

Heppner Gazette-Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
PHONE 676-9228

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WESLEY A. SHERMAN
Editor and Publisher

HELEN E. SHERMAN
Associate Publisher



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School Starting Set Too Early

Morrow County School board passed by vote of 4-3 Monday night a motion to open school in late August, getting in two full days before Labor Day. The thinking is to get an early enough start to provide for a full week of spring vacation and still have 175 days of school during the year.

The early opening will strike dismay in many families for several reasons. Some plan vacation periods for that final week, culminating with Labor Day. In Morrow county, too, it will be Rodeo week-end when a festival air should prevail—not conducive to settling down to school. Friday, August 31, date of the Wranglers' Horse Show, will be a full school day according to the new calendar. There are quite a few youngsters who participate in the show.

A psychological factor involved is that youngsters, influenced by their families, just aren't ready to think of school until after Labor Day. While getting in two days ahead of Labor Day weekend may satisfy the state requirement as "counting" school days, it is hard to think that too much studious concentration will be accomplished.

Weather, if it follows the usual pattern, will remain hot and dry in late August and probably continue that way through September. Conversely, late May and early June weather has been cool and damp. It is hard to study when it's hot and thoughts are on the swimming pool, but it isn't bad when it is cool.

It is good to think that educators are so eager and serious as to get their program underway as soon as possible, but it is hard for us to keep from thinking like a school kid when it comes to splitting up a week to get a couple of days chalked off the calendar.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

TODAY (June 14) is the anniversary of the great Heppner flood that 59 years ago raged through town and resulted in the death of 247 persons. It remains as one of the state of Oregon's worst catastrophes, ranking with the Vapour flood of post World War II days.

The Capital Journal, Salem, printed a story and pictures of the flood in its June 6 edition and reprinted a portion of the Salem paper's front page of Thursday, June 18, 1903, showing what an impact the event had in other places.

"Salem Responds Very Liberally" is the banner headline of the old paper, "Thousand Dollars Raised," and "Money, Men and Provisions," are lesser headlines. List of the victims is also a part of the old front page.

The article in last week's Capital Journal was written by Scott McArthur, staff writer. He came to Heppner several months ago and was keenly interested in the area and its history. He did considerable research for his article and obtained pictures from the Oregon Historical Society.

Scott points out that steps are now underway to do something to prevent a recurrence of the flood with the hope that the Willow Creek dam may become a realization for flood control and multipurpose use. The U. S. Corps of Army Engineers is now engaged in a preliminary study on the project, and a report is expected to be forthcoming in the fall. Hearings will follow.

We have a couple of copies of the Capital Journal that McArthur sent for any who may care to read the article.

FROM WHAT we see in other papers, Little League baseball in some other towns is having a rather stormy time. A feud has been going on in Pendleton via letters to the editor of the East Oregonian about coaches showing favoritism and not permitting some of the kids to play.

We also note an editorial in the Oregon Statesman, Salem, saying, "Complexities of little league structure lead to big league problems, and to complaints from some quarters that adults are dominating the junior-size sport."

As the editorial points out, the little leagues have almost replaced sandlot baseball, bringing with them better instruction, more efficient use of recreational facilities and the active participation of a larger number of boys.

You don't see kids gravitating together to get up an impromptu game of "workup" any more.

In those "good old days" there were troubles, too, but they were strictly between the kids. If one became angry at a decision, he and his antagonist would jaw it out, nose to nose, and the worst consequence was that one would stalk off, vowing never to play again.

The trouble now comes with the emotional involvement of parents who just can't keep out of it. They are too concerned about their sons getting every advantage and every opportunity. If one "rides the bench" too long, mother and dad get mad. We know how it goes; we've been through it.

But get a grip on yourselves, moms and pops. Remember that the kid who has the pumpton to ride the bench, whether his talents have been somewhat unjustly overlooked or not, may be getting the most from the program. His chance will come if he has the goods. It takes considerably more in character to sit on the bench and root for one's fellows than it does to get in there and play.

Of course, every kid should have a chance, but, too, he should have to work and achieve to get a place on the team. For him to be given a position that he has not earned is to deny him the right to strength that comes with the test of proving himself.

The Little League program going on in Heppner is a fine and wonderful thing. The way to jeopardize it is for parents to get steamed up over little things.

We received one letter from a well-meaning parent the other day, "name withheld." We don't intend to print it because we don't want to get a tempest in a teapot started here. As we have said before, we do not use anonymous letters, and when (if ever) one is printed "name with-

held" it is done so at the discretion of the editor at the request of the writer and not submitted that way anonymously.

Let the kids play. If, as a parent, you feel the need to sound off about Little League, go down in the basement and shout at the cement wall to get it off your chest.

As the Statesman editorial put it, "We can remember when such complications were settled by team captains grabbing hands over hand up a baseball bat with the issue being resolved in favor of the team having the last hand-hold on the bat."

Let's don't make major league problems in Little League baseball.

