

# Local people contribute to exhibit

by MICHAEL P. JONES  
Post Correspondent

When the Barlow Road pioneers traveled the rugged and narrow trail into the Willamette Valley little did they realize the possessions they were forced to abandon along the way would become part of an exhibit depicting their journey over a 100 years later.

Beginning in 1845 immigrants in covered wagons, loaded down with

furniture and keepsakes from their home towns, traveled the Oregon Trail to find a new life in an untamed land. Hundreds did not complete the journey. They are buried in unmarked graves along the trail, which stretched some 2,000 miles.

Upon reaching a crude settlement on the banks of the Columbia River, located at a place the Indians called "Wascopam" (now The Dalles), the

fatigued and sometimes broken-spirited travelers learned the worst was yet to come.

Rising up 11,245 feet, and standing like a giant in the Cascade Range, was the majestic peak of Mt. Hood. Their journey would not be over until they had safely picked their way around this treacherous peak.

Most, however, chose not to risk a journey over the unpredictable mountain terrain. No known wagon

had ever dared to cross Mt. Hood. Instead, the immigrants took their chances with the swift and equally-unpredictable Columbia River.

Once the pioneers had arrived at The Dalles, they busied themselves constructing rafts to carry their families, stock and what few possessions they had left. Or, if they had money to spare, they paid steep prices to river men, who would ferry them to Fort Vancouver.

In the summer of 1845 Captain Samuel K. Barlow arrived at The Dalles with a wagon train he had led from Missouri. Not wishing to risk the lives of his party to the swift Columbia River, whose difficult navigability had cast hundreds into a cold and watery grave, he looked to the mountain.

"God never made a mountain without making a way for man to go over it," historians claim Barlow boasted.

So on Sept. 24 he set out with with seven wagons, his wife and six children and 12 others to find a dry land route to the Willamette Valley.

Following a narrow Indian trail, they successfully picked their way through the thick stands of timber that span the southern perimeter of the mountain. A year later Barlow returned and cut blazes along this crude dirt trail and began carving his Mt. Hood Wagon Road out of the wilderness.

The Mt. Hood Wagon Road, better known as Barlow Road, was constructed out of an Indian trail, which reportedly had been used since prehistoric times. The construction of the wagon road took place from 1846 to 1847 by Barlow and his partner, Philip Foster of "Jack Knife" (now known as Eagle Creek).

Harnessing the untiring Please turn to Page 7.

## 3 sisters to display art

Three sisters born in the 1890s in the Corbett-Springdale area are planning an art show Aug. 14-15 in the Corbett area.

The sisters are Weltha Wilson, 89, Gladys Woodie, 87, and Clara Salzman, 85. Wilson and Woodie live in Corbett. Salzman lives near Aloha.

Several years ago Wilson

and Woodie decided to take up oil painting. They enjoyed it and Wilson persuaded Salzman to give it a try.

In 1980 the three sisters staged their first "Three Sisters Art Show," and on Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 14 and 15, they will stage the third annual show.

The hours are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

To find the "Old Bulb House Gallery" take U.S. Highway 30 Scenic and turn south at the grade school onto Evans Road. Go to Pounder Road, turn left, and go about a quarter of a mile. Turn left again and a sign will show the way.

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