



Agenda

City of Brookings
Common Council Meeting
Brookings City Hall Council Chamber
898 Elk Drive, Brookings Oregon
January 3, 2006 7:00 p.m.
Special Meeting

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Public Hearing

- A. In the matter of file No. ANX-3-05, a request to annex 607 acres of land consisting of 14 tax lots in seven different ownerships located on the side and top of the area known as *Harbor Hills*, including 3.4± miles of Highway 101 right-of-way extending from the Brookings city limit line on the Chetco River Bridge, south to the southerly property line of the subject property abutting the highway; identified as Assessor's Maps 41-13-10, Tax lot 300; 41-13-14, Tax lots 200, 201, 203, 300, 307, 308, 310, 312; 40-13-15A, Tax lot 100; 40-13-15B, Tax lots 5200, 5300, and 40-13-15DA, Tax lots 100, and 101; HW3, applicant. Criteria used to decide this application can be found in Section 148-Annexation, of the Brookings Land Development Code. The Planning Commission made a recommendation of approval of this application on December 6, 2005.

V. Adjournment

Events Calendar

January 2006

January 2006						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2006						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
					January 1, 2006 City Hall CLOSED - New Years Day
2 City Hall Closed - New Year's Day 9:30am CC- VIPS/Volunteers in Police Service/Marvin Parker	3 8:30am CC-Investigator/Patrol Information Sharing 3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus 7:00pm CC City Council mtg	4 12:00pm Comnity Agencies 1:30pm CC Land 2:30pm FH-SafetyComMtg/ 7:00pm CC City Council Mtg 7:00pm PoliceReserves held	5 8:15am CC-CmtyDevDpt Staff mtg/EWait 9:00am CC-Crm Stoppers 10:00am CC- Site Plan Com 7:00pm CC City Council Mtg	6	7
9 7:00pm FH-FireTng/ChShrp (Fire Hall) 7:00pm CC-Council Mtg	10 3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus 4:00pm FH Health Fair mtg 7:00pm CC-Planning Commssn	11 10:00am FH-Brookings Rural Fire District-Phil Co 1:30pm CC Land Development Code 6:00pm CC Goal Setting Dept	12 8:15am CC-CmtyDevDpt Staff mtg/EWait 10:00am CC- Site Plan Com 1:00pm CC City Plan 3:00pm CC Urban Renewal	13 Visioning Session with Sue Densr	14
16 8:00am CITY OFFICES CLOSED - Martin 9:30am CC-VIPS/Volunteers 6:00pm CC-American Red 7:00pm FH-FireTng/ChShrp	17 8:30am CC-Investigator/Patrol Information Sharing Meeting-Barbara Palic 3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus	18 1:30pm CC Land Development Code committee 6:00pm CC Goal Setting w/ dept heads review	19 8:15am CC-CmtyDevDpt Staff mtg/EWait 10:00am CC- Site Plan Com 1:00pm CC-Municipal Court 2:00pm CC-CEP (Citizens for	20 1:30pm CC Meeting of summer field participates	21
23 7:00pm FH-FireTng/ChShrp (Fire Hall) 7:00pm CC-Council Mtg	24 3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus Talk Show w/City Staff/Council (KURY 95.3)	25 1:30pm CC Land Development Code committee 6:00pm CC Goal Setting	26 8:15am CC-CmtyDevDpt Staff mtg/EWait 10:00am CC- Site Plan Com Mtg/LauraLee Gray 7:00pm CC-P & R Jt Mtg.	27 4:00pm FH Helmet Instruction w/Marvin 2259	28 CC Traffic School with Marvin 225 10:00am Health Fair at
30 CC City Council mtg (tentative) 7:00pm FH-FireTng/ChShrp (Fire Hall)	31 3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus Talk Show w/City Staff/Council (KURY 95.3)				29

