is that if a citizen knows of a problem, he can call a law enforcement agency or a school counselor and someone will be able to identify the agency that can provide help.

Perhaps a neighbor is having a hard time controlling his child. One might recommend to the adult a parenting class being offered by the Youth Services Team.

Perhaps a baby-sitter employed by the Children's Services Division is unfit for her job. One has an obligation to call the director and report such a problem, hopefully prompting an investigation.

Crime Watch programs can be effective, but it requires work. One must go to the trouble of getting together with neighbors. Most law enforcement agencies offer programs on security precautions.

Individual efforts can include things as simple as picking up a neighbor's mail when he is on vacation, or watching the neighbor's home while they're at a wedding, funeral or other event that the public might be aware of.

None of the above solutions offers much comfort following a break-in. Those are cases in which the system must work. Maybe the members of the Sandy City Council will have some success in their efforts to change the detention law, maybe they won't.

But the individual effort one can make is an important part of the process.

Salem Scene

Liability problems strike landowners

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

Although legislative scrutiny of laws relating to liability insurance appears certain in Salem next year, another element is emerging that may unite a whole new constituency seeking change.

Early on, much of the impetus for so-called tort reform appeared to stem from the health care community, the insurance industry, dispensers of alcoholic beverages and manufacturers hard hit by product liability lawsuits.

But the liability insurance problem is so complex that it threatens even to affect our ability to enjoy Oregon's great outdoors.

Can you think of anything that would arouse Oregonians more than the possibility their enjoyment of the state's many natural splendors might be curtailed?

The problem already has been brought to the Legislature's attention in 1983 and 1985 without resolution and is bound to come up again in 1987.

It involves long-standing state policy to encourage public use of private property for recreational purposes and enabling legislation that appears to inadequately protect private land owners from liability for accidents that might occur on their property.

The use of private lands for public recreational pursuits gained favor during the early Sixties as outdoor recreation began to boom and policy makers determined that private lands were a valuable resource. A model law was drafted by the Council of State Governments and Oregon became one of more than 40 states to adopt legislation aimed at limiting private landowner liability for certain recreational activities.

Recreational purposes include hunting, trapping, fishing, swimming, boating, camping, picnicking, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, pleasure driving including snowmobiling and the operation of any motorized vehicle or conveyance upon a road or upon or across any land in any manner whatsoever, nature study, water

skiing, winter sports and viewing or enjoying historical, archeological, scenic or scientific sites, all according to additional law enacted in 1971.

Oregon's original landowner liability statute, however, did not precisely parallel the model act promulgated by the Council of State Governments. And it, too, was amended in 1971 to include language that subsequently paved the way for a lawsuit that — after lengthy review — resulted in a finding for damages against a public utility that owned a hot springs property on which a young child received burns.

That action prompted efforts to change the Oregon law to more precisely define landowner liability in accordance with the intent of state policy.

