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Linda Schwider and her children, Amy, 8, and Ward, 10, check out a lamb which was a breech delivery and its ewe.

Staff photo by Bruce McKim

## Federal Way levy dangling

by Cathy Reiner  
south Times bureau

FEDERAL WAY — The fate of the \$5.4 million school levy here may be hanging on less than 100 absentee ballots, school district officials said last night.

By their figures the levy measure received a 59.7 per cent approval, and the additional absenteees could push the measure over the needed 60 per cent approval figure.

But Don Perrin, King County elections superintendent, wasn't so sure.

Either way the official counting, including absentees, was expected to be finished late today.

Last night school officials were tallying 4,524 yes votes and 3,049 no votes for the levy, said Sharon Sauve, school communications specialist. With that number and 95 absentees to be counted, 80 more yes votes would pass the levy.

But at the county elections bureau Perrin's final but unofficial totals stood at 4,440 yes and 3,045 no votes. That meant even if all the absentees came in yes, the measure still would be about 20 votes short of topping the 60 per cent mark.

Perrin said the absentee ballots were to be opened and the entire vote count rechecked and validated late today.

The uncertainty left a dim pallor over the school officials, teachers, students and parents standing around the school district offices last night.

"We're still optimistic," said School Supt. Milton Snyder as the last precincts reported their

counts. "No matter what, this is the strongest approval this district has had for a levy in many years."

In the past six years, 10 levies and 11 bond issue proposals have been turned down consistently by voters in this suburban community.

Snyder, mid-way through his first year as superintendent, had been that optimistic that long-needed school levy could pass on its first try. If not, he said, it will be submitted to the voters again.

Six years of red-lined budgets has meant the district repeatedly deferred maintenance on school buildings and equipment.

And until last year, when the state's basic funding act pumped enough money in to bring school programs back up to snuff, the levy failures meant the district's three high schools and three junior highs were unaccredited.

One of the problems facing this year's levy was that many Federal Way residents believed that state basic funding should cover all school costs.

In reality it covers basic education, leaving the districts to foot the bills for any extra classes, programs and transportation costs.

In the case of Federal Way, basic funding reinstated programs and more than 250 teachers and staffers, but left no money for repairing six years of neglect to dilapidated school buildings and equipment.

If the levy does pass, property owners in Federal Way will pay \$1.40 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation — one of the lowest school-tax rates in the county.

## Counting sheep at night — new ones

by Cathy Reiner  
south Times bureau

MAPLE VALLEY — The intercom in Linda and Al Schwider's bedroom is connected to their barn. At night it's turned up loud so they can hear emergencies.

In recent weeks those emergencies have been coming frequently as more than 20 of their ewes have given birth to 32 lambs. One or both of the Schwider adults have been in attendance at most of the births and they have assisted in the deliveries many times.

Last Thursday, in fact, Linda and a "city-bred" friend spent most of the morning on a breech delivery. The friend, who had had little experience with animals, held the ewe's head while Linda struggled at the other end trying to get the tiny lamb's legs untangled and out of its mother.

"That was the first birth we've called the vet on," she explained afterwards. "But by the time he got here the lamb was born. Mother and baby were both fine. I was exhausted and covered with blood."

That afternoon things were back to normal and the two younger Schwiders, Ward, 10, and Amy, 8, were eager to show visitors around their new homestead.

The Schwiders are veterans of just over a year as shepherds. On their rolling 15-acre farm they have more than 50 Romney sheep,

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nine head of cattle, a pregnant mare, a large dog, several cats, dozens of chickens and rabbits and a good-sized vegetable garden.

Looking at their pleasant ranch-style home and gazing out across the fields to the grazing sheep and cattle, it is easy to believe the family always has ranches this spot.

Linda smiled ruefully as she talked of moving to Maple Valley 18 months ago.

"We don't like to tell people we'd come from California, but we lived in Los Angeles for 13 years. Before that we were from the Pacific Northwest. I was raised on an Eastern Oregon farm and we both went to college in Oregon."

"After we got married we spent every vacation coming back to my parents' farm. Now we've finally got our own farm — our dream — and we have to take a vacation to get away."

Raising animals, particularly sheep, is more than a hobby but less than a full-time occupation for the Schwiders. During the day Al is an engineer at The Boeing Co.'s Renton plant.

After the chores, Linda might be found painting (she has a degree in biological

illustrating and does some commission work), working the large vegetable garden or planning how to change the 1910 farmhouse that still stands next to the newer house into an art studio.

Ward and Amy are responsible for feedings and roundups as well as general chores.

