

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
Kimberly Nelson, advertising representative

50th anniversary stamp is worthy

Sandy and Mt. Hood area residents should join in the letter-writing campaign to urge the Postal Service to commission a stamp commemorating Timberline Lodge's 50th anniversary, which will be celebrated in 1987.

Timberline Lodge is operated by RLK Inc. through a long-term contract with the U.S. Forest Service.

It was built by the Works Progress Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps, and dedicated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on Sept. 28, 1937. U.S. Senator Bob Packwood has put his support behind the campaign to get a stamp issued commemorating its anniversary.

The rustic lodge is a tribute to both the Northwest's natural resources and its craftsmen.

It is a reminder of the bounty we have; the opportunity we have to share our natural resources through the tourism industry. With environmentally-minded Oregonians calling the shots, it can be a clean but job-producing industry.

A postage stamp featuring the scenic lodge would be a public relations coup for the region far beyond what money could buy, and yet this is not something crass or commercial. Many local people have connections to the lodge in one way or another, either having worked on the lodge during those difficult times or having seen President Roosevelt.

Take a few minutes to send a card or letter. The grass roots support might be enough of a boost to make the difference.

Address your letter to: Citizens Stamp Advisory Commission, U.S. Postal Service, Stamps Division Branch, 475 L'Enfant Plaza Southwest, Washington, D.C., 20260.

Commentary

Shakespeare waits to be discovered

by DAVID SCOTT

In a modern age in which we are so excessively exposed to the relentless gore of Stephen King books and movies, I found it satisfying to witness murder executed in an artistic manner, more dramatic than any cinema mad-slasher scene. Ah, what I speak of is Shakespearean playacting.

In addition to last Thursday night's 90-minute program, actors Daniel Renner and Thomas Major — representing the Oregon Shakespearean Festival — performed in front of a 100 or so Sandy High students during school hours in the commons. The two were received with grounding enthusiasm as they acted out parts from "King John," "King Henry V" and "Julius Caesar."

Among the highlights was the exaggerated self-stabbing of Pyramus in "A Midsummer-Night's Dream." Shakespeare is definitely one to bring out the maximum dramatic potential:

Thus die I, thus, thus, thus.
Now am I dead,
Now am I fled,
My soul is in the sky
Tongue, lose thy flight!

Moon, take thy flight!

The value of Shakespeare is "to acquaint students with classical theater and to the wide variety of theatrical styles that Americans have produced," said Vice Principal Dennis Crow, who was initially responsible in attracting Renner and Major to Sandy High School for the performance.

Shakespeare will "sensitize people to the creative potential of dramatic literature," he continued.

It isn't every day students have the chance to tune their ears to the blank verse of Shakespeare. Accordingly, Renner and Major briefly notified the audience to the conflict in each play. It went smoothly, the audience giggling and applauding in the appropriate places.

"King John" was also a big hit. It contained a gripping scene, too, as the emotional Hubert contemplated frying Arthur's eyes with a red-hot poker.

Above all, the students got a taste of the wide variety of action contained in a Shakespearean play. Perhaps a few will even continue to pursue Shakespeare and other dramatic literature to its fullest extent. It's all there lying in the wait.

Personally speaking

Charlie is more than man's best friend

by PAULA BURNS

The person who said, "A dog is a man's best friend" undoubtedly had my cocker-poodle, Charlie, in mind.

Besides being a man's best friend, I've heard that dogs are therapy for people — they provide companionship, protection and lots of love to their owners. I've even heard that dogs begin to resemble their owners after a while.

The only resemblance Charlie and I have is we both get the hiccups. I don't know where he got his lopsided, umbrella-shaped tail, grey/black matted hair, droopy brown eyes and "knock-em-dead" breath.

Speaking of bad breath, Charlie loves to greet me with a kiss when I get home from work. He jumps on my skirt, shredding my nylons in the process. As I lean over to stare at the dirt-stained skirt and torn nylons, he pokes his wet nose in my face. I finally got smart and purchased no-run support hose and a gas mask.

Besides greeting me with a warm welcome every day, Charlie has other attributes. For one thing, he helped improve the relationship between my grandson and me. I never

have to worry about my grandson, Ryan, knocking over plants in the living room — Charlie beats him to it.

Charlie not only knocks over plants in my living room, but everything else within 10 feet of his ever-flapping umbrella tail.

I always know when he wants to go outside because he goes to the sliding glass door in the dining room and beats his bushy tail against the glass, leaving dirty streaks with every beat.

