

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
Kimberly Nelson, advertising representativeDon't leave charity
to the other guy

The next time you are in a grocery or convenience store in Sandy, don't forget to buy something extra to put in that big, blue barrel near the door. The food collected in those barrels will be distributed to about 200 needy families.

The Kiwanis Club of Sandy has been distributing food baskets for over 20 years. Through the dedicated efforts of a handful of volunteers and the overall generosity of the community, hundreds of people will have a reason to celebrate this holiday season.

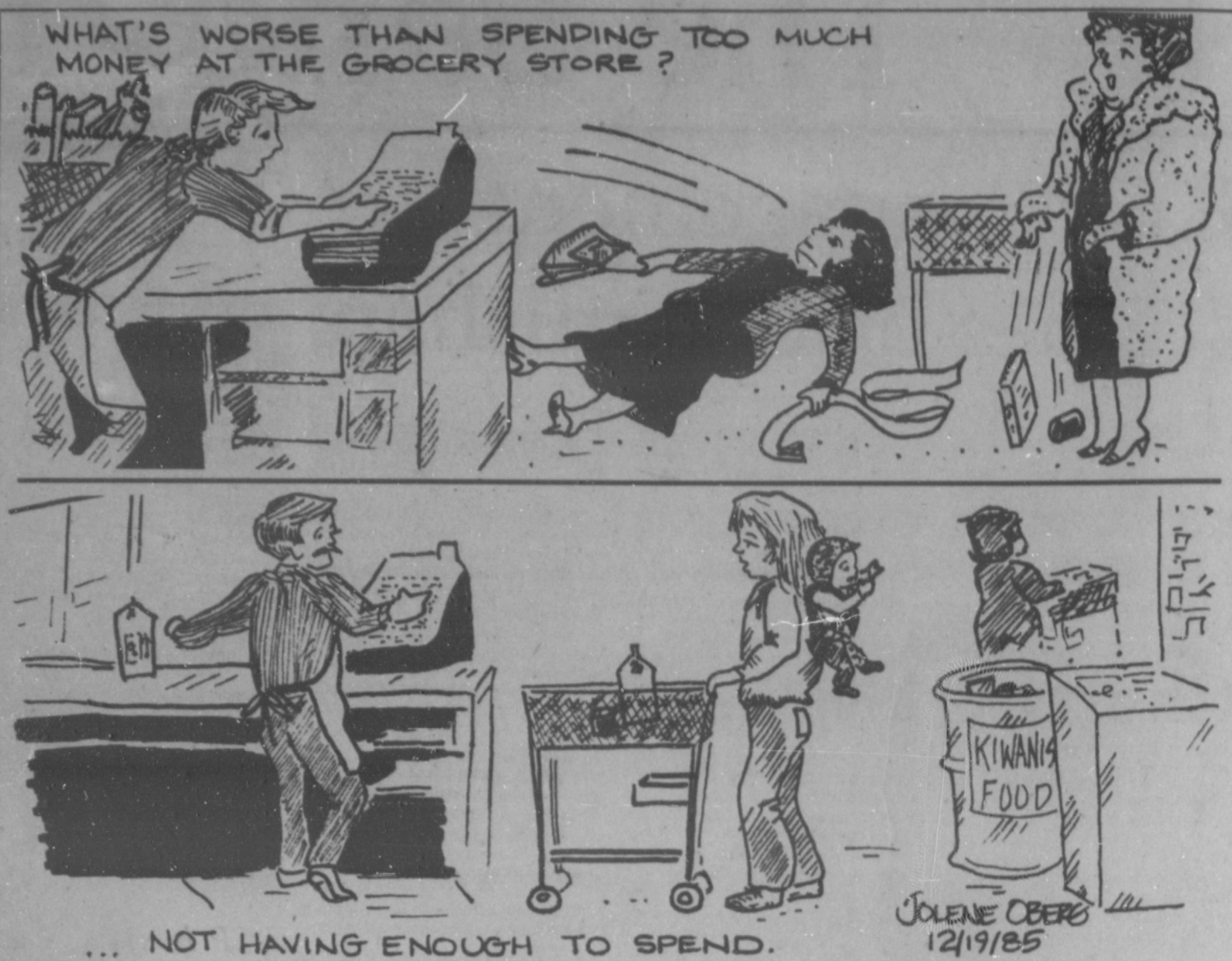
This is no small operation. It is expected that about 5,000 canned or packaged food items will be collected by the stores and through the efforts of students from area grade schools and the high school. Cash donations help finance the purchase of meat, bread and fresh vegetables. Toys and practical gifts are collected so that the joy of opening packages can be experienced by all.

Donations of cash may be sent to Mel Barnes, Kiwanis Club secretary, at 42451 S.E. Wildcat Mountain Drive, Sandy, 97055.

Toys or food may be taken to the site of the former Thriftway store at the corner of Pioneer Boulevard and Meinig Avenue, or the Sandy Community Action Center, 38983 Pioneer Blvd.

