

Lack of interest may kill Tri-Met issue

The Sandy City Council acted appropriately last week when it decided not to take the lead role in an effort to secede from the Tri-Met taxing district.

The council placed the responsibility for organizing a petition drive against Tri-Met where it belongs — with the business community.

And, if the lack of interest shown so far is any indication, chances are that the effort to secede from Tri-Met will die a natural death.

Just one businessman showed up at the recent City Council hearing on seceding from the district, and he was against the idea. The other person testifying, a single mother dependent on buses to get to work, seconded his opposition.

Still, the council gave other Sandy business owners the benefit of the doubt and threw its support behind seceding, if the business community takes the lead.

With that action, business owners in Sandy, long moaning under the weight of a \$395,000 Tri-Met payroll tax, must decide if the benefits of Tri-Met and mass transit outweigh the large cost that they must shoulder.

The council has chosen a supportive role but not an inactive one. It has shown enough interest in the idea of the city operating an alternative bus service to ask city staff to do research on costs and savings.

But, in putting the matter aside for now, councilors have rid themselves of a task that might distract them from more urgent duties. There remain roads to be fixed, a sewage system to be replaced and other city facilities to be improved. All of those improvements could, directly or indirectly, improve the Sandy area's economy and help the business community.

If the lack of interest shown so far is any indication, Sandy could remain in the Tri-Met taxing district for a long time to come. And, in the final analysis, that might be best for Sandy as well as the rest of the Portland area.

Students' action may help save boy's life

It is heartening to see members of the community acknowledge the crisis of life that faces young Adam "Coby" Howard, the 7-year-old East Multnomah County boy who is suffering from acute lymphocytic leukemia.

Coby's case is so severe that he must have a bone marrow transplant if he is to have any chance of surviving longer than six months. The transplant is scheduled for Nov. 25 in Seattle, but his family must pay the hospital \$100,000 before the operation will be performed. Such an expense, however, is beyond the means of his mother, a single parent who has quit her job to care for her son. Welfare payments will not cover the cost of transplants.

About two years ago the community rushed to the aid of Garth Nelson, who required an expensive liver transplant. Now residents of East County and Clackamas County have heard of Coby's plight and his deadline with cancer. As in the case of Nelson, folks are responding with contributions and fund-raising efforts.

However, until this week, the efforts for young Coby were falling short of the needed \$100,000.

Now there is greater hope thanks to the inspiration and leadership of the Reynolds High School student council, which has convinced 27 Portland-area high schools to help raise funds for Coby.

Reynolds students, who are holding a fund-raising activities, have challenged other high schools to meet or beat the amount of money that Reynolds students raise. Businesses are being asked to contribute prizes to award to the schools that contribute the most money to Coby's cause.

Garth Nelson is alive today because of the contributions of the local community, which helped pay for his transplant. And the fund-raising effort was successful because the Gresham Earlyrisers Kiwanis Club, inspired by the leadership of MHCC instructor Gary Head, wouldn't let Nelson die without the benefit of surgery.

We are hopeful that Reynolds High students will be as successful in their fund-raising efforts. And we hope that with surgery Coby will be as healthy in two years as Garth Nelson is today.

But it will take a yeoman's fund-raising effort from the entire community to give 7-year-old Coby a fighting chance at life, something most of us take for granted.

A trust fund has been set up for Coby at the U.S. National Bank.



Secret locked up with Grandma

First turkey as terrifying as first date

The Thanksgivings I remember best always began before dawn at Grandma's house. They were signaled by sounds coming through the dark. The creak of my grandparents' bed, slipped feet whispering across the linoleum, the muffled clatter of pan and oven door. And then, being Grandma and wanting to make sure she got credit for doing her duty, she would climb back into bed, wake Grandpa and say, "I got the bird in."

For years, I have believed that turkeys took longer to cook in the old days. How puzzled I was when I cooked my first Thanksgiving bird in a mere three hours.

"But why does Grandma always get up at 4 a.m. to put hers in?" I asked Hubby.

