

# THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

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MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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## Christmas — A Day That Endures

Researchers have come up with some interesting background on Christmas customs that add depth and meaning to the most momentous of all holidays. Many historians believe that Christmas may have had its origins in ancient Greek and Roman festivities to observe the midwinter change of seasons. The use of generosity at Christmas also grew out of ancient Greek and Roman customs. The celebration of Christ began in the third century but was not officially sanctioned until a century later when Pope Julius I authorized an investigation to determine Christ's probable birth date, which led to the selection of December 25. On that date, in 353 A. D., the Feast of the Nativity was first observed in Rome.

Other Christmas customs originated in many lands over the centuries. The traditional mistletoe branch began with the ancient Druids, who believed the plant had the power to miraculously cure disease and counteract poisons. The decorating of Christmas trees began in the eighth century when St. Boniface persuaded the pagans to adorn fir trees in their homes in tribute of the Christ Child. A fourth-century bishop of Turkey, Saint Nicholas, was the real-life predecessor of Santa Claus.

And so the stories go. As the great day of rejoicing and renewal—December 25—approaches, millions will prepare to greet Christmas with a bone-deep feeling of gratitude and thankfulness. It is one occasion, one tradition, and one observance that has withstood the test of time. Those who attempt to tear down all standards by which humanity lives have so far not had the temerity to burn the Christmas tree.

## 'Don't Tread On Me'

From the beginning of the United States, and long after, the security of the nation and of the individual depended upon rifles and handguns that held predators, both human and animal, at bay. Every school child knows, or should know, the part that the skill of American riflemen have played in our history from the battle of Bunker Hill to the jungles of Vietnam.

The extent to which a nation may have to depend upon citizen possession of firearms can be seen in Israel. Mr. Jac Weller, honorary curator of the West Point Museum, and author of several books on military history, has written of the current travails of Israel, which he calls "A Nation of Armed Citizens." He says, "... it's difficult in Israel today to distinguish between the military apparatus and the civilians-in-arms." In some areas of Israel, every individual must carry his personal weapon with him at all times. Almost every single man and many of the women in Israel can fire at least one weapon adequately. Mr. Weller witnessed a school picnic at which teachers carried submachine guns, and the boys had rifles close by as they munched their lunches.

It is difficult for a U. S. citizen to believe that any nation could be reduced to such extremities. But, as Mr. Weller concludes, although heavily outnumbered by hostile Arabs, "... the Israelis are likely to survive because a nation in arms is hard to destroy." Even in this nuclear age, the right of firearm ownership by responsible citizens—and that means the great body of Americans—gives meaning to those historic words, "Don't Tread On Me," imprinted on the famed rattlesnake flag of the American Continental Army of 1776.

## Crime Costs Are Too High

Permissiveness costs money. That fact is made brutally clear in figures released by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Hoover reports, "We complain about high taxes, but last year crime cost every man, woman and child in the United States \$122, or a staggering estimated total of \$20 billion. Perhaps this figure could become more meaningful if we realize that for every \$1 spent on education, crime costs \$1.45; and for every \$1 which went to churches of the nation, \$13 went to crime."

Violent acts against persons and property are an offense against every citizen. Whether he is a victim or merely a taxpayer, he must help foot the bill. He has a direct stake in the law and order issue.

The Public Service Company of Colorado gives us a few figures that bring home the immensity of a billion, in these days of high finance. "A billion one dollar bills laid end to end would encircle the earth nearly four times. . . . The propeller of an airplane traveling 300 miles per hour would turn a billion times if the plane would cruise continuously—24 hours a day—for nearly two years."

CORSICA, S. D., GLOBE: "One hears considerable these days about tax reform. To the person who talks reform it means that he hopes someone else will pay more taxes so he may pay less. We, the people, have long since passed the stage where reform will do any good. The reform will only mean different inequities. What would help, would be tax reduction. This is possible but not probable. The only way there could be tax reduction would be to have the different governments quit throwing money away. That is not likely to happen. Too many people get the checks. Of course someone has to put in the money, but why think about it? It's easy to rob Peter to pay Paul."

NATCHEZ, MISS. DEMOCRAT: "Property ownership rights are a great bulwark against destruction of American society. They are, as more than one eminent jurist has noted, the most fundamental of all civil rights. We need only to look about us to note what pride in ownership accomplishes. We know that government of itself creates no wealth. . . . Every other human right rests on the foundation stone of the right to own property and be undisturbed in its possession. . . . Without it, no man is a free man."