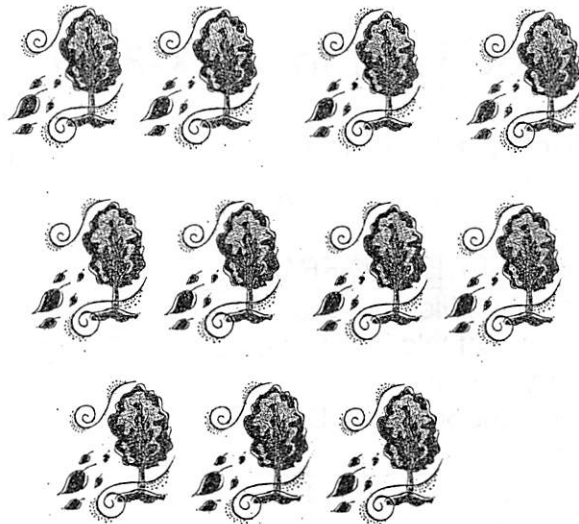
Events Calendar

February 2006

February 2006							March 2006						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4
12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat/Sun
		February 1	2	3	4
		12:00pm Comnity Agencies mtg (Chetco Sr.Ce 1:30pm CC Land Development Code 2:30pm FH-SafetyComMtg/ Kathy Dunn 7:00pm FH-PoliceReserves	8:15am CC-CmtyDevDpt Staff mtg/EWait 9:00am CC-Crm Stoppers 10:00am CC- Site Plan Com Mtg/LauraLee Gray		5
6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30am CC- VIPS/Volunteers in Police Service/Marvin Parker 7:00pm FH-FireTng/ChShrp (Fire Hall)	8:30am CC-Investigator/Patrol Information Sharing Meeting-Barbara Palic 3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus 7:00pm CC-Planning Commssn	1:30pm CC Land Development Code committee	8:15am CC-CmtyDevDpt Staff mtg/EWait 10:00am CC- Site Plan Com Mtg/LauraLee Gray 3:00pm CC Urban Renewal Advisory Committee		12
13	14	15	16	17	18
7:00pm FH-FireTng/ChShrp (Fire Hall) 7:00pm CC-Council Mtg	10:00am FH-Brookings Rural Fire District-Phil Cox-469-5729 3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus Talk Show w/City Staff/Council (KURY	1:30pm CC Land Development Code committee	8:15am CC-CmtyDevDpt Staff mtg/EWait 10:00am CC- Site Plan Com Mtg/LauraLee Gray 1:00pm CC-Municipal Court	9:30am CC Saftety Committee Mtg Parker 2259	19
20	21	22	23	24	25
CITY OFFICES CLOSED-President	8:30am CC-Investigator/Patrol Information Sharing Meeting-Barbara Palic 3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus 7:00pm CC Planning Commission meeting	1:30pm CC Land Development Code committee	8:15am CC-CmtyDevDpt Staff mtg/EWait 10:00am CC- Site Plan Com Mtg/LauraLee Gray 7:00pm CC-Parks & Rec Comm/City Manager		CC Traffic School with Marvin 225
9:30am CC-VIPS/Volunteers in Police Service-BP 6:00pm CC-American Red Cross Mtg/Karen 7:00pm FH-FireTng/ChShrp (Fire Hall)					26
27	28				
7:00pm FH-FireTng/ChShrp (Fire Hall) 7:00pm CC-Council Mtg	3:30pm KURY Radio Community Focus Talk Show w/City Staff/Council (KURY 95.3)				

CC Council Chamber
FH Fire hall



City of Brookings
Planning Commission
File No. ANX-3-05

SUPPLEMENTAL

No. 11

Materials submitted after the Planning
Commission Meeting of 12-13-05 and before noon
on Wednesday, December 28th for the City Council
meeting Tuesday, January 3, 2006.

TABLE #11 for ANX-3-05

MATERIAL RECEIVED after the Planning Commission Meeting 12-13-05 and before the City Council Meeting 1-3-06 up to 1:00 p.m. 12-28-05				
EXHIBIT NUMBER:	DATE REC'D.	RECEIVED FROM:	# of Pages	DOCUMENTS
UUUU	12-5-05	Mary Lu Milstone, president of League of Women Voters of Curry County 206 Schooner Bay Drive Brookings	2 pages	Letter to Nishioka and letter to Bishcoff-same letter
VVVV	12-8-05	Leroy Blodgett, HW3 representative P. O. Box 2767, Harbor	1 page	Letter requesting hearing postponed until Attorney returns
WWWW	12-9-05	Leroy Blodgett, HW3 representative P. O. Box 2767, Harbor	1 page	Agreeing to hearing dates
XXXX	12-16-05	Jim Hansen 973 Helen Lane Brookings	1 page	1 page letter
YYYY	12-16-05	Harvey Thiesen P. O. Box 4183 Brookings, OR 97415	5 pages	Letter + 4 pages from an article
ZZZZ	12-23-05	Rocky McVay 15292 Oceanview Drive Brookings, OR 97415	3 pages	Letter plus 2 signature pages



League of Women Voters of Curry County

Exhibit UUUU

Serving all Communities of Curry County

December 4, 2005

Mary Lu Milstone
206 Schooner Bay Dr.
Brookings, OR 97415

Mr. Bruce Nishioka:
Chair
Brookings Planning Commission

Dear Mr. Nishioka:

The League of Women Voters has become a highly visible nonpartisan political organization by undertaking extensive, impartial studies before reaching decisions and taking positions on critical issues.

