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Kafoury Reports

by Representative S. Kafoury

This week I'd like to highlight the work of my Environment and Land Use Committee. I was appointed Chairman of a Subcommittee to look into the purchase of Cape Kiwanda, which is near Pacific City on the Oregon Coast. It is a beautiful sandstone formation that juts out into the ocean and has been described by a famous photographer as "the most photogenic spot on the Atlantic or Pacific Coast." The man who owns the property needs to sell it because of rising property taxes and Portland General Electric has obtained an option to purchase the land for a nuclear power plant. After a visit to the site and discussion with both Portland General Electric officials and environmental groups, the recommendation was made to the full committee to purchase the property for a State Park. This is what the committee recommended to the Joint Ways and Means Committee, who will make the final decision. The money will come from State gasoline taxes and a Federal grant.

The committee has also been working on some bills to improve the State's control of water pollution by bringing Oregon's laws into compliance with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and by requiring industries to pay for their fair share of the costs of constructing, operating and maintaining municipal sewage treatment facilities.

We are examining many bills which pertain to nuclear power plants in the State of Oregon. These plants pose many potential dangers to the environment of Oregon and we will be examining problems relating to their location, health standards for the employees who work there and disposal of their radioactive wastes.

One area which has been the scene of much controversy is the protection of the environment from unregulated use of off-road vehicles such as motorcycles, snowmobiles, dune buggies, 4-wheel drive jeeps, etc.

Of specific concern to Portland area residents are several proposals for purchase of land for park sites near the city. The Willamette River has great potential for recreational use if land along its banks can be obtained.

Sent up the river by you

by Bill Jeffries,
Staff Assistant to Wally Priestley

Wounded Knee... and taxes

Probably the most significant political activity in this country today is occurring at Wounded Knee, South Dakota, where a small group of Native Americans are striving to regain their heritage and dignity which has been denied them for so long. In this regard, Representative Wally Priestley attempted to introduce a memorial requesting the United States Government not resort to the force of arms in resolving the matter. Through parliamentary rules, the motion was not allowed; however Representative Priestley did get the signatures of twenty other Representatives to sign a telegram articulating the principle stated above. "As with everyone struggling against repression, women, Blacks, Chicanos, the young and old, and the poor, these Native Americans need and deserve support," stated

Voice of the NAACP

by Ellis Casson, President

"Doing It - Because It's Right"

Several days ago, I rode through some of the area in our community and was appalled at the large number of dirty streets, sidewalks, alleys, wrecked cars and numerous other unsightly conditions.

There were many reasons why such eyesores are fought throughout our communities now as well as in past years. The large number of absentee landlords has been found to be the reason for so many rundown houses and buildings.

Merchants in the area who do not clean around their business premises on a daily basis. Wrecking lots that have not complied with the city ordinance to enclose their lots with fences. More strict enforcement by the Police Department to tow away abandoned cars in our neighborhoods.

Listed above are just a few of the problems responsible for so much of the blight and deteriorating conditions we find throughout our part of the city.

I realize that we have some people residing in the area who contribute to our eyesore

problems, but by and large the majority of residents in these areas are doing the best they can to help improve and keep their neighborhoods up.

For a number of years now, the neighborhood groups have spearheaded excellent clean-up campaigns resulting in more beautiful and improved neighborhoods throughout the area.

There needs to be more attention paid to such problems in our community on a regular basis rather than conducting clean-up campaigns once a year or during a campaign period in which some of our elected city officials are seeking re-election.

I am sure the residents and voters are aware of these continued practices and have become sick and tired of paying just as high taxes as other citizens who reside in better serviced communities and year after year they receive inferior services for their dollars in our communities.

We can and must have better services on a regular basis to improve and clear up our community. The people deserve it. If you agree, let us hear from you and we'll let your "Voice" be heard.

From the Senate

by Senator Keith Burns,
District 6, Portland

The property tax relief bill should go to the full Senate soon and be referred to a vote of the people. The election will occur in late April or early May. Early reference to the voters is important. In the event the measure is defeated by the voters, there will still be time for the legislature to pass legislation with a different approach to the problem.

Senate Bill 219, which is presently before the Senate Committee on Local Government, of which I am Chairman, promises great new approaches in the use of cable television.

The most important news item of the last week was the removal of Senator Vern Cook as Chairman of the Senate Revenue Committee by Senate President Jason Boe. Cook's removal was due to differences of opinion over the property tax relief and school finance program proposed by Governor McCall (House Bill 2004).

The future of cabletele-

vision in our State is unlimited. We have an opportunity to greatly expand the potential and use of television to every home in Oregon. If SB 219 is enacted we should be able to pioneer new avenues in the use of cable television. For example, we could get the finest programs in the world via satellite in every home in every community. We could also provide local and regional programming which would cost very little.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact my office at 306 State Capitol Building, Salem, Oregon 97310 or call 1-800-452-0290 for toll free information on legislation.

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7. Love Train..... O'Jays
8. Letter to Myself..... Chi-Lites
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10. I've Been In Love..... Smith Connection

PICK OF THE WEEK

Plastic Man..... Temptations

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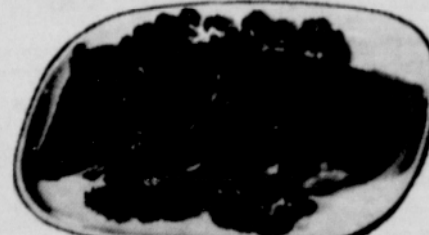
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