## LONG RANGE PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Dec. 10—Educational Committee will meet Dec. 10 at 4 p.m. at the Lexington School house.
- Dec. 11—Human Resource sub-committee chairmen will meet 1:30 p.m. at the Conference room of the Gilliam-Bisbee Bldg.
- Dec. 16—Recreation Committee at 7:30 p.m., First National Bank Conference room.
- Dec. 22—Crops committee, 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 8—Consumer Competence Committee, 1:30 p.m., Conference room Gilliam-Bisbee Bldg.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Lowe entertained Mr. and Mrs. Richard Peters of The Dalles at Sunday dinner when Mrs. Peters came to report on the National meeting of Episcopal Churches in Houston, Texas, last month.

Patti O'Brien is attending a computer key punch school in Salem. She finds the course fascinating.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Reid and baby spent Thanksgiving day with his mother, Mrs. Ruth Reid.

## TO THE EDITOR...

To the Editor:  
I received a message from Mrs. Pat Fitzwallter, state legislative chairman for the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers, asking me to contact people concerning the cutting of funds for public education in Gov. McCall's proposed budget.

The governor was faced with the problem of trying to balance his budget with income which does not include the surplus it has had in recent years, and which must repay almost \$1,000,000 to the Veterans' Fund. Some tax moneys, for instance the gasoline tax receipts, must go to specific funds. Welfare expenses have increased enormously, largely due to regulations from the federal government. McCall has little control of such expenses.

The amount Gov. McCall put in his budget for public education would cut the state's share to about 18%, so would increase the amount property taxes already pay for our grade and high schools. Many of us had hoped he would recommend a much greater percentage of state aid, so we are certainly concerned about this part of his budget.

Money doesn't stretch these days — it shrinks. The job of all people who spend state, county, and local tax funds has become extremely difficult. We should write the governor and our legislators with our recommendations. If we don't tell them how we think the funds should be spent, showing our priorities, then griping about how they do it is unfair.

One way to increase state aid for public schools might be to stop building on our four-year campuses for the present. A recent study of our colleges showed that the community colleges utilize their buildings with considerably more efficiency than the four-year schools do, so with this in mind funds proposed for more buildings on the four-year campuses could be diverted to the public schools and also to the community colleges. (They too, were shorted in the governor's budget.)

Public officials do pay attention to our letters, so we should let them know what we think about how our money is to be spent.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. L. E. Dick, Jr.

To the Editor:

I wonder if the members present at last Monday's Chamber meeting have given much thought to Irvin Mann's reply to the question, if the Farm Bureau's proposed Constitutional amendment should carry and school support should be removed from property tax, what would be the result? Rep. Mann's reply was "It would be the death of Education in Oregon."

Now, to my way of thinking what he said was "since all property taxes must in the end come from income. All property taxpayers must pay a great deal more than their fair share of income taxes."

Is that an unfair deduction?  
Respectfully yours,  
O. W. Cutsforth

## Coming Events

- DECEMBER—
- 10. NFO meeting at Legion Hall at 8:00 p.m.
  - 10. PTA meeting
  - 10. School Board meeting at A. C. Houghton, Irrigon, at 7:30 p.m.
  - 14. Mother's Club meeting at the home of Barbara James with Barbara Jessner as co-hostess. International Potluck Supper will precede Christmas Wreath making for Senior Citizens.
  - Heppner Home Extension Unit, 10:00 a.m. at Norman Clow home. Indian Culture program and potluck luncheon.
  - 15. Heppner Minimize Tops Club meeting at 8:00 p.m. at the Neighborhood Center.
  - 16. Jaycee meeting
  - 16. Christian Church Joint CWP and Vesper Circle lunch at 12:00 p.m.
  - 7:30 p.m.—Combined Choir practice
  - 23. Christian Church CYH Christmas Party for Senior Citizens at 2:00 p.m.

## RIVERSIDE MENUS

Cafeteria menu for Riverside Junior-Senior High School for the week of Dec. 14-15 are as follows:

Monday — Pizza, corn, pear and cheese salad and ice cream.  
Tuesday — Tuna with noodles, tossed salad, corn bread and fruit.  
Wednesday — Hot dogs, carrots, potato chips and cookies.  
Thursday — Tacos, cottage cheese and fruit, lettuce, onions and Jell-O.  
Friday — Christmas dinner. Milk is served with all meals.