The League of Women Voters of Curry County (LWVCC) foresaw the tremendous development pressures ahead for Curry County, especially for Brookings and Harbor, and undertook a study on planning. In April 1989, we adopted a statement of position to assure wise development in increasingly difficult and hazardous locations.

One of the conclusions of the study was that there must be an impartial geologist hired by the Planning Department with cost born by the applicant attempting to develop steep, hazardous areas such as the Harbor Hills.

Our position recognizes that developers may present the findings of their geological experts in a way favorable to their interests. On the other hand, if the city chooses the geological experts, they will be accountable to the local governing bodies rather than to the developer. Moreover, the citizens will likely trust that the geological experts will be working for them and not outside interested parties. City planners will have the authority to ensure that their concerns have been adequately addressed. The city's insistence on hiring its own geologists, will assure a balanced understanding of the hazards, allow the planning department to make safe decisions and strengthen public trust.

We urge you to adopt such a requirement.

Sincerely,

Mary Lu Milstone
Mary Lu Milstone
President LWVCC

RECEIVED
DEC 5 2005
CITY OF BROOKINGS Cm
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

December 12, 2005

Mary Lu Milstone
206 Schooner Bay Dr.
Brookings, OR 97415

Mr. John Bischoff
City Planning Director
Brookings, OR

Dear Mr. Bischoff:

The League of Women Voters has become a highly visible nonpartisan political organization by undertaking extensive, impartial studies before reaching decisions and taking positions on critical issues.

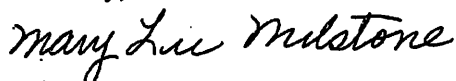
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We urge you to adopt such a requirement.

Sincerely,



Mary Lu Milstone
President LWVCC

HW3 LLC

Exhibit V V V V

P.O. Box 216
Phone: (541) 412-7566

Harbor Hills Oregon 97415
Fax: (541) 412-7646

December 8, 2005

VIA HAND DELIVERED

Mr. John Bischoff, Planning Director
City of Brookings
898 Elk Drive
Brookings, OR 97415

Re: HW3, LLC, et al – Harbor Hills Annexation

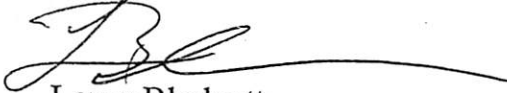
Dear Mr. Bischoff:

As we discussed yesterday in our phone conversation, our attorney, Steven Pfeiffer is not available during the week of December 20, 2005. Therefore, we request the first public hearing on the HW3 annexation request be scheduled for January 3, 2006. We will be available for any continuance of the hearing as may be scheduled by the City.

We recognize that this schedule may cause the process to exceed the previous 30 day extension to the 120 day review period for this application. It is our intention to provide sufficient time for the City Council and interested public to review this application. Therefore, this letter will also serve to confirm our consent to another extension to the 120 day review period to February 28, 2006, for this submittal.

We appreciate your continued attention to this matter. If you have any questions or need additional confirmation of our consent to this extension, please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,


Leroy Blodgett

Cc: John Trew
Ed Wait
Steve Pfeiffer
Jan Sirchuk

RECEIVED
DEC 8 - 2005
CITY OF BROOKINGS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CM

HW3 LLC

Land Development

P.O. Box 2767

Phone: (541) 412-7566

Harbor, Oregon 97415

Fax: (541) 412-7646

Exhibit WWWWW

December 9, 2005

VIA Email

Mr. John Bischoff, Planning Director
City of Brookings
898 Elk Drive
Brookings, OR 97415

Re: HW3, LLC, et al – Harbor Hills Annexation


Dear Mr. Bischoff:

Thank you adjusting the meeting schedule for the HW3 annexation hearing to allow our attorney, Steven Pfeiffer, to attend. January 3rd, 4th, 5th and any subsequent meetings necessary will work fine with our schedule.

As stated in my letter dated December 8, 2005, we recognize that this schedule may cause the process to exceed the previous 30 day extension to the 120 day review period for this application. Therefore, this letter will reconfirm our consent to extend the 120 day review period to February 28, 2005, for this submittal. I hope this will allow sufficient time for City Council to review and come to a decision on the subject matter.

We appreciate your continued attention to this matter. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,


Leroy Blodgett

Cc: John Trew
Ed Wait
Steve Pfeiffer
Jan Sirchuk

RECEIVED
DEC 9 - 2005
CITY OF BROOKINGS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
1:00 P.M. CM

RECEIVED

DEC 16 2005

CITY OF BROOKINGS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

973 Helen Lane
Brookings, OR 97415

The Mayor and Members of the City Council
City of Brookings
898 Elk Drive
Brookings, OR 97415

December 12, 2005

Dear Madam Mayor and Members of the City Council,

With reference to the proposed annexation of HW3, I have so many grave reservations that I must oppose the annexation. Despite disclaimers which have been issued, the proposed annexation cannot be separated from the issue of the development of the land involved. At least one developer has stated that they are applying for annexation because they wish to build according to Brookings building codes rather than County codes. Unless there is a conflict which would mandate building to County codes then there is nothing to prevent the developer from building according to Brookings codes even if HW3 were not annexed to Brookings.

