

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
Kimberly Nelson, advertising representative

Districts should combine positions

It would take immediate action, but someone from either the Sandy Elementary or Sandy Union High school boards should initiate talks concerning the possibility of hiring one superintendent for both districts.

Such a move would not be unprecedented. In Gresham, the high school and elementary districts share a superintendent. It would have advantages in coordinating the work of the busing cooperative, in the purchasing of goods, and in coordinating curriculum.

It might possibly even save a little money in administrative expenses, though to be realistic one would have to hire a principal to do the day-to-day work at Sandy High.

There are two peripheral issues involved. First, there is the issue of consolidation. The Affordable Education Association should be commended, not chided, for forcing the community to consider the issue of consolidation. It is an idea that has been kicked around for years. Although we think some of the Affordable Education Association's ideas on the possible savings are overly optimistic, there are advantages to a unified district.

The second consideration concerns Clark Lund, Sandy Elementary superintendent, who has received a job offer from another district. The Sandy Elementary board of directors may decide to make a counteroffer at its June 19 meeting — an offer good enough that he would have to consider it. We would support them in that effort because we believe Clark Lund is an excellent administrator. We would also be supportive of an effort by the Sandy Elementary board to let Lund toss his hat in the ring at Sandy High School with the high school board's agreement that he could be a late entrant. And if it turned out he was the best applicant, the job of managing both districts would be his.

The side issues, however, cloud the main point, which is this: The timing is right for both districts to get together and consider hiring one superintendent.

For years parents complained about school buses following one another along similar routes. A few years ago the two districts got together and worked out an agreement to form a cooperative and saved area taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. (Lund, by the way, was a key player.)

Certainly there are other areas in which the two districts could work together. If they developed a compatible curriculum, that alone would be reason enough.

It would take quick action, though. The Sandy High board is already well into the process of hiring a superintendent. But, since no one has been hired, we don't see any harm in dragging the process out a little.

The two boards should get together and talk about the idea. We believe the timing is right to try it here.

Letter to the editor

Group says thanks

The Sandy Junior Miss Scholarship Committee wishes to express its sincere thanks to the following organizations for their contributions toward the scholarship award for our Junior Miss winner on Sunday, June 8. Groups that gave include the Sandy VFW Post 4273 women's auxiliary, the Kiwanis Club of Sandy, and radio stations KEX and Z-100 (KKRZ).

Our special thanks also to the Sandy Community Players and the performing arts staff at Sandy Union High School for their professional talents in the production of the program. Their volunteered time has been invaluable to our organization.

A very deserving thank you is given to the following businesses for

their backing and donations: Sandy Fast Print, Mountain Video, Sandy Safeway, Sandy SENTRY, Paola's Pizzeria, Hubbell's Restaurant, Jo Jo's Pizzeria, Sandy 7-Eleven, Coca Cola of Portland and Grokett Jewelry.

And last, but certainly not least, a special and most deserving thanks for our seven participants and their parents for their enthusiasm and cooperation, and also the Sandy Optimists for being our sponsors this year.

Sandy Junior Miss Scholarship Committee
George, Joyce and Peter Conibear,
Carol Parks, Kris Carey,
Dick and Joan Miller,
Cathy Johnson and Emily Simonis

Commentary

Card commemorates Lodge's anniversary

by SENATOR BOB PACKWOOD

Historic Timberline Lodge on Mount Hood will receive national recognition next year when we celebrate the Lodge's 50th anniversary.

The U.S. Postal Service has announced that it will issue a postcard in its Historic Preservation Series as a tribute to the grand structure.

The series commemorates historical landmarks as designated by the Interior Department. The postcard honoring Timberline Lodge will be the only commemorative card issued in the series next year. The Postal Service expects to make the postcard available by the Lodge's 50th anniversary, which is Sept. 28, 1987.

There will be an unveiling ceremony to publicly exhibit the card's design at the lodge before the postcard is issued. I am working closely with the Postal Service to ensure that an Oregon artist be considered for the design work.

