

Review:

'Butterflies' lights up Sandy stage

by VON BRASCHLER

Learning to cope with darkness presents a problem for characters close to blind "Donny Dark" in the campy '60s comedy play, "Butterflies are Free."

Bright newcomer Pauline Stafford who plays Donny's mother experienced a little unexpected darkness after the presentation Saturday, when she walked to the edge of the stage to receive bouquets of flowers. The stage lights blacked out, when the technical crew figured the short curtain call was ended.

Well, it was the only time during the evening Stafford seemed not in command of the situation, and it's unlikely the spotlight ever will dim on her again.

She's just the kind of "find" the amateur community theater group likes to add to their fold of faithful. Community involvement and a broadened support base, after all, is what makes good community theater. And Sandy's Community Players offer good community theater. Theatergoers flock here in busloads for SCP productions. Last play's lead actor likely will be the one who serves you punch this time, directs or handles lighting.

It helps that local thespians stick to tried-and-true comedy, of course. "Butterflies are Free" succeeds in Sandy, because it's a celebrated play with lots of laughs and a great track record.

It doesn't hurt to have a veteran actor like Sandy High drama

teacher Mark Kuntz play the lead with warmth and charisma his "Donny Dark" character hopes to possess. Kuntz is charming.

It doesn't hurt, either, to find a young actress like Suzanne Jones of Sandy High to bubble and pop across stage with enthusiasm. If she bobbles a line now and then, her radiance more than compensates. She lights up the stage just as well without lines to speak.

J.R. Knotts is another Sandy veteran who bolsters the cast as Ralph Austin, the hippy director of a play within the play.

But it's Pauline Stafford who holds the whole thing together. She's believable in her part and delivers her lines with intimacy—not the sort of stage projection normally extended to impress the guy seated in the back row.

The play itself is a collection of scenes and symbols the audience easily can identify with. It's the campy, crazy '60s with music by the Doors, Simon and Garfunkle and peace symbols. It's modern history fresh as nostalgia for those who lived it or came to understand it when Beatles music became translated. Younger audience members can identify it from the graffiti on the sidewalks. The scene, then, is a hippy pad where candles, decorator wine bottles and splashy rainbows of paint make everything beautiful, man.

Unless you're blind, of course.

And that's the added dimension of the play—past the laughs and into the dark.

The Sandy theater group doesn't spend a lot of time or unknown money to slick up a set, but that doesn't matter here. Director Hank Emrich and others who built the set deserve a lot of credit for attention to detail. There's Dustin Hoffman's "The Graduate" picture on the walls, tennis shoes on the floor, a foot locker for coffee table and even a skylight to delight any hip child from the '60s.

Sandy Community Players, of course, are blessed with a big converted movie theater they inherited and renovated. The facility will comfortably handle audiences in excess of 200, and many Portland-area theater groups would kill for such a site.

It's good the theater on Proctor Boulevard can handle such crowds, too, because SCP productions are becoming crowded affairs that fill the auditorium by the time productions there close. Typically play crowds here are lean on opening weekend, but become large by closing.

Make sure you don't wait that long to see "Butterflies are Free." You don't want to miss a chance to share the laughs.

Tickets for the next 8 p.m. performances Jan. 29, Jan. 30, Feb. 5 and Feb. 6 are available at Sandy Country Florist on Pioneer, at the theater or by calling 661-0219, 668-7737.

Keeping posted:

Pinewood derby races tonight

THURSDAY, JAN. 28

A representative of the Clackamas County Animal Control office will be at Sandy City Hall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. selling dog licenses.

The Sandy Golden Age Club holds its semi-monthly potluck luncheon at the Sandy Senior Center at noon.

Local Cub Scout Pack 248 holds a pack meeting at 7 p.m. at Firwood School. Featured event will be the annual Pinewood Derby race.

The Sandy Rebekah Lodge meets at the I.O.O.F. Hall at 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 31

The Sandy Pioneer Association meets at the Sandy Senior Center for a

12:30 p.m. potluck. The following business meeting will include election of officers for the next biennium and the selection of the 1982-83 king and queen who will be crowned July 25 at the Sandy Pioneer Picnic.

The second half of a Red Cross CPR class will be conducted at the Seventh-day Adventist Community Center from 1 to 5 p.m. "Winter Wine Fest," sponsored by St. Michael's Parish, will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. at 18150 SE Langensand Road.