There are numerous potential problems involved with both the location of HW3 in relation to Brookings and there are actual problems related to developing the area which could be quite costly to the city, again despite disclaimers. And after reading reports in the *Pilot* one can be fearful that the issue of annexation may be resolved in part because of the sheer amount of paperwork which it has generated, with a great proportion having been generated by the applicants. In the past, issues have been decided in favor of the party which has come forth with the most paper, especially as those who have made the decision in part simply do not have the time to scrutinize and evaluate the arguments involved.

The City must be above board about the proposed annexation. In the past, there have been instances in which outcomes appeared to have been dictated by backroom and under-the-table agreements, essentially subverting democratic principles and the process of public input. And while we elect our Council to make decisions on our behalf, because of its importance perhaps this is one issue which should be referred to the citizenry by means of a ballot vote.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

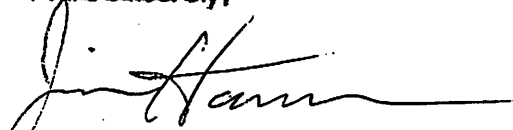

Jim Hansen

Exhibit YYY

Harold E. Thiesen
Mail - P. O. Box 4183
1223 Barclay Lane
Brookings, OR 97415

received
12-16-05 DC

December 16, 2005

City of Brookings
Mayor Pat Sherman
Councilpersons

Dear Managers of Our City:

Many of you may be too young to read the old standby magazine "Saturday Evening Post".

For this reason I have taken the liberty and expense to make copies of an article that I found most interesting and felt something that should be of concern with the upcoming vote for annexing additional property into Brookings.

Please read it, and as I remember, one of the duties of the council is to protect and care for the present residents of the community for now and in the future.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Harold E. Thiesen

THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG

Will icebergs be the answer to the world's growing thirst for potable water?
The author of *Man of La Mancha* believes his long-ago vision is no longer an impossible dream.

by Dale Wasserman

Originally, I had intended only to write a movie. It was to be no more than a speculation, an audience-tickling fantasy, nothing more. My movie idea, encapsulated, went as follows:

At a time when nations are growing desperate over the growing shortage of drinkable water, a gigantic iceberg, roughly the size of the state of Delaware, detaches itself from the Ross Ice Shelf in the Antarctic. That's not unusual, but then the world learns that the berg is inhabited. That it's moving under power. And that clearly it has a proprietor and destination.

These things are unusual. More than unusual; they are, in fact, unique. Ice is water, and the berg represents a virgin water supply the size of Lake Michigan. It is figured to be worth \$50 billion, delivered.

Who owns it? How is it powered? Who are the people living aboard and running it? What is its destination?

The search for answers and the contest for the possession of this fantastic resource begin.

I wrote it, not yet the screenplay but the story, complete, formulated, needing further explication yet in substance all there. But then an oddity occurred: people intrigued by the idea said to me, "Why a movie? The need is

real. Why not just do it?"

That of course, would be quite a different kettle of fish. But a fascinating kettle, if only because of its over-the-top ambition. A hook had been set in my imagination, and I found myself brooding on the challenge: Why not just do it?

In the course of brooding one night in the space between sleep and waking, I had a vision: I was on the terrace of my mountainside house in Spain, high above the Mediterranean, watching the lighted cruise ships below, when there came one that outranked all others. It was a vessel like no other on earth. It filled the sea and stretched to the horizons. It was fashioned of some sort of crystal and pulsed with the light from within... gemlike greens, blues, emerald, turquoise and a dozen variations of aquamarine coruscated in its depths... altogether a spectacle delighting the eye and raising a heartbeat of wonder.

At a later time I realized that somehow I had transfigured an image remembered from the Fellini movie *Amarcord*: the image of a brilliantly lighted ocean liner, regarded with wonder and delight by the people of Fellini's village as, with enormous majesty, it passes offshore. Then I realized that the vessel in my vision was not, as I'd thought, fashioned of crystal—it was ice.

I woke up, not to reality but to a sly question: "Why couldn't this vision become real?" Especially since there was a need, a need becoming daily more urgent. If there was a need in one part of the world and an answer to that need in another part, the equation seemed childishly simple—why not bring the two parts together in perfect reciprocity?