After this week, when the whole family plans to spend hours shearing the thick wool off their sheep, Linda hopes to spend time spinning some of that wool into yarn.

But most of the wool will be sold through the Puget Sound Wool Growers Association, which sells to commercial mills. Many of the rams will be butchered and sold for meat. The ewes will be kept to build up the flock for next year.

A few of the sheep also will be sold at the Shepherd's Extravaganza May 25 and 26 at the annual Folk Life Festival in Seattle Center.

The Schwiders are excited about the Extravaganza, which will include spinning and weaving demonstrations, workshops, sheep and fleece sales and contests.

Linda hopes she will be able to participate in the Sheep-to-Shawl competition which will take the wool from shearing to combing, spinning and knitting.

(More details and photos, G 2.)

## No annexation, says Riverton

by Cathy Reiner  
south Times bureau

TUKWILA — Voters in Riverton last night turned thumbs down on a proposal to annex their small, semi-rural community to their citywide next-door neighbor.

It was an overwhelming defeat as 63 per cent of the voters, or 177, voted against the annexation. There were 104 votes for joining the city.

"We got a strong answer, the people turned out and let everyone know we want to remain part of the county — not a city," said Donna Meagher, co-chairman of the anti-annexation forces. "It took a lot of effort but we did it."

Shirley Robinson, one of the early leaders in the drive to annex the neighborhood to Tukwila, said

the central issue had been zoning, local control and the fight against spreading industrial and commercial growth in the residential neighborhood.

"We may have lost, but at least we got the people out, we got them aware of the issues," she said. "Even if they don't want to join the city, at least maybe they will be more aware of county policies and county government."

The 900-resident, 272-acre neighborhood, just northwest of Tukwila between Highway 99, the Duwamish River and I-5, is the second neighborhood to vote down annexation to Tukwila.

Last month residents in Crestview, a slightly larger community south of Riverton, also voted to remain in the county.

## Funds added for airport clear zone

by Cathy Reiner  
south Times bureau

SEATTLE-TACOMA AIRPORT — A \$6 million grant from the federal Airport Development Aid Program (A.D.A.P.) and a matching \$4 million from airport revenue-sharing-bonds means Phase IV of the airport land-acquisition program can continue on schedule, Senator Warren G. Magnuson announced at a Port Commission meeting yesterday.

The grant money, although less than the \$12 million requested by the Port, will be used to continue purchasing homes and property in the Federal Aviation Administration-designated "clear zones" north and south of the airport. Those properties are in areas where the F.A.A., the county and the Port have judged noise problems from overhead planes are so great that the areas must be cleared.

Acknowledging that the \$6 million in federal money is just half of what the port had hoped for, Senator Magnuson said he "thinks" there will be another \$6 million coming in 1981.

"We know even that's not enough to solve all the noise problems," he said. "But we hope it will go a long way."

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The state's senior senator reminded listeners that the money comes not from taxes, but from a fund set up by Congress and the airlines to pay for noise problems caused by planes.

Phase IV of the land-acquisition program is the designation for most properties south of South 136th Street and north of South 210th Street, roughly between Des Moines Way South and 24th Avenue South, Don Shay, director of aviation for the Port, explained.

