

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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Needed: Morrow Historical Society

Death of a fine elder citizen, Jos. J. Nys, in Heppner this week and an incident in the passing news point up the need for a Morrow County Historical society.

Evidence on every hand shows that the county has a rich and dramatic history. Headstones in the cemeteries hint at some of its hardships and privations that early settlers met in coming here. Indian artifacts bring wonderment about the days when they dominated and roamed this land. The flood of 1903 was a moment in local history without parallel.

Old-timers—those who have spent their lives here and have witnessed the development of the county—have vivid memories of historic events and significant places. But the tragedy is, like Jos. Nys, they are passing on and their stories are not written and preserved.

The incident in the news mentioned above is that about the ancient Mayan sepulcher about which a San Francisco woman, engaged in publishing a booklet for an oil company, inquired. The sepulcher is supposed to be near Lexington.

It was rather embarrassing to find that apparently few in the county know anything about it! The sepulcher, according to anthropologists, antedates the American Indians and was left by the Mayans on their trek from the Columbia River to Central America.

In response to an item in last week's paper, Sam McMillan, now of the history department of Centennial Union High School, Grresham, writes to say that the old burial mound is about a mile downstream from Lexington where Clark's Canyon empties into Willow Creek.

Sam reports that many historians have written about the burial mound, yet on the local level we have done nothing to preserve it, investigate it or inform the public of this historic background.

Around the county there are similar spots and items of historical significance that should not be lost. To allow them to fade away would be careless negligence. A monument to Col. Cornelius Gilliam, erected by the Polk county DAR at Wells Springs, stands deteriorating and neglected. Col. Gilliam died on the spot accidentally after he and a party from western Oregon had gone to avenge the Whitman massacre.

There are Indian artifacts in several locations in the county. The route of the Oregon Trail crossed the county. And there are many more things that need attention. For instance, where is the county's remaining oldest house?

Someone said the other day that he knows of a prairie schooner, still in good condition, that brought a load of pioneers to Morrow county.

These things are slipping away, and we, the public, sit back and indifferently watch them go. With the deaths of our fine old-timers we lose a rich heritage.

A historical society could get their stories and write them for posterity. It could make monuments of historical spots of interest, mark them and chart them instead of allowing them to be desecrated by souvenir hunters.

Several have expressed interest in such a society. It is time that one be organized so that our venerable history may be preserved.

All or Nothing at All

Americans as a people are generally warm-hearted and generous in their charitable expressions. At the same time they are almost irrationally emotional in instances that strike a deep chord of sympathy while apathetically indifferent to cases, equally worthy, which are not dramatized to them. It seems to be almost a case of going "whole hog or none."

At this writing, the fund which has accumulated for the bereaved family of Officer J. D. Tippitt of the Dallas, Texas, police force—the man who was shot by Lee Oswald as he sought to question the alleged assassin of President Kennedy—has reached \$600,849. Mrs. Tippitt and her children, through no desire nor planning of their own, are now in the realm of the wealthy. Undoubtedly they would be glad to give it all away if it were possible to restore their husband and father to the living.

Last year on Highway 30 a young police officer out of Arlington stopped a car for a routine check or violation. The mentally-disturbed driver shot him dead with apparently no provocation nor warning. Unlike the Tippitt family, the loved ones left by this patrolman received no voluntary benevolence of consequence as a generous outpouring from the public. Like Tippitt, however, he was doing his duty as he was charged to do, and he gave up his life in the performance of it.

Had fate somehow put the Arlington officer in Tippitt's shoes, his family, rather than the Tippitts, would now be the beneficiary of the emotional generosity. The difference in this rather incongruous situation is that events of the assassination dramatized the Tippitt case while the Arlington officer's death was only a tragic incident in the news.

It is ironic, too, that the widow of Lee Oswald, the man whose crime against his nation is almost without parallel—is beneficiary of a sympathetic wave while there are those who die bravely and in performance of their duties to benefit society whose families scarcely elicit a second thought from the public at large.

What a great thing Mrs. Tippitt could do if she set aside what she and her family need for comfortable living, and then turn over the balance as a fund for bereaved families of other officers who die in the line of duty.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

WITH THE DEATH of Jos. J. Nys, Heppner lost one of its fine elder citizens who contributed a great deal to the community throughout a wide span of years. He was so quiet about his achievements and so self-effacing that those who did not know him over a period of many years cannot realize how much good he did.