And so I entered upon a pursuit of the sort which obsesses, in which obsession becomes a slavemaster denying freedom until fulfillment. Could there possibly be, in this case, fulfillment? Could an iceberg—oh, say, twice the size of Manhattan—be harvested, powered and steered to a destination where the need for its bonanza of water was desperate?

It was time to drop the dreaming and find out.

One motive for finding out became outstandingly clear: *the world is running out of drinkable water.*

There can never be more water on earth, and of all that exists only a tiny percentage is potable. The bulk of earth's water is in the oceans or in

other forms unfriendly to humanity. Of potentially drinkable water, most is in the form of polar ice and glaciers, and therefore unavailable. Indeed, water covers two thirds of the planet, but of fresh water there is less than 2½ percent. The accessible rivers, lakes and underground aquifers: all of them together make up less than one percent of the world's total water, and of these more than half are already being consumed or have become unusable due to pollution.

Rivers which once supplied healthful water to multitudes are now off-limits by reason of overuse

or contamination. Entire countries regularly join the list of those burdened with nonusable water; Poland, for example, receives plenty of rain but is suffering a crucial shortage of clean water. Its rivers and lakes, groundwater and marshes, all are cocktails of poisons. Their water is no longer potable.

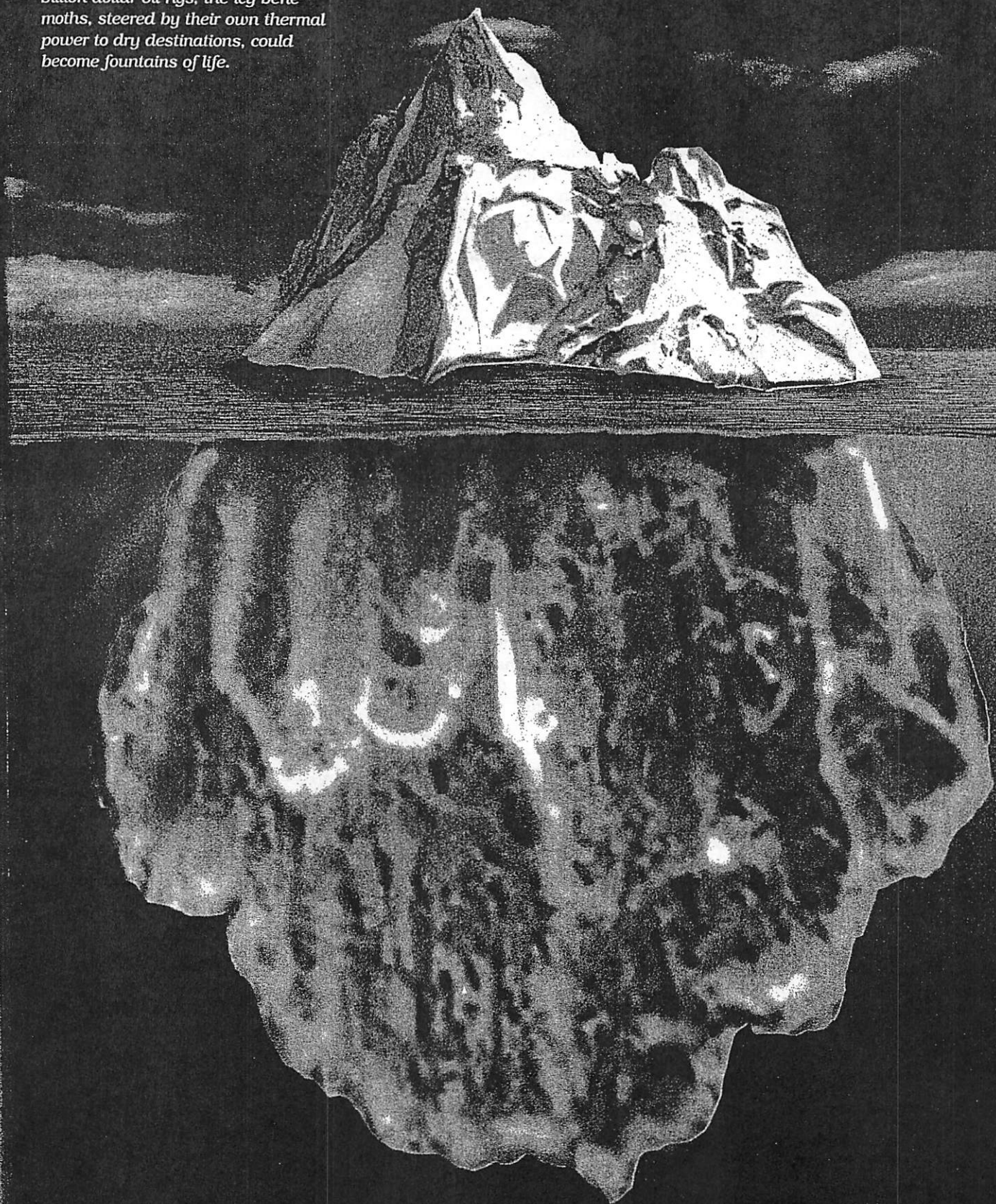
Nor is Poland's problem unusual. A United Nations report states flatly,

"More than half of humanity will be living with water shortages, depleted fisheries, and polluted coastlines within a few years because of a worldwide water crisis."

