

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
Karinda Hedlund, advertising representative

Take conservative road in Bull Run

The U.S. Forest Service should compromise with the Portland Water Bureau and take a conservative approach to the removal of blown-down timber from the Bull Run watershed.

But, regardless of how the controversy over the blowdown is resolved, the two agencies need seriously to consider a larger issue — whether logging activity should be allowed in the watershed at all. That is a question with a long history of debate and it may have to be answered ultimately by the U.S. Congress.

No logging now takes place within the 68,000-acre drainage area in Bull Run, but logging is occurring in the 27,000-acre buffer zone.

Logging in the buffer zone could affect the upper Sandy River, which some have proposed be used as a backup source of water. The logging in the buffer zone should not affect water quality in the Bull Run because it is not in the Bull Run drainage.

But the Forest Service's land management plan calls for more logging in the drainage area in the future.

Removal of the blowdown, for the most part, is a separate issue.

The blowdown occurred in 1983 during a windstorm. Whether past logging was the cause of the blowdown is not the deciding factor on which the issue should be resolved.

What is important is that there is 6,000 acres of timber on the ground. The argument can be made that removing the timber and reforesting the area would be good forest management.

Other people argue that the forest should be left to heal itself.

The Forest Service recommended that 2,400 acres be salvaged, which would create 1,380 jobs over a four-year period. That is a considerable economic benefit.

The Portland Water Bureau, which serves in an advisory role to the Forest Service in managing the watershed, countered that only 1,400 acres should be salvaged.

The final decision rests with Dave Mohla, Forest Service supervisor, though the Portland City Council has an avenue of arbitration if it strongly disagrees with Mohla's decision.

To compromise, a person might suggest splitting the difference between 2,400 acres and 1,400 acres. Instead, we believe it would be better if the Forest Service took the safest and most conservative approach by removing only the 1,400 acres suggested by the city.

It is our opinion that some of the timber should be salvaged. For starters, the Water Bureau and the Forest Service agree that at least some areas have a high concentration of "fuel" and thus present a fire danger.

In addition, removing the 1,400 acres of timber would create jobs. That would be an important benefit to Sandy.

But a larger issue is at stake, and it concerns the more than 700,000 people who depend on Bull Run drinking water. Many of those people believe that there should be no human activity in the watershed at all.

The Forest Service has done a good job of presenting both sides of the controversy regarding the blowdown.

Now that commitment needs to be carried one step further. The public needs to play a role in deciding how much, if any, logging occurs in the watershed — both the drainage and the buffer areas.

Service stations are on the decline

by SHARON NESBIT
Staff writer

Up in the second shelf of the kitchen cupboard is where I keep my collection of rare glassware. The irreplaceable stuff. The kind you can't get anymore. The glasses that were given to me in gas stations.

Remember when gas stations sold gas and gave glass? And washed your windshield? And checked your oil? Tightened your fan belt? Filled up your windshield washer fluid? And then the smiling man would take your money and hand you a brandy snifter and a fistful of Green Stamps.

Yes, children, there were Green Stamps. You licked them and put them in books and turned them in for things you needed. Of course, you never needed glassware. You got that with your gas.

Mostly, I like progress. But I hate what it's done to the gas station. Just when they developed one-stop shopping centers where you can buy everything from soup to bifocals under one roof, gas stations have gone in the opposite direction and splintered into a thousand pieces.

A sign next door reads, "New Auto Care Center Coming Soon." If I want my auto cared for, I have to take it to such a place. If I want oil or a lube job, I have to go somewhere else. If I want it washed, there's a separate place up the street for that. If it's brakes, there's a specialist down the road. The muffler is the province of yet another professional. And so it goes, for tires, engine, electrical system, transmission, radio and ashtray.

The age of specialization has just about done away with the general gas practitioner. So what has happened to the guy who used to amble out to your car, wiping the grease from his hands? He has taken out his lube

rack and turned it into a grocery store.

And when things got slow he added a deli with hamburgers and ice cream sundaes.

Remember the days when the only thing you could find to eat in a gas station was a dusty sack of stale peanuts? If you wanted food, you went somewhere else. I believe they were called restaurants. As a rule, I think restaurants with signs that say, "Stop your engine. No smoking," lack ambiance. Food should not be served with fumes.

But it's hard to get too cranky about Oregon gas stations. Because they still pump your gas for you. In the uncivilized regions to the north and south, it is quite possible to put on a \$150 dress, a \$60 pair of shoes and a splash of \$80 perfume, and drive to a gas station where you will be required to pump your own unleaded, scrub your own bugs from the windshield and then carry the money inside to pay them 10 bucks for the privilege.

And the price is the same as it is in Oregon, where it's pumped for you. Middle-east sheikhs are not the only rascals in the oil business.

There still are in other states, if you look long enough, full service pumps where grouchy people in dirty pants will pump your gas. They do this for an exorbitant fee. Generally it is safe to give them the title to your car in payment.

Back in Oregon, the trick is to find a real gas station — a windshield-washing, oil-checking kind of gas station — and stick with it. I have such a petrol emporium. And I intend to take care of the folks there. I always say please and thank you and remember to smile.

And at Christmas, I plan to give them a nice set of glassware.



Letters to the editor

Superintendent is commended

The recent story regarding Kent Heaton and the grievances filed by the teachers union at Sandy High School deserves further comment!

