

PORT ORFORD NEWS

Vol. 6 No. 15 Port Orford, Curry County, Oregon VACATIONLAND Price Ten Cents, Thursday, July 11, 1963



A HIGHLIGHT of the July 4th Celebration was the Battle Rock Pageant, under the direction of Hazel Knapp, Indians, played by local Jaycees, are shown here in their first skirmish to convince the white men to leave the area. The actual battle was fought June 10, 1851. Port Orford Sheriff's Reserves portrayed the white men.

Highway 101 Shows Increase in Traffic

Traffic volume throughout Oregon showed a net gain for May 1963, as compared to May 1962, but there were decreases on certain sections of major highways, according to the monthly report compiled by the Oregon State Highway Department.

Rural highway routes that generally showed traffic increases during May were US 26, US 97, US 101 north of Coos Bay, and US 395.

Declines in traffic were noted on seven of the 12 counties located on both Interstate 5 and Interstate 805. This is the first trend indicating a traffic decrease that could be due to traffic generated by the Seattle World's Fair in 1962.

A percentage increase of 4.9 was recorded for rural highways, which included the two Interstate highways. The urban increase was listed at 1.8 percent.

In comparing the first five months of 1963 to the first five months of 1962, the figures show that rural traffic increased 5.7 per cent and urban traffic increased 5.6 per cent.

Maximum traffic for May occurred Memorial Day, May 30, at a majority of rural highway counter locations.

Parade, Horse Show Winners

Despite Wednesday's deluge of rain that dampened the enthusiasm of float builders, horseback riders, and others, Independence Day parades put their best foot forward and made the big march to Battle Rock State Park anyway. And, many hardy souls who had faith in the day's weather lined the 20 blocks of main street, and filled the Park entrance, to watch them.

Even when the music failed to show, the parade went on, led by Neil Knapp and a Color Guard from the Veterans of WWI. And despite the shortness of the parade, it was colorful and impressive, from the Freedom float to the "fat lady."

Parade chairman Burrell Babb expressed his appreciation to those who weathered the elements to form up the parade, and to the judges who selected the winners.

The Sweepstakes Winner, selected by Babb, was Lakeside Trailer Court. Others, by category and organization, are:

Clubs, Organization Art Association, first; TOPS Club, second; Bandon Cranberry Princesses, third.

Red Cross Swimming Classes Start Next Monday Morning

Red Cross swimming classes are scheduled to start next Monday at the Susie White Garrison Lake property on Lakeshore Drive, weather permitting, said Mrs. Clara Hefner, head instructor.

The free classes will include Beginners, Intermediates, Ad-

vanced, Swimmers and Junior and Senior Lifesaving.

A schedule of those already registered will be posted in the post office, Mrs. Hefner said. Registration blanks may be secured from her. Registration will be open through the first day of classes.

Deep Water Port Urged For Curry At Timber Operators Gathering

Major reasons why Curry county needs a deep water port, including loss of revenue, waste of resources and continued economic growth, were cited at the meeting of the Curry County Timber Operators Assn. June 21 at the Rod 'n Reel.

Frank McPherson, U. S. Plywood's Gold Beach operations manager, and keynote speaker at the meeting, pointed out the waste of forest products due to high transportation cost. At present the only transportation is by truck or barge—the county has no railroad facilities.

Possible locations mentioned for a deep water port were the Chetco river area, Rogue river and Port Orford, and projects now under way for improving the ports were mentioned, however, none at present would provide a real deep water harbor.

Harold Kidby of Portland, representing the army corps of engineers, spoke on the merits of the Port Orford harbor, explaining the cost which would be entailed in deepening the Chetco harbor channel and commented on conditions existing at the Rogue harbor which would seem to preclude a deep water harbor in that locality.

Kidby explained that their yearly dredging operation on Rogue river are, within two weeks after the job is completed, practically undone. The steep slope causes the river to fill with gravel and sand a condition that cannot be corrected. The Rogue river rises two feet to the mile and in some areas up to four feet to the mile.

Meetings in southern Curry county during recent months have also taken into consideration Chetco cove, located just north of the mouth of Chetco river, Brookings.

The annual cost to truck commodities to Coos Bay and other harbors where deep draft ships can enter is \$300,000. The waste of wood which could be converted to chips is now being burned at a rate of \$1,000,000 a year loss. Facilities are needed for shipping out ores from Curry county mines and other products which are now being left in the woods.

"Red" Sargeant, Timber Operators president, and Bob Knox, president of the Oregon Coastal Ports Assn., also spoke on the need for deep water transportation from Curry county.

Celebration Group To Meet Monday

All members, interested parties, or others, are urged and requested to attend the meeting of the Celebration Association next Monday night at the city hall.

The 8 p.m. meeting is called for final reports on all phases of the Celebration, president Paul Peterson said, and to elect officers for the coming year.

