

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
PHONE 676-9228

The Heppner Gazette, established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times established November 18, 1897. Consolidated February 15, 1912.

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Subscription Rates: Morrow and Grant Counties, \$4.00 Year; Elsewhere \$4.50 Year. Single Copy 10 Cents. Published Every Thursday and Entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as Second Class Matter.

OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Dilemma of the Theater

Many residents and business people are keenly concerned about the loss of the Star Theater in Heppner now that Mrs. Elaine George has announced that she does not intend to reopen it. Fire that struck the Elks building in May put it out of operation.

At this writing a movement is on foot by some interested citizens to see what can be done about it. Feeling is that the youngsters of this area need some public entertainment—and Heppner offers little, no bowling alley, no skating rink. Business people realize that the theater's demise means loss of some pulling power to town. Mrs. George stated that a majority of her adult customers came from out of town.

The dilemma, of course, comes with the fact that the theater has not really been a paying proposition. It received support mainly from children, and it takes a lot of young customers at their low admission price to bring in much revenue. (100 children at 25c grosses only \$25, which would seem hardly sufficient as a starter against overhead.)

There is a place and a real need in our community for wholesome public entertainment. This is not inconsistent with the editorial last week that stated, in essence, that youngsters lean too heavily on parents to furnish them entertainment. We certainly don't go overboard in Heppner—we offer almost none.

If the movies coming to our community were of the trashy variety which is a substantial part of Hollywood's production, we might be editorializing against a theater here, but this was not the history of Mrs. George's operation of the theater and it may not be in the future. Many, for instance, were Walt Disney pictures, some of which make a real contribution to a child's education. There are classics in movies, just as there are classics in books—"Ben Hur," "Ten Commandments," "Treasure of Sierra Madre," "Best Years of Our Lives"—just to mention a few.

Like many parents, we would much rather that our children have a wholesome place of entertainment here than to travel to Hermiston or Pendleton for this enjoyment.

The Elks lodge will vote next week on whether to develop the space that the theater occupies for its own uses in its rebuilding program. Meanwhile some in the community are desperately trying to work out a solution that would provide for operation of the theater and are attempting to keep the space reserved.

It would appear that if anything is done it will take considerable interest from parents and business people of the community. Among possibilities that have been suggested are: Forming a corporation (probably non-profit!) by selling stock; having some organization operate the theater as a community project; boosting children's admissions to bring more revenue; selling books of tickets to adults (many of whom may attend infrequently) to help. Another thought is that businesses in town might help subsidize the theater by giving tickets as merchandise promotions and paying for free shows for the kids periodically to tie in with promotions.

Perhaps no one thing will be enough to return the theater to Heppner, but maybe those concerned can work out a combination of ideas that might get it going again. Apparently no single individual is willing to venture forth on it as a business enterprise. Certainly any good ideas would be welcome. One thing is sure, though, it will take more adult support—and continued assurance of that support—than Mrs. George received, to keep it in operation. Equipment in the theater was damaged but is salvageable and could be purchased for further use.

The American Legion should receive commendation for its interest in staging the Friday movies in the Legion hall since the fire in order to offer something for the kids. The Legion presents shows that the kids thoroughly enjoy and attendance has been good, but the total revenue is only sufficient to cover expenses.

On Keeping Cool in the Campaign

General election campaigns of candidates and supporters and opponents of measures will be waxing hot from now until voting time. This being the case, it would seem logical to lay down a few ground rules for matter that is to be published in this paper concerning all candidates and issues.

The Gazette-Times welcomes letters to the editor concerning candidates and issues with some qualifications. It should be pointed out that any fervent letter writer who resorts to name calling or indulges in expression that might be construed as damaging to the character or reputation of the subject not only exposes the author to action for libel but also the newspaper. Since this paper does not want to be placed in jeopardy, the editor will screen all letters submitted. We suggest that writers keep cool and forego the temptations of taunts, barbs and name calling.

We feel no obligation to print duplicated letters that are sent broadcast to all papers in the state in the interest of some particular candidate or measure, such as Senator Vernon Cook is now doing on State of Oregon stationery. Those who wish to conduct campaigns of this type have the privilege of paying for the space they use.

