

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
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Precautions make Halloween safe

Parents of young children in the Sandy-Mt. Hood area are lucky in that a number of safe alternatives are offered at Halloween.

There was a time when young children could go door to door collecting candy — with the understood threat of a trick being the alternative — and parents could worry about nothing more serious than the resulting stomach aches.

Things are not that simple anymore, but that doesn't mean Halloween can't still be fun. Haunted houses and a costume contest should prove to be safe alternatives in Sandy, while Spook Alley in Hoodland is a long-running community activity. Youngsters will be well lit, and well fed besides, by dropping by the Sandy VFW Hall to participate in the Light-a-Spook program.

In addition, Oregon Health Sciences University offers a number of good tips for making this Halloween a safe one.

Some of those tips include: 1) Visit only homes you know. 2) Check all treats before they are eaten. 3) Have adults accompany very small children.

Nutritionally, Halloween doesn't have to be a disaster, either. Sunflower seeds, raisins, low-sugar fruit juice, sugarless gum and non-food items all make good treats.

Should you have even the slightest suspicion a child has been accidentally or intentionally poisoned, the Oregon Poison Center welcomes people to call them at 225-8968 or 1-800-452-7165.

Safety doesn't just happen, it is planned. Plan to make this a safe Halloween for your family and friends.

Historical perspective

Early women's libber? SPHA meeting set

by MILES AUBIN

Ida Pearl Jarl, an early pioneer in the Kelso area, was a supporter of women's right to vote, as explained in her letter published Oct. 23, 1912 in the Oregon City Enterprise.

It goes like this:

"To every liberty loving voter of Oregon:

I am a married woman, and I would like to vote. All the arguments put up can't convince me that I should not vote because I am a woman. We have a good home and a family of children. I have a good husband — he owns the home and other property and can vote. I must earn the tax money, but I cannot vote because I am a woman.

I own forty acres of land and I earned it myself. I have a herd of fine registered Jerseys and a horse. I must stay within the bounds of the law, pay taxes on all this, still, I have no voice in saying what those taxes should be, and I'm not allowed to vote.

The single tax may pass this year. Remember, Land Owners, everyone of you would like to defeat that measure. So would every land owner's wife and every other woman who owns a piece of land, you may need us next year to help vote down that single tax law. I have helped earn a home, reared a family, abide by the law, am old enough, pay my share of the tax money that is used for election purposes — Guess I'm not a citizen as I am not allowed to vote. Oh! if I could only vote for president, against the single tax and against the division of our country.

Respectfully yours,
Mrs. Joel Jarl"

The Jarls operated the Kelso store

and Post Office during the early part of the century. Joel Jarl also operated a sawmill about 1908 or 1910. Later he farmed southwest of Highway 26 on what is now called Jarl Road.

People who are interested in the history of the area are welcome to attend the annual meeting of the Sandy Pioneer and Historical Association.

The quarterly meeting will be held, Sunday, Oct. 27 at the Melvin Haneberg Community Center. The potluck dinner is set for 1 p.m.

Following the dinner and a short business meeting, there will be an audience participation program of nostalgic personal firsts, such as "my first long pants, my first Model T Ford, my first corset, or my first radio or phonograph."

People attending should take their own tableware.

The Sandy Pioneer and Historical Association welcomes members of all ages. Membership fee is \$4 per year.



Ida Pearl Jarl and her great-granddaughter, Janet Fogle. Photograph was taken in 1957.

Letters to the editor

JV football rally squad says thanks to parents

The JV football rally squad would like to thank the parents of the freshman football players for being such a great crowd. You made us all feel very welcome. We had a lot of fun cheering for you and the freshman football players.

Thank you also for all of the nice compliments. Keep up the work,

parents and football players! Good luck!

Sandy JV Football Rally
Michelle Fitzpatrick
Holly Cabe
Tara Connelly
Amy Norquist
Amy Tooley
Nicky Sensabaugh

Something is wrong when jails are lavish, expensive

Regarding prison space. Something is wrong with the concept of American justice when we insist that criminals must have better in prison than we allow for our service man!