MONDAY, FEB. 1

Sandy City Council meets in regular session at 7:30 p.m. at Sandy City Hall.

The Rainbow Girls meet at the Masonic Hall at 7:30

TUESDAY, FEB. 2

The Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce meets at noon for its weekly luncheon meeting at the Tollgate Inn.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 3

The Sandy TOPS Club meets at 9 a.m. at the San-

dy Community Action Center.

Florence Schmitz, editor of "Oregon Business Woman," will present a program on the work of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women at the dinner meeting at T.J.'s Fireside Dining at 7 p.m.

Congressman's liaison to meet with residents

One of Rep. Denny Smith's staff assistants will be in Sandy next week to meet with residents who want to send a direct message to the 2nd District

Congressman. Sue Webb of Smith's Salem office will meet with area residents Thursday, Feb. 4, at Sandy City Hall, 39250 Pioneer Blvd., from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

SUHS hosts immunization clinics

Immunization clinics will be held at Sandy Union High School Feb. 18 and 19 for Sandy High, Boring and Bull Run elementary students, with Welches and Cottrell elementary pupils included on Feb. 19.

Sandy Elementary District students will be immunized Feb. 22 at Cedar Ridge School.

Although no one will be turned away, inoculations will cost \$5 apiece and must be accompanied by a signed parental consent form obtained at the time of vaccination or at any time prior to the clinic.

Students over the age of 15 do not require consent of a parent or guardian, but must still sign an authorization form. Required immunizations for children attending grades 2 through 12 in Oregon schools on March 18, 1982, include diphtheria-tetanus (three doses unless

one or more doses were received before the age of six months, in which case a fourth dose is required), polio (three doses unless one or more doses were received before the age of six months, in which case a fourth dose is required), measles (one dose, must be received at or after 12 months of age), and rubella (one dose, must be received

at or after 12 months of age and after July 1969).

For children entering an Oregon pre-school, kindergarten, elementary school or high school after March 14, 1982, and for children attending a facility, pre-school, kindergarten and the first grade on that date or anytime thereafter, minimum requirements

are slightly different. For more information or clarification, call Sandy High School's nurse at 668-8011, extension 212, or the County Health Department at 668-3510 or 655-8567.

The Sandy Post

(USPS 481-180)

MEMBER Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, National Newspaper Association and U.S. Suburban Press
Published weekly Thursdays by The Outlook Publishing Co., Box 68 Sandy, Oregon 97055. Second class postage paid at Sandy, Oregon.

668-5548
SUBSCRIPTION RATES

In Clackamas County per year	\$9.00
Multnomah County	\$10.00
Elsewhere in Oregon	\$11.50
In Northwest and Pacific Coast States Outside Oregon per year	\$14.00
Outside Northwest and Pacific Coast States, per year	\$17.00

Sandy Post, Sandy, Oregon 97055 No. 4 January 28, 1982

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"Electronic Kingdom"

Proctor & Meinig in Sandy
In the Sandy DeCor building across from Thriftway

Sandy man nabbed with missing truck

A Sandy man was arrested Saturday and charged with unauthorized use of a motor vehicle shortly after a small pickup truck was reported missing by a local resident.

Freddie Ray Reimer, 22, of Sandy, was taken into custody at 2:05 a.m. Saturday moments after someone told Sandy police that their Subaru Brat was missing. Reimer was lodged in Clackamas County Jail.

Last Wednesday, a Portland man and a juvenile were cited for second-degree theft following a gasoline siphoning incident. David Myron Patrick, 19, of Portland, and a 17-year-old juvenile were cited at 1:41 a.m. after they allegedly took gasoline from a vehicle parked on Hood Street.

An in-dash car stereo, valued at \$250, was reported taken last Wednesday at 7:55 a.m. by a resident of Seaman Street. The incident is under investigation.

Personnel at the Electronic Kingdom told Sandy police last Thursday morning that someone kicked the office door and damaged it Wednesday evening at 11 p.m. Friday, two 13-year-olds were cited for disorderly conduct after they were reported fighting at the Electronic Kingdom.

Three juveniles were cited last Thursday, Jan. 21, for attempted theft and criminal trespassing.