

AROUND

with Justine Weatherford

ABOUT

They've decked our streets with lights so sparkly—Santa has visited and proved he can locate Heppner—the Artifactory attracted large, enthusiastic crowds—the stores seem busy—good food and good company is readily available—'Tis the season to be jolly.

However, on the dark side, we personally are not ready to deck the outside of our home this year as many householders are already doing. We are still very upset at the series of colored bulb snatchings we suffered on our front porch last year. So, I guess we will just skip buying a new supply of bulbs and risking further, hateful vandalism this Christmastime.

My long-time friend Bernice Hinshaw from Milton-Freewater, who made her first weekend visit to Heppner, was very favorably impressed with our community. She enjoyed the several events we attended and was surprised to buy some items here that she couldn't find other places. Bernice really praised the expanded museum-library which she had visited once before, when we lived at Lexington, before Mrs. Duvall put on the big new addition to the museum and before I succeeded Blanche Brown as librarian.

Many persons have told me how great they thought the Artifactory was this year. The big AACW sponsored community event provides a showcase and sales floor for so many talented craftpersons and great cooks. St. Patrick's Hall was really bulging all day Saturday.

Saturday afternoon, during the lovely Tammy Brannon-Vernon Seal wedding, folks had real difficulty parking their cars within a half mile of St. Pat's. The wedding, mainly a family affair, was very Christmasy—with scarlet poinsettias everywhere including around the edges of the three layers of the beautiful bridal cake (those were made of frosting, of course.)

The brides' mother Judy Laughlin made her gown and her step-mother Patti Brannon made the dress for the maid-of-honor. Tammy's two dads, Bill Brannon and Butch Laughlin, gave her away. The Brannons held the reception in their home, and reports are that it was a joyous affair.

Tammy's grandparents, Carl and Betty Spaulding, came to visit Bill at the hospital on Sunday evening and shared news of their weekend with us. During our chatting, we got around to talking of food, and Betty remarked how they used to enjoy Hazel Hamlin's cooking.

Driver Rawlins is now assisted by a feeder bus driven by Myrna Johnson, a nice change. (My Bill had to drive the whole time-consuming way to the Justus Place during his years on the route.) Well, Driver Rawlins hasn't had too much excitement so far. Seems he accidentally pushed over one of the Don Bennett's historic buildings last week as he turned the bus there. He was especially embarrassed because Driver Johnson pulled up in time to witness the

crunch. Another bus route that has seen several drivers this fall is the North Lexington run. Ex-editor Tom Franks managed it for several months, but presently its driver is Charles Starks, formerly of the Northwestern Motel and Heppner Auto Parts.

This led me to report that I had a good visit with Hazel last Friday in the Hamlin's cozy apartment where she has been eleven months recovering from a painful and confining leg problem.

House-bound Hazel talked mostly about how great the people of this community and from nearby towns have been to her during her confinement. So many have been so thoughtful and helpful. She beams with pride about the recent promotion of their beloved granddaughter Judy Buschke, who has been their top family helper for so long.

Hazel now gets around pretty good with just one crutch. She and Frank had a fine trip this fall, visiting in Gresham with their daughter Maryette Wright and husband Joe and stopping overnight in The Dalles for a great evening with two couples they knew when they were in the Panama Canal Zone and with friends from Redmond.

Hazel, now 83, has such an eager spirit, but can't get around to personally greet folks like she likes to do. Frank works everyday with Dean Teal's store. They both feel that they happen to live in the "world's greatest community." They worry that they can never adequately thank everyone who has helped them so, and who are making their coming Christmas look so cheerful. The Hamlins send out Best Wishes for Happy Holidays to everyone. (We Weatherfords surely join them in their worry about adequately thanking folks—so much extra kindness has come to us during Bill's illness.)

Since I've become a self-appointed reporter about school bus drivers, I need to update a few matters. It seems that two new careers are being formed. Rancher Bill Rawlins of the Hinton Creek-Jones Hill-Franklin Hill run has discovered the cozy kitchen and top coffee at Bob and Bette McLoughlin's home at the far end of his line.

Do you realize these friendly, generous McLoughlins live so far east of Heppner that they have a Pilot Rock mailing address?

As I close this week's column, I want to mention that I was pleased to happen to see "the greatest of our county bus-drivers" Leonard Munkers, now a Lexington area rancher, and his wife Edith in Heppner in friend Ida Farra's shoe and zipper repair shop one afternoon last week. They are fine—just had a little zipper problem.

So zip to this—now I want to zip along with our Christmas cards—I have zipping problems, too!

Reception planned for Cal Shermans'

All friends and relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Sherman are invited to help celebrate the couple's 25th wedding anniversary at an open house in their home on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 4-6 p.m.

The occasion will be hosted by their children Ron Sherman, Barbara Watkins and Janice Sherman. Guests are requested not to bring gifts.

Long-time residents Calvin and Beverly Burnside Sherman were married at the Methodist Church in Heppner on Dec. 11, 1952.

Former Heppnerite wed in California

In a mountain setting at St. Dominic Savio Catholic Church in Bass Lake, Cal., Jan Marie Schlichting was united in marriage to Jon David Carris on Sept. 24, 1977 at 2 p.m.

The bride is the daughter of former Heppner residents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Schlichting, now residing in North Fork, Cal. H. Keith Carris and Bette Carris, both of Packwood, Iowa, are parents of the groom.

After a wedding trip to Moro Bay and Carmel, the newly wed couple are making their home of Prather, Cal.

The bride is a 1971 graduate of Heppner High School, and the groom graduated from Pekin High School in Iowa in 1971. The groom is attending Fresno City College and is employed by Wicks Corporation.

Irrigon man home after accident

Leon Wilson has returned to his home after spending the month of November in the Kadlec Hospital, Richland.

He was seriously injured on Oct. 30, when the wind caught his small foreign car and he was thrown against a bridge abutment on the river road entering Hermiston from the West.

He will be convalescing for some time to come

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7 3/4%
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plan for the very young, either. An IRA account can be opened by any eligible participant up to age 70. See examples in the box below.

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40	73,940	118,030	182,748
45	43,902	73,940	118,030

(cents omitted)

This table is based on a deposit of \$1,500 per year made on the last day of each year paying 7-3/4% annual interest, computed on a daily basis, compounded and credited quarterly.

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