

The Sandy Post

Editorial & Opinion

Scott Newton, editor
Karinda Hedlund, advertising representative

Mountain Festival defines community

One person wrote in the guest book at the Sandy Mountain Festival that there is not enough scandal associated with the festival.

That light-hearted comment is about the only complaint one can make. The Mountain Festival committee proved once again it is a well-oiled machine. The members deserve congratulations for a job well done.

The festival brings out the best in nearly every organization in Sandy. It would not be possible to pull it off without the Sandy police reserves, the Clackamas County police reserves, the Lions Club, the Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce, the Sandy Recreation Department, the public works department and a various assortment of scout groups, musical and drama organizations and service clubs.

Residents of Sandy are asked to put up with the crowds and traffic jams, and in exchange local people benefit from the thousands of dollars raised from food booths in the park, which are manned by members of local organizations.

One of the goals of the Mountain Festival committee — as stated in its bylaws — is to create a "sense of community."

That is ambitious in a commuter town divided by a major highway.

But it is our opinion that they have pulled it off. Most Sandy residents take a pride of ownership in the Mountain Festival, and that is no small accomplishment.



Burn house project offered lessons

Project Open Burn House offered some valuable lessons. Lt. Richard Curtis of the Hoodland Fire District got the idea for the open house from a trade magazine for firefighters. But even if it wasn't an original idea, the public benefitted from its implementation.

About 130 residents visited the house, which received extensive damage in a fire June 20. The Darrel Meyer family was generous in allowing the public to view the house, and it was obvious from watching visitors that seeing smoke- and heat-damaged clothes and melted children's toys had an effect.

In addition, the house offered graphic examples of fire safety precautions. For example, it is one thing to read that a person should crawl to safety during a fire. But it is something else to see a "thermal line" caused by 400-degree Fahrenheit heat.

The value of closing one's bedroom door at night before going to bed also was well illustrated. By showing one room where the door had been left open and another where it had been closed, members of the public instantly got the idea. One room was destroyed. In the other, the white edges around a poster of NBA star Michael Jordan weren't even soiled.

It also was obvious Saturday that a number of volunteers put in a great deal of time preparing for Project Open Burn House.

The firefighters can take comfort in the knowledge that their efforts at public education paid off.

Language of colonies with us today

We Westerners tend to clothe our past in the rugged buckskins of mountain men and explorers.

So the powdered wigs, knee breeches and buckled shoes of colonial Williamsburg in Virginia were just as strange to me as a cream puff at a beer bust.

But I joined the Easterners plodding down the tree-lined streets of the colonial village where Washington and Jefferson and Patrick Henry walked. And I thought about how boring my school studies of those times had been. What did this place have for me, I wondered.

A costumed guide beckoned me into Wetherburn's Tavern where I found a 1760s version of a motel. A young woman with head and elbows properly covered and cleavage bursting out her bodice told how, in those days, seven pence would get a traveler a roof over his head, space on the floor if he was lucky and a bed to share with two or three others if he was very lucky.

The bed was a frame strung with knotted rope. Eventually the rope sagged under the weight of bodies and a slave took a device called a rope jack, scooted under the bed and tightened all the knots.



Sharon Nesbit

When he emerged he would say to the guests, "Sleep tight." How many nights did my grandmother tell me to sleep tight without knowing where the expression came from?

I went to the millinery shop where a man in gold-rimmed spectacles and knee breeches showed me two bands of lace meant to tuck in to a neckline when a colonial lady wanted update an old dress. It was called a tucker. It slipped into my language as "putting on your best bib and tucker."

And I went to the wig shop where wigs were made. They were woven

on mesh caps that were stretched over wooden heads called "blockheads." I have known dozens of blockheads but I'd never met a real one before.

People shaved their heads in those days and after a day in the wig — especially in muggy Virginia — the head tended to sweat and itch. So you would go home and "soak your head." I've told people to do that too.

A gentleman would put a greasy pomade in his wig. When it was nice and sticky, he'd sprinkle the whole thing with powder until it was snowy white. At a fancy dress ball, when the evening grew warm and his hairdo started to melt, he would go the "powder room" and "take a powder."

In a stable I learned that horses were shorter then. And that mangers were higher.

It was the fashion of the time, a costumed stableboy told me, to have horses reach up to the manger and stretch their necks.

When I asked why, he told me that folks in the 18th century cared a lot about fashion and doing the fashionable thing.

I looked down and my tight shoes, my hot stockings and my sweat-

stained dress and said, "Of course, we don't do that now."

We laughed in a 20th century way.

I sat one day with another of Williamsburg's costumed employees. She heard a woman sneeze and called out, "The apothecary is open. Get a leech to balance your humors."

And we talked about how doctors are using leeches today when they reattach limbs after surgery.

And then I went to the Capitol building. Twice burned and rebuilt according to original plans, it was a breeding ground for patriots who liked to tweak King George's nose.

Patrick Henry started it. He made a smart crack about George the III which was interrupted by cries of "Treason, treason."

"If this be treason," Henry flared, "make the most of it."

They did. And July 4th happened first in Virginia on May 15, 1776, when the legislators in that building declared their freedom from England.