Are we not paying out much more for the criminal and should this not be turned around?

Prison should be a place that no person would ever want to return to

and rehabilitation should only be for the first offender. The public is disgusted with the lavish jails being built with rugs on the floors and oak doors, with every facility for entertainment possible.

Our society is suffering because of lax jurisdiction — especially Oregonians.

Antoinette M. Slanning
Sandy



HAVE A SAFE HALLOWEEN... STAY IN YOUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD.

Commentary

Economists ignored with good reason

NEW YORK — It's a tough time to be an economist in America.

For years, it's been apparent that the profession's ability to predict future events lies somewhere south of the average Ouija board and barely ahead of the preseason football forecasts.

But economists could console themselves with the thought that they were often consulted and apparently taken seriously by the top-most leaders of the land. Several economists in the last decade vaulted into Cabinet rank, and the current president himself leaned heavily on economic theory when making his run for the office.

But the word today, professor, is: Get lost.

There's nothing new about politicians ignoring economists when the latter's advice proved inconvenient. But never before has there been such open and outright contempt for economists at the highest levels of government.

It is the era of the political "realists," determined to stay one step behind an evolving national consensus, wherever it may lead, rather than pretending any effort at risk-taking intellectual leadership. The mood is epitomized by the Reagan chief of staff, Donald Regan, whose own economic views would have to harden even to become discernible — and who no longer bothers to disguise



by Louis Rukeyser

his disdain for those of a more theoretical (or consistent) bent.

The latest victim of all those self-consciously hard noses would appear to be Beryl Sprinkel, who bears the title of chief economic adviser to the president but clearly is not. The word is that when Sprinkel occasionally dares to offer unwanted counsel — such as the thought that unlimited production of money might actually lead to inflation — his colleagues stare at the ceiling and wonder how much longer that guy is going to continue to talk.

There are apparently two sure ways for an economist to retreat into

total obscurity these days: sail for Tahiti or become chairman of the president's council of economic advisers.

Not that other elements of our society are notably more hospitable to economists. In Congress, objective economic counsel has always been about as welcome as an accusation of campaign fraud. And in business, the rude suspicion grows that the vast sums spent for econometric printouts, complete to the fifteenth decimal place in all areas of inquiry, are purchasing only some of the world's most incredibly detailed fiction.

(The late Otto Eckstein, who built Data Resources into the model for all econometric models, once confessed to me that he figured his organization's results were only about 5 percent better than the scribbles on the back of an envelope.)

The problem, I suspect, lies partly in the excessive claims of economists to predict the future — a task that, in a nation of 235 million individualists, happily continues to elude them. And the failure has been rather evenly shared by the assorted competing schools of economists.

The traditional Keynesians, for example, who dominated the campuses and the government for decades, went adrift when their nostrums produced unpredicted inflation amid unwanted unemployment. The "new

ideas" economists of the 1970s similarly faltered when it turned out that they were mostly selling the very old idea of government intervention and control. This policy, in areas like energy, resulted only in higher prices and shorter supplies.

The "supply side" crowd of the early Reagan days stumbled with the familiar sin of overconfident predicting. They suggested, incorrectly, that lower taxes would produce balanced budgets even if we didn't cut federal spending. And the latest sect of economic priests to incur public ridicule is the monetarists, who followed a bull's-eye (they alone foresaw the strength of the last recovery) with a knockout (underestimating the effect of a strong dollar, they said we would be in recession and/or high inflation by now).

The best solution, it would seem, would be for serious economists to show a little unaccustomed modesty. At best, sound economics can tell us which way a nation is likely to move when the weight of certain policies shoves it. But pretending that precise results are inevitably foreseeable in a complex modern economy only encourages the politicians to intrude more than they should — and contributes to public scorn.

What today's economists suffer from most is not underappreciation, but overprediction.

