



GEOFFREY SOUJER SILVER

was created by Reverend Chumleigh and Patti Chappel, Secret House owner.

The initial blow that stunned organizers, according to Ammon, was the permit issued by the county commission stipulating the event be shut down by 10 pm.

"I got blindsided," he says, adding if he had known the commission was going to meet to discuss the permit, he would have attended the meeting. The earlier closing time meant the Fringe Festival organizers had to move up the times of some of their acts, which overlapped with Country Fair hours.

"That's not what we intended," says Ben Schroeter, event publicist. "It goes against what we were trying to accomplish."

Even so, Ammon reworked arrangements to keep the ball rolling, but eventually, he says, contractual agreements with Chappel

began to unravel. Chappel says problems occurred because of Ammon's "inability to facilitate all of the production necessities."

No word yet on whether another Fringe Fest will be planned. — AS

CORRECTIONS/ CLARIFICATIONS

Last week's story "Watch Your Back," about the USA PATRIOT Act (UPA), implied that pharmacies allow customers to sign the disclosure regarding release of personal information to various government agencies. In fact, the document does not give the opportunity for a signature, and says simply that information can be released at the request of those agencies.

SLANT

• Bush's gagging continues. At the Common Dreams NewsCenter, a website for progressive news and views (www.commondreams.org), Naomi Klein reports that non-governmental organizations are now supposed to be arms of the Bush Administration, furthering its public relations campaigns around the world. At a May 21 gathering in Washington, DC, USAID's Andrew Natsios was angered by the fact that wounded children in countries attacked by the U.S. (Iraq, Afghanistan) didn't realize their medicine and food was coming from the U.S. Natsios told NGOs doling out humanitarian assistance to make it clear they are an arm of the U.S. government, and if they didn't, he would "personally tear up their contracts and find new partners."

Meanwhile, American aid workers throughout the world have been warned not to speak to any media; all requests for interviews must go through Washington.

• John Dean, former White House counsel to Richard Nixon, is quoted in a recent *Harpers Weekly* saying: "If Bush has taken Congress and the nation into war based on bogus information, he is cooked. Manipulation or deliberate misuse of national security intelligence data, if proven, could be 'a high crime' under the Constitution's impeachment clause. It would also be a violation of federal criminal law, including the broad federal anti-conspiracy statute, which renders it a felony 'to defraud the United States, or any agency thereof in any manner or for any purpose.'"



• GOOD news to report this week! Mercado Latino, the pleasant food and craft fest that's been happening Sundays under the Washington/Jefferson Bridge, has moved to the park blocks at 8th and Oak, where Saturday Market is. NEDCO says the event was "too invisible" at the old site, so moved it permanently to the new location, which is NOT under a bridge. If you haven't yet checked it out, do yourself a favor. Take a Sunday stroll downtown and you'll find high-quality, inexpensive Mexican, Salvadorean and Peruvian food, free music, craft booths with a wide selection of wares from Mexico and various Central and South American countries, and a very relaxed atmosphere.

SLANT includes short opinion pieces, observations and rumor-chasing notes compiled by the EW staff. Heard any good rumors lately? Contact Ted Taylor at 484-0519, editor@eugeneweekly.com



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