## ONE UMBRELLA IS ENOUGH



## CHUCK WAGON

Marcel Jones and yours truly allowed as how the howling banister of a wind the other night was not a bit conducive to sleep. Elmer Palmer looked surprised. "What wind?" he asked. Jim Parkey reminded us that Elmer lives in the banana belt.

The Wayne Marks Ranch at Innaha had a nice Angus calf rustled, butchered during the recent elk season. Sheriff there reasoned the hunters were unsuccessful with elk, didn't want to go home empty handed. Thus poses a growing problem as more and more hunters take the field each year. Wallawa County ranchmen plan a vigilance committee during next year's hunting season, keeping an eye on the visiting strangers.

Services were last Friday at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Pendleton for the late Tony Vey, 75, a well known rancher on Butter Creek. He had built a big ranch with substantial property in Umatilla, Morrow, Grant and Union Counties.

He was a well-known roper in the Pendleton Round-Up for many years.

Mr. Vey was one of Eastern Oregon's best known cattle and sheep men. (It was impressed on our memory that he was a genuine believer in hard work. And proof of this is the fine big ranch that he left.)

Morrow County has its share of good luck. Our warm congratulations to Dennis Stefani, a football star at the ripe old age of 8! As you know, Dennis won first place for his division during the Fun, Pass & Kick competition in San Francisco at the 49ers game last Sunday.

Our warm congratulations to Mrs. Roy W. Lindstrom who won third in the State baking contest last week in Portland! These two fine folks help put lone on the map, by golly.

"Father, did Edison make the first talking machine?"

"No, my son, God made the first talking machine, but Edison made the first one that could be turned off."

Looking at modern art is like trying to read the message in a bowl of alphabet soup.

Don't drive as if you own the road—drive as if you own the car!

If the folks who design women's fashions aren't careful, they'll work themselves out of a job.

The new jet age: breakfast in Paris, lunch in New York, dinner in San Francisco, and baggage in London.

Boxer: a fellow with a gift of job.

Detour: something that lengthens your mileage, diminishes your gas and strengthens your vocabulary.

## All the Collins' Home For Thanksgiving

All of the daughters of Mayor and Mrs. Bill Collins were home for Thanksgiving. They are Lisa who is at home. Patty who teaches at Soap Lake, Wn. Jeanne, who works in Alameda was accompanied by Jim Bagard who went on to Portland to visit after spending Thanksgiving day here and daughter Judy, who is married and lives at Harrisburg. Judy and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. David Totleben, Davie and Brian have only recently moved to Oregon from Illinois.

Other guests for Thanksgiving dinner were Mrs. Collins' brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Clubb of Pendleton.

## BOWLING

Un-Awakes		
Team	W	L
75 Pickups	21	11
Skreamers	19	13
No-names	14	18
Monkeys	10	22
High Ind. Game—Allen Burkenbine, 158; High Ind. Series—Mike Mills, 434; High Team Game — Skreamers, 466; High Team Series — No-names, 1276.		

Sunday Night Mixed Doubles (Late)		
Team	W	L
Hanna-Heath	36	18
Munkers-Mills	32	20
Kincaid-Barnett	30	22
Pridberg-Pettyjohn	23	23
Bergstrom-Schwarzin	18	34
Gilman-Griffith-Keithley	11	41
High Ind. Game—R. Munkers, 190, P. Kincaid, 189; High Ind. Series—B. Massey, 513, P. Kincaid, 488; High Team Game—Munkers-Mills, 788; High Team Series—Munkers-Mills, 2301.		

Thursday Nite Ladies		
Team	W	L
Kinzua	32	16
Elma's	29	19
Toyota	28	20
Columbia	22 1/2	25 1/2
Murray's	16 1/2	31 1/2
Ruggles	16	32
High Ind. Game—Betty Rood, 199; High Ind. Series — Floss Watkins, 495; High Team Game — Kinzua, 932; High Team Series—Kinzua, 2594.		

Tuesday Nite Owls		
Team	W	L
Fiesta Bowl	34	18
Ed Dick	32	20
No. 5	27	25
No. 6	23	29
MILadies	22	30
Cal's Cafe	18	34
High Ind. Game—Marie Kircher, 201; High Ind. Series — Marie Kircher, 510; High Team Game — MILadies, 595; High Team Series—No. 5, 1714.		

Spray Honor Roll		
Honor roll for the first 9 weeks for Spray Schools have been reported.		
High School: Nadine Wood, 3.8; Barbara Adams, 3.3; Valerie Asher and Janet Turner, 3.0.		
Grade School: Elaine Turner 3.8; Sherrill Adams, 3.0.		
(Spray High School plays at Prairie City on Saturday. There will be home games at Spray on the 18th with Long Creek and on the 19th with Mitchell.)		