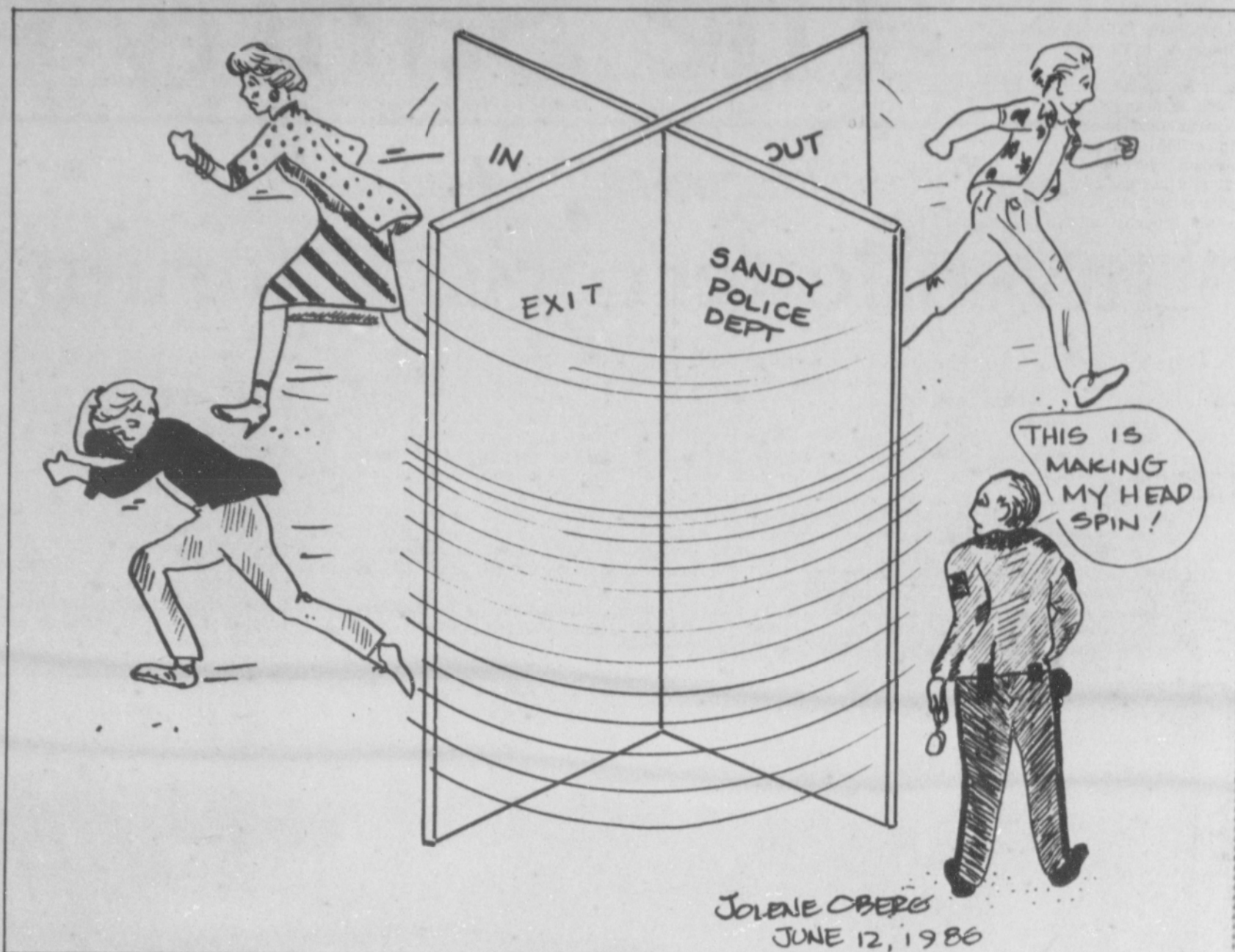
The most recent attempt, in 1985, was introduced at the request of owners of forest lands. Although it was approved handily (55-2) in the House of Representatives following extensive hearings before that Chamber's Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources, it failed to emerge from the Senate's Judiciary Committee before adjournment.

Meanwhile, it attracted support of several outdoor recreation groups and likely will prompt another attempt to redefine landowner liability when lawmakers gather again in the Capital City.

State-sponsored activities provide sportsmen with wider arrays of outdoor opportunities on forested properties and draw more forest land visitors. Given the recent open gate policy on most forest land, the public has grown to expect unrestricted use of those unpatrolled lands.

But unless Oregon's Legislature acts soon to correct what forest land owners believe is a serious flaw in current law, those lands may be closed to legal public access.

As one significant forest land owner has declared: "... it would be more comfortable and less risky to deal with trespass issues than liability issues."



Yesteryear in Sandy

Space Needle would benefit economy

by SCOTT NEWTON

A fishing excursion had a tragic ending for two local men, it was reported in a June, 1956 edition of The Sandy Post.

Ernest "Ernie" Harris, a Sandy city councilman, and Carl Happold, of Boring, had been gone about 10 days to Crane Prairie Reservoir, which is about 50 miles south of Bend.

Relatives realized there was a problem about a week before their bodies floated to the surface of the lake. A search by sheriff's deputies and friends and relatives proved fruitless until that time.

Although it was not clear what had happened, friends and relatives theorized that Happold had inadvertently fallen overboard, and that Harris had jumped into the lake to try to rescue him.

Harris had had trouble with the engine on a fishing trip the year before, and it was believed he was out testing the engine.

Among the searchers at the lake were Dean Schmitz, Lloyd Hubbard, Jude Loundree and Fred Proctor Jr.