WHEN Dr. A. D. McMurdo went back to the Medical Alumni Day at the University of Virginia on Friday, June 1, he was one of eight "Patriarchs" who attended. The school gives this title to those of the medical alumni who graduated more than 50 years ago.

Heppner's grand old doctor was the youngest of three brothers, all "Patriarchs," who attended. Dr. Percy F. McMurdo of San Francisco is an alumnus of 60 years, Col. Hew B. McMurdo of San Francisco 55 years, and

Dr. Archie McMurdo 52 years. The brothers were born at Shadwell, Va., sons of Charles Edward McMurdo, who was a captain in the 79th Gordon Highlanders and served in India during the Indian Mutiny and at the Siege of Delhi.

Dr. Percy practiced medicine in Portland for a number of years and then at San Francisco for 40 years before coming here. The colonel was a physician to the Isthmian Canal Commission, 1909-1911, and a member of the U. S. Army Medical Corps for many years. Dr. Archie has practiced right here in Heppner since 1912 and was Oregon's "Doctor of the Year" in 1956.

The brothers comprise a venerable trio. In case Dr. Archie is puzzled about this little sketch and where it came from, we'll report that it reached us direct from the University of Virginia Medical Alumni association.

OUR REGULAR linotype operator, Arnold Raymond, is taking a well-deserved vacation this week, and Harold Fariello, retired publisher of the Golden-dale, Wn., Sentinel, was good enough to come over and get back in the harness for a few days. He is an expert on the linotype machine, and without

Daughter Calls Home From Space Needle

Telephone service to Heppner is fine these days, even from the Space Needle at the World's Fair. Sheridan Wyman called (collect, of course) to her mother, Mrs. Ilene Wyman on June 5 while rotating in the needle high above the bright lights of Seattle. The view at night, she reports, is very beautiful.

Sheridan accompanied Mrs. Jim Lovgren, son Frankie, and Laura Lee Sumner to Corvallis on June 2 where they attended graduation of Cal Sumner at Oregon State University on Sunday. They traveled on to Seattle Monday and returned home via Portland on Saturday.

his help we wouldn't make the mail this week. Mr. Fariello is an ardent golfer and developed a fast affection for the Willow Creek course on this, his first trip to Heppner.

NOTICE all the ruckus because Walla Walla felt slighted on the Umatilla Oil Dealers' World Fair route map? Heck! Heppner wasn't even on their map, and we didn't say a word in protest.

If all printers were determined nobody, there would be very little printed. —Benjamin Franklin—1732



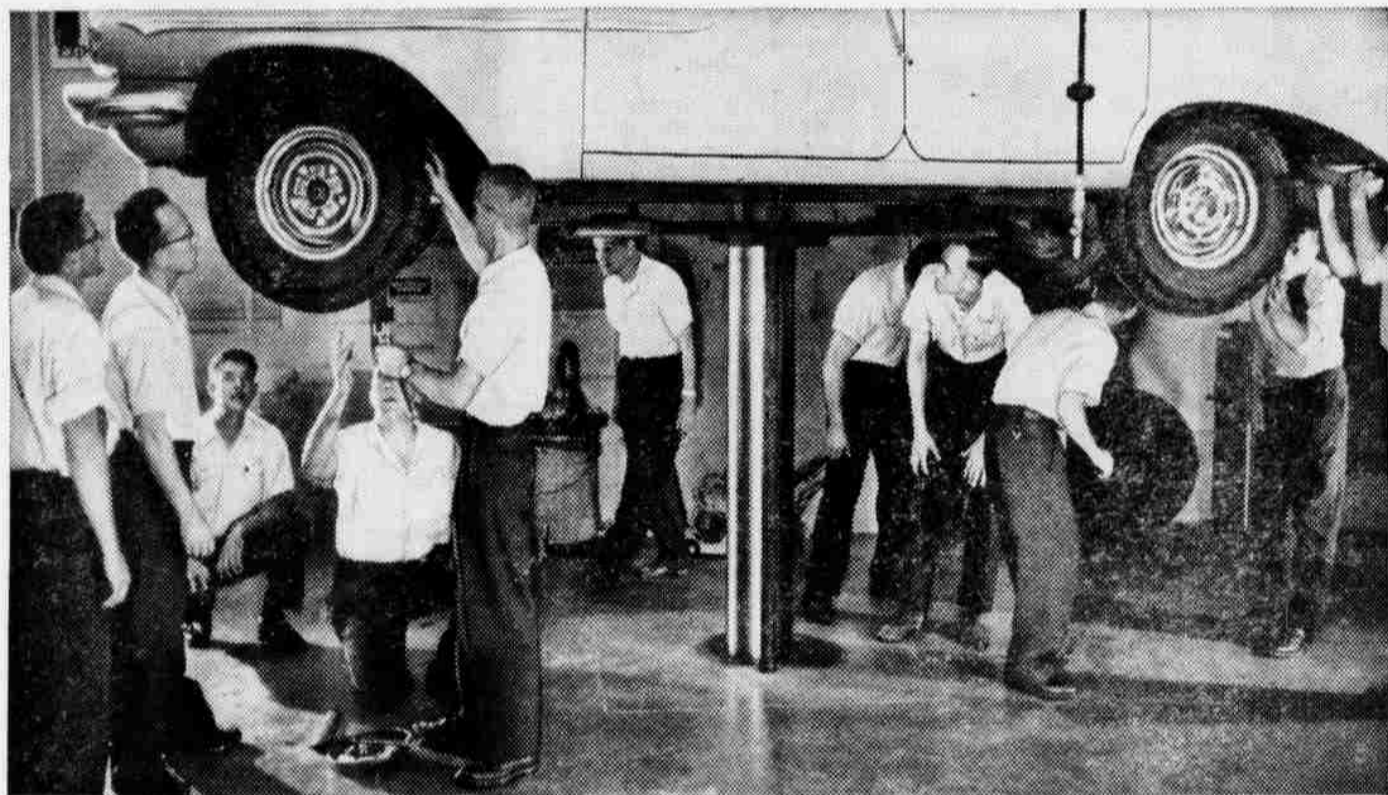
Coming To
STEFANI'S
In Person
SATURDAY, JUNE 16

