

Former Roseburg Woman Foils Would Be Holdup

A former Roseburg resident, Mrs. June Browning, lured an armed gunman out of his intended robbery of the Wells, Nov., Hotel Pequo where she is night clerk and bookkeeper.

Her heroic action saved the hotel loss of a sizeable sum of money. It also made headlines in the Salt Lake City, Utah, Tribune.

Mrs. Wells left here in 1952. She formerly worked for Millers Dept. Store. Mrs. Wells is the mother of Mrs. Ernest M. Barker Jr.

According to the story appearing in the Salt Lake paper, Mrs. Wells told the young would-be-breaker: "If you're desperate, you should go to the law for help, not be breaking the law."

The youth entered the hotel lobby about 4 a.m. one morning last week. He told Mrs. Wells "this is a stickup" and demanded money.

The lobby was deserted. The brave night clerk told Wells police she was afraid to reach for the hotel cash box for fear "the boy" might think she was reaching for a gun or to sound an alarm.

So she told him the money had been taken away earlier.

After offering some motherly advice to the effect he'd never get away with it, she advised him to seek the help of the law.

"Maybe you're right," he said uncertainly. The gunman then departed with a courteous "thanks."

Mrs. Browning told the Tribune writer she found herself too weak to call police for several seconds after the man had left. He, apparently, did not seek the assistance of officers.

Diver's Search Fails To Reveal Body Of Girl

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Improved Wednesday as the water level continued to drop. Deputy Carl Smith estimated it had fallen a foot within a day. Also, the water was clearing.

Wednesday's underwater search covered the last area in which the body of the little girl is reported to have been seen. A fisherman, Eugene Legg, told police Sunday he saw something he thought at first was a floating doll going over some rapids.

Then, he said, he thought it might be the body of a small girl. He rushed down river to another rapids and waited about 15 minutes for it to reappear. It never did. The deep treacherous hole about two miles above Glide is located between the two rapids.

Results Of PTA Survey To Be Tabulated Friday

(Continued from Page One)

had "nothing to do with the survey."

PTA unit presidents and parent-teacher volunteers will tabulate returns tomorrow at Central Junior High School conference room, starting at 9:30 a.m.

Future work of the PTA includes a better job of interpreting public education. Mrs. Chapman said studies will continue on the problem of a better informed and actively interested electorate.

The 19 PTA units in District 4 comprise region 3 of the Douglas County Council of Parents and Teachers.

TO SPEAK

Mrs. James Brinks of Portland will speak at the meeting of the Associated Women of the Oakland Community Presbyterian Church Friday. Mrs. Brinks is Oregon "Mother of the Year." She is the wife of a former minister, Rev. James Brinks. They are former Oakland residents.

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Retired Merchant, James H. Myers, Dies In Hospital

James Henry Myers, 83, resident of Harvard Avenue died May 25 at a local hospital. He was born Nov. 6, 1871, in Morrill, Kan. and came to Oregon 3 years ago.

He had lived in Roseburg for the past 23 years and was a retired merchant of this community. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Fafetha, Kan., of the Scottish Rite and the Coos Bay Scottish Club.

Surviving are a son, James Myers, Myrtle Point; a daughter, Miss Melba M. Myers, Myrtle Point; a brother, George Myers, Santa Ana, Calif.; five sisters, Mrs. Della Johnson, Los Angeles; Mrs. Iren Koch, Mrs. Ione Hanson, Mrs. Hester Johns and Mrs. Lola Sanford, all of Sabatha, Kan. and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held in The Chapel of the Rosces, Roseburg Funeral Home, Friday, May 27, at 1 p.m. Dr. James Millar of the First Presbyterian Church will officiate. Interment will follow in the Roseburg Memorial Gardens.

Two Weeks Left For Nominating School Directors

A little more than two weeks remain in which nominations of persons for school district directors may be filed, County School Supt. Kenneth Barneburg said Wednesday.

With annual school meetings and election of directors falling this year on June 20, all nominations must be made to local school clerks by June 13, seven days before the elections.

All candidates must file letters of nomination acceptance with school clerks within five days after the deadline.

In the county rural school district, two directorships are open and the two incumbents have filed for re-election. Deadline for nomination has passed.

Guy McGee, Canyonville, and George Wilcox, Oakland are candidates to succeed themselves. McGee represents schools at Tiller, Dees Creek, Canyonville and Riddle, while Wilcox is representative of the Oakland, Sutherlin and Umpqua districts.

Nominations, however, still are open for one directorship in the county non-high school district. The incumbent, J. Weston Scott, Tiller, hasn't indicated he will run again. Nominations must be filed by June 5, Barneburg said, in the county school office.