Charges were filed against two men who allegedly found the empty boat and moved it to another location without notifying authorities. The engine did not appear to be damaged from being submerged in water, leading authorities to believe the boat had not been swamped.

Harris, 57, was born in Orient and had lived all his life in the area. Happold, 68, was born in Wasco, Ore.

Motorists were speeding through Rhododendron in 1956; the same as today. The Post reports that the Clackamas County sheriff's department was planning to crack down on speeders in the "congested" community. The speed limit was 25 miles per hour, but motorists were

reportedly traveling twice that speed. Deputy Paul Lowery expressed concern that "pedestrian deaths might result unless speeding is curbed immediately." The Post reported.

What loomed as a spirited race for a position of the Sandy Elementary board of directors was tossed out when it was discovered a candidate had not "properly and legally filed." Hazel Murray, the incumbent, was therefore not opposed.

James Emerson had properly filed the nominating petition but had neglected to file the official acceptance.

Besides electing members to the board of directors, voters would also vote on a measure allowing the district to levy \$15,956 more than automatic 6 percent provided for in the tax base.

A used, 1952 deluxe 4-door Chevrolet sedan was being offered for \$825 by Richardson Chevrolet in the June 14, 1956 Sandy Post.

20 years ago
McRobert Ford of Gresham had a used, 1965 Custom Special two-door sedan on sale for \$1,899.

The June 16, 1966 Sandy Post reports the first international ski race at Timberline Lodge — the Golden Rose Classic.

In his "off the record" column, Manager J.C. Cranford complained about trying to race across Main Street to get to the Sandy Post Office. He wrote: "In fact, I helped judge a speed contest between two empty P.terbilt log trucks Monday, that raced side by side up Main Street. The drivers got a big kick out of the contest. They should have got a big kick in the rear. The trucks belong to that outfit that paints them a beautiful red and black, Chief. Next time I'll get their numbers for you."

In 1966, the Clackamas County

Bank advertised savings accounts drawing 4 percent interest.

Sandy merchants, in an attempt to do something about a problem with shoplifters, banded together and hired a professional detective to aid in protecting local stores. The announcement was made following a meeting at the Dew Drop Inn. Merchants in 1966 agreed to prosecute shoplifters to the full extent of the law.

Also in June, 1966 the Kiwanis Club of Sandy was preparing for its ninth annual Fly-in Breakfast in July, announced P.N. Smoke, chairman. Prices were set at \$1.25 for adults and 75 cents for children.

10 years ago
On June 3, 1976 City Manager Paul Helton proposed to the Sandy Chamber of Commerce a new development: A Space Needle similar to the one in Seattle. This tourist attraction would feature a view of Mount Hood and the Sandy River Valley, and might help stop some of the 20,000 cars traveling through Sandy every weekend, according to an article in The Post.

City Engineer Dennis Peoples drew a watercolor of the proposed Space Needle with Mount Hood in the background.

Helton was prepared for the skept-

ics. "People laughed when the Space Needle was proposed and said it couldn't be done," he said.

The first meeting of the Sandy Design Review Board was a busy one, with the Board approving construction of five new buildings and the remodeling of two others. The board gave Tom Day permission to issue building permits for the new structures.

Among the new buildings approved was a Coast-to-Coast Hardware Store. Joe Cejka made the presentation.

Members of the design review board included Chairman Ken Lundgren, Portland architect, Eldon Edwards, planner, George Morgan, businessman, Kent Hall, banker, and Tom Day, Sandy building official.

The Blue Marlin Aquatics Club held a 24-hour swim-a-thon Memorial Day weekend to celebrate the bicentennial. The club raised \$2,000 in pledges. A 20,000-yard medley relay team — comprised of Gary Roth, Jon Swails, Chris Roth and Huie Hazelett — covered the distance in a time of four hours and 39 minutes.

It was also a big week for Nancy Carmony, who finished third in the shot put at the AAA state track meet at Hayward Field in Eugene.

Letter to the editor

Students say thanks

The Cedar Ridge students, parents and teachers wish to thank the VFW Post 4273 Women's Auxiliary, the Sandy Optimist Club and the Barlow Trail Retired Educators for their help in our final hour of raising funds

for the after-school sports program. Their contributions are most appreciated.

Cedar Ridge PTC
Joan Ragan, secretary
Sandy