We expect to print news of candidates and issues but we do not expect to give away space wholesale to candidates who seek to make political points. Some politicians generously "give" newspapers their "news" and letters when they buy time on radio and TV.

This paper is crowded with local news. Those zealous political committeemen who come running in at the last minute with the big news that their favorite candidate is coming to town next day can't always be sure of coverage as they want it because the competition for late space in this paper, like most papers, is keen.

Regardless of our own political feelings, we expect to be fair to all parties and both sides of proposed measures. In our news treatment we feel that all sides have a right to be heard within the limits of our "ground rules."

Though the coming campaign may wax hot before election day, all with strong convictions should make an effort to keep cool.

Bob Abrams Heads Unander Group

Bob Abrams, Heppner attorney has been named area chairman of the Sig Unander for U. S. Senator Committee.

Unander, who opposes incumbent Wayne Morse in November's election, has visited Eastern Oregon several times and plans two more forays prior to election.

Unander's regional coordinator Ron Bayes, La Grande, conferred with Abrams here this week and reported that Unander's campaign appears to be "phenomenally successful" at this point. He said he is certain that Unander will run well ahead of

Morse in this district. Unander's campaign slogan is "Action for Oregon." He has criticized Morse for not bringing more payrolls to the state. Unander served two terms as state treasurer and one as a member of the Federal Maritime Commission before entering the senatorial race.

Attends Showing

Jim Farley of Farley Motor Company went to Portland Wednesday for the showing of the new 1963 GMC trucks. He made the trip with the dealer from Hermiston and returned Wednesday night. The trucks will be on display here soon.

Advertise in the Gazette-Times.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

IT'S REMARKABLE how the seasons shift. Two weeks ago it didn't seem like school time at all—the weather was fairly warm, harvest was still in progress, and the kids still hadn't had enough of the swimming pool. We wondered how the teachers would ever get their young charges settled down.

But, behold! Just like that, fall arrives, the days are nippy and the smell of football is in the air. Already there are sniffles and sneezes going around, and the warnings about an impending epidemic of Asian Flu are being prominently posted.

We had a good rain this week, and it was generally welcome. In our balliwick it was particularly enjoyable, for instead of hearing the patter of the drops on the floor as they came through the roof, we heard the patter on the roof—the new aluminum covering doing its work.

FALL IS an enjoyable time, and one of the best things about it is football with its color and excitement. Adding interest for local grid fans this year is the fact that Dick Ruhl of Lexington, Heppner High school grad, has earned a spot on Oregon State's football squad, and no time will be lost to acknowledge his debut. "Caravan" from Morrow county will travel to Multnomah Stadium, Portland, to watch him play in the first big game of the season in Oregon on September 22 when the Beavers take on Iowa State.

Oregon State's publicity book says Ruhl, "Fine linebacker and blocker. A tough runner. Eager." There is little doubt about him making the grade. Jim Barratt, athletic business manager, said that coaches were a little concerned about him hitting too hard for his own good in games and scrimmage, but he seems to be able to take care of himself.

Now is the time to get your tickets for this big game. Dave Hopman, Iowa State's All-American and flashy Terry Baker of OSU should stage quite a competitive show on offense. Bill Blake has plenty of good tickets left at Wilson's Men's Wear.

BY THE WAY, those going to the Portland game should take note that starting time is 8 p.m. Daylight Saving Time, or Portland time. Be sure to allow that extra hour, or you may be pulling in about half-time.

FANS CAN get in the football spirit by attending the Heppner High-Enterprise High game here this Friday night, starting at 8 on the rodeo grounds. Bad news came this week with announcement that John Porter, counted on strongly to fill a big spot in the line, will not see action because of injury, but the Mustangs, rated as underdogs in the contest against an all-veteran team that thumped them last year, are really going to go all out to win, and they need all local rooters on hand.

IF THE PTA doesn't show some real spark in Heppner this year, it won't be the fault of Mrs. L. E. Dick, president. The year opened with a bang at Teachers Reception Friday, and the president proved to be a lively and witty speaker.