Star, Masonic Picnic Dated

The Masonic picnic will be held Sunday, July 14th at McCribble Guard Station and will be an all day food fest, breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. and all are asked to bring camp stools, stoves, etc.

In case of rain the gathering will be at the Masonic Hall.

To check crimes against women, Baltimore, Md. Legionnaires offered free police whistles to women walking unattended at night.

Bulb Growers Field Day Set

Bulb growers will have an opportunity to see the progress being made in lily research at a field day at Pacific Bulb Growers Research and Development Station, Harbor, on Tuesday, July 16, starting at 2:00 p.m.

Dr. A. N. Roberts and L. T. Blaney, horticulturists from Oregon State University, will be present to discuss research projects being conducted at the station and at the University.

Emphasis is being placed on selecting strains of lilies that are resistant to disease.

A plant breeding program is also being conducted to find new Easter lily seedlings that are disease resistant but still have the excellent qualities of the Ace and Croft varieties that have been grown for many years.

All growers and others are invited to attend the field day, according to Arnold Samuelson, president of Pacific Bulb Growers Association.

Some say that never before did we have so much federal aid in spending our money.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Commissioner Ryce Wilson Says No Crash Program On Sixes Road Opening

Curry county's road department is currently working on the Sixes River road, a section being surveyed above Dry Creek, but there is no attempt being made to open the road through to Powers at this time, said Commissioner Ryce Wilson, and the county has "no crash program" underway on such a move.

These remarks were directed to members of the Port Orford chamber of commerce at their Monday night meeting.

Wilson said the county has many priority road projects that are behind schedule and that he, personally, is not convinced the Sixes road opening is immediately necessary. Wilson also said he felt it would be a long time before the county would realize any benefits from the road opening, and that it would create additional problems such as maintenance and traffic and dust control.

There is no doubt that the county could force the road opening, he added, at least to Eckley. From there to the Coos county line is another problem. Wilson said he had found a document in Coos county that property owners had signed to vacate that section of road but that the Coos County Court had failed to act on it.

Affidavits will have to be secured again, then turned over to the district attorney for action, Wilson noted. Mrs. Minnie Jolly will make an effort to obtain these affidavits from property owners.

Wilson also noted that Georgia-Pacific, who is responsible for the locked gates, will be through logging in two more years and that maybe things will straighten out by themselves at that time.

A letter from the Gold Beach chamber of commerce invited anyone interested in mining to attend a meeting of the S. W. Oregon Mining Association at 8 p.m. Friday, July 12, in Gold Beach, sponsored by the port commission. The meeting will discuss the high rail shipping cost of low-grade ore.

Other business coming under discussion was the Welcome to Oregon program. Gil Rush, local chairman, suggested erecting a large log cut at each end on the city and mounting a "Welcome" sign on it. No action was taken.

The Art Association requested a donation from the chamber to help them with expenses. The association conducts the local tourist information center. Funds were pledged when they become available from membership dues receipts.



Bursting Rockets over a Quiet Surf and Battle Rock Ended a Perfect Day



CURRY County Judge Fell Campbell, center, delivered an Independence Day address prior to the Jaycee Bell Ringing Ceremony. Jaycee president Jim Peterson is at left.

Oregon Death Toll Makes Record First Six Months

More people died in Oregon traffic during the first six months of this year than in any comparable period in the state's history.

The Traffic Safety Division of the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles said the tentative toll of 251 was more than 29% above the six-month toll in 1962.

The month-by-month breakdown of traffic deaths shows 31 in January; 27, February; 56, March; 32, April; 52, May; and 53 in June. The March and May tolls were all-time records for those months.

The fifty-three people killed in June traffic represented a 43% increase in June a year ago.

Safety officials said if the killing pace continues during the last six months of the year, the state's traffic toll will set a new all-time record and could go as high as 600 deaths.

Officials urged drivers and pedestrians to exercise common sense driving precautions at all times and reminded the public that strict enforcement against traffic violations can be expected to continue.

Fire Spews From Sink

Fire shooting from a kitchen sink shortly after 11 o'clock Tuesday morning interrupted a meeting of the TOPS Club and brought the volunteer fire department on the run. But it was over as quick as it started, with the only results being some disturbed nerves and a practice run for the department, fortunately.

Where the flames came from and why, is a mystery. TOPS members said they were meeting in a room behind the kitchen of the former Katie's Cafe, now the art center, when they heard a loud pop. Hastening to find out what caused it, they rushed to the kitchen to see blue flames shooting from the sink. They noted that the lights flickered, then the flames went out. The blue flame indicated a gas-type fire, a fireman said, but what could have ignited it was the puzzle, inasmuch as no one was around the sink.

Electric Co-op Wants Pictures

Do you have any old pictures involving the Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative?

Bill Cook, public information director for the cooperative, is sending out an urgent plea for oldtime pictures that can be used in connection with the celebration of the cooperative's 25 years of service to Coos and Curry counties.