8th Grade Graduation Held At Curtin School

Eighth grade graduation exercises were held Thursday evening at the Curtin school. There were eight graduates, David Cane, Lois Potts, Bob Gamble, Dorothy Meacham, Donald Work, Harold Satterfield, Ronald Bates and Dona Ellis.

The program was as follows: processional, Mrs. Moorman; invocation, Mr. Redifer; salutatory address, Lois Potts; class history, Leslie Goins; class appetite, Sandra Stigers; class will, Ada Allbridge; class prophecy, Michael Booher; piano solo, Michael Booher; address, Dr. David Morris; Song "Stout Hearted Men"; Donald Work; awards, Mr. Drake; diplomas, Opal Nelson; valedictorian address, Dorothy Meacham; benediction, Mr. Redifer and recessional, Mrs. Moorman.

The program was enjoyed by everyone. The stage was decorated with flowers. The class colors were red and white. The motto, "Our Goal is Perfection."

Portland Man Crashes To Death In Airplane

DELAKE — Robert A. Butler, 40, Portland businessman, crashed to his death in a light plane at the foot of Cascade Head, five miles north of Oceanlake Wednesday.

Butler was on a flight from Portland to Coos Bay. He was alone in the plane.

Members of a search party said one wing of the plane hit a high tree a quarter-mile from Cascade Head, and that apparently damaged the plane so that the pilot could not pull away from the promontory.

Two fishermen, Frank Lane and Charles Merkle, both of McMinnville, said the plane had circled overhead at the mouth of the Salmon River several times before heading off toward Cascade Head. They said there was some high fog in the area. They said the crash came at 2:45 p.m.

Judge Revokes Probation On Roy E. Varner, 46

Probation was revoked Wednesday afternoon for Roy E. Varner, 46, Riddle, and Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly sent him away for a year in the state penitentiary.

Varner had been sentenced a few weeks ago to a year when he pleaded guilty to obtaining money under false pretenses, but the judge granted him probation. Last week, Roseburg police arrested him and charged him with disorderly conduct after a fracas in a local beer hall. That, the judge reminded Varner Wednesday, was in violation of terms of his probation.

300 VIEW FESTIVAL

Approximately 300 persons turned out for the first annual spring concert held Wednesday night at Douglas Junior High School. The "full house" crowd in Douglas High School cafeteria boosted the school band uniform fund by \$56.25, following a free will offering, reports Asst. Principal Howard Parks.

LADIES NIGHT

The Glade Kiwanis Club's regular meeting Tuesday evening, May 24, will be Ladies Night with dinner at the Idlewild Park Lodge. Vice president Harry Bakken stated a good program is planned. Members are requested to phone Ralph Seiple for reservations.

PICNIC SCHEDULED

The Glendale Assembly of God Church will hold a Sunday School picnic at the Glendale Park, Sunday, May 29.

The potluck dinner will be followed by games and other recreation.

Hospital News

Douglas Community Hospital

Admitted

Surgery: Mrs. Delwin Jewett, Timothy Blisseth, Roseburg; Mrs. Sherman Davis, Winston; Janice and Janette Bartholomew, Canyonville.

Medical: Mrs. John Allen, Idlewild Park; Mrs. John Smith, Oscar Finney, Roseburg; Wayne Schermerhorn, Glide; Mrs. Grace Wilson, Camas Valley.

Discharged

Dick Buswell, Frona Roske, Mrs. Thomas Roen, Frank Perle, Paul Fowker, Anna Carlson, Mrs. Harry Anderson, Roseburg; Arthur Goodwin, Canyonville; Willis Corlin, Glide; Clyde McLain, Sutherlin; Mrs. Merlin Elliott, Dillard; Cheryl Pedersen, Idlewild Park.

Admitted

Surgery: Mrs. Claude Wiley, Sutherlin; Arvilla Montgomery, Loretta Weseman, Roseburg.

Medical: Maurice Marquis, Roseburg.

Discharged

Mrs. Lawrence DeBault and baby, Karen Sue; Mrs. Victor Kraft, Carl Engstrom, Mrs. J.W. Henderson, Roseburg; Mrs. Leslie Heaton, Oakland; Mrs. Ralph Bates, Sutherlin; David Kessel, Winston; Lena Carstenson, Camas Valley.

BIRTHS

Cottage Grove Hospital

TATUM — To Mr. and Mrs. Henry Floyd Tatum, Sutherlin, May 19, a daughter, Debra Delphine.

BEWLEY — To Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bewley, Dr. May 21, a daughter, Brenda Jewel.

DODD — To Mr. and Mrs. James R. Dodd, Yoncalla, May 23, a son, Kenneth Eugene.

DRAKE — To Mr. and Mrs. John Clifford Drake, Curran, May 25, a daughter, Kim Christine.

Liaison Officer's Duties Explained To Air Reservists

Most of the Air Reserve meeting in Roseburg Wednesday night was devoted to an explanation of duties of the 945th Squadron's non-commissioned liaison officer.