Once outside, Charlie keeps the grass well fertilized. He loves trees and green grass. I should have kept that in mind when I purchased a sea foam green carpet and fake palm tree for my living room. Once Charlie thought he was outside, sniffed the palm tree, raised his leg and, you guessed it, I now have a large potted plant covering a three-foot stain in the living room.

To protect my green carpet from other mishaps, I purchased a plastic runner. Every human being, including my grandson, walks and crawls over the plastic. But not Charlie! He hates the plastic feeling under his paws, which are usually

Letters to the editor

Americans make stay here memorable

I would appreciate the opportunity through your newspaper columns to say thank you to the community of Sandy. Through the International Teaching Fellowship exchange program, I have had the privilege of teaching at Sandy Union High School. It has been a most professional and rewarding experience for me. I have learned much from being a member of a very dedicated and competent teaching facility. I have enjoyed immensely the teaching of young Americans — their respect, courtesy, and friendship has made it easy for me to settle into teaching in the American classroom.

I have been amazed by the extent of extracurricular activities in the school program. From my observation, this is one of the outstanding features of American education. I feel really motivated to encourage a similar involvement from more teachers and students in Australia. The commitment of sporting teams and the dedication of performers in school musicals are two special qualities of Sandy students I will refer to constantly back in my home school.

I would also like to thank the many local business people of Sandy who have given me such help throughout the year. Whether it be enjoying coffee and donuts, or watching my favorite Australian Rules football on TV whilst eating pizza, or cashing

Australian checks at the bank, or asking questions at the travel agent or taking my clothing for cleaning — on all occasions I have found friendly greetings and keen assistance.

It has been a fantastic year for my family and I. We will never forget our visit to the United States in general, and to Sandy, Oregon, in particular. I hope we have the opportunity of

returning similar hospitality in Australia someday. Until then, thanks and good-bye.

Ron Dennison
Boring

State financing of schools would eliminate local control

Many comments have recently been expressed as to why the schools closed. Some people accused parents of not caring for their children. Others said people are overtaxed (which is true!). Still others blamed the reason to be apathy — no desire to get out and vote.

School administrators took the opportunity at the public forum to request that the government solve the problem for the people by coming up with alternate funding for our schools, the idea being to keep schools open steadily without being subject to voter approval. Thus, voters could not close the schools.

What was brought out is the following:

1. The government has no money unless they take from the people first — through taxes.
2. It costs people more to have so-

meone else do for us what we can do for ourselves, i.e. cost is higher to eat out than to prepare our own meals, and people putting out the money have more incentive to save and economize.

According to a professor of economics at Boise State University, for every \$1 we pay in taxes, we get back only about 40 cents for the service requested.

3. If people are overtaxed now, how will they afford government-funded schools? And what is government doing for us now that could be done more efficiently and more economically by the local people?

4. Do Parents want to have a say in what their children are taught?

5. Who will the school administrators listen to — the government who funds the organization, or the parents who want to have say, and if necessary, those who wish to bring about changes? (What does it mean to have a government "of the people, by the people, and for the people"?)

WHY DID THE SCHOOLS CLOSE?

It is my opinion that the schools did not close by accident, nor that the closure was on the tax issue alone, but that there is more than one reason for the school closure. It takes many people to vote down a levy. It is my observation that parents are not pleased with some of the activities and teachings that occurred in the schools. Some parents who went to school administrators found the experience unproductive. Others didn't go for various reasons which mostly led to the feeling that they were "powerless."

Based on the returns of a questionnaire I put out to the public, there seems to be an innate feeling in

parents that they are ultimately responsible to see that their children are educated, and that they do want to have a say in what their children are taught in schools.

Based on the returns of the questionnaire and on the private communication of parents, it is my observation that parents have shown the deepest of caring for their children by voting down the school levy. They are giving a message that they are displeased, that they should have a say in what is taught to their children, that they want a say in the budget, and that they want solutions. It would be a mistake to take that control away from the parents, whose charge it is to see that their children are educated in the most appropriate way.

Parents want their children to have a quality education and parents want a public school system. THERE ARE SOLUTIONS TO THESE DIFFERENCES and they must be solved on the local level between parents and school administrators, so that schools can resume with QUALITY education and so that we can avoid future school closures. IS A FUNDAMENTAL SCHOOL IN ORDER, at least for those who wish that alternative?

I would like to encourage people of this community to get a copy of the questionnaire, to fill it out, and to return it so there is a more well-rounded feedback to present to the school board, and so that we can open up communication between the people of the community and the administration. (You can get a survey by contacting me at 668-9188.) Let's communicate to prevent future school closures.

Marianne Taylor
Sandy

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