About the Author: Dale Wasserman is a movie, stage and television writer best known for his *Man of La Mancha*, one of the longest-running Broadway musicals of all time, and his Tony Award-winning play, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. His most recent works include *An Enchanted Land*, a play about Haiti, *Boy on Blacktop Road*, and *The Stallion Howl*. He is also author of the book *The Impossible Musical*, the story of the making of *Man of La Mancha*. He and his wife, Martha Nelly Garza, live in Arizona.



A large portion of the world's potable water is locked up in thousands of icebergs that slowly melt into the oceans. Until now seen as floating menaces to shipping and billion-dollar oil rigs, the icy behemoths, steered by their own thermal power to dry destinations, could become fountains of life.



"More than half of humanity will be living with water shortages, depleted fisheries, and polluted coastlines within a few years because of a worldwide water crisis." It goes on to point out, "Tens of millions of people don't have access to safe water. Severe water shortages affecting at least 400 million people today will affect 4 billion by 2050. In the USA, southwestern



As early as the 1970s, plans were envisioned for harvesting long, flat "tabular" icebergs from the Antarctica ice shelf. The giant ice blocks would be towed to New Zealand, where they would be melted and the water sold to countries of the Middle East.

states such as Arizona will face severe freshwater shortages by 2025."

Water sources that seemed inexhaustible are proving to be anything but. The Aral Sea, which is—or was—the world's fourth-largest freshwater lake, is diminishing visibly as four countries draw water from its river-feeds, and shortly it will vanish completely. Lake Chad in Africa is shrinking and heavily polluted, as are Iraq's marshes and America's wetlands and others previously considered immune or inexhaustible. The Great Lakes of the United States are not only dangerously polluted but have fallen to their lowest levels in recorded history. Of all the world's great freshwater lakes, only Lake Baikal, by volume and by depth the greatest of them all, remains intact—but this is due to its remote location in Siberia. Even so, its proximity to the Chinese border places it in hazard. The Chinese would gladly trade territory and billions of yuan for access to its waters.

The roll call of the lakes and rivers that are poisoned, dying or simply vanishing down thirsty drains is growing more rapidly than any human or agency had predicted. Pollution, not

consumption, is the Great Waster of the supply. The available waters have steadily undergone a sickening saturation by pesticides; by chemical, mining and manufacturing wastes; and by the increasing discharge of human wastes, which convert pristine waterways into sewers of infection. Cholera, typhoid and dysentery are but three of the many waterborne diseases which afflict the earth, products of the poisoning of water by human and industrial pollution. An estimated 12,000 people die each day from waterborne diseases. A swelling population keeps this statistic swelling as well.

Third World population growth has both aggravated and accelerated the process. Mexico City's ever-expanding population of—by latest estimate—25 million has destroyed the great lake on which the city was founded by the Aztecs in the 14th century. Bernard de las Casas, the scribe accompanying Cortez, wrote of "...the gleaming white city of Tenochtitlán, nested improbably in the middle of a vast lake of crystalline clear waters..." That city—and its vast lake—have long since metamorphosed into the City of Mexico, which sinks steadily into the cavity where "crystalline clear waters" once delighted the eyes and throats of the con-

famine in the Sudan and Ethiopia. At the opposite end of Africa, Johannesburg rivals Cairo in its frantic plundering of water-sources, as do the cities on the northern rim.

The cities of South America are possibly in the worst case of all. São Paulo, Lima, Caracas, Santiago, La Paz—with swelling populations and increasing thirst—all have their crises, present or pending. None have a viable solution.

China has its own water-shortage crisis, best exemplified by the desperation of Beijing, whose underground water table has dropped more than a hundred feet in the last 40 years. Beijing's plight is mirrored by almost all of China's swelling and nominally prosperous cities; how can prosperity be maintained, much less enhanced, with a growing shortage of life's most urgent necessity?

The current rate of consumption of another resource—oil, as measured against a shrinking supply—is raising alarms (and prices) worldwide. But oil is not necessary to human existence. Our own species, *Homo sapiens*, got along for millions of years without it, whereas potable water is an absolute need not only of humanity but of all terrestrial life. Deprived of it, living forms promptly cease to be alive.