Mr. Nys was a business neighbor of the Gazette-Times, being in the building that adjoins our shop. Hearing the press run through the separating wall on every publication day must have kept him well-informed that it was Thursday again, but he always said that noise and furor of publication never disturbed him.

We enjoyed having him as a neighbor and appreciated visiting with him from time to time. We always had the idea that one day each of us would find time for a long chat, and we could get on paper some of the memorable things that his mind contained.

That day never arrived. Until he became ill several months ago, Joe kept right on the job, and even during his illness, he had no other idea than to get back to his law practice. Elaine George said that last week was the first time that he didn't mention getting back to the office.

We will miss this good man.

BOB MARSH, associated with the Dale Carnegie course that is planned to get underway here later this month, will put on his memory demonstration at the meeting planned next Tuesday night, January 21, at 8 p.m. in the Heppner elementary school multipurpose room.

This is an interesting thing to see and hear, and all are invited to come out and watch. While the meeting, of course, is designed to give details of the forthcoming class, there is no obligation, and it will be an enjoyable evening.

The class here is sponsored by the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce and they extend a special invitation to all to be present Tuesday night.

MERV JENKINS, former valley editor of the Oregon Statesman and now on the staff of the Itemizer-Observer, Dallas, had a good one in his weekly column last week:

Two Spanish detectives were standing over the body of Juan Gonzales.

"How was he shot?" inquired the first.

"I theenk eet was a golf gun," said the other.

"What ees a golf gun?" asked the first.

"I don't know, but eet sure made a hole in Juan."

YOU JUST can't keep some guys out of the news. One such is Orville Cutsforth. It is discovered this week that he must be entitled to some kind of bowling award.

He points out that his team is at the bottom of the league, and Orville is at the bottom of the team. He says his average once was only around 101, but he is progressing steadily downward and now averages around 98. He surely should get some kind of trophy! But anyone who figures on giving him one better do it quick. He, with Mrs. Cutsforth and the George Ruggles, are flying south towards Mexico Sunday.

EVERYONE has heard of human alcoholics, but Mr. and Mrs. Archie Munkers found that they had some Oil-coholic cattle on their place. Three of their Herefords became droopy and listless recently, and they couldn't figure the reason. Two of the animals were born last July and one was about a month older.

They called Dr. Jim Norene, veterinarian, and he discovered that the steer and heifers had been drinking crankcase oil. The Munkers had some oil in a barrel that they used to mix with post-treating material. They kept it covered, but the oil-coholic cattle managed to nuzzle the lid back and really went for that stuff.

For two of them, it proved their undoing. The 500 lb. steer and 400 lb. heifer died, but the third one is still hanging on and it appears that it will survive.

SHERIFF BAUMAN presents quite a proposition on this forthcoming Civil Defense meeting in Pendleton. He invites someone to go to represent the county, but points out that the person must be prepared to pay his own expenses for the three-day session. He also has to spend a night in a dugout and then must agree to come back and teach what he has learned.

Any volunteers? This apparently one-sided proposition evoked a little mirth when he announced it at Chamber of Commerce Monday, and he went along with the laugh-

ter, but it really isn't so funny. Some time it could be the means of saving lives, and there wouldn't be any laughter then. Quite a few persons here have expressed interest in Civil Defense and it is hoped that someone will go to assist with the program.

BUSINESS firms who had their telephone numbers printed on their letterheads without putting "Ph" or "Phone" ahead of it prior to Zip Code days are now in trouble until they get new stationery printed. We went to answer one letter for the Chamber of Commerce. Following the city and state on the letterhead was the number 228-8210. We started to address the envelope with this as the Zip Code, then decided it didn't look quite right for the Portland address. Looked in the Portland telephone directory and found that it was their telephone number.

That letter might have wound up in Hawaii, who knows?

One-Shot Roscoe
As Told By
ORVILLE W. CUTSFORTH

Roscoe at the age of 14 lived in Virginia. Roscoe and his step-brother were out hunting squirrels one Sunday with one old muzzle loading gun.

The brother shot and slightly wounded an old black bear. This bear blamed Roscoe and ran the boy up a hickory tree. Roscoe climbed up one side of the trunk, the bear up the other side, facing him. So Roscoe slid backwards out the first limb he came to.

The bear came around the tree and followed out on the same limb to the limber end of it.

As he looked the old bear in the eye, the boy ordered, "Get back, you old fool, you'll break this limb and kill us both."