She told of her own misgivings when she first came to Heppner as a teacher, but how the area grew on her. The president, too, had encouraging words for unmarried women teachers, pointing out that there are quite a number of eligible bachelors here. This is something that she can well speak upon because she claimed one of those bachelors, hubby Ed Dick.

With the good start provided by the teachers reception, it is to be hoped that there is a good year in store for the PTA. This is one medium that will assist in promoting better understanding between schools and parents. Surely hope everyone pitches in to support Mrs. Dick and her fine staff of officers.

TIP TO FARMERS: Never milk a cow during a thunderstorm. She may be struck by lightning—and you'll be left holding the bag.

NEVER DID quite figure out what was in that big and elegantly-wrapped gift that Clint and Marie McQuarrie sent to Jack Van Winkle on the occasion of Jack's service station grand opening Saturday. All we know is that the message read that Jack, with his fine new station, could now take it soft. Jack hadn't opened it by late Saturday afternoon.

FOUND AN interesting editorial in Giles French's Sherman County Journal the other day on "Kissing Machine." It said, "Certainly some of the hardest and most dangerous work done by man is kissing. A man is likely to look much more dilapidated after a night of kissing than if he had been working or even drinking. It is most fatiguing and enervating and the results often last a lifetime.

"Under these circumstances it seems odd at least that no man has invented a machine to obviate the work of kissing or at least remove some of its more distressing effects. In this day, when there is such wide use of electrical impulses to start machinery, count large and small items, open doors and turn on lights, it seems that some public benefactor would find a way to imitate a kiss well enough that

man wouldn't have to be involved in such things.

"Not that we are thinking of a law to make the use of such a machine mandatory, although the growth of governmental meddling is such that that might be expected. We think a man who insisted on doing the work himself should be permitted to do so—assuming his own risks, of course. We are liberals in the matter and would allow freedom of choice."

TO THE EDITOR.

To the Editor:

Regarding Chandler vs. Ullman, in fairness the tiresome rantings of the writers of the far left Farmers Union demand an answer. First, as to the recently defeated farm bill, let's remember that forty-eight loyal and good American Democrats in the House of Representatives saved the farmer from a long step into the mire of socialism by voting against that bill. Republicans alone never could have defeated the Freeman farm bill. (You know how Ullman voted). Again, straight thinking Democrats saved the medical profession from ruin by defeating the Medicare proposal. Republicans, in the minority, never could have accomplished this. (Ullman favors Medicare, another long step into socialism).

What little effectiveness Ullman might have had in Congress was completely destroyed in the Telstar matter. Nine left-wing congressmen voted against Telstar. Ullman, of course, was one of the nine, doing exactly as Wayne Morse directed, but acting squarely in the teeth of the Administration's wishes.

The Second congressional district needs and deserves better than Ullman, just as Oregon needs and deserves better than Morse.

Morrow county voters are fortunate this November in that they can help rid Oregon of the two at once by voting out Ullman and Morse.

Sig Unander, candidate for the Senate, and Bob Chandler, candidate for the House, are better men than the incumbents and deserve the support of all voters interested, really interested, in Oregon's welfare.

Don Turner, Lexington

A neck is something which if you don't stick it out you won't get in trouble up to.

Lexington Group At Dedication Of New Church

By DELPHA JONES

LEXINGTON—Those from the Lexington Christian church motoring to Hermiston on Sunday to the dedication of the new Christian church of Hermiston, were Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Mun-keers, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Hughes and family, Rev. and Mrs. Walter Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Carl M. Marquardt, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Soward and Mrs. Gerry Messenger.

Rev. and Mrs. Cecil Warner were recent visitors at the Earl Warner home.

Newt O'Harra, who has been a patient in Pioneer Memorial hospital has returned to his home. Mrs. Buster Vinson stayed with Mrs. O'Harra while he was away.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Jones were in Portland last week where they visited their daughter Charlene. Mrs. Florence McMillan who had remained in Portland for medical care returned home with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Way are the proud parents of a daughter born at Pioneer Memorial hospital last week. The young miss weighed 6 lbs. and 12 oz. and is named Lou Ann.