M. Sgt. Lawrence R. Patterson, now assigned to the squadron as liaison man, will be leaving Roseburg June 21 for duty in Tripoli.

Until another sergeant is assigned at Roseburg, members of Flight A will carry on some of the duties of the job. At the meeting at 904 S. Stephens St., Sgt. Patterson gave a quick rundown of his duties for the benefit of members.

Also, Lt. Col. Theodore H. Wirak, squadron commander, has called a special staff meeting for 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 1, for further discussion of the situation. The staff session will precede a regular meeting of Flight A.

Capt. R. M. Beardsley, flight commander, conducted Wednesday's meeting. It was announced that Flights A and B (North Bend) will host Flight C (Coquille) at a picnic in the near future. In a recent drive, Flight C had the greatest percentage increase in strength.

Sgt. Patterson will be in Roseburg for the next two flight meetings. The flight will not meet during July and August this year.

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Myrl Barkhurst Named Principal At Myrtle Creek

Myrl Barkhurst, vice principal of Myrtle Creek High School, has been named principal for 1955-56.

The selection by the Board of Education came at a meeting Wednesday night at which time three candidates were interviewed, reports correspondent Ruth Evans.

The board also unanimously adopted a new salary schedule for teachers, as recommended by a citizens committee. Additional money for the move will be asked at the regular June 20 school election.

Even with passage of the budget on June 2 and approval of extra money on June 20, the tax millage would not necessarily be higher than this year, according to District Supt. Al Neel.

The school budget totals approximately \$558,000, with about \$98,000 outside the 6 per cent limitation. The June 20 vote will involve about \$14,000. This year's millage is 47.1.

Tonight is graduation time for 135 eighth graders in the district. Schools will close Friday. Graduation ceremonies are set at the Myrtle Creek gym, and no one will be admitted without a ticket.

At Wednesday's meeting, the board accepted the resignations of the following teachers: Abby Sturtevant, Richard Vanderzanden, Gail Vanderzanden and William Marsters. Contracts have offered Geraldine Lee and high school teachers James Palmer, Rishel Witham and Walter Schuett.

The board also adopted a next year's school calendar. It is basically the same as the current one. Pupils will begin registration on Aug. 30 for the 1955-56 year.

One-Way Street Signs Arrive

The street signs necessary to direct traffic when the one-way street system in downtown Roseburg is reversed finally were received from a midwestern manufacturer this morning.

City Manager George Farrell indicated that the switch in traffic will be made in about 10 days, though he named no specific date. The signs were about six weeks in being delivered.

Farrell said some work such as welding on brackets, has to be done on the signs before they're put up. They are in the city shops now, and probably will be installed along the city streets in the middle of next week.

It will take about three days to put up all the signs, and the reversal of the traffic system will be made when all are installed, perhaps by a week from Monday.

Former Resident Dies At Spokane Hospital

John A. Vernon, 74, former resident of Roseburg, died May 22 in a Spokane hospital. He was born Jan. 30, 1879, in Harrisburg, Ore.

He lived in Roseburg many years, moving to Portland in 1941. He had lived in Spokane only a month before his death. He was a mechanic for Union Pacific railroad.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Katherine, who died in Roseburg in Dec. of 1941.

Surviving are two sons, Stanley E. and Darrel Vernon, both of Spokane; a daughter, Mrs. Barbara Long, Clarkston, Wash.; a sister, Mrs. George Darnielle, Oakvale, Wash.; and eight grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held in The Chapel of the Rosces, Roseburg Funeral Home, Saturday, May 28, at 2 p.m. Mr. Lyle Bloom of the Jehovah Witnesses will officiate. Interment will follow in the Civil Bend Cemetery.

Dietrich Rites Set On Friday

Funeral services for Emil Dietrich, 79, who died May 24 will be held in The Chapel of the Rosces, Roseburg Funeral Home, Friday, May 27, at 11 a.m. Elder E. W. Striplin of the Seventh-day Adventist Church will officiate.

Interment will follow in the Roseburg Memorial Gardens.

Patterson Signs Cigarette Bill

SALEM — The bill to tax cigarettes 3 cents a package was signed by Gov. Paul Patterson Thursday.

The Legislature passed it to raise \$8,800,000 in the next biennium, but a threatened referendum attack makes it doubtful that it will become law before the 1956 general election.

Representatives of the cigarette industry have announced they will launch the drive to get the \$9,047 signatures needed to put the bill on the ballot.

Patterson planned to complete action on all bills Thursday. He will leave late in the day for a conference of Northwest governors at Missoula, Mont.

Mrs. Mayfield's Condition Reported Satisfactory

The condition of Mrs. Leona Mayfield, 42, hospitalized with serious lacerations to the face and head, remains "satisfactory," Mercy Hospital attendants said this morning.

