Yesterday's State of the County address stressed the need for resiliency and developing a sense of community with the Community Health Improvement Plan improving nutrition through the expansion of access to fresh produce and the Regional Prosperity Plan expanding the local FOOD sector.

The priority is obvious:
There is NO substitute for FOOD. Local farms and growing our own gives us a military, health, economic, and sustainable advantage and is our ONLY way to survive.
Gardens will provide an increased percentage of our FOOD as the economy continues going down. FOOD has a crucial advantage: WE CAN GROW FOOD.

People need to be able to grow as much of their own FOOD as possible. Not just Local Farms and Community Gardens but also RESIDENTIAL Gardens. The WW1+2 Victory Gardens need to come back even if "Square Foot Gardens". Fruit trees to replace mere ornamentals. Small fruit to replace mere shrubs. Vegetables to replace mere lawns.

{The long term issue:
The Soil Conservation Service's SCIENTIFIC study of seven THOUSAND years of world agriculture showed that neglect of the soil has "helped topple empires and WIPE OUT entire civilizations" and care of the soil "has enabled societies to FLOURISH for centuries".
{ Lowdermilk "Conquest of the Land through 7,000 Years" (Complete Text) http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb1043789.pdf
We MUST save QUALITY FOOD-Growing soil, make it a number one priority.
We need city, county, state, federal, and international laws, with penalties, giving FOOD growing soil the number one priority IT needs and WE need.
Development plans need to pass "THE SOIL FOOD TEST".}

The failure of the previous serial levy was NOT The Will Of The People!
The biggest reason it failed was too many people were under the influence of misinformation from the opposition. Even OSU Corvallis wrote:
"misinformation has been shared with media and further amplified in news reports, resulting in what OSU officials fear may be false impressions of the funding, educational programs and operations". With The Reference:
{ http://oregonstate.edu/ua/ncs/archives/2010/apr/just-facts-realities-lane-county-extension-service-funding }

Further comments are in this paper.
I am submitting a separate document listing all the programs that the full service Extension used to provide.
The Extension Service is in the best COUNTY-WIDE position to teach how to grow, preserve and cook FOOD. Extension programs MUST be a priority and MUST be fully funded.

Thankyou.
Extension Agents, Lane Cnty, Full Service, Early 1980's, Pre-Budget Cuts

Compiler's note: My recollection is that the county cut funding in 1983. When this was written in December, 2009, the 4H info was current.

As Remembered By Pat Patterson and Duane Hatch
Duane Hatch left in Feb, 1982. "At the time I left, I was chairman of about 30 to 35 people, ... paid staff and did not include volunteers"
(Corvallis Campus keeps records for only 7 years for tax reasons.)

If 20-158 does not pass, ONLY the two federal or grant funded Nutrition Education Program (NEP) and 1/2 4H will be funded.

Agents:
With support staff:
Field Crops: (Chair Staff Mike Stoltz)
Horticulture: 1 Commercial Agent; 1 Home Hort agent; Pat as Assistant,

Home Economics: Two. 1 Agent for general programs which included Home Ec Units all over the county, giving dozens of programs supported by the Ext Serv; 1 for the EFNEP program, which had 2 or 3 Program assistants, plus 10-12 workers in the county.

4-H: 2 agents, 1 program assistant. Scores of leaders supported by Agents conducting clubs and programs all over the county.

Agents WithOut or Shared Support Staff:
Livestock
Small Animals
Wildlife
Forester
Energy (EPA / Bonneville)
Dairy (1/3 time)
Marketing (1/2 Time Eric Ross)

Program Assistants Such As:
Horticulture (Pat Patterson)
Home Economics (Part Time)
4H (Varied 1-3) (Roxanne Emmons for many years)

Classified Office Staff / Front Office: 1 Supervisor; plus 4 to 5 secretaries in addition. (6-7)
(Office manager Merlynn Hoover)

Compiled by David Hoffman MG December, 2009