

Santa Due Saturday, Free Kids' Show Slated

All area youngsters will be in for a big day Saturday if they're in Heppner by 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Here's the schedule of events for the day, planned especially for kids:

1:00 p m—Santa Claus is due to arrive in downtown Heppner to greet all his young friends. He sent word again this year that he is still a "fire truck lover," so will be picked up at a secret landing spot outside of town and given a ride downtown on a city fire truck.

1:00 to 1:30—while he is visiting with what is expected to be a crowd of 400 to 500 youngsters,

he will hand out bags of free candy which have been provided for him by the Heppner Elks lodge.

1:30—All youngsters are invited to a free children's show at the Star Theater which is being sponsored by the merchants committee of the chamber of commerce. This will last for about an hour and a half for about two hours and will include a good feature "Francis Joins the WACS" and several cartoons styled especially for youngsters.

Saturday's children's show will be the second put on for youngsters by the chamber during the Christmas shopping season. The first was held three weeks ago.

While the youngsters are being entertained at the theater, parents are invited to visit local stores during the last shopping weekend before Christmas.

Special Events Scheduled By Schools-Churches

The primary classes of the Heppner grade school will begin the Christmas season with their program at 2:00 p m Friday afternoon in the multipurpose room of the elementary school, announces Mrs Fred Hoskins, Jr, vocal instructor.

On Monday evening at 8:00 p m in the high school auditorium, a Christmas pageant will be presented by the upper five grades of Heppner elementary school. Mrs Hoskins directs the vocal and Arnold Melby, band instructor, will direct the grade school band. The beginners band will also play a few selections.

Tuesday evening the high school program will be presented in the auditorium at 8:00 p m. Christmas selections will be included by the high school band and the high school chorus, under the direction of Melby.

Most churches in the area are planning special programs during the Christmas season.

On Sunday, Dec 20 the Assembly of God church will have a program at 7 p m; the Valby Lutheran church will have a children's program at 6:30 p m at Valby church and at the Methodist church the children's program will be at the regular Sunday school time of 9:45 a m with a candle lighting service held at 7:30 p m.

Valby Lutheran church will have a Christmas service at 4 p m on Dec 24 and Hope Lutheran will have their children's program on that date at 7:30 p m.

Christmas eve midnight mass at All Saints' Episcopal church will begin at 11:30 p m, and there will be a special service Christmas Day at 10:00 a m.

On Christmas eve the mass will begin at St Patrick's Catholic church at midnight and on Christmas morning at 7:30 a m. At Ione the service will be at 9:15 a m Christmas Day with confessions before mass.

Entries But Few In C of C Christmas Decorating Contest

Only a limited number of local residents or businesses had registered by Wednesday to enter the chamber of commerce sponsored Christmas decorating contest in which \$60 in prizes will be awarded—if, that is, enough entries are received to give away that much money.

There will be three divisions, outside residential and business windows, each with prizes of \$10, \$7.50 and \$5; and residential window (inside) with prizes of \$7.50, \$5 and \$2.50.

Registration must be made by Monday, Dec 21 at either the Bank of Eastern Oregon or the Gazette-Times to be eligible for judging and prizes. The displays will be judged Tuesday evening, Dec 22.

Entries are limited to residents living within the city limits of Heppner.

EVER SEE SUCH A YEAR-? FOREST FIRES IN DECEMBER

It may be winter, or almost so anyway, but the season doesn't seem to have anything to do with the kinds of fires recently fought by the Heppner ranger district of the Umatilla National Forest, and the Heppner fire department.

Within the last week and a half, both have had to fight forest fires.

On Sunday, December 6, the Forest Service had the largest timber fire of the entire 1959 season when 35 acres burned in the Collins Butte area in the southern part of the district. It is surmised that it started from a hunter's fire that had smoldered for some time.

Early Friday morning a Heppner truck answered a call to Heppner Pine Mills where a trash fire started the day before south of the mill had been fanned by winds and was burning clear to the top of a sizeable patch of alder and willow trees. It also got into some sawdust piles close to stacked lumber.

The main part of the blaze was out of reach of mobile equipment, but the fire was kept away from lumber stacks.

It is the first time in anyone's memory that the local forest service has had to fight a major forest fire in December—let alone the largest one of the year.



ROGER W. BABSON

Babson Forecast Scheduled by G-T

The Gazette-Times will again publish Roger W Babson's Business and Financial Forecast for 1960 in its December 31 issue. It has been a regular year-end feature of this paper for many years.

Mr Babson's 1960 forecast will contain outstanding forecasts covering such important topics as general business, commodity prices, taxes, trade, labor, inflation, farm outlook, stock market, real estate and politics.

Mr Babson is a pioneer in the field of business and financial statistics and enjoys an unusual record of accuracy in his annual forecasts.