For the first time those guys in the funny wigs and buckled shoes became real. How odd that you have to go so far from home before some things come home to you.

Salem Scene

Assembly worked for better economy

by JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

When the 64th Legislative Assembly departed Salem last month, it left behind some solid blocks with which Oregonians should be able to build a stronger economy.

Acclaimed by some as the most productive regular biennial session in decades, it was one that was approached with trepidation by those concerned about the state's lackluster climate for business.

Although there were tentative signs of recovery from the years-long recession, many were skeptical about the Assembly's ability to make the hard decisions to accomplish much that would continue an upward economic spiral.

The House of Representatives was precariously divided among 29 Republicans and 31 Democrats. The situation was ripe for counterproductive partisan gamesmanship. Senate Republicans had gained another seat in that chamber, becoming a significant 13-member minority to the 17 Democrats in the majority caucus.

Democrats in both House and Senate were wary about new Gov. Neil Goldschmidt's ability to work with the legislative and biennial

budgetary processes.

And major issues, such as school finance, the liability insurance crisis and high cost of workers' compensation insurance had all faced lawmakers before without satisfactory resolution.

There were some positive signs apparent, however. This was an experienced body — fewer freshmen lawmakers than ever before. And both parties in each chamber re-elected the same leaders who guided them last session.

On top of that, the returning leadership appeared united in intentions to achieve solutions to major problems.

That unity was put quickly to a surprise test when Gov. Goldschmidt requested speedy resolution of eight issues on his agenda by mid-March. As lawmakers complied, tensions eased and the process moved steadily ahead.

Another indication of an impending successful session was adoption of a plan to keep schools from closing and solid approval from voters during referral to a special election in May. Then came a revenue-neutral re-connect to the federal tax code — along with a reduction in the corporate tax rate — permitting corporations to save an estimated \$20 million annually and sending a positive message to

out-of-state interests.

Another early accomplishment was passage of an extensive revision and simplification of laws dealing with creation and operations of corporations. Enacted with only token opposition, the law became effective even before the Legislature adjourned and is expected to produce long-term economic benefits.

As is often the case, some of this session's major issues were not resolved until the last minute, producing a return of pre-session apprehension even as adjournment gavel were poised to fall one last time.

The sessions' final weeks, however, saw resolution of environmental issues — including extension of pollution control tax credits and practical regulation of use and disposal of hazardous materials without reducing the viability of the job-producing manufacturing community.

The state's number one job producer, the forest products industry, also achieved sweeping reform of land use regulation as the session neared its end. The change bolstered regulatory powers and responsibilities of the state Board of Forestry, pre-empting both counties and the Land Conservation and

Development Commission from regulating forest practices.

Lawmakers also saw fit to limit liability of landowners opening their property to recreational use — a major step toward preserving public access to outdoor pursuits.

Preservation and maintenance of the state's system of highways and bridges were enhanced as the Assembly finally concurred on a 6 cent per gallon tax implemented over a three-year period.

Almost throughout the session there was an additional emphasis on economic development, with substantial appropriations for construction projects, more funding for promoting tourism and targeted use of lottery revenue for specific projects.

Then, in the final hours before adjournment, compromises were struck in both chambers that permitted enactment of major reform of both tort law and the Workers' Compensation System.

The first should make liability insurance both more available and affordable. The second is hailed as a step that will remove Oregon from the top rungs of the ladder by which employer costs are measured nationwide.

by Adam Kraft

Letters to the editor

Chamber president says thank you

I wish to extend a big "thank you" to all the volunteers who helped to make the chamber's Wine Fair and Feast a big success.

And a special thank you also to Pat Tiller, Roger Atkins and But McShara for the extra effort they put into this important event.

Diane Tiller
president
Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce

Magic Mile chairlift and I hope others did too. Thanks to Bill Conerly for inviting us to help celebrate Timberline's 50th anniversary.

Kimberly Nelson
coordinator
Sandy Community Days
Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce

People help during festival

We would like to express our appreciation to Gregg's Distributor food service, Industrial and Food Service Package, the Mountain Festival committee, Blue Marlin mothers and friends for their help and support of the Sandy swim team.

Mike Drill, Bob Williamson, Scott Drill, Bob Richards and Mike Malchow designed, built and painted our new food booth at the Mountain Festival.

You did a wonderful job. Thank you.

Lois Drill
Blue Marlin Aquatic Club

Rescue personnel did a good job

The John Nelson family would like to thank Alpine Ambulance and the Sandy Fire District rescue personnel for their quick response and excellent service on July 7.

Your kindness was appreciated.
Hazel Nelson
Sandy

Community Days was a success

The success of Sandy Community Days at Timberline Lodge was made possible by the efforts of several groups. Their presence made tourists aware of the diverse interests of our fair city.

Thanks to the Sandy Mountain Festival committee, the Sandy Pioneer and Historical Association, the Sandy City Council, the Sandy Post, the Sandy Community Players, the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 4273 and Daniel Stevens for their participation through displays, brochures and productions.

A special thanks to Marty Stone for the bags used to distribute information about Sandy, and to Carolyn Sandburg at The Photory for the film developing and enlargement coupons.

I enjoyed my first ride on the

Bobcats

