

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
Kimberly Nelson, advertising representative

Our board member made correct vote

We keep waiting for the dust to settle following the Mt. Hood Community College board of directors decision to forgo a national search for a new president.

We have followed the story, and even knowing the background, have found it a little difficult to understand. Board Member Bob Graves, who represents voters and taxpayers from Government Camp through Sandy and Damascus, was one of two board members to vote for a national search.

We think it is important to bring this up because, by voting 5-2 against the presidential search, the board has cast a little bit of a cloud over Interim President Paul Kreider's head. The issue is likely to come up again, and informed Sandy voters should know where their representative stood — that he did not vote with the majority.

The crux of the matter has to do with the validity of a national search, which was expected to cost from \$30,000 to \$50,000. Graves claims the national search would not have cost anywhere near \$50,000. If it did, according to his calculations, the owner of a \$65,000 home would pay 76 cents for one year for the presidential search.

Now, if one asked a homeowner to pay an extra 75 cents for a national search, that homeowner might be reluctant to pay. The flip side is this: The job of president of an institution that generates millions of dollars for the area economy and is responsible for the advanced training of area residents should be held by the most competent man or woman available.

Is a national presidential search a guarantee that the best person for the job will be found? Of course not.

It is being argued vehemently that Paul Kreider is the best man for the job. If that is true, he would have held his own in a national search. Surely he had an excellent shot at being named one of the finalists. In addition, the board could have followed his progress for another six months — just to make sure he was the right man for the job. This is nearly a \$100,000 a year position. Rest assured some extremely capable people would have applied.

Currently the board has approved a campus-wide search. It was a unanimous vote, and that has caused some misunderstanding. Some people may assume that the board agreed unanimously to forgo a national search. In fact, the board had to approve a campus-wide search to meet state anti-discrimination statutes. It was a housekeeping measure.

The vote that counts came out 5-2, with Graves in the minority.

Before reaching his decision, Graves listened to representatives of the management association, the faculty association, the classified employees association, students and, importantly, people in the Sandy-Mt. Hood community. He did not talk solely to educators.

The management association was split over the issue, but the faculty and classified employees favored a presidential search. The Associated Student Government submitted a letter asking that the decision be made "on the basis of quality of candidate and not on the basis of cost of search and time of search."

It is our opinion that Graves went into the meeting prepared to represent the views of his constituents, which is what we elected him to do.

People's opinions will vary about the presidential search. Indeed, who would have guessed the issue would have caused such a ruckus.

In our opinion, Bob Graves cast his ballot the right way. Meanwhile, we wish President Paul Kreider the best of luck. We hope the MHCC board hasn't eroded the good feeling there was for him among the faculty, administration and public.

Letters to the editor

Thanks, Thriftway for the good service

It is nice to have a Safeway in Sandy, and we will probably shop there some, but we also want to express our appreciation to the people at Bowman's Sandy Thriftway for their outstanding service.

The people at Bowman's Thriftway are friendly, cheerful and always willing to help you with your individual needs. We enjoyed the service we got at the old store downtown, and we have found we get the same good service at the new store. In addition, we are pleased with the full range of products offered and with the layout of the store.

I even asked for advice once on how to cook a young goose, and one of the owners gave me some suggestions. I followed his advice and the dinner turned out to be a very special

one.

Once I just had a small sack of groceries, and they even offered to carry it out. That's a small thing, but it was appreciated.

We enjoy talking to the checkers, and at the same time we don't feel like we ever have to wait in line too long.

We've lived in Sandy for nine years, and since they have opened the new store we have enjoyed not having to drive to Gresham and Portland to get all the things we have needed.

Employees and owners of Bowman's Sandy Thriftway, thank you for the friendly service. You've won us over, and you'll be seeing us.

Del and Roberta Hamann
Sandy

Library expansion nixed

Ms. Spence must have an active imagination. How else could she look at The Post's editorial cartoon of Jan. 23 and see the ladies depicted therein as being bumbling and inept? Those are her words, not the artist's.

The city library is one of the busiest places in town staffed by efficient, cheerful librarians. I know. I visit there regularly. Crowded, yes. Busy, yes; but efficient too! The cartoon didn't say the librarians weren't cheerful and efficient either.