L. R. (Bob) Henry, manager of J. C. Penney store here, was in Portland Monday and Tuesday attending a company sales meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ruggles left Tuesday morning for Eugene where they are attending a seminar of the Institute of Oregon Underwriters. Classes were due to start Wednesday evening and are to run through Saturday. Ruggles, insurance agent here, was scheduled to be chairman of one of the seminar sessions.

Mrs. Ella (Tom) Sargent of Taft is in the Portland Osteopathic hospital, according to word received here by her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jack McTempeny. Mrs. Sargent underwent surgery last Tuesday and Thursday. She formerly operated Ella's Grill in Heppner and left for Taft, where her husband is working, last March. Her address is Portland Osteopathic Hospital, 2900 S. E. Steele St., Room 112, Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Gonty and Tom and Mrs. N. D. Herschell and family visited Mr. and Mrs. Terry Blevins and Patti in Ukiah Sunday. The highway was dry except at Battle Mountain.

Scouts See Jamboree Film

By LaVELLE PARTLOW

IRRIGON—Members of Boy Scout Troop No. 667 went to Hermiston Tuesday evening where they were privileged to see films shown of National Boy Scout Jamborees. The films were shown at the Legion Hall, with Joe Flink showing a film which had been taken at a National Jamboree which had been held at Colorado Springs, and also films showing the site of the National Jamboree which will be held in July at Valley Forge, Penn.

Furnishing transportation for the Hermiston trip were: Mrs. Harold Van Horn, Dick Ryan, Kenneth Lamb, Jay Huson, and Al Reeves, who took some of his Explorer Scouts. Approximately 20 scouts from Troop No. 667 attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Snyder left Wednesday for Fortuna, Calif., where they will spend a few weeks with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Califf, and grandsons, Mike and Sam. Mrs. Snyder will help care for her daughter and little Sam, who was born Tuesday, January 7.

Clinton Jackson is a patient at St. Anthony hospital in Pendleton.

Sides of Japan on PTA Program

The regular PTA meeting of A. C. Houghton school will be held at the school cafeteria Monday evening, January 20, at 7:30 p.m. Following the short business session, special entertainment has been arranged, which will feature colored slides of Japan. Mrs. Adolph Oelrichs, librarian at Umatilla High school, will be present to show the slides which she took while touring Japan during the month of July, and also to narrate them. Mrs. Oelrichs is vice president of the Umatilla County OEA. Refreshments will be served free of charge following the pictures. The public is invited to attend.

A Money Management course, sponsored by Morrow County Home Extension, is being conducted in Irrigon, with meetings scheduled for January 27 and February 3, both meetings to begin at 7:30 p.m. The meetings are held in the basement of the old Irrigon school. The two remaining meetings deal with the topics "When Death Comes" and "A Will of Your Own."

The Irrigon Lions club met

Thursday evening at Carrie's Cafe. During the evening, John Hascall was named project chairman, and Floyd Hobbs was named program chairman. Joe Flink of Hermiston was present to give information on the Boy Scout Jamboree which will be held at Valley Forge. Discussion was held as to the possibility of the Lions joining other civic groups in the city for the purpose of sending a Boy Scout to the jamboree. The Lions expressed appreciation to the public for the good turnout to the pancake supper sponsored by the club in December.

Water Meeting Scheduled

There will be a public meeting held at the school cafeteria Tuesday evening, January 28, for the purpose of presenting to the public a feasibility report prepared by the Cornell, Howland, Hayes and Merryfield Engineering Firm for a city water system. A representative of the engineering firm will be present to explain and answer questions, as well as a real estate agent, a fire insurance representative, and the city attorney. The public is urged to attend this meeting.

Miss Elsie Collins, a junior at Columbia Academy in Battle Ground, Wn., returned to school after spending two weeks with her folks, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Collins.

The Irrigon Baptist church held its monthly potluck dinner in the church basement Sunday evening. The potluck was followed by their Sunday evening service.

Mrs. V. L. Elgin is convalescing at her home, after under-

going treatment at the Kennewick General hospital.

Mrs. Sopha Orton of Pendleton was a Sunday afternoon guest of Mrs. Myrtle Markham.

Son Born to Califfs

SOG/2 and Mrs. Mike Califf are parents of a baby boy, born January 7. The baby has been named Sam I. Califf, and weighed 8 lb. 1 oz. He has an older brother. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Sam Snyder and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Zehner. Califf is stationed at the Naval Sonar base in Fortuna, Calif.