The truth was that it was sheer nerves. Turkeys make cooks edgy. Grandma had a lifelong fear that her turkey wouldn't be done by dinner time. The other sound I remember from those Thanksgivings was her astonished voice when she peered into the oven at mid-morning and said, "For lands sake, I think that turkey is done already."



Sharon Nesbit

Turkey nerves, that's what they are. People remember their first turkeys, just like they remember their first dates.

My No. 1 Kid is cooking her first turkey this Thanksgiving. She is the fourth in a line of nervous turkey cooks. Grandma is 90 now and sits in a nursing home, her mind a muddled mix of memory and delusion. Her daughter, who normally bastes the bird, is instead basting herself in the Florida sun. So No. 1 Kid, who now

has a house of her own, volunteered to take her turn at the oven door.

"I ordered a fresh turkey," she called up in excitement one day. "Sixteen to eighteen pounds."

I laughed. There will only be five of us. An endless procession of turkey sandwiches, turkey salad and turkey soup looms on the horizon.

But my friend, Dorothy, assures me that an 18-pound turkey is no problem at all.

When Dorothy was first married she called her mother to find out what size turkey to buy. For a crowd of about 20, her mother advised, she usually bought an 18-pound bird.

Armed with that knowledge, Dorothy and her new husband went to look at the fresh turkeys. Since there were only five coming to dinner, Dorothy knew that a 10-pounder would do the trick.

"But they looked so scrawny," she remembers. "They just didn't look right. I spotted the one I wanted and said, 'That's it.'"

Dorothy took her 32-pound bird home to an apartment-sized oven. It

stuck so far out of the oven that the door wouldn't close. Always unflappable in the kitchen, she put a pan on the floor to catch the drippings that leaked off the turkey's tail.

"It turned out fine," she says. Everything Dorothy has ever cooked turns out fine. That's what they mean when they call someone a "fine cook." And it was good training. These days, 50 people show up for her holiday dinners and a 32-pound bird is a mere morsel.

No. 1 Kid seems to be handling her turkey nerves but she worries about the chairs and the dressing. She doesn't have enough of the former and she doesn't know how to make the latter.

Grandma always made the dressing and that secret is now locked away with her in the nursing home. Most years my mother and I work together, adding this and that, trying to make it taste the way Grandma's did. This year it's up to me and No. 1 Kid.

I think I've got dressing nerves.

Letters

FFA fund-raiser a big success

The Sandy Chapter Future Farmers of America would like to express a sincere thank you to all of those people and companies that sponsored and helped in making the 1987 FFA donkey basketball game a big success.

We hope that you will continue to support us in our future activities and also participate in next year's donkey basketball game.

Tri County Electric, Vanport Manufacturing, Wyest Optics, U.S. Metal Works, Inc., Northwest Hydro Mulchers, Inc., Jack Budouins Golf Shop, Double D Locksmithing, Sandy Assembly of God, Walrad Insurance Agency, Ladies Auxiliary VFW No. 4273, Building Structures, Inc., Troutdale Sand and Gravel, Rosegate Sanitary Service, Sandy McDonalds, Crown Carpets, Oilco Eastern, Inc.,

and Hideaway Stables. Again, thank you.

Danna Schwenk, president
Sandy FFA

Donation appreciated

The board of education of Sandy Union High School District UH2 wishes to say a very special thank you to Pete Carlson and Jerry Buskirk of Carlson Chevrolet Co., who are responsible for the recent donation of a brand new 1987 General Motors pick-up truck to Sandy High School.

The truck will be used in our automotive technology program, and will give our students hands-on experience on the latest developments in that area.

We are extremely pleased with this very generous gift, as it provides depth to our instructional program while, at the same time, represents a

strong vote of support for our schools.

Thank you Pete and Jerry. Our Sandy High School students will certainly use this opportunity to its fullest.

Jeanne Doty, chairman
board of directors

Kent Heaton, Ed.D., superintendent
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Sandy

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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

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Legislative access in Oregon: 1-800-327-7389. One may call this number and ask to be connected to any state legislator's office.

Oregon Legislative status number: 1-800-332-2313. One may call this number to learn the status of bills pending in the Oregon Legislature.

Bobcats



by Adam Kraft