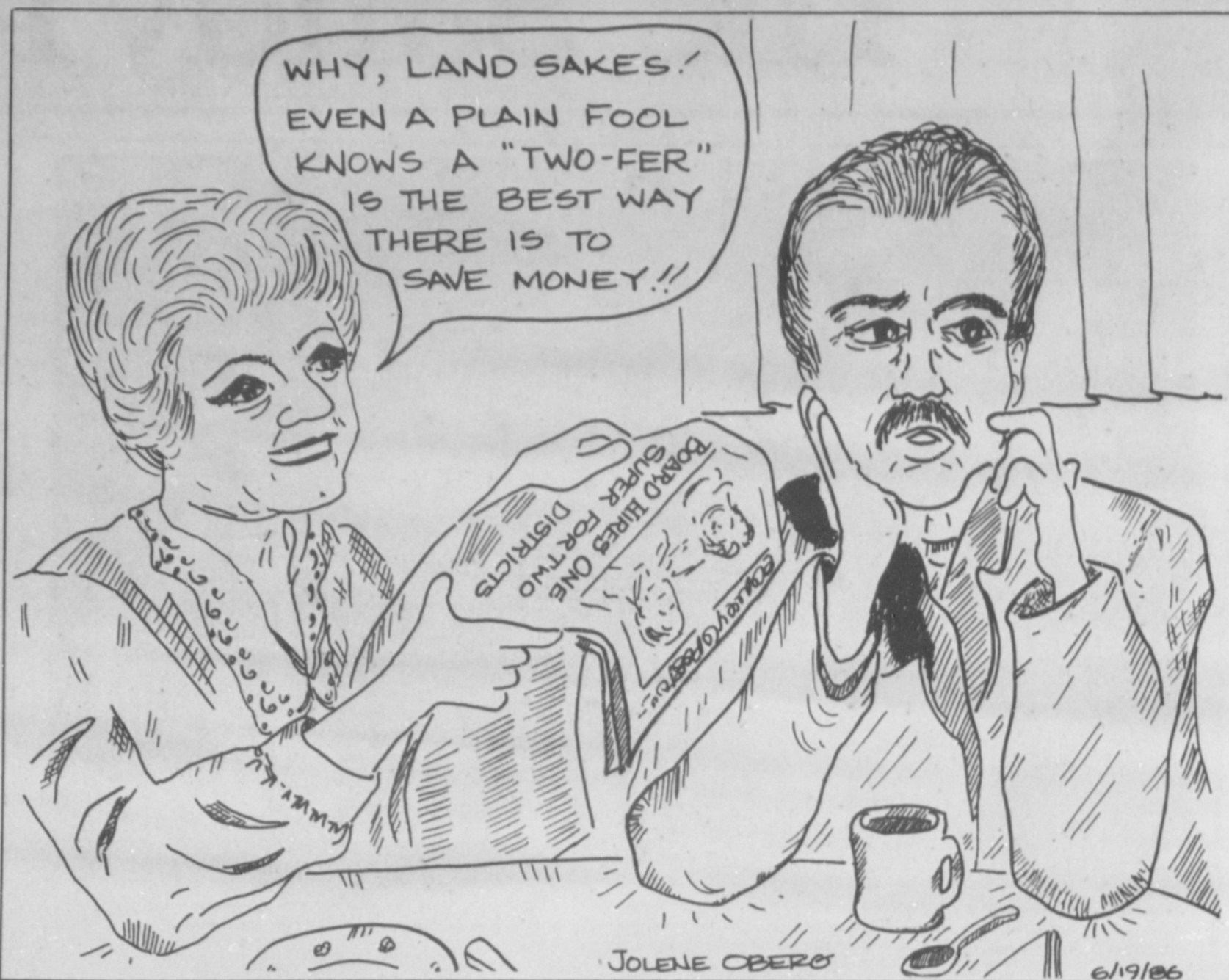
More than 10 million cards will be printed depicting the lodge. Most of these cards will be automatically distributed to post offices nationwide, a normal procedure followed by the Postal Service. Major post-

ices in Portland, Salem and Eugene will be included in the Postal Service's automatic distribution. Post offices that are not part of this distribution must order their own postcard allotment.

Timberline Lodge, which reflects the image of the mountain, sits high on the southern slope of Mount Hood. Many Oregonians have taken advantage of the mountain and the lodge; Timberline offers skiers, climbers and other outdoor enthusiasts a place to rest and provides a panoramic vista to sightseers. More than one million Americans travel to the great stone-and-timber building each year.