Future Study of County's Water Resources Seen

Interest in water resources and future development possibilities of the county's water resources were high on the agenda for discussion at a meeting of interested persons Tuesday at the county agent's office in Heppner.

Present were members of the extension service, soil conservation service, the county court, the Heppner city council, forest service and several interested farmers of the county water resources committee. Also here for the meeting were Quentin Bowman, field representative of the state water resources board and a Japanese student who is studying conservation and water development in Oregon.

It was the unanimous opinion of the group that there is a need for more data on the water resources of Morrow county.

Letters were presented from the regional office in Boise, Idaho of the Bureau of Reclamation telling of the present long-range plan for the maximum development of parts of North Morrow county. It was pointed out that part of this study calls for an investigation of over 300,000 acres in that area which will be started not later than July, 1963. Such a study would materially add to present knowledge of what development along these lines would be feasible. The Bureau's reconnaissance study would take about three years. A study is currently under way in the Horse Heaven area of southern Washington.

All present at the meeting agreed that it is important that additional stream gauging stations be established on Rhea Creek and lower Willow creek if financing arrangements can be made. It is planned to contact the Oregon state engineer and the U S Geological Survey to see if joint financing is possible.

The group was also told of plans by the state game commission for the development of large storage ponds on Swale Creek and Bull Prairie in the mountains. Present plans call for these to be built during the two years.

NAMED APPEAL AGENT

J O Turner, Heppner attorney, has recently been appointed selective service associate government appeal agent for Morrow county.

He was appointed by Sprague Carter, state director of selective service.



HEPPNER

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, December 17, 1959

GAZETTE-TIMES

Copies 10 Cents

76th Year, Number 41

2nd Spray Road Contract Let

Reappraisal of County School Districts Complete

Discussion and final acceptance of the county-wide reappraisal of all school properties took up most of the Morrow county school board's time Monday night at its regular meeting, but members did take time out to welcome a new board member, Mrs Elaine George of Heppner.

Mrs George accepted the appointment to fill the position left vacant by the recent resignation of Lowell Gribble.

The county appraisal has been under consideration by the board since last spring. The Oregon law requires that areas (when incorporated in an administrative district) that have paid more than their proportionate share of the total school assets, will have their school taxes reduced, while those providing less than their share will have their school taxes increased. The county school office is preparing a digest of the appraisal which it is sending to all school board members, local committees, and other individuals concerned with the program. The appraisal, basically, is to establish an equalization among the former districts as to physical assets now incorporated in the county district in relationship to taxable valuation of that former district. Paid-off bonded indebtedness counts as credit for a district.

Three of the county's former school districts will see a reduction in taxes next year as a result of the appraisal, while all others will find some added to their tax load. Irrigation will receive the greatest credit, an estimated 14.65 mills on their taxes. Boardman is next with a credit of 11.32 mills, and the Ione district will get a credit of one-fifth of a mill.

All the rest of the former districts in the county will have to pungle up extra money (which will be added to the tax rolls over a 15 year period, not all at one time). The districts with the greatest increase are Willows, up 6.96 mills; Pine City, up 6.43 mills; Cecil, up 6.22 mills; Hardman, up 6.22 mills; Lexington, up 3.14 mills; Heppner, up 1/4 mill; and a small code area 0.1 mill, which was in no district previously, up 7.0 mills.

All figures were estimates based on the 1959-60 tax figures. The whole appraisal program and figures are extremely complicated, but the work has been done in accordance with Oregon law and the reports have now been turned over to each district school committee for study and consideration within 30 days. If any committee or individual feels that a certain area has been unjustly treated, a hearing can be requested of the school board, county officials stated.

A complete breakdown of the appraisal and dollars and cents figures for each former district are available in the county school superintendent's office in the court house.

Another Reminder— Overparking Cost \$1

The City of Heppner, again this week, reminds motorists, that starting January 2, parking meter violations will result in regular parking citations being issued which normally will cost the holder a \$1 fine.

The envelope system, which called for the violator to return the envelope with 5 cents to repay what had been put in the meter by police was ordered discontinued January 1 by the council because too many persons were taking advantage of the service which had been financed for nearly three years through the efforts of the chamber of commerce.

Mr and Mrs Del Jordan were in Pendleton Sunday and had dinner at the John Williams home.



ELK HIDES FOR THE ELKS—This load of elk, deer and cow hides, was one of two such truckloads that were gathered this year for the Elks veterans program by members of the Heppner lodge. Nearly 1100 hides were recently shipped to tanners, which should put the Heppner lodge at or near the top in a contest among the state's lodges. Shown with the load are members of the gathering committee, Bill Labhart, Glen Ward and Bob Platt. (GT Photo)

Heppner Garage Soon to Become Super Market

C E McQuarrie, owner of Central Market and Grocery, this week revealed he has purchased the Heppner Garage and will shortly remodel the property into new quarters for the market. It adjoins the present store on the north.

