

Benge Informs Club Of Vietnam Progress

Dedicated service to the Vietnamese people will continue to call Mike Benge back to his work centered in Darlak Province as long as he is needed. This was made apparent in a most interesting and informative talk to members of the Soroptimist club by the guest speaker at its luncheon meeting Thursday noon, November 16.

Benge, introduced by his sister, Mrs. Matt (Joan) Hughes, brought his listeners up to date on the accomplishments and internal changes which he has seen in Vietnam since his last visit before the club two years ago.

"Our program (through Agency of International Development) is making excellent progress," he said, "but it is a long-range program and will need 10 to 20 years to fully develop it." He spoke of many problems which must be overcome, but the main one is the general lack of education. "The only real and lasting way to develop the future is to educate and gain the confidence of the young people," he said.

Benge administers over the Darlak Province, largest in Vietnam, equal in size to an average state, with estimated population of 202,000 persons. He

helps in organizing Rural Development teams of about 60 men, working in the hamlets for an average of six months time, to secure them. After a census, they "root out" the hard core Vietcong, elect their governing body, and build up their own leadership within the hamlet, through improving education, health, social welfare and agriculture, tying in all areas of development which are not involved in actual war. Their security is supported by the military.

The average hamlet teacher has had only an equivalent to a 5th grade education level, and progress is being made in consolidating the schools among the hamlets. The country is really in a "pioneering" stage, much the same as was our own country before it was developed. There has been excellent progress made in the last two years, but there is still a long way to go.

Our main objective is "wanting to give them a freedom of choice, which they would never have if the cancerous growth of Communism was allowed to spread. We are now paying a high premium on this insurance policy," he emphasized in his closing remarks.

Benge left by plane on Sunday, November 19, for Washington, D. C. from where he returned to Vietnam. He expects to be home again on leave in April of next year.

He also spoke to several school groups during his short visit here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Terrel Benge in Ione, and with other relatives.

Members of the Soroptimist club are making plans for a holiday food sale, planned for Saturday, December 16, to be held at Central Market.

Christmas Workshop To Present Variety Of Decorating Ideas

The Ione Garden club is sponsoring a Christmas workshop on Tuesday, December 5, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., and again in the evening from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the social rooms of the Ione United Church of Christ. Everyone in the Heppner area is invited to attend these demonstrations on making wreaths, swags, ornaments, etc.

Those attending are asked to bring greens and materials which may be used to create one's own decorations. This community service program replaces the Christmas show that was held last year.



MISS DIANE GAIL SCHAFFITZ

Schaffitz-Penland Betrothal Announced

Dr. and Mrs. Edward K. Schaffitz are announcing the engagement of their daughter, Diane Gail, to Sp 5 Leroy Neal Penland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Penland of Tillamook.

Diane is attending school in Portland and Penland is serving with the U. S. Army in Thailand. They are both graduates of Heppner High school. A June wedding is planned.

Ruhl Relatives Here for Holidays

Recent Thanksgiving guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Skip Ruhl and family were Mrs. Ruhl's mother, Mrs. Wilma Stahly and her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. John Fricke, all of Salem.

A birthday party was held Saturday evening, November 25, at the Ruhl home in honor of Cindy Ruhl's third birthday. Those attending to enjoy cake and ice cream were Mr. and Mrs. Dick Ruhl and Dana of Roseburg, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Ruhl, Mrs. Mabel Gray, Florence Gray, and Mr. and Mrs. Gene Orwick and Mike.

Holiday is Occasion For Family's Travel

Enjoying the Thanksgiving holidays at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Green, were their son Lawrence, of Odell, and Tom and Margaret, who are both students at the University of Oregon. The family, accompanied by Mrs. Mattie Green, traveled to Athena to enjoy Thanksgiving Day with another son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Green.

Also accompanying the Greens on Thanksgiving was Mrs. Loy-al Parker, who joined Mr. and Mrs. Cason Cahill in Hermiston for the day.

SOCIETY

Lodge Entertains Families, Friends At Annual Dinner

The Degree of Honor Protective Association was host to its annual Thanksgiving dinner meeting in the Christian church dining rooms Saturday evening, November 18.