The construction of the lodge began on June 13, 1936. It took nearly two years to build and was constructed mainly by thousands of people who were left suddenly without work during the Great Depression of the 1930s. President Franklin D. Roosevelt formally dedicated the Lodge on Sept. 28, 1937.

We are fortunate to have such a magnificent structure as Timberline Lodge in our state. Honoring it with a commemorative postcard, and sharing its grandeur with people across the country who may not be able to visit it, is entirely appropriate.



Music review (kind of)

Seniors expand teacher's range

by SCOTT NEWTON

OK, so it wasn't a flawless performance.

Someone dropped the portable electric organ in the middle of "Home on the Range." Even the director, Donola Johnson, blew a line on "Your Cheatin' Heart," although no one would have known it if she hadn't admitted it. But even a die-hard critic would have laughed when Gretchen Chilton made off with Joyce Marcy's guy, Howard Berger, in a skit following "Bouquet of Roses."

And who could help but smile at a group of dapper cowboys singing "Hey, Good Lookin'" to Donola's daughter, Tara?

On Friday evening the Sandy Silvertones, established about six years ago, and the Sandy Choraliers, formed in February, put on their first concert. It lasted an hour in the sweltering heat of the Sandy Senior Center; nobody objected to the constant use of programs as fans. Afterward, the 75 in attendance joined the performers for dessert.

The event wasn't publicized because the senior citizens in the two groups sold the available tickets immediately. Maybe we'll need the Clackadome sooner than expected.

Among the performers was 94-year-old Mike Lamm, who performed a solo on his mandolin, and 93-year-old Lena Searls, who played a kazoo in the Silvertones.

Coordinating the event was Donola Johnson, who moved to Boring about a year ago with her husband of 17 years, Ron. He is a supervisor for Transcon Trucking

in Portland. They have two children; Tara is 13, and Mitzi is 11. Transcon Trucking closed its terminal in Baker and so the family moved west.

It is obvious that Donola misses Baker. Her family is there, and the community of about 10,000 (it is dwindling because of the economy) was supportive of its music programs.

Donola is an instructor, hired through Mt. Hood Community College as part of its Golden Age program.

Her job calls for her to come to Sandy once a week, but the Silvertones and the Choraliers have been meeting about three times a week.

Senior citizens are great to work with, Donola said. "They've been so receptive. I really love to work with them."

They don't miss rehearsals and

they don't goof off when they're supposed to be paying attention. But more importantly, they know how to have fun.

There is definitely some musical talent in the group as well, according to Donola. Eula Markle can transpose a piece of music up or down the scale in the time it takes to sight read it.

Donola gives one the impression she knows her music. She directed a 90-member community choir in Baker. There were 60 students in her vocal music practice when she left, and between the two she helped put on about eight shows a year.

Her students have ranged in age from 5 to 94, the last figure courtesy of Lamm. She currently directs the children's choir at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Gresham.

She used to perform more, but

now the duties of director seem to fall her way. She played Lauri in the musical "Oklahoma," and Madam Butterfly in the opera of the same name.

She liked the theme of the Sandy senior citizens' Country and Western Nostalgia Show, though. "I'm real country," she said. "I like the outdoors."

The Silvertones and Choraliers perform regularly for senior citizens groups and at nursing homes. The concert Friday was a first, though.

They will take some time off for the summer. It is an active group, Donola pointed out. They need time off to travel and play golf.

But in the fall, she expects to be back. Music is a good emotional and physical outlet; it has a therapeutic value. "I'm a firm believer of that."



The Sandy Silvertones. Back row, from left to right: Lena Searls, Edith Weidman, Harvey Thayer and Vivian Gates. Front row: Eula Markle, Hazel Harvey and Tara Johnson.



The Sandy Choraliers. Back row, from left to right: Sara Berger, Howard Berger, Earl Ostrander, Art Prochaska, Donola Johnson, Bill Tickner and Harvey Griffin. Middle row: Evelyn Peterson, Joyce Marcy, Gretchen Chilton, Ruth Tickner, Val Prochaska, Dolly Unger, Lois Polivka, Lorrene Griffin and Eula Markle. Front row: Tara Johnson, Edith Weidman, Hazel Harvey and Mitzi Johnson.