The Irrigon community 4-H club, led by Mrs. Maxwell Jones, held a regular monthly meeting Thursday, January 9, in the basement of the old Irrigon school. Thirty-two members, four leaders and one visitor were present. Members from the Woodworking club, Gun Safe club, Knitting club and gardening club gave reports on what their respective groups have been doing, one member reporting for each club. Byron Hobbs made a gavel as a part of his woodworking club project, and presented cluded with recreation in the it to the club. The evening conform of square dancing and games. The next meeting will be held February 13, in the same place.

The Merry Fairies Bluebird group met at the home of their leader, Mrs. Elmer Zehner, after school on Wednesday and elected officers as follows: Debbie McCoy, president; Robin Mansfield, vice president; Linda Reed, reporter. There are 9 girls in the club, and recent activities included singing at the Umatilla hospital. The Wednesday meeting concluded with refreshments.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Graybeal spent several days visiting their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Dale Shingledecker, Ricky and Randy of Ayer, Wn. On their way home, they drove through Walla Walla and stayed overnight with Mr. and Mrs. Max Graybeal, Gary and Jerry. They also visited Graybeal's sister, Mrs. Doshia Brownell in Walla Walla, and Mr. and Mrs. Jack McFall of Kennewick.

Houghton Wins Two

The A. C. Houghton Bobcats, coached by Mike Riddle, rang up a double victory over the Umatilla Grade school basketball team on Friday, with the "B" team winning 41-13 and the "A" game score 35-17. The game was played at the A. C. Houghton school.

Menus at A. C. Houghton school for the week of January 20-24 are as follows: Monday—Sauerkraut and wieners, corn and donuts; Tuesday—Chicken and noodles, peas and fruit salad; Wednesday—Hamburgers, lettuce wedges, dill pickles, onions and carrot sticks and fruit; Thursday—Beef gravy and fluffed potatoes, green beans, ginger bread with lemon sauce; Friday—Clam chowder, peanut butter and egg salad sandwiches and strawberry shortcake.

Mrs. Bob Van Schoiack was released from a Portland hospital Friday after undergoing surgery there on January 6. She is convalescing at the home of her sister, Mrs. Truman Bailey, 110 E. 9th, Hermiston. The Van Schoiack children are staying with relatives here and at Lone-rock while their mother is away.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ayers were in Portland from Wednesday through Friday of last week on business. Mrs. Lowell Chally, public health nurse, went with them to attend a nurses' meeting in Portland and returned with them later in the week.

Donkey Hoop Tilt Evokes Laughter

Laughter was the keynote and the game was incidental last Tuesday night when a Heppner team played lone in a donkey basketball game sponsored by the Lone Lettermen's club.

It was rough all the way with Heppner squeezing out an 8-6 overtime win. Regular play ended in a 6-6 deadlock. The overtime, incidentally, required 16 minutes. Many baskets were attempted, but without the enthusiastic cooperation of the donkeys, few went through.

Heppner was excellently represented in the audience as well as lone. The donkeys seemed to be the only ones who were concentrating on being serious.

At halftime, four lone High girls entertained the crowd with a polo game. They seemed to have troubles with the animals, too, and the score ended 1-1.

Now on their way to Hawaii are Mr. and Mrs. Norman L. Henry, parents of Bob Henry of Heppner. The couple, whose home is in Missoula, Mont., visited with Mr. and Mrs. Henry and family here for the past month before leaving Sunday. He is retired from the U. S. Forest Service, and they are making the leisurely trip as a vacation.

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GAZETTE-TIMES

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

HEPPNER HIGH BASKETBALL Heppner vs. Grant Union of John Day. Heppner High school gym. Friday, January 17 Jayvee 6:15. Varsity 8:00 Heppner vs. Burns. Heppner High school gym. Saturday, January 18. Support the Mustangs!

RAINBOW INSTALLATION Heppner Masonic Hall Sunday, January 19, 2 p.m. Public invited.

FREE DEMONSTRATION Dale Carnegie Course, sponsored by Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce. Tuesday, January 21, 8 p.m. Elementary school multipurpose room. Everyone welcome.

SKIING AT ARBUCKLE 20" to 30" packed snow on hill. Tow operating Saturday, Sunday. Skiing hours, 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. Ski lessons available Saturday.

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