

# AROUND ABOUT

with Justine Weatherford

Maybe you get tired of seeing me extoll the virtues of Heppner and this fine part of the world. I know I want to stay here as long as I can because I honestly believe I live in a very good community that has the potential to become even better.

I think our citizens and our churches and other institutions are great.

Suddenly I am wondering if I am wrong about this? Am I getting too old, too unobservant, too lethargic or apathetic?

Lately I have been picking up lots of stories of destructive vandalism taking place here. Friends tell me that "Of course it goes on everywhere—and all during the year, too." However, I feel personally especially upset that so much of it takes place during the holidays when our world celebrates its festival of love and goodwill.

It seems that shoplifting has picked up considerably in our stores. This isn't just a case of "boys will be boys." A group of young girls, mostly high school age, I understand, found that they could walk out of stores with things they wanted without paying for them. (Then the rest of us must pay more for our purchases to help our merchants make up for the costly dishonesty.)

It seems some local young men, no longer kids, in a wild, destructive mood did stupid damage in the Heppner Hotel building and lobby. They tore down a decorated Christmas tree and scattered the parts around, etc. I understand that because of help from a hotel tenant the fellows' names are known. The Heppner police are aware of the destruction and thievery and also of many of the vandal's names.

For several days and nights the fir tree closest to the entrance to the County Museum and Public Library was so lovely, so covered with bright lights. The lights belonged to the city (us) and were carefully placed by our city workmen.

Before long the joyful lights were torn down. The cords were broken apart, the globes were smashed and scattered. Rachel Harnett gathered quite a few remnants of the cord and placed them on display in the entrance to the building.

The vandalism around this lovely public building and in its surrounding city park has been getting progressively worse. During the summer the trees were broken, the litter cans were dumped and kicked around, picnic tables were often overturned, the pioneer schoolhouse and its privy were defaced.

Just recently the city crew had to recover one of the heavy park tables with built-on benches from down along the edge of Willow Creek where it had been rolled or pushed. Surely "little kids" couldn't have done that. Also young children don't do the dirty writing on the buildings.

This year there are several very bad leaks in the roof of the brick building. Investigation proved that some persons had made their way up onto the roof and had damaged it. The city crew cut down a tree close to the building that could have been used as a ladder to the roof.

Numerous householders are saying "No more outside lights for us." Can you understand why persons steal and destroy Christmas globes, cords and ornaments? I am unable to understand.

As I visited with a friend at Ione today, she said that there was some vandalism and some frightening of oldsters who live alone there, too. I haven't checked out the Lexington situation, but was pleased to see the pretty municipal tree glowing in the "downtown" area there. I hope it glowed all through the holidays.

As I have observed, quite a few children spend much of their considerable "free" and unsupervised time around the city park during the summer and during school holidays. I have to wonder if their parents or guardians know where they are and what they are doing? Surely those parents and guardians care.

This is not a complaint about our police or juvenile officers. They are fine people who try to carry on their work effectively. I think it is an indictment of the community as a whole—of each of us who doesn't help the police.

Many of us can't face the trauma of reporting a neighbor's or friend's youngster who misbehaves. Many seem to have lost pride in the community.

Perhaps some type of return to the pioneers' vigilante system is called for. After all it is the citizens who live there who make and are basically responsible for any community.

This is not a pleasant "Happy 1978" column. Please let us all resolve that this year our communities will grow better and such a column will never be written again.

## Children's posters judged at library

Thursday evening Dec. 29, Bettie Doherty, Eleanor Gony and Justine Weatherford met in the Heppner Public Library to judge a large collection of schoolchildren's posters which were submitted to the Blue Mountain, District 10 of the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs.

District President Dorothy Heard of Milton-Freewater appointed Pat Pettyjohn of the Ione Garden Club as district

chairman for Junior Gardener activities. Pat was given the posters and asked the Heppner ladies to serve as judges. She said the names of the district and state poster contest winners will be announced at a later date.



Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Seal...the former Tamila Brannon

## Seal-Brannon exchange vows

Tamila Kay Brannon became the bride of Vernon R. Seal in an afternoon ceremony Saturday Dec. 3 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Heppner.

Rev. John O'Brien officiated at the double ring ceremony. Tamila is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Laughlin and Mr. and Mrs. William Brannon, Heppner. Parents of the groom are Mrs. Dean Kinne, Hood River and Gearl Seal, Baker.

Jim Ackley played the organ and sang "We've Only Just Begun" and "You Light Up My Life".

Shane Laughlin, brother of the bride, and Greg Anderson were alter boys.