I agree with the editorial. Let's see

the hours expanded and if possible, the (number of) books expanded, not the building. Somehow, citizens need to be made aware of what is being done by the politicians. A newspaper can do that job. If left alone, politicians might have people paying for a lot more than bigger libraries, police stations and city halls. The editorial does say that!

Mrs. Janice Ringle-Pointer
Sandy



Personally speaking

Baby-sitting a fine art for grandma

by JOY WOOD

Allen, 6, and Michael, 3, came to Grandma's for four hours of baby-sitting at 10 a.m. one recent morning.

The first hour was spent doing tumbling, head stands, and somersaults, with a little bit of break dancing thrown in. When Grandma got worried that their mother would come home to find two bald-headed boys, from spinning on their heads, she suggested, "Let's do the Hokie-Pokie."

"You put your right foot in, you put your right foot out. You put your right foot in, and you shake it all about. You do the Hokie-Pokie, and you turn yourself around, and that's what it's all about."

It didn't matter that Michael got his right and left feet and hands mixed up, the Hokie-Pokie was good for a half an hour. It led right into a half an hour of the Bunny Hop, with Grandma leading.

Then it was lunch time. Five minutes to make three peanut butter sandwiches, and 15 minutes to eat them with a glass of milk and an apple.

"OK," said Grandma, "what shall we do now?"

Allen said, "Let's go to the zoo." So, we played, "Who are you at the zoo?" And, of course, because Grandma can't stand snakes, the boys had to be snakes right off.

And a large bird who looked like Grandma, biting the snakes with good pinches of her hands, turned the snakes into gorillas and elephants.

There were a lot of animals at our zoo. The gorillas turned into chimpanzees, and monkeys that went "Eek, eek." The elephants turned into giraffes, and then it was time to ride the zoo train.

We all got aboard, and went chugging off and away. We "whoohooed" at the tunnels and "chug-a-chug-chugged" up the hills and "Rrrrrred" around some sharp curves. Going to the zoo and riding the train took us an hour. When we "got back home," the boys played leap-frog. Grandma didn't get into that.

Then we decided to look at some TV. Michael fell asleep on the couch. It was 1:30 p.m. then. Allen stood on his head in the big chair and watched TV, and Grandma decided, "Ha. Now I can play 'Shh.' Grandma's going to rest." And she went into the bedroom and did just that.

Their mother came at 2 p.m., and

took Allen home to their house. Michael and Grandma snoozed on.

Sometimes when Grandma baby-sits, we play "The Three Little Pigs." Sometimes, though, we don't have enough cardboard boxes to do it. You see, the Big Bad Wolf has to huff and puff and blow the first two houses down (the boys help with the collapsing of the boxes to make it more real). Usually, after a while, our first two houses are so collapsed that their father thinks they are useless trash and he burns them up. Some adults just don't see things the same as children.

Sometimes we play "Ring around the rosie," with a pillow on the floor to run around. Grandma gets dizzy the soonest, and she really isn't very good at this game, so she mostly just sits in her chair and sings the "Ring-around" song. This game is good for 30 minutes, although I've known it to last for an hour. Allen feels that he has outgrown it at age 6. And I guess he is now that he's into break dancing.

When they get older we can play, "Hide the thimble," which is an old game Grandma used to play when she was a girl. Nobody knows what a thimble is now-a-days, though, I sup-

pose. We could hide a potholder or a ball, instead, I guess.

It's a good thing that David is in school now. He's 7, and practically grown up. He thinks we are weird. That's his new word. "You are all so weird," he says. "But that's OK. Grandma remembers when he was 2 and cried when the Easter eggs he had found broke."

Someday I may tell you about Arne, 6, Jennifer, 4, and Kara, 2. Some days Grandma baby-sits them, too. They are cousins of the three boys. They like to color, cut and paste best. And they like to be read to. And when Bethany, 4, another cousin, comes to visit Grandma, we talk about "world affairs." Grandmas who baby-sit have to keep on top of the situation. They have to know each individual child's interests, attention span, and time schedule.

But then, too, children need to become aware of Grandma's needs, and when Grandma says, "Shh. It's time for my rest now," they need to tiptoe very quietly and whisper. And, sometimes they do.

Grandma always needs a good, long nap after she baby-sits. Shh.