Aggravating the situation is this: it takes a million gallons of water to make 40,000 gallons of gasoline. Which leads one to consider: which is more valuable, a gallon of oil or a gal-

"The fabled water wars of the West are not yet over. They have simply entered another phase."

quistadors. The city has sunk some 60 feet into the ancient lakebed, and continues sinking. Dust storms parch the throats of its expanding hordes and add to the need for more sources of water to support them.

It was those same conquerors who, after praising the city of Tenochtitlán as superior in beauty and resources to any city in Europe, proceeded with monstrous efficiency to destroy what they had so admired.

Cairo, another city of unnumbered population, drinks so deeply of the river Nile that it remains viable only by virtue of the Aswan Dam and the consequent further desertification and

lon of water? Why is the price of one so much greater than the other when one is indispensable to life and the other a luxury?

The worldwide statistics concerning the use, abuse, and growing crisis in the supply of pure water grow ever more alarming. For example, Americans need look no further than their own real estate. One glance at the wildly burgeoning city of Las Vegas will do nicely as a for-instance.

Las Vegas is the fastest-growing city in the USA. It also happens to be sited in the country's driest area.

see Iceberg on page 102

Iceberg

continued from page 72

For many years it has tapped nearby Lake Mead, the huge lake created by the construction of Hoover Dam. But Lake Mead, like Lake Powell in Arizona and Utah, and numerous other "lakes" which are not actually lakes at all, has a single source: the Colorado River. Once a great and powerful stream fueled by snowmelt of the Rocky Mountains, it is now so heavily drawn upon that at its outlet in the Sea of Cortez, there is virtually no water left to meet the sea. Lake Mead's water level has dropped 90 feet in the past few years. All of Nevada is under a severe drought alert.

Once untrammelled by dams, the Colorado at its mouth sprawled over a huge delta with multiple channels, much like that of the Mississippi. Now that delta is arid desert scored by dry washes where water once flowed in abundance.

One of the pioneer mountain men, James Ohio Pattie, described a bizarre sight he had observed on the lower Colorado in the 1830s—"...a standing wave cresting about six feet high, which began moving slowly upstream with water combing down over the top like a milldam..."

What Pattie had observed was, in fact, a tidal bore, born of collision between great powers: one of them the untamed river surging to the sea; the other, the incoming tide of the Sea of Cortez. Where the two met, a tidal bore was born, a great rolling wave moving hundreds of miles upstream until the river's power prevailed—the battle to be renewed with the next incoming tide.

It was significant that although the Colorado was deemed a "navigable" river, all attempts at navigation were ended when a steamboat called the *Topolobampo*, crowded with passengers, was caught in the bore and rolled over and over like a barrel in ocean surf, drowning nearly all of the 300 aboard. The disaster effectively put an end to notions of navigation on the Color-

do. The river was deemed too powerful, too untamed, for such enterprises.

It is no longer powerful or untamed. Now, with its water parceled out among five states, it can be described as attenuated, sickly, and above all, inadequate.

From Las Vegas to El Paso, and including fast-growing cities such as Phoenix and Tucson, communities are busily planning webs of pipelines designed to import water from other localities. These are cities which can neither survive nor continue to grow unless they tap into new sources of water. Their hope for salvation lies in reaching out for these sources with a costly system of pipes and wells. Their delusion lies in the belief that they're going to find them. A simple fact: there are no undiscovered water sources in this "great American desert." All of the water in its rivers, creeks, lakes and underground aquifers is already taken up by present demand. There are no supplies available for additional demands.

Nevertheless, the most ambitious of these projects is being promoted by Las Vegas, which has on its drawing boards a spiderweb of pipelines to import water from remote areas of Nevada. The Southern Nevada Water Au-

thority proposes to drill scores of wells in a quest for deep underground water. Some of these proposed wells will be hundreds of miles away. The projected price for this network is \$2 billion—but it is generally conceded that the figure is illusory and that the project may, in fact, cost much more.

An amazing swatch of naiveté colors these efforts. Why does Las Vegas assume that the water is there? And if water should be found, why does Las Vegas assume that it can confiscate it from the communities which own it?

Rural communities are not stupid. They have long since observed that water is life. In the past they have fought wars over water. There's little reason to doubt that they won't do so again.

One must recall the violent history of the Owens Valley in Central California, once a thriving community with a river, a lake, and fertile farmlands until ever-thirsty Los Angeles reached out 250 miles to confiscate its river, drain its lake, and pipe its water to the south, thereby converting the fertile valley into desert, a desert where guerrilla landowners still maintain a futile feud with the City of Angels.