Members and their families and invited friends enjoyed the turkey dinner, served with a large variety of other foods. Mrs. Jim Cason, Mrs. Mary Bryant and Mrs. Ron Haguewood served as a committee for decorating the attractive tables, using fall flowers and other decorations to carry out the Thanksgiving motif. Mrs. Lincoln Nash was general chairman of the kitchen committee, assisted by several other members.

Mrs. Clara Gertson, who holds the offices of national treasurer and state director, gave the highlights of her trip to the national convention in Philadelphia during the past summer. Mrs. Gertson also shared pictures of the things of interest seen on her trip.

Mrs. Alice McCabe, president of Kate J. Young Lodge No. 29,

Bazaar to Attract Crowd on Saturday

A Holiday Bazaar, presented by the Episcopal church women of All Saints parish, will get underway Saturday morning at 11 a.m.

The annual Bazaar will have a variety of booths featuring aprons, delicious baked foods, books, a surprise booth, a white elephant table, home made candies and much more.

The Tea Room will serve luncheon from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., and the public is cordially invited to attend and participate in this annual holiday event.

Introduced Mr. and Mrs. Bill Marquardt and children, who sang several numbers, with Mrs. Marquardt accompanying them at the piano.

On Monday evening, November 20, Mrs. Ed LaTrace, Mrs. Ed Gonty and Mrs. Ed Hunt met at the home of Mrs. Bryant to select members for approval of the lodge to serve as new incoming officers. The next regular meeting is planned for Tuesday, December 12.

Service to Honor Departed Members Of BPOE Lodge 358

Heppner Elks Lodge No. 358 will hold special memorial services for its departed brothers on Thursday evening, December 7, at 7:45 p.m.

The service will follow the regular Ladies Night dinner, and will precede the regular lodge meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Exalted Ruler Claude Graham will preside over the service, assisted by other officers. Father Raymond Beard will present a special address, and musical selections will be sung by the Methodist church choir.

The memorial service will be in honor of 11 members who have died during the past year. These include George J. Simonson, Jesse A. Pruett, W. H. I. Padberg, John Johnson, Lloyd Rice, Edward Buschke, Barney J. Malcom, J. P. French, James Myers, Howard Reed and Frank Hughes. Relatives and friends of these departed members are invited to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Ayers and Chip and Cathy, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Ayers, and Mrs. Bertha Ayers were guests at the Robert Ramos home in Echo on Thanksgiving Day.

Dick Ruhl's Here For Holiday Visit

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Ruhl and Dana arrived Wednesday, November 22, to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Ruhl of Lexington.

The Ruhls, who live in Roseburg where he is a coach and teacher, stopped in Portland on the way to visit with her mother, Mrs. C. E. McQuarrie, and her grandmother, Mrs. Lucy Lehner. Mrs. McQuarrie is spending some time with her mother, who is recuperating from surgery in St. Vincent hospital.

Also visiting at the Ruhl home on Thanksgiving day was Dan McQuarrie, brother of Mrs. Dick Ruhl.

Social Club to Meet

Regular monthly meeting of the OES Social club of Ruth Chapter No. 32 will be Saturday afternoon, December 2. The social afternoon will start at 1:30 p.m. in the Heppner Masonic hall, and all members are urged to attend.

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Miss Coppock Feted At Bridal Shower On Holiday Morning

Miss Cathy Coppock of Portland was greeted on Thanksgiving morning with a brunch and bridal shower given in her honor at the home of Mrs. Paul Heinrichs, with Mrs. Snoda Blake as co-hostess.

Guests for the morning buffet were served scrambled eggs, pastries, juice and coffee at tables decorated in the Christmas theme of white with red and green, the colors Miss Coppock has chosen for her December 15 wedding to Dale Van Blokland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Van Blokland of Heppner.

Each guest attending was given a red and green corsage as a gift from the hostesses.

Those present were Shannon Mahoney, Karen McCurdy, Ann and Jennifer Brindle, Pat Van Winkle and Kim Okano of Salem, Mrs. Kenneth Wright, Terry Greenup, Marilyn Scolese of Portland, and Mrs. Wilbur Van Blokland, mother of the groom-elect.

Assisting Miss Coppock with her gifts was Paula Kay, small daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Heinrichs.

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