## School Lunch Menus

Presented Through Courtesy of Heppner Branch

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OREGON	
Heppner Elementary and High Schools	
SCHOOL HOT LUNCH MENU	
Monday, Dec. 14—Beef stew, vegetables, cold tomatoes, pudding, French bread, butter, milk.	
Tuesday, Dec. 15 — Spanish rice, crispy vegetable salad, fruit Jell-O, cookies, rolls, butter, milk.	
Wednesday, Dec. 16 — Barbecued ham, Mrs. Winkle's rice, carrot and celery stix, fruit crisp, rolls, butter, milk.	
Thursday, Dec. 17—Chili, cabbage salad, corn bread, butter, honey, cake, fruit, milk.	
Friday, Dec. 18 — Soup, Bologna sandwiches, cheese stix, lettuce wedges, gingerbread, applesauce, milk.	

## School District Calendar of Events—

- DECEMBER
- 10. School Board meeting—Irrigon, 7:30
  - Administrators meeting—Bozeman
  - Advisory meeting—HHS and ACH
  - Jr. High BB—HHS at Arlington
  - Fresh BB—Pilot Rock at HHS
  - 11. Jr. High Student Body meeting—HHS
  - BB—HHS at HHS
  - BB—HE at Umatilla, 2:00
  - 12. BB—HHS at Stanfield
  - BB—lone at Condon
  - Jr. High BB—lone at Condon, 1:30
  - 14. Annual Staff meeting—HHS, 1:00
  - 15. Christmas Concert HHS
  - BB—lone at Athena
  - BB—Wahitanka at HHS, 6:00
  - 16. National Assembly—HHS, 2:45
  - Fresh BB—John Day at HHS, 6:00
  - Christmas Program—ACH, 7:30
  - VFA meeting—HHS
  - Jr. High BB—HHS at Hermiston, 5:30
  - Jr. High BB—Umatilla at lone, 2:00
  - Fresh BB—HHS at Condon, 6:00
  - 18. Jr. High Club meeting—HHS
  - BB—Athena at HHS
  - BB—HE at Arlington, 2:00
  - Holiday Tournament—lone at Echo
  - Holiday Tournament—lone at Echo
  - Christmas Tournament—HHS at Condon
  - 19. BB—HHS at Arlington
  - Holiday Tournament—lone at Echo
  - Christmas Tournament—HHS at Condon
  - 21. Christmas Program—lone, 8:00
  - Christmas Program—HE, 7:30
  - 22. Fresh BB—HHS at HHS, 6:00
  - School dismissed 1:30
  - 29. Christmas Tournament—HHS at Umatilla
  - Jr. High BB at Hermiston—1:00
  - BB—John Day at HHS
  - 30. Christmas Tournament—HHS at Umatilla

## Services in Roseburg For William Mess

William James Mess, 76, died on Dec. 2 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital. He was born Feb. 2, 1894 at Bredenburg, Sask., Canada. He was a retired carpenter and for the past several years had made his home with his daughter, Mrs. Gene Cutsforth, Lexington.

In addition to Mrs. Cutsforth, he is survived by another daughter, Ha Peterson, San Diego, Calif.; six sisters, Lizzie Porter, Fort St. John, B. C.; Ella Martin, Yorkton, Alberta; Mary Hall, Vancouver, B. C.; Netta Laird, Vancouver, B. C.; Lyla Broadfoot, Guelph, Ontario; Gladys Hutchison, Saultcoats; one brother, Robert Mess, Saultcoats; and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Dec. 5, at the Chapel of the Roses at 2:00 p.m. in Roseburg.

Interment followed at the Roseburg Memorial Gardens with Sweeney Mortuary, Heppner, in care of the arrangements.

## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

DEC. 11-12  
Jaycee Wives Christmas Bake Sale at Central Market  
Friday, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 10:00 until sold out

DEC. 12  
Movie—"I Saw What You Did", 7:30 p.m.  
Heppner High School — \$1.00 Adults, 75c Students  
Sponsored by HHS Yearbook Staff

DEC. 14  
Christmas Potluck supper  
Eastern Star, 6:30 p.m.  
Members and husbands and wives invited

DEC. 14  
Ione Lion's Club meeting  
7:00 p.m. at Bailey's Tavern  
in Ione

DEC. 19  
Rockhounds Christmas Party  
6:30 p.m. at Thel's Cafe in Ione

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