Dr. Heaton accepted the position at the high school knowing that he was taking a volatile job. The past problems, with superintendents being fired, a school board failing to work together, failed budget levies, lax discipline on the part of some staff and students does not make a new superintendent's job very easy.

It is my opinion that the past administration failed badly in maintaining control and discipline in the school. I further feel that the union was in control of the operation of the school and the last superintendent caved in to their every demand. Thus there were very few grievances filed.

I feel that Dr. Heaton is doing an excellent job. He has a school board that works diligently to support him. They showed their vote of confidence in him when they renewed his contract for another two years.

When Dr. Heaton was hired, he vowed to the board that he would return discipline to the school and regain the support of the community. He had done very well at attaining both goals.

The recent article printed by the Sandy Post is unfair to Dr. Heaton. Dr. Heaton had the courage to ask that the hearing over Jane Davey's complaint be made public. A person who has something to hide would not have a public hearing.

Mr. Adams states that the union has won six of 10 grievances. We as taxpayers do not know if this statement is true.

The teachers union uses the board executive session to air their grievances. That way the public will not know if they lose, or if the complaint is valid. If the union members are so proud of their success, maybe they should back Adams up and make the information public.

If the teachers cannot accept the authority vested in Dr. Heaton by the board, they should change jobs. Dr. Heaton deserves commendation for a job well done.

Roland Cartisser
Sandy

Parent supports SUHS teacher

It makes me furious to hear the Sandy High School lawyer describe Jane Davey as "paranoid."

May I ask, "What are his qualifications in the field of psychology?"

The SUHS school board should look

into why so many grievances have been filed by the teachers under Mr. Heaton's guidance this last year. As they saying goes, where there is smoke, there is generally fire.

My daughter was one of the students Mrs. Davey accompanied to Japan this summer and I found her to be an exemplary teacher.

She was punctual, responsible, well organized and extremely honest in her expectations of the students as a group.

She was thoughtful, considerate and patient with these young adults.

As a parent I felt, and still do, that we are most fortunate to have her as an instructor at SUHS. If I had not thought so highly of Mrs. Davey, my daughter would not have spent several weeks in Japan with her this year.

I have many adjectives to describe Mrs. Davey, but "paranoid" is certainly not one of them.

Karen Compton
Boring

Teacher complaint lacks substance

Thanks for your report on the "Administration, union air labor complaints" headline concerning Dr. Kent Heaton, Sandy Union High School superintendent, appearing in the Sandy Post on Oct. 1.

It appears the situation you set forth concerning Ms. Davey's harassment by Dr. Heaton lacks substance and this apparently is with her labor union's sanction.

If Ms. Davey is so unhappy with our school and the superintendent selected by the school board and a citizens committee, why doesn't she move on?

There is a surplus of teachers in Oregon and there are at least 10 well-qualified teachers to take her place any day she leaves.

What troubles me most about Ms. Davey's complaint is the obvious almost unlimited power the teachers union has over our school and its administrators.

I thought the citizen taxpayers ran the school through their elected school board, but now it appears it is the teachers union that is attempting to take over the schools and we would then be losing control.

Hasn't this gone far enough? It is time our school board assumes control.

Before closing, a comment on the 10 grievances. First, we congratulate you, Dr. Heaton. Keep up the good work.

We pay you to supervise the school and improve the quality of education. You obviously take your orders from the school board and not the union, hence the 10 grievances.

Because the previous administration had few complaints against it only confirms our previous comment that the union was running the school.

Lloyd Cummins
Affordable Education Association

Thanks for new uniforms

Many times we neglect to recognize the efforts of those with caring hearts.

Mrs. Dreena Ledwidge of Welches is one of those caring people. Our thanks go out to her and the many residents of the Sandy Union High School District who contributed to a fund to purchase much needed uniforms for our Sandy Union High School Special Olympic students.

Businesses or organizations that made contributions include Rippling River, Hoodland Family Medical, Patricia Ruter, Sandy Animal Clinic, Mount Hood Lions Club, Designer's Hair Center, Fly Fishing Shop, Hoodland Video, Mountain Sports Outfitters, Sandy Lions Club, Sandy Optimist Club and the Kiwanis Club of Sandy.

Now our Special Pioneers can participate with pride in their school colors. Your love and caring is greatly appreciated.

Sue Chambers
Special education teacher
Sandy Union High School

Family enjoys writer's work

My whole "family" really enjoys the humor and straightforward style of your reporter, Phil Christensen.

We always thumb through the paper to see what he is reporting on currently. Keep up the good work.

Cindy and Jess Baugs
Mother, father,
grandmother and
grandfather of many
Sandy

Volunteers make event a success

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who helped make Sandy Elementary's Open House Ice Cream Social a success.

I would also like to thank the parents who attended and gave their support to our annual event.

Debbie Skelton,
PTC president
Sandy

Sandy Post letter policy

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 receive it receives from area residents.

The Sandy Post

(USPS 481-180)

MEMBER Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, National Newspaper Association and U.S. Suburban Press

Published weekly Thursdays by The Outlook Publishing Co., Box 68, Sandy, Oregon 97055. Second class postage paid at Sandy, Oregon.

668-5548

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In Clackamas County per year	\$9.00
Multnomah County	\$10.00
Elsewhere in Oregon	\$11.50
In Northwest and Pacific Coast States Outside Oregon per year	\$14.00
Outside Northwest and Pacific Coast States per year	\$17.00

Sandy Post, Sandy, Oregon 97055

No. 40

October 8, 1987

by Adam Kraft

Bobcats

