

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
Kimberly Nelson, advertising representative

Keep momentum going with parade

We have heard that the sponsors of floats in the Rose Festival Parade spend an average of \$15,000 on their floral extravaganzas.

That is all fine and well, but we know a lot of people who work hard during Sandy Mountain Days to earn a fraction of that amount.

And even without corporate sponsors, we are willing to bet Sandy folk have as much fun as their city-dwelling neighbors to the west with our modest but well-organized parade.

One laudable goal behind the parade is to draw people downtown. It is the Mountain Festival Committee's way of helping to promote the annual Moonlight Madness sale.

It is up to business people to figure out a way to promote their individual businesses, or the Sandy area collectively. But we can all do our part by helping to maintain the integrity of the parade.

Parade Coordinator Shannon Montgomery feels the quality of floats in the parade improves every year. Let's keep the momentum going.

Deadline for entering is June 11. Be there or be square.

Letters to the editor

Memorial not right for entry to Sandy

I was raised saluting the flag every day in school. I continue to sing the national anthem at sporting events where it seems people don't care or never learned the words to begin with.

I supported the war in Vietnam believing we were fighting for democracy, and I still believe this after 10 years. I acknowledge the sacrifice of American men in a land 10,000 miles away. Today I'm for a strong defense and the protection of democracies around the world.

I hope that my patriotism will not be questioned, but I cannot support a Vietnam war memorial as the entry symbol to the town of Sandy.

Flowers, shrubs, and a plaque to the area and the town, or a pioneer representation, would be more representative of Sandy. The war is over, and the sacrifices made are remembered by all of us. But a constant reminder every time we enter Sandy? A more appropriate place for this attractive memorial might be in one of the parks or in front of the VFW lodge or the City Hall (since it is governments that start and finish wars).

I would like to see the community's response to this in a poll taken by the Sandy Post.

Paul Guilleux, D.O.
Sandy

Grade school board is 'biting' the hand

It has been an enjoyable experience to work with the Sandy High School staff when putting on a community event that involved high school property. They have always bent over backwards to be accommodating. They make you feel like the school really does belong to the community.

How different it is with the grade school. Do you suppose the lopsided

defeat of the school budget had anything to do with the petty attitude and treatment of community organizations wishing to use the grounds for special events?

Maybe the grade school board and staff need to learn some basics. That is: "You don't bite the hand that feeds you."

Herb Fenwick
Sandy

Superintendent excellent role model

If there were more women like Roberta Hutton, we'd all be better off. For the short time I've known her, I have seen a dynamic, tremendously involved, yet very personal woman who could manage a crisis with admirable verve.

For example, during the latest threat of closure of the high school, I distinctly remember Mrs. Hutton being a figure of calm and reassurance as we students outwardly expressed our distress and disgust at the audacity of a system that would deny its children a public education. To this day I think of the total confidence she radiated, and, when the budget finally did pass, in-

side I felt it was as much her doing as the voters'.

To take into consideration the immense responsibility she has acquired by acting as both superintendent and principal, I cannot help but greatly respect her.

Here is a person with the will power and capacity to make her dreams for Sandy High and the community come true; easily within the near future. On behalf of students, teachers and citizens alike I thank her for the excellent job she has done! Roberta Hutton is an invaluable asset to Sandy.

John O. Marosi Jr.
Sandy



Salem Scene

Will Assembly avoid paper stampede?

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

The House of Representatives took a major step toward adjournment of the 63rd Assembly in Salem late last week and the ball is now in the Senate's court.

The stride toward concluding the current biennial session involved House passage of three major revenue bills that will — upon Senate approval — provide funds sufficient to balance the state's budget for the next two years.

The three-bill package reconnects Oregon tax law with the federal Internal Revenue code, retains the present \$85 income tax credit provision, continues the current 10-cents-a-pack cigarette tax and adds another 8 cents per pack.

While this is bad news for smokers, from the standpoint of those who pay income taxes, the action likely spells the end of the temporary 8 percent surtax and funds a credit against this year's taxes for more than \$71 million already collected.

And from the standpoint of those

who pay property taxes, it means diminishing relief under the old "thirty percent" program or expansion of HARRP for low income homeowners and renters.

The latter represents just one of several as yet unresolved major issues standing between lawmakers and adjournment. Another is determining how to spend anticipated lottery revenue, although that is expected to be settled within another week.