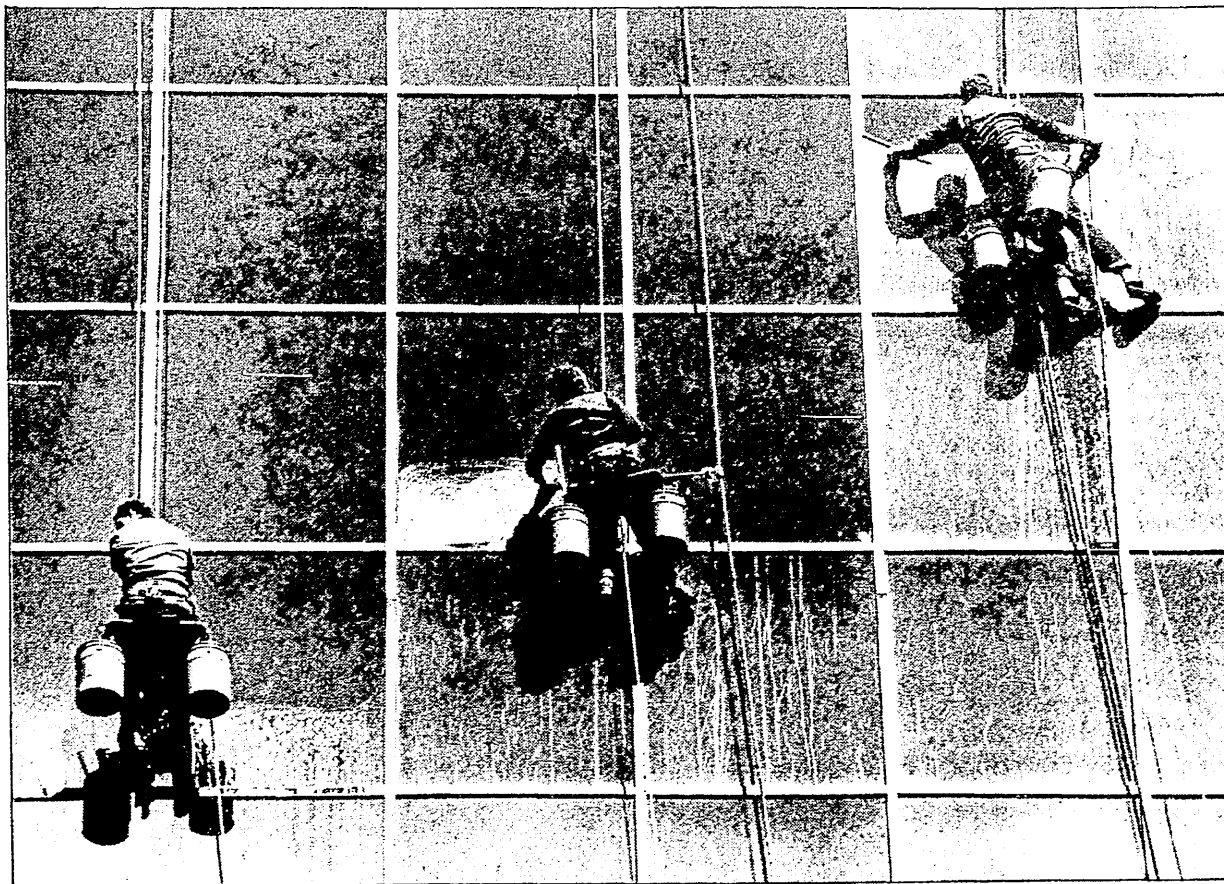
"Since 1975 the Highline community has received \$11.1 million in A.D.A.P. funds plus a matching \$5.5 million in revenue-sharing bonds for noise abatement," he said. "That money has purchased 406 homes, at a rate of about 100 a year."

"Most of those have been moved out of the clear zone."

Shay said an additional 291 homes are to be acquired in the next two years.

Dick Ford, executive director of the Port, warned the commissioners that still more study will be

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### Wash day

Newly installed windows at the Tower II Building across from Seattle-Tacoma Airport get a good scrubbing.

Staff photo by Greg Gilbert

Pros and cons of general-aviation airport

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East Hill residents establish 'block watch'

G 7 KENT

Possible school closure agitates Earlington area

G 7 RENTON



Staff photos by Bruce McKim

Linda and Al Schwider and their children have more than 50 Romney sheep at their 15-acre Maple Valley farm.

## Family flock

by Cathy Reiner  
south Times bureau

**SOUTH KING COUNTY** — Some "sheepers" have flocks of 5,000 and more and keep full-time shepherds to manage them. Others, like Linda and Al Schwider and their children, Amy, 8, and Ward, 10, have "family flocks" of up to 100 sheep.

But today more and more people are raising just a few sheep, enough for a little wool, a little meat and a little enjoyment.

Steve Kraaten, a small-farm county-extension agent, said this year he has had a number of calls from people who have a little land and want to raise "something."

On Saturday Kraaten will lead a free workshop designed for beginning or future ranchers. Kraaten calls it the "Amazing Raising of Grazing Animals."

The class, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Kelsey Creek Park, 130th Place Southeast and Southeast Fourth Place in Bellevue, will have three sessions: basic beef, simple sheep and pasture principles.

Other workshops are planned at the Shepherds' Extravaganza, May 25 and 26 at the Folk Life Festival in Seattle Center. The King County Cooperative Extension Office also has brochures and information on raising animals.

Kraaten advised that a potential sheepkeeper have about 5 acres of pasture land.

The pasture land, which needs to be properly planted with a mixture of grasses and legumes, also needs to be securely fenced to keep dogs out and sheep in.

There also is a need for winter shelter — a shed will do, a small barn is better. And winter feed — hay and grain — must be provided.

Then there are the sheep. Their cost depends on breed, sex and age. A common breed (as opposed to a more expensive registered breed) lamb sells for \$30 to \$100. Since one ram can "service" up to 30 ewes, a beginning sheepkeeper should be buying ewes and, at most, one ram.

Many small sheepkeepers raise a small flock for wool and plan to butcher the rams each spring or summer for meat.

