



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

A piper with the Federal 79th Highlanders joins the ranks marching to battle.

CIVIL WAR: Program offers glimpse of “living history”

Continued from page 1

he didn’t feel he had time to commit to the demanding pursuit. A friend finally talked him into taking the plunge. Veteran reenactors are known for their willingness to help a greenhorn along — as long as said greenhorn is making the effort to put together his outfit and historical persona and deepen his or her knowledge of the period.

The key, according to Schnetzky, is “drive — just the gumption to do it,” and a willingness to “say, ‘Yeah, I don’t know everything that well, but I’m going to do my best.’”

Spectators sitting on bleachers awaiting the battle were treated to a discussion of life for women during the period, featuring women authentically dressed in the layers of petticoats and the voluminous skirts typical of the era. One of the women noted that the dresses posed a significant health risk — and not from the constraints of a corset, which she said is actually comfortable if it fits right. The dresses posed a tremendous risk from fire for women working around open cooking flames. In fact, the women said, fire was the number-one cause of death among women, eclipsing childbirth and disease.

Jill Ingalls and Danielle Fisher portrayed two women from Georgia displaced by Sherman’s March to the Sea in 1864, when the Union commander drove from Atlanta to Savannah, cutting a swath of destruction calculated to break the Confederacy’s will to resist and cripple its ability to supply its armies.

They demonstrated camp cooking of the era, using authentic foods and utensils, though Ingalls acknowledged that “we have better provisions than they had.”

Ingalls noted that she has ancestors who fought on both sides of the conflict. She also said that Confederate reenactor

ranks have thinned over the past couple of years due to conflict over the Confederate battle flag and other symbols of the Confederacy — symbols that for most reenactors are simply part of telling the story of the conflict.

Ingalls said it is sometimes hard for people to recognize that her portrayal of a Confederate does not imply that she endorses everything the Confederacy stood for — particularly slavery. She argues that the story of the Civil War is a complicated one and said, “I think it’s important that for people to hear the true story ... not what people choose to believe the symbols mean today.

“We don’t want to make light that slavery was an important part, but it wasn’t the start of the war.”

The origins of the conflict remain a spark for heated debate among professional and amateur historians alike, but for the reenactors on hand at last weekend’s events, their purpose is not so much to refight the war as it is to touch the experience of their 19th-century ancestors and share a glimpse of what life was like in the midst of a watershed moment in the history of our country.

Camp Sherman resident Christopher Lundgren joined the Union Army’s 69th New York Regiment, Co. K. The teenager has a deep interest in history that was stoked last year by the battle reenactment in his backyard.

“I’ve always been interested in military stuff, and I thought it was really interesting how they did the battles and I wanted to take part in it,” he said.

He recruited several friends to join — adding a little extra authenticity to a unit that certainly had its share of teenaged soldiers.

Advancing across a field into fire — even though it is from blank rounds — gives a sense of the terror that must have gripped soldiers during the bloody battles of the Civil War, Lundgren noted.

“Looking down the artillery pieces scares you so much,” he said.

The Nugget Newspaper Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews, Tribune News Service

- ACROSS
- 1 E’s followers
 - 5 Wild felines
 - 10 Fit snugly together
 - 14 Press clothing
 - 15 Rental car agency
 - 16 Bump __; meet unexpectedly
 - 17 Enormous
 - 19 Store away
 - 20 Intelligent
 - 21 Wash away soapsuds
 - 23 Actor Linden
 - 24 Greek letter
 - 26 Overwhelming defeats
 - 28 Baby’s bed
 - 31 Pottery fragments
 - 34 Affirmative
 - 35 Soup-serving implements
 - 37 Lubricates
 - 40 Talk back
 - 42 Secures a boat
 - 43 Banister
 - 44 Threesome
 - 45 __ de corps; camaraderie
 - 47 Do the slalom, for example
 - 48 Shovels
 - 50 Group of seven
 - 52 Tub activities
 - 54 Twiggy’s skirt
 - 55 Stop __ dime
 - 56 Weight revealer
 - 60 Refrain words
 - 64 Curry & Jillian
 - 66 Exceed in importance
 - 68 Costa __
 - 69 Chop finely
 - 70 Record
 - 71 Landowner’s paper
 - 72 Actor Cibrian
 - 73 Observed
- DOWN
- 1 Desert fruits
 - 2 Tiny weight
 - 3 Israeli dance
 - 4 Ms. Bergman
 - 5 Skillet

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Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 5/24/17

— Last Week’s Puzzle Solved —

W	O	O	S		R	O	M	E		G	L	O	O	M
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- 41 Tenth-grader, for short
- 46 1st extra inning
- 49 Donkey
- 51 Captain Hook, for one
- 52 Plank
- 53 Ms. Oakley
- 54 “Thanks, Pierre!”
- 57 Arrive
- 58 Very eager
- 59 Give for a time
- 61 TV’s “Queen for __”
- 62 Easy stride
- 63 Flabbergasted
- 65 Melancholy
- 67 Notice

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