And don't forget the older children. They enjoy receiving presents too. Gifts should be wrapped, if possible, and marked as to what gender and age of child should receive that toy, article of clothing or other gift.

Don't take it for granted that the area's poor will be provided for. Contribute to the Kiwanis Club's food basket drive.



Commentary

Chamber project
lights up Sandy

From the Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce

The Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce has instituted a three-year program to "light up the town for Christmas." If you have driven down Proctor Boulevard recently, you have surely noticed the bright "Happy Holiday" greeting and the colorful, lit Christmas trees and candles on the south side of the street.

The program was initiated by the Chamber board of directors under the leadership of President Joyce Atkins, and turned over to the commercial/downtown enhancement

committee, Kiwanis Club of Sandy, Suburban Ford, Mt. Hood Mudders, 7-Eleven, McDonald's of Sandy, Carroll and Phyllis Rader, The Candy Farm, Clackamas County Bank, Sandy Golden Age Club, GTE, R.S. Smith Co., Mt. Hood Meadows, Mort and Martha Spence, and Thomas and Roberta Hutton.

The Chamber also sends its thanks to the city of Sandy for its contribution in accepting charges for electricity for all the decorations. We are also very grateful to Bob Kallen from PGE and Roy Allen of Alpine Tree Service for installation of the decorations. It was a big job.

An additional \$1,585 was collected, making it possible to increase our first year's order considerably.

committee. Diane Tiller of The Flower Garden and George Hyland of Sandy Chiropractic put the project into motion and brought it through to its "bright" end.

The Chamber budgeted \$2,000 a year for three years to purchase the decorations. Following the Chamber's initial donation, a request was made to businesses and organizations in the community for donations. An additional \$1,585 was collected, making it possible to increase our first year's order considerably. The response was terrific and the Chamber wishes to send a big THANK YOU to:

Mar Hook & Equipment Co., H & R Block of Sandy, Rippling River Resort, Toni's Restaurant and Lounge, Sandy Sentry, Action Auto and Truck Parts, Barlow Trail Unit of Retired Educators, U.S. Metal Works, Sandy Mountain Festival

Plans are already underway for next year's addition to the "brightness." Pioneer Boulevard will be draped in lit garlands resembling a canopy. The Chamber office will be accepting donations from interested parties throughout the year. Just specify that they are to be used for "Christmas decorations."

The decorations were purchased from a Pacific Northwest-based firm and have a full five-year guarantee. Following the Christmas season the decorations will be carefully packed in crates and stored at Sandy Truck Lines, thanks to the generosity of Jim Patrick.

The Chamber is encouraging all businesses in the community to "light up" for the holidays. Let the sparkle shine and say a big WELCOME to neighbors and visitors alike.

Policy on letters

Letters to the editor should be typed, double-spaced and signed. An address and telephone number should also be provided, although only the name of the letter writer and the city or area he is from will be published.

Letter writers may also wish to include a title or office held if it is appropriate considering the subject matter.

The news deadline of noon, Tuesday is also the deadline for letters to the editor.

Letters should be accurate, free of libelous remarks and in good taste.

This newspaper attempts to publish all letters it receives from local residents. We reserve the right to edit letters to conform to style guidelines or for length. A preferred maximum length is 300 words.

Where to write

Representative Bob Shiprack
22610 S. Forest Park Rd.
Beavercreek, Ore., 97004

Senator Steve Starkovich
52 Willamette Green
Canby, Ore., 97013

Personally speaking

Michael's easy; he wants a monster

by JOY WOOD

It is the time of year again when you ask people what they want for Christmas.

Michael, age 3, says he wants a monster. David, 8, wants a guitar and Allen, 6, wants a car he can drive by himself. Their mother, when asked, said she would like a great big bottle of wisdom. Their father said he just wants Christmas to be over. For himself, "Not a darn thing!" he said. He is our "Bah! Humbug!" character.

They asked me what I wanted, and I told them I really need two new sink stoppers, and a new pancake turner. Also, I could really use my own personal, ever-ready handyman. To fix things like the front gate, the back door, the closet doors, the leaky roof, and so forth.

I could go on and on, but I don't want to bore you with all my household problems. One thing I'd really like to have is some rubber corners installed on my kitchen cupboard doors, which I keep bumping my head on. Or else, a helmet to wear when I cook.

The kind of sink stoppers I need are some that have chains hooked to them, or some kind of fasteners to secure them, so they don't get thrown out with the garbage. Remember when sink plugs were fastened by a



by JOY WOOD

chain? That's what I'm talking about.

The kind of pancake turner I need should be as steady as a putty knife so that it wouldn't break. I still have some paint scraping to do.

I will look for a monster for Michael. I wonder if there are different models, so I can buy one for each of the boys. I hope they won't fight over them. David may get his guitar, but the car for Allen is out.