"Small-scale sheep raising may not be a money-making operation at first," Kraaten warned. "But it's a very rewarding, albeit time-consuming hobby. And a good sheepkeeper can certainly make enough money to pay property taxes."



Amy Schwider, 8, cuddles a lamb.



Amy bottle-feeds a young charge.

## Council refuses to allow reduction in size of pond

Herb Belanger  
south Times bureau

**TUKWILA** — The Tukwila City Council has given a resounding "No" to a resolution that would have allowed the Chartwell Development Corp. to reduce the size of Tukwila Pond and build an office/hotel/shopping center complex.

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The vote at the Monday-night meeting was unanimous.

Obviously disappointed by the action, Kenneth Chauncey, president of the Canadian firm, said: "We will probably have to consider other action. I don't want to make any other comment at this time."

The Chartwell proposal is to develop a \$160-to-\$170 million center including a shopping center, two hotel towers and office buildings on a 39-acre site at the southwest corner of Strander Boulevard and Andover Park West. Included in the site is Tukwila Pond. The resolution rejected by the Council would have permitted Chartwell to reduce the size of the pond and the wetlands around it by about two thirds.

The plan has drawn fire from conservation interests, such as the Audubon Society, which viewed such a move as disrupting the wildlife attracted to the pond.

The resolution voted down by the Council would have amended Resolution 656 adopted in October, 1978, which set guidelines for development of the Seattle City Light-owned site, zoned light industrial. The site was subsequently purchased by Chartwell.

Leading the opposition to amending Resolution

656 Monday was L.C. Bohrer, who presented other members of the Council with a prepared chronology of the action taken on the property during the past two years by both the city and Chartwell.

In January last year, Bohrer said, a Planning Department memo indicated that more-restrictive zoning would be required, but Chartwell obtained a waiver that month on the basis that all conditions of Resolution 656 would be met.

Bohrer said that Chartwell prepared an environmental-impact statement from July to December of 1979, and only during the last month of that period was there a written position from the Planning Department stating that the existing zoning was acceptable.

In September last year, the Planning Department position was that rezoning would be required, but Bohrer said in November, Kjell Stoknes, then community development director, said the more-restrictive zoning was not required.

Mark Caughey, the new planning director, last February reversed that decision and said that the rezoning would be required.

Bohrer asked Chauncey if, during all that time, his firm had made any project design based on a more-restrictive-zoning requirement, and Chauncey said it had not.

In his view, Bohrer said, Chartwell's justification for asking amendment of the guidelines in Resolution 656 is "misleading and unacceptable." He said Chartwell never addressed itself to more-restrictive zoning; consequently, to him, it appeared that "Chartwell proceeded at its own risk, based on the expectation that the city would change its zoning."

## Funds added for airport clear zone

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needed — and probably more funds — to complete all of the clear-zone requirements.

"The buy-outs began before the Highline and Sea-Tac Communities Plans were completed," he said. "We will be back to the commission to carry out other aspects dictated by the plans after we have more studies."

"There may be requests for more staff to work with noise monitoring, for additional land acquisitions, sound-proofing and purchase-guarantees. We're not done yet."

Jean Pihlman, coordinator of the Zone III Committee, representing residents living in the airport-impacted neighborhoods, agreed that the Port is far from being done.

"We have roses and onions for you, gentlemen," she said. "We are very, very glad to be getting additional funds today. As citizens

we have been working for eight years making sure that this all-important plan be implemented.

"It has been rough at times, but the Port of Seattle, the county, the F.A.A. and the citizens on the whole have worked well together. For that we thank you, that's the roses."

"However, there are still many problems — onions — to be solved."

Loudest among those, she said, are the airplanes which are violating air corridors.

"The prescribed take-off and landing patterns were working beautifully," she said. "But now it is getting very bad again. Airlines are not recognizing the corridors, they are spreading the noise farther and farther about the community."

"If you think we close-in neighbors have been a problem, think what a roar will arise when the

planes and noise become too much for Burien, North Hill and Normandy Park. The noise problem is now. It needs lots of work to control it now."

Pihlman disagreed with the Phase IV boundaries as described by Shay, noting that South 210th Street is not a through street.

"We were told that the clear zones would extend to natural or political boundaries — the south boundary should be South 216th Street, which is the Des Moines city limit."

Ford replied that the boundaries always have been confusing. "The Phase IV boundaries are just those designated by the 1975 Interim Land Acquisition program," he explained. "That does not necessarily coincide with boundaries set by the Highline or Sea-Tac Communities Plan."

Interim acquisition is the key, Ford said.

"I'm looking for a bank with a heart."