McQuarrie said the old wooden building on the garage property will be torn down to make room for a parking lot and the 45 by 100 foot brick building will be remodeled for the store. There is also another 50 by 60 foot building in the rear that will be incorporated into the development plans.

Charles Vaughn, owner of the Heppner Garage, has owned and operated the business since 1919, and he plans to close the business January 15. He stated that after 40 years, he felt it was time to retire.

When the old two story wooden building is torn down, it will mark the end to one of Heppner's oldest remaining buildings. The exact date when it was built is not known, but it is thought to be about the era of the Heppner flood of 1903.

McQuarrie said that for a while he will continue to use the present store building for storage purposes. Work on the new store will begin shortly after January 15.

Cow Belles Report Heavy Sales of Brand Place Mats

The Morrow County Cow Belles' brand place mats are proving very popular, the group's officers report this week. Many people are planning on giving them for Christmas gifts and one person is going to frame them. Individuals have purchased many for everyday as well as for special uses.

The Cow Belles state that the Elks club is doing an exceptional job of helping to promote the Morrow county livestock grower, as it is using the place mats daily and has just received its third large order.

Generous response has also been obtained from Ella's Grill, Moyer's Cafe, The Wagon Wheel, Pioneer Memorial hospital, Episcopal church, Morrow County Grain Growers and the Rhea Creek Grange.

WEATHER			
	Hi	Low	Prec.
Thursday	33	19	—
Friday	54	26	.03
Saturday	51	38	.01
Sunday	49	22	.22
Monday	44	27	—
Tuesday	53	43	—
Wednesday	63	41	—

Rainfall for the week .26; for December .31; for the year 10.71 inches.

Additional Four Miles To Be Rebuilt, Paved

The Bureau of Public Roads late last week in Portland awarded a contract for slightly more than four miles of reconstruction and bituminous surfacing of the Heppner-Spray highway. The award went to Q L Rufener, Inc of Portland on a bid of \$207,253.

The project will continue the improvement of the highway south from the end of the present paving a little more than four miles south of the junction of Chapin and Rock creeks. When completed it will provide a paved highway nearly to the junction with the Kinzua road and will leave only about 18 miles of unpaved road left on the cross-mountain route into the John Day valley. Most of the reconstruction of the roadbed has, or will have to be done, on this side of the mountains, the right-of-way on the southern end of the route already being of ample width to take future paving with very little rebuilding necessary.

Last year the Federal Bureau let the first contract of a series which will eventually provide a completely paved route into the interior, a project long hoped for by residents of both this, and the John Day side of the mountains. The first leg of the project saw relocation and paving of about 4.2 miles of the highway south from Rock Creek. This contract will continue that improvement to a short distance north of the summit of the mountains.

No information is available on when the contractor will start work, but it is known that paving must be completed by next September 15, the Heppner Forest Service office reported.

School Breakin Nets \$308 Cash

Both the Heppner high school building and the gymnasium were broken into sometime Tuesday night or Wednesday morning and a total of \$308 in cash was taken from the safe in the school office.

The burglary was discovered Wednesday morning by M C Huggett, high school instructor when he entered the building for an early class. The safe, in the high school office, had been pried open and two rooms in that building had also been entered. The burglars also entered the gym and gained entry to every room in that building.

The stolen money was from various student and class funds. State and Heppner police are continuing their investigation.

Early Paper Set For Next Week

Early news and advertising copy is being requested for next week's Gazette-Times which will be published one day earlier than usual to allow for distribution ahead of the Christmas holiday.

A great many special Christmas greeting advertising messages will be carried in next week's paper, and while efforts will be made to contact each business, should some be missed, they should advise the G-T by Monday at the latest.

Ione EOC Grigger Named All-Star

Bob Salter of Ione, a student at Eastern Oregon College at La Grande, has been chosen on the All Star team of the Oregon Collegiate conference. He played both offense and defense during the football season, but was chosen on the offensive team.

Mrs Philip Blakney and Mrs Bob Brindle were in Pendleton Monday to meet Mrs George Blakney Sr who returned from a visit with her son, George Blakney Jr and family.

HOSPITAL AIR CONDITIONING FUND DRIVE RETURNS COMING IN SLOWLY

The drive to raise funds for the installation of air conditioning at Pioneer Memorial hospital has resulted in donations of \$6,654 in cash and pledges of \$220, it was revealed this week by Mrs Garland Swanson, chairman of the drive and a member of the hospital auxiliary.

It was emphasized that although the money won't be needed until about March 1, it is still necessary for the pledges or cash to be made as soon as possible so plans can be prepared. Letters explaining the program and asking for donations went out to all area residents some time ago.