

# Are cars included among alternate modes?

SALEM -- If you haven't already heard, alternative modes of transportation already is in effect.

The gasoline-fueled automobile has not yet gone the way of the hay-fueled horse, but the one-rider-to-one-car ratio already has been found to be unacceptable.

OSEA members, and those working in the Capitol Mall and the Marion County Courthouse in particular, have got to view the alternate modes program being discussed by the City of Salem, state and Marion County as a total package. This issue of The OSEA News will briefly outline the problem; an in-depth look at individual items will be presented in subsequent issues. Any member with ideas about the program that they would like to see explored should contact John Lund or Bentley Gilbert at headquarters.

Consider some of these issues: Why is alternate modes here? What sort of commitment has been made by management and elected officials in the city, state and county? Already there are not enough parking spaces for Mall-area workers. A new Mall-area state building soon will be under construction, ironically on the site of a parking lot. The number of available spaces diminishes every day, and the residential parking areas are drawing a tight noose around the spaces left. And a proposed parking rate increase isn't going to cheer employees either.

Some observers of Salem city hall politics have pointed out that merchants when elected to the city council or appointed to other city bodies continue to represent merchants. By contrast, the three state employees who are on city council, two of whom are Mall-area employees, tend to represent

their neighborhoods and their wards.

Aside from the obvious need for a solution to the Mall problem, what is the state's commitment to alternate modes? Briefly, it was part of the deal the state had to make with the city to build the Capitol wings.

According to a May 17 memorandum to Salem city

manager Robert Moore, 19 different elements are included in the alternate modes. They include such things as the new Penney's - Lipman's parking structure now under construction (planned only for shoppers' parking), a carpool matching service, an express bus service dependent upon the passage of the ballot measure on the primary ballot,

numerous park and ride lots, more residential parking districts and the monitoring of the whole operation by the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments.

The problem is that few people know about or care about alternate modes until it hits them in the wallet. By then, it's too late. It may be too late already unless more employees get active.

What's this mean for Mall-area state and county employees? The central principle of the alternate modes program is that the only way it will work is

through the enforcement of disincentives. Increased

parking lot fees, restricted parking surrounding the Mall, parking meters, air quality restrictions, and the eventual elimination of the Front Street parking lots are all the "stick" approach to get Mall-area employees to car pool, ride the bus, park in outlying lots and bus from there or walk to work. Sure, there are several "carrots" but you can take them or leave them. The restrictions are there to be obeyed. The alternative modes may be financed by your inconvenience.

## MCEA's Franke gets endorsement of Board

Randy Franke, Marion County safety officer, has been endorsed for position 2 on the Marion County Commission by the OSEA Board of Directors.

The action, taken at the May 13 board meeting, came after an earlier endorsement by the executive committees of the Marion County Employees Association and the Marion County Deputies Association,

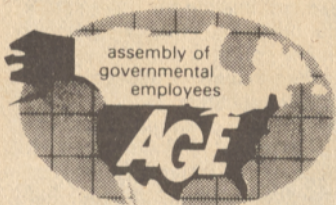
OSEA-affiliated bargaining units.

Franke, 31, is a former president of MCEA. He is a Republican running for the seat currently held by Democrat Walt Heine. A native of the Buena Crest area north of Salem, the former Navy pilot is a graduate of Gervais High School, the University of Oregon and Oregon College of Education.

Help wanted!

## Cartoonist illustrator

The OSEA News is seeking a cartoonist/illustrator. We are looking for an OSEA member who has a real talent with pen and ink, a style with flair, a sophisticated political sense and a good wit. We would expect a publishable cartoon on state or national events or Association activities for each issue of the paper. In addition, we need illustrations to accompany feature stories in The OSEA News. We will pay for drawings used. Please send a sample of your work and a little bit about yourself including your chapter name and number, to Bentley Gilbert, Publications Director, Oregon State Employees Association, P.O. Box 12159, Salem 97309.



### HILLTOP VIEW

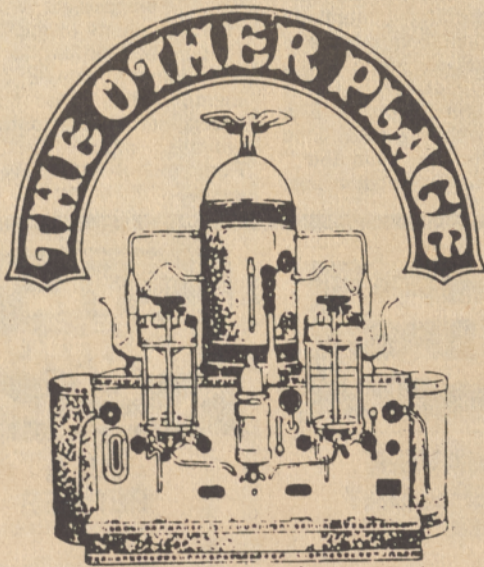
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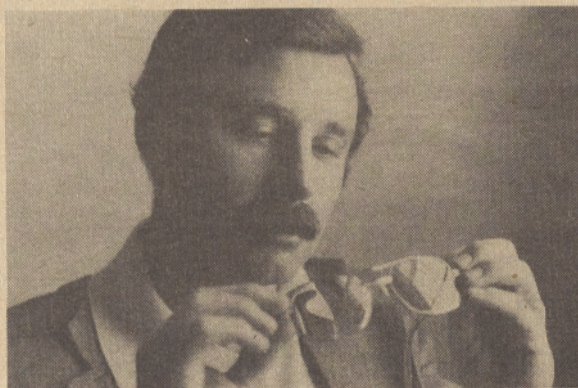
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