The silver anniversary will be celebrated in the Coquille Community building in connection with the annual meeting of the organization.

The celebration is set for Sept. 21, 1963, and the pictures are needed immediately.

Ocean Front Property Values Appraised Up

GOLD BEACH—Increase notices were mailed to owners of ocean frontage properties in Curry county by the Board of Equalization this week. The range in frontage values varied from \$2.50 per front foot to \$40.00 per front foot. Each property was adjusted according to size, location, access and other economic factors.

The Board of Equalization, upon recommendation of the county assessor, will place the new values on the rolls for the 1963-64 tax year. Total increase was \$1,045,560 in true cash value.

The 1958 reappraisal program did not adjust values along the beach, and since that time this property has increased in value many times according to Patrick E. Masterson, Curry County Assessor, and the increases will be a major step in the direction of equalizing taxes in Curry county.

New Assistant At McKay Store

Roger Ellis, formerly of McKay's Market in Coos Bay, is the new assistant manager and produce man at the local McKay market. Pat Cody, former assistant, was transferred to the Reedport store.

Smith River To Celebrate Lily Festival

"Easter Lily in July" is the theme for the annual Lily Festival set for Sunday, July 14.

The affair will start with a Queen's Ball Saturday night. A pancake breakfast, displays, Lily judging, trap shoot, art show, rock show and other events will be featured through the day.

The modern world is best summed up by the man who drives a mortgaged car over a bond-financed highway with gas bought on a credit card.

Selander Exhibit At Art Center

The painting exhibit by Arthur Selander, prominent artist and teacher from Portland, will be on view at the art center until the end of the first week in August.

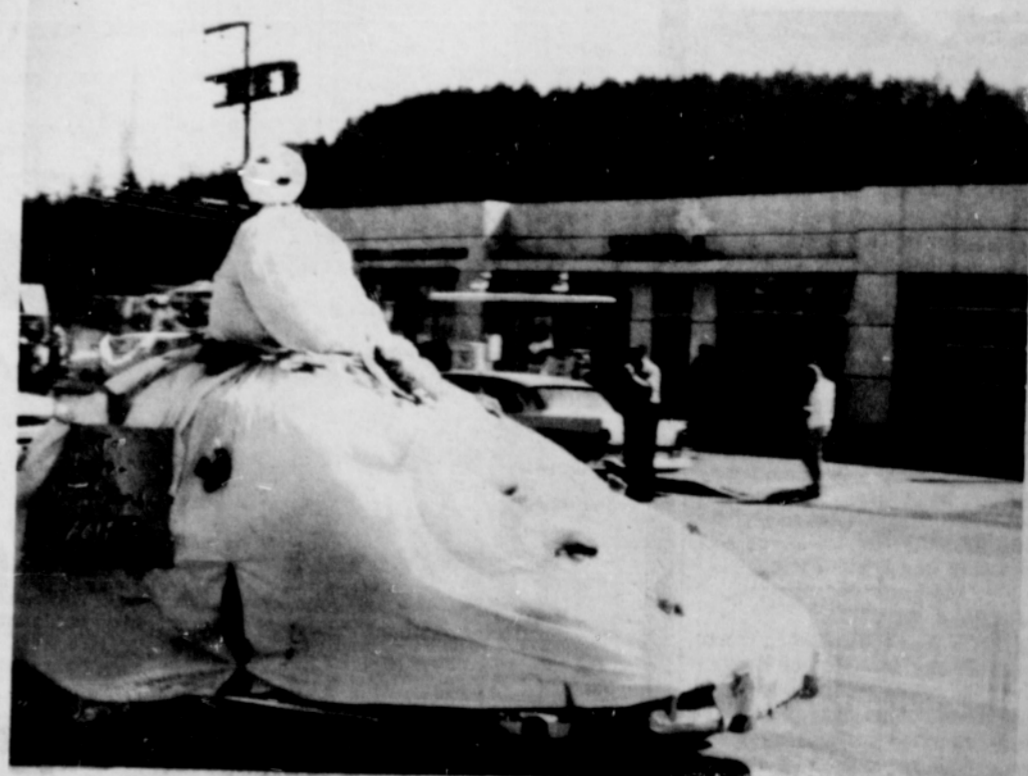
Hung last Friday, after being displayed during the Celebration, the exhibit features work in oils, water colors, charcoal and pencils. Sea and landscapes are included in Selander's work.

Walt Pritchard Takes Position

Walt Pritchard, Sixes, has accepted a position as art instructor at the Caney Junior College in Pinna Passes, Kentucky.

Pritchard, a well-known sculptor and former art professor in Washington, created the dinosaurs at the Prehistoric Gardens.

He will move his wife and mother to Kentucky for the fall term. His daughter, Shasta, will continue her studies at the University of Oregon.



HERE'S a fat lady that really is! Entertained the TOPS Club, this float, mounted on and around a foreign compact car, a deep breath. Waddled away through the 4th parade without drawing a breath.