The Owens Valley disaster is not forgotten. Residents of rural Nevada have it very much in mind.

Other desert cities are wrangling over similar, if less-ambitious schemes. El Paso, Texas, is planning a pipeline to cost half a billion dollars. Salt Lake City hopes for a pipeline to supply 33 billion gallons of water a year to accommodate foreseeable growth. Colorado Springs, the state of Colorado's second-largest city, has on the drawing boards a 43-mile pipeline at a cost of \$900 million to bring water from the Arkansas River. Other towns booming with growth are prospecting wildly for water sources, sometimes in competition with each other.

The fabled water wars of the West are not yet over. They have simply entered another phase.

Water is a basic human need. Is it also a basic human right? The emerging answer is: not necessarily. ■

—Bill Matthias



The Perfect Squelch

Mulcahey, a veteran *New York News* printer, has been around long enough to give the makeup editors pointers on handling news in type. If they dispute his suggestions in the rush of making a deadline, he roars good-humoredly at them, "You're driving me crazy!"

When Mul went on vacation, his place was taken by a young printer who admired him greatly and tried to imitate him in all respects. One day while working on a golf story, the novice made a suggestion which the sports makeup editor vetoed. Falling back on Mul's old standby, the youngster yelled, "You're driving me crazy!"

The editor looked him up and down and replied, "That's not a drive, son; that's a putt."

continued next issue

Rocky A. McVay
15292 Oceanview Drive
Brookings, OR.
97415

RECEIVED

DEC 23 2005

CITY OF BROOKINGS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

December 23, 2005

Honorable Pat Sherman
Larry Anderson
Craig Mickelson
Dave Gordon
Jan Wilms
898 Elk Drive
Brookings, OR 97415

COPY

Re: HW3 Annexation 0305

Dear Mayor Sherman and Members of the City Council,

It has been brought to my attention that my name appears on a petition submitted into evidence in the above referenced land use action being considered by the City of Brookings. It can be found at HW3 Annexation 0305, Supplemental Packet #4, City pages 35 and 93 (copy enclosed). I did not sign the petition.

In an explanation from Mr. Frank Goodnough, December 20, 2005 the carrier of this petition, I "inadvertently signed the petition while attending a Sierra Club meeting." I have never attended a Sierra Club meeting in my life.

When considering the above referenced land use action please remove my name from the Supplemental Packet #4, city pages 35 and 93.

I respectfully request you enter this letter and make it a part of the City of Brookings record when any reference or action is taken regarding HW3 Annexation 0305, Supplemental Packet #4.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely

Rocky A. McVay

COPY

The undersigned affected citizens oppose annexation to the city of Brookings of property belonging to Hank Westbrook in the Harbor Hills that is not contiguous to the city limits.

Printer Name: PR Signature

Alice P. Mason

Suzanne Alaimo

JOHN MANN

JOE BOGNER

Martha Ann Bogner

Jean Sullivan

Warren Krick

VEVA STANSELL

Rocky McVary

Address:

97415
97885 Titus Ln. Harbor, Di.

15346 Redcliffe Harbor

16281 TERRACE ST Harbor 97415

15404 Oceanview Dr Harbor 97415

15404 Oceanview Dr. Harbor

1103 Rowland Ln

1347 Chelco Ave (PO Box 6146 Brookings

95156 South Bank Pistol River

15955 Short Way Harbor

The undersigned affected citizens oppose the annexation to the City of Brookings, Oregon of any property south of the Chetco river, also known as Harbor.

PRINT
Name:

SIGNATURE

Address:

Alice P. Mason

97415
97885 Titus Ln. Harbor, Or

SUZANNE ALAIMO

15346 Redwood Dr HARBOR

JOHN MANN

16281 TERRACE ST. HARBOR 97415

JOE BOSNER

15404 OCEANVIEW DR HARBOR 97415

Martha Ann Rogers

15404 Oceanview Dr. Harbor

Jean Sullivan

1103 Rowland Ln Brookings

Warren Krick

1347 Chetco Ave (P.O. Box 6146) Brookings

VEVA STANSELL

Tenertown PO Box 6077
95156 South Bank PISTOL RIVER, OR 97445

Rocky McKay

15955 Short Way Harbor

MARY ANN RUNYAN

PO Box 6537 Brookings

Valeria Smith

805 Paines Ct Brookings

J. R. Riddle

98877 North Bank Road

DORNE CRUDELL

P.O. BOX 1552 BROOKINGS

GAIL SCREWEN

PO Box 2965, HARBOR 97415

Tom Mochulski

PO Box 2965 Harbor or 97415

MOCHULSKI

Karl Thompson

16032 Driftwood Box 2066 Harbor