

All the facts!

Editor, Spectrum:

In order that all the facts might be known about my recent resignation as a County Commissioner, the following is submitted:

My resignation as a Washington County Commissioner came about after I could see that there was no way to convince my two fellow commissioners that the County Fair had to be moved from Hurricane to St. George.

If there were adequate facilities available to house a growing county fair, I would have supported leaving the fair in Hurricane; unfortunately there are no facilities in that city at the present time, other than the high school, in which a fair can be held. This building will not be available after 1988 in that the School Board has asked that the fair be moved from that facility by that date.

However, starting next year (1987) the Dixie Center, a facility owned by the College, the County and the Cities in the county, excluding five communities which refused to join the Special Service District that was created to fund and build the Center, will be available for use and have more than enough space to house all segments of a county fair for years to come.

Hurricane City would like a commitment from the County to keep the fair in Hurricane and fund it at its present level of \$48,000 for five years. Based on this budget Hurricane City would assume all responsibility for the fair and has projected a budget for next year of approximately \$10,000 using the remaining money (\$38,000 plus approximately \$15,000 in revenue generated by the fair) to start a building fund. That City also asked that certain properties belonging to the County be given to the City to use as additional revenue, when sold, to enlarge the fund to build such a fair complex.

Hurricane City by the way, was one of the few communities that refused to support the Dixie Center. That City is not a part of the Dixie Center Special Service District nor into their pockets to pay for the Dixie

Center, I cannot understand why a group of people would be so selfish as to insist that the county taxpayers are the residents thereof taxed to pay for the Center.

With the taxpayers of most of Washington County already digging lay out additional tax dollars to build a fair complex in Hurricane.

Because I could not and would not support the stand I have taken on this matter, I suggest you contact Commissioner Lewis and Commissioner Whitney and make your feelings known.

It has been my pleasure to serve the residents and taxpayers of Washington County for the past five years, eight months and eleven days, and I look forward to a continued close association in the days to come.

Sincerely,
Kurt L. Young

Resents Young

Editor, Spectrum:

I would publicly like to thank County Commissioner Kurt Young for resigning.

I for one have resented some of the things printed in the papers that Mr. Young has supposedly said in the last few weeks. Not just statements made about the County Fair, but about the people that live in the eastern part of the county.

We are not a group of selfish people, sitting and waiting for a handout of any kind.

Mr. Young stated that the county taxpayers shouldn't have to lay out additional tax dollars to build a fair complex in Hurricane, since most have already forked out for the Dixie Center. Also that the eastern part of the county should develop itself. If I remember right, it was not too long ago that it was proposed to use taxpayers' money to build facilities at Dixie Downs, that would also house the fair. Does that mean that it's okay for the taxpayers' money to be used for development in the western part of Washington County, but not the eastern part?

It was also stated that Mr. Young's loyalty is to the taxpayers of the county, and that taxpayers would be

getting ripped off if the fair remained in Hurricane. Aren't the people living in the eastern part of the county also taxpayers of the county?

I do have two questions concerning the fair:

1) Why if its has been so evident in the last five to ten years that the fair was outgrowing the facilities in Hurricane, that no action has been taken until now? Why did the matter wait until St. George has available a complex that could house the fair?

2) Why can't those that have so much determination and energy to see the fair moved to St. George, put that energy into finding suitable facilities to keep the fair in Hurricane?

I agree that the present fair facilities are a little cramped and the parking is somewhat limited, but I honestly feel the majority of the people enjoy coming to Hurricane to the fair, or they wouldn't have been doing so for the last 30 years.

St. George is growing in leaps and bounds, is fast paced compared to Hurricane, and is becoming very commercialized. Hurricane offers the friendly small town, back home atmosphere, and I think that is what draws people to Hurricane for the fair.

Mr. Young, if I have offended you in any way, I am sorry. But I do not feel you should of lashed out at the people in eastern Washington County the way you did. It was unprovoked and unfair.

Jody Ballard
Hurricane

Lots of peanuts

Editor, Spectrum:

Raising peanuts in Utah's Dixie is not a new thing. Uncle Othel Milne grew peanuts in Washington City about 70 years ago. He also grew peanuts on Price Bench which is now part of Bloomington.

The gopher raised havoc with the peanut crop back in those days. This pest was so numerous the county gave a bounty of five cents for each gopher head.

Woodruff Alexander
St. George