Mrs. Mayfield was taken to the hospital after a beating with a hammer, apparently administered by her husband, Theodore Raymond Mayfield, 50, Monday night. He was found dead of a bullet wound Tuesday afternoon, apparently a suicide.

A deputy sheriff who investigated said evidence showed Mayfield had been moody over his unemployment for some time and evidently went berserk Monday night.

Vicious Tornado Wipes Out Town; 81 Killed

(Continued from Page One)

flaming crash of an Air Force B36 bomber in rugged country north-west of San Angelo. The plane was from Walker Air Force Base, Roswell, N. M., and a spokesman there said it carried a crew of 14 and perhaps an additional man. Rescue workers at the scene of the wreck said there were no survivors.

Aid poured into the stricken communities. The Red Cross, National Guard, police and highway patrolmen joined in helping the injured and searching for dead buried in wrecked buildings.

In Washington, the Small Business Administration declared two counties in Oklahoma and one in Kansas disaster areas. Persons whose homes or businesses were destroyed can apply for rehabilitation loans.

Most of Udall's population of about 750 was left homeless. About 200 persons were injured. At Blackwell, a town of 10,000, some 500 were injured and approximately 26 square blocks were devastated.

The Weather Bureau said the Udall twister was the worst killer in Kansas history.

The town was virtually destroyed.

TO RECEIVE DEGREES

Margaret M. Butler and Martha G. Foster of Roseburg, and Delola Kathleen Bezezer and Wayne F. Schermerhorn of Glide will be awarded Bachelor of Science degrees at graduation ceremonies June 3 at Oregon College of Education.

Allan J. Petersdorf of Roseburg will receive the Master of Science degree.

Oakland Budget Election Date To Be Scheduled

Date for the Oakland budget election will be set within the next few days, reports correspondent Edith Dunn, following a meeting of the City Council.

The council accepted the budget drawn up by the budget committee. The budget totals \$33,948.09, with \$5,678.31 over the 6 per cent limitation.

Other than councilmen, committee members on the budget study were Harry Smith, Edwin Stearns, L. F. Stearns, Kenneth Dorman and James Runge.

In other action at the meeting, the fire department recommended that a balance of money in the present department budget be used to repair fire hydrants.

A petition was presented by Bill Fitch on behalf of property owners on Pine Street from Second Street to Fourth Street for grading and graveling the street. The council voted to take action to carry out the improvement.

Grading and graveling work on Apple Street from Third to Fourth was accepted by the council, following completion of the project.

School's Water System Saturated With Gas

ARVADA, Colo. (AP) — An elementary school described as a "veritable time bomb" was ordered closed Wednesday when Bureau of Mines officials found its water system saturated with explosive gas.

Charles L. LeFeber, construction engineer for the school district, said 74 children continued to attend classes after a building custodian discovered the gas 10 days ago. The school was completed only this spring.

Bureau of Mines officials said they traced the methane gas to a 1,050-foot well at the Henry J. Juchem school north of here.

LeFeber said the discovery was made when the custodian struck a match while inspecting the school's water tank.

"The gas was so concentrated that it burned rather than exploded," he added. "We took immediate emergency steps to remove the gas out of the school until its source could be determined."

Other schools in the area also are being checked for gas, LeFeber said.

Pair Returned Here On Defrauding Charges

A man and wife, both wanted here on charges of defrauding an innkeeper, Wednesday were returned by a deputy sheriff from Grants Pass, where they were arrested.

Sheriff Ira C. Byrd identified the pair as Robert Lee and Katherine Morris, both 38. They are charged by the management of the Grand Hotel of skipping town without paying their bill.

PLEADS INNOCENT

William J. Zerbach, 18, Rt. 4 Box 1525, Wednesday night pleaded innocent to a charge of reckless driving when he appeared before Municipal Judge Randolph Slocum. Zerbach was arrested by city police Tuesday afternoon. Officers said they chased him through heavy afternoon traffic and finally arrested him at home on Lookingglass Road after hitting speeds ranging up to 70 miles an hour. Zerbach was riding a motorcycle.

House Gives Way To New Building

An old house on the corner of Pine and Lane Streets is being torn down to make way for an accounting office.

The former Dave Comstock home, about 70 years old is being razed. An accounting office for R. Frank Denton will be built on half of the property, facing on Pine.

Several old items, including some pre-prohibition bottles, have been found under the house and garage. The property is owned by George Singleton. He said plans for the other half of the lot are still indefinite.

Denton's office will be 25 by 40 feet with a parking lot of the same size in front. It will be of brick and redwood construction, trimmed in flagstone and with a planter bar in front of the plate glass windows.

Denton's offices are now in the Pacific Building. He said the new office will probably be completed in July. Jack Mathis is the building contractor.

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Memorial Day

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