Mrs. Mae Wells, mother of Mrs. Edward Hunt, is visiting at the Hunt home this week, while enroute to her home in Modesto, Calif., from a trip to Anchorage, Alaska. Also visiting is a sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Mac McCleaster of Anaheim, Calif. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt and their guests have also been visiting another sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ron McCullough at Post, and took in the Westward Ho parade and Round-Up in Pendleton.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Way visited the week-end in Lexington. They were moving their household effects from Wagon-tire to Riverside, Wn., where they plan to make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Duncan and children of Zillah, Wn., were week-end visitors at the Kenneth Marshall home.

Mr. and Mrs. Armin Wihlon were attending to business matters in Portland this week. Laddie Henderson was employed at the airport while they were away.

Mr. and Mrs. Britton Price and children of Corvallis visited with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Warner this past week-end. Mrs. Warner returned to Corvallis where she visited a week returning this week-end. She was brought back to Lexington by her son-in-law, Clarence Hays.

Holly Rebekah lodge met on Thursday with their Noble Grand Bernice Wihlon presiding.

Farra's Aunt Killed in Wreck

Mrs. Pauline Farra, 58, John Day, aunt of Bill Farra of Heppner, died of injuries suffered in an auto crash about four miles from Service Creek on highway 19 Sunday. This is south of Fossil.

Two families were in the car and several were hospitalized. Mrs. Farra's husband, T. H. (Harley) Farra, suffered bruises but was out of the hospital by mid-week.

Services for Mrs. Farra were today (Thursday) at John Day, and both Mr. and Mrs. Bill Farra attended. It was a particular blow for the Heppner man because he was reared by his aunt and uncle.

Station Opening Attracts Many

Grand opening of Jack's Chevrolet Station, remodeled through the summer months, proved to be a great success Saturday, Jack Van Winkle, owner, said.

The supply of 30 cases of pop that was given to customers was gone before the day was over, and balloons, facial tissue and spot remover found ready takers as giveaway items. Winners of the door prizes were Mrs. Bill (Shirley) Blake, electric hair dryer; and Stanley Robison, 1/2 electric drill.

Good traffic came throughout the day, and the owner has extended his thanks to all who helped make the event a success.

This was the first meeting since vacation, and all members are asked to remember that lodge meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at the hall.

Women's Fellowship group will meet this coming Tuesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Walter Smith. Fall plans will be discussed at this time.

Keith Peck, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Peck of Lexington, is spending some time in Lexington after several months in the South Pacific.

Mrs. Tillie Rauch who makes her home with her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Al Fetsch, has been visiting with another daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Pine Thornburg at their home near Pendleton.

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Creswick were in Cottage Grove Saturday for a meeting of the board of directors of the Oregon Funeral Directors association. Creswick is a director. Accompanying them on the trip were Mr. and Mrs. Les Grant of Arlington.

Pierce Graduates From Bank School

Gene Pierce, manager of the Bank of Eastern Oregon in Heppner, graduated from Pacific Coast Banking School at the University of Washington September 1 after completing a three weeks course there, the third such session in three years.

Mr. and Mrs. John Krebs of Arlington and Mrs. Pierce went to Seattle for the graduation, and they spent a day at the World's Fair before returning on Labor Day.

A total of 116 graduated from the school and 375 were enrolled in this session.



Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES
Friday, 8 p.m., Legion Hall
Always a Good Show!
This week a comedy, "Jack and the Beanstalk."
Plus one-half hour cartoons.

HOME FOOTBALL GAME
Heppner High versus Enterprise High
Friday night, 8:00 p.m.
Rodeo Grounds
Support the Mustangs!

BLOOD DRAWING
Monday, September 17
Catholic Parish Hall
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
No appointment necessary.
Do your part! Give a pint!

BUY YOUR TICKET NOW
For OSU-Iowa State Football Game.
At Wilson's Men's Wear
Join The Caravan!

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