RANDY BLAKELY DUO
"Hot" Western Music

TREAT DAD IN STYLE
FATHER'S DAY, SUNDAY

Bring Him To Dinner At

STEFANI'S -- lone



Instructor Billy Reynolds (turning front wheel) and Shell dealers check out a car at one of Shell's 123 training centers.

Shell instructor Billy Reynolds offers 10 clues that may help you spot trouble before it starts



Billy Reynolds

Over 12,000 Shell dealers go to Shell training centers every year. There, they learn how to spot trouble quickly.

Here are 10 trouble signals that Billy Reynolds, one of Shell's chief instructors, always stresses. If you notice any of them in your car, tell your Shell dealer. His advice might head off a big repair bill later on.

1. Mushy brakes. When your car is standing still, push the brake pedal down with a firm, steady pressure. If it feels soft and sinks to the floor, you've got trouble that should be fixed right away.

2. Wandering wheels. If your front tires show more wear on one side of the tread than the other, your wheel alignment is probably at fault. Out-of-line wheels can increase tire wear up to 50 percent.

3. Jiggly front end. Shove down hard on either bumper with your foot. If the car bobs up and down for a long time before coming to a rest, ask your Shell dealer to check your shock absorbers.

4. Decrepit tail pipe. If your muffler or tail pipe is rusted through in spots, it's a good idea to replace it.

5. "Bloated" radiator hoses. Inspect all

of the rubber hoses that interconnect your cooling system. If they're cracked or swollen, they can fail at any time and cause your engine to overheat.

6. Marred windshield. If your windshield is scarred or streaked, it's probably due to faulty windshield wipers. Have your Shell dealer check and replace them if necessary.

7. Strange noises. Listen for any odd noises from your car. They can be warnings of trouble on the way.

8. Under-the-hood clues. You can learn a lot by looking at your engine. Watch for oil, fuel and water leaks. Also, loose wires and worn insulation.

9. Sluggish battery. If your engine turns over more slowly than usual when you start up, a weak battery is probably the trouble. But it could be something else. Better check it.

10. Oil-streaked sidewalls. Check the sides of your tires you seldom see—the sides facing in. Look for signs of leaking fluid on the tire walls. Could be a leaking brake cylinder, or faulty oil seals on the rear wheels. Both can be serious.

Any trained Shell dealer knows many trouble signals besides these. Take advantage of his training. And one last tip: when you've got your car in top condition,

keep it filled with today's Super Shell—for top performance all year long.

Super Shell's 9 ingredients for top performance

TCP—for power, mileage and longer plug life.

Pentane mix—for fast warm-ups.

Anti-knock mix—for resistance to knocks.

Alkylate—to help control "high-speed" knock.

Butane—for quick starts.

Cut-cracked gasoline—for power.

Anti-icer—added in cold weather to help check carburetor icing stalls.

Gum preventive—to help keep carburetors clean inside.

Platformate—for extra mileage.



*Trademark for Shell's unique gasoline additive. Gasoline containing TCP is covered by U.S. Patent 2882112.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

ELKS' FLAG DAY PROGRAM
Thursday, June 14
I. O. O. F. Hall, 8 p. m.
Public invited

LEGION MOVIES
Friday Night, 7:30 p. m.
"The Last of the Wild Horses"
plus
"Life in Lapland"
LEGION HALL

CHARITY BRIDGE TOURNAMENT
By R. P. O. E. No. 358
Sunday, June 17
2:00 p. m.
Grade School Multi-purpose Room

MORROW COUNTY COWBELLE
Annual Summer Meeting
Wednesday, June 20
Wavel Wilkinson Home
Luncheon, 1 p. m.

This space will be used each week to announce coming events of a public service nature at no charge.

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