What I'll get him, and how I'll get him to accept a substitute present, I don't know. But keeping the car I drive in repair is enough trouble for me.

If my daughter gets her big bottle of wisdom, maybe I can borrow a drop or two to help solve the problem of Allen's car.

He's the quiet one of the three. He's usually alone. He's also, usually, standing on his head, either in the chair or on the couch. That's where he watches TV most of the time.

When he isn't standing on his head, he's doing somersaults. All by himself, in front of the TV. But he can always tell you what he's watching and what is going on.

You never have to wonder where these children are. You can always tell, just by listening, who is where and what each is doing.

David is always building something, pounding happily away. Allen will be watching TV on his head or doing somersaults. And Michael is always be-bopping around. He has his own little songs he sings, over and over. It started when he saw Roy Clark at the Oregon State Fair last fall. He's the one who needs the guitar.

I don't know why David wants a guitar when he is a builder. I don't know why Allen wants a car when anyone can see he's going to be a

gymnast. But I understand Michael wanting a monster.

The boy next door has one. It's a big, green dinosaur almost as big as Michael himself. Its hands fly off and hit things and its long, red and green tongue pops in and out. Michael is always borrowing it and he attacks me with that flying-off hand. I yell and scream "Help! Help! A Monster is attacking me!" And Michael laughs so hard he falls down.

I will get him one for Christmas. In fact, they are perfect for any age, for either boys or girls. I'd like to have one for myself. I'd put it beside the chair with the sticking-up legs of my upside-down grandson.

I wonder if I could get a special price if I bought a couple of dozen monsters because in addition to these three grandsons there's Anne, Jennifer and Kara, and Leanna, Tammy, Tonja and Laurie (with two babies of her own, Christine and Amy). Then there's Brent, Wendy and Marcie, and Josh and Matt, and Richie, Serena, Kori, Jeremy and Bethany, and then there's more. I'll bet they'll all be so surprised.

If I buy two dozen — 22 for the grandchildren and one for me. I'll give the remaining one to our "Bah! Humbug!"

He'll be surprised, too, I'll bet. Serve him right for not appreciating Christmas.

Commentary

Timber rules for U.S., Canada vary

by LYNN NEWBRY

On a clear day in Coos Bay, an unemployed millworker can often go down to the beach and watch the Canadian lumber barges go by at sea on their way to southern California markets.

Why is it that Canadian lumber is underselling the products of Oregon and other U.S. mills? The Canadians have now seized one-third of our nation's lumber market, causing widespread mill closures and loss of American jobs. Oregon and other Northwest states have been especially hard hit.

The strong American dollar is the usual reason offered to explain the Canadians' ability to undersell their U.S. competitors. Though the dollar is one factor, evidence now shows a more important reason — the Canadian government is subsidizing its forest industry by selling timber to it at far below market value, in some cases at almost no cost at all.

Almost all of Canada's forest land is owned by the provincial governments, and the provinces have a major interest in sustaining employment. Under the Canadian system of selling timber, a government bent on keeping its mills operating can do all sorts of things with its timber appraisals to give its mills an edge on price.

British Columbia determines the

value of the trees it sells much as the U.S. Forest Service does — by subtracting from the end-product value all of the relevant costs of production. However, in the U.S., this appraised value of timber to be sold becomes merely the starting point for competitive bidding among timber buyers, assuring that the timber will bring true market value. In Canada, on the other hand, individual companies are assigned exclusive access to vast tracts of government timberland, and the appraised value in such a tract becomes the final price to the company holding the license to that area.

By using lower market values and higher processing costs in arriving at its timber appraisals, the Canadian government can reduce the cost of timber to Canadian mills to whatever price is necessary to enable them to undersell U.S. producers.

A look at comparative timber prices between the two countries shows what is happening. Timber in coastal Oregon and Washington sold for an average price of \$69.68 per thousand board feet last year, versus \$19.16 (in U.S. dollars) in coastal British Columbia. In Idaho, federal timber sold at an average price of \$38, compared with only \$4.65 for timber in essentially the same kind of forests just across the border in interior British Columbia.

Congress is now finally taking a

hard look at the situation, and some relief may be on the way.

The Gibbons bill, recently reported out by a House subcommittee, would redefine a subsidy under existing law to include any government sale of raw material at below market value.

Senator Bob Packwood will have an important role to play in this issue when the Senate takes up a companion bill to the Gibbons legislation introduced by Senator Max Baucus, and Packwood has expressed his determination to help "level the playing field" for lumber. That's exactly

what the state of Oregon needs.

We have seen one Oregon mill after another close in the face of record-high lumber consumption in the U.S. last year and this year. If we don't bring some semblance of fair play into the Canadian lumber-import issue now, one can only imagine what will happen to Oregon's lumber industry when the next cyclical downturn in the lumber market arrives.

Newbry is vice-president of Medford Corporation, Medford, Ore., and a vice-chairman of the Coalition for Fair Lumber Imports.

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