What all this boils down to is that this Assembly presumably is within striking distance of wrapping up its business in Salem within two or three weeks.

If it does shut down by June 14, this will have been the shortest regular session since lawmakers deliberated for an identical 153 days in 1975. And even if it lasts until June 21, it still will establish a significant mark for brevity at 160 days.

Since 1965, sessions in Salem have ranged from 124 to 203 days — an average of 164.2 days in length. But since 1975, sessions have ranged from 153 to 203 days and averaged nearly 180 days long.

Meanwhile, at the beginning of this session's 20th week, only 251 measures had been approved by both chambers — out of 2,190 under consideration. Although the pace of bill production has quickened significantly in the last two weeks, the possibility arises for a veritable blizzard of paper in the weeks ahead.

If this Assembly matches production of recent predecessors, many bills will literally fly through the process in what time remains. In 1983 the last Assembly enacted 40 percent of all bills introduced. And in 1981 lawmakers enacted 30 percent.

If this Assembly compromises between the two, it means close to another 500 measures will be adopted in whatever time remains.

Of course, if things come unglued and the session drags on into July, one can assume the time given to considering those measures will ease concern about hasty decisions.

But if it ends in the time that now looks likely, considerable apprehension will accompany passage of so many bills.

Maybe this Assembly will surprise everyone — conclude early and

orderly — avoiding the temptation to stampede into adjournment.

After all, there will still be lots of decisions to make two years from now and maybe even sooner — depending on how Oregonians react to this session's major accomplishment at the polls next September.

Where to write

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Senator Steve Starkovich
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Commentary

State of Oregon should work together

by GOV. VIC ATIYEH

Basketball forward Larry Bird of the Boston Celtics can make the cover of Time magazine and score

dozens of points, but his success still hinges on one simple idea: teamwork.

We Oregonians are no different. Just as Larry Bird wants to score points for the Celtics, we want to score economic victories in the form of more jobs and new and expanded businesses.

It requires teamwork, beginning in every community in our state.

These, in my opinion, are the fundamentals:

1. Identify your strengths. Find those areas where your community can be strongest — such as tourism, manufacturing or as an export or distribution center. Then identify those opportunities that fit your strengths.

2. Establish a council. One of the most successful parts of my state-level jobs program is an "economic action council" composed of key managers in state government. These managers are available on short notice to answer questions of visiting corporate officials.

Companies are impressed with the council's ability to give overnight answers to even the toughest questions.

Every community can profit from

establishing such a council composed of representatives of the city, county, schools, community colleges, chamber of commerce and other decision-makers.

3. Broaden the team: Strengthening our economy is too important to be left only to the professionals. Some communities benefit from involving leading citizens in recruiting new industry.

For example, a local retailer doing business or vacationing in Denver might call on a prospect there or in nearby Boulder.

This stretches local dollars for promoting economic growth.

And it gives out-of-state businesses the chance, to paraphrase the old Packard commercial, to ask the person who owns one. In other words, the Colorado company can ask what it is really like to do business in Oregon.

4. Assist local businesses. Existing businesses are the backbone of our Oregon economy. Many programs exist to help them and their employees grow and prosper.

Businesses, and officials that work with them, should become familiar with useful programs that can assist them. Examples: Industrial development revenue bonds (financial investment), Job Training and Partnership Administration (job training for eligible youths and unskilled adults), Community Development

Block Grants (grants for jobs, housing, public facilities), and the Oregon Business Development Fund (loans).

5. Win the lottery. Without buying a ticket, communities can mobilize to win lottery tickets. Because 50 cents from every dollar ticket must go to "economic development" projects, we estimate \$40 million a year will be available.

But only communities that identify economic needs and opportunities and that also make their cases to the Legislature can count on winning these lottery dollars.

6. Be our teammates. My economic development director, Tom Kennedy, and I want to cooperate with local communities. That is why we have signed agreements with 46 communities, which detail the responsibilities of local and state officials, and why we are working hard to reach agreements with more communities.

We offer a winning program in tourism, trade, business and manufacturing investment, film-making and other areas.

But we need to work together, including having you contact us when we can help, and we need you to do all you can at home.

That is why, as a member of your team, I repeatedly tell local officials, "I'll bust my tail helping you help yourself."