The bride was given in marriage by her father, William Brannon, and her step father, Robert Laughlin. She wore a floor length gown of polyester crepe fashioned by

her mother. The bodice and cuffs on wrist length sleeves were lace overlay and the gown, with built-in train, had a v-neckline edged in lace. The just-below-shoulder lace veil was caught in a Victorian head piece edged in lace and pearls. She carried a single poinsetta set in Stephanotis and green fir.

Her only attendant was Mrs. Rick Rambo of Hood River, sister of the groom.

Lonnie Snyder of Portland was best man.

A reception for the couple was held at the William Brannon home.

The bride is a graduate of Heppner High School and Modern Business College, Kennewick, and the groom from Baker High School.

The couple are living in Canyon City where the groom is employed with Oregon Log Homes, John Day.

## Ione Topic Club holds annual party

The country home of Lorraine Ladd was the scene of the annual Christmas party of the Ione area Topic Club members and guests on December 21. Katherine Lindstrom assisted the hostess.

Chris Bowman was welcomed as a new member. Ruby Roberts was a special guest.

Following the potluck luncheon, a gift exchange was held. The afternoon's program included a reading of "Estranged From Joy" written by Barbara G. Harris and "The Story of the Carol". Both selections were read by Katherine Lindstrom. Mrs. Ladd presented a dissertation on the Christmas Tree as a triangle with the three points depicting birth, life and death.

She spoke of Christmas trees in various lands, pointing out that the first English

Christmas tree was erected in 1832 by Queen Victoria who was influenced by her German husband Albert and by an aunt. In France, she said, the Christmas trees are called Paradise trees and are hung with red apples.

## Ione to burn greens for Twelfth Night

by Justine Weatherford

For many years the Ione Garden Club has led that community in the observation of the Twelfth Night by arranging for a municipal burning of the greens.

This year's ceremony will take place in the Rietmann lot at 3:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 6. The hour was established so that the school children could attend.

Rev. Bill Graham will offer a prayer and carols will be sung. Garden Club members will serve cupcakes and hot chocolate. Everyone is invited.

The ladies arranging this celebration hope that everyone understands that Jan. 6 is considered the ending of the Christmas holiday. They hope the collection of drying Christmas trees and other greenery will make a large, bright fire in their community.

The twelfth night after Christmas is also called Epiphany. During the time of Queen Elizabeth I, Twelfth Night was observed in England with wild celebration. This custom died out, but special church services are still held on the date.

Authorities say that the date originally celebrated both the birth and the baptism of Jesus. Since the 300's, the day has especially honored the meeting of the Three Wise Men (the Magi) with the infant Jesus. In some countries, doorways are marked with the initials of the Three Wise Men to keep evil away. In many countries Jan. 6 is a day of rejoicing and of gift giving.

## Hospital Notes

Between Tuesday, Dec. 27, and Tuesday, Jan. 5, several patients were admitted and discharged at Pioneer Memorial Hospital including Deborah Rauch, Heppner; Cecil Jones, Lexington; Lexington; Lenny Hanna, Heppner and David Steagall, Lexington. Arthur Stefani, Ione and Helen Kruger, Lexington, were still patients at the hospital on Tuesday.

### BIRTHS

As of press time, the Morrow County stork had not yet delivered the first baby of 1978, but he did drop off the last two babies of 1977 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Anthony Hisler Jr. of Heppner became the proud parents of their first-born child on Friday, Dec. 30. Their son, Shawn Paul Hisler, weighed in at 8 pounds 15 1/2 ounces.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William Healy and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hisler Sr., all of Heppner. Mrs. Henry Lazinka of Pendleton is Shawn's great-grandmother.

A daughter named Jessica Jean was born to happy parents Mr. and Mrs. Charlie James Sumner at 6 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 30, weighing 7 pounds, 1 ounce. She joins a

big brother, Samuel, in the Sumner home.

Jessica's grandparents include Rita Sumner, Heppner; Jack Sumner, Salem; and Mr. and Mrs. Charles McConnell, Wallowa.

Great-grandparents are Robert McConnell, Dunn Center, North Dakota; Mr. and Mrs. Chris Enctel, Golden Valley, North Dakota; Mr. and Mrs. Cal Sumner, Heppner; Helen Cox, Heppner; and Ivan Cox, Pendleton.

## Sara Adkins celebrates with family in Portland

Sara Adkins, Heppner, enjoyed a family Christmas reunion in Portland, leaving with her son and daughter-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Earl Crismon of Pendleton on Saturday, Dec. 24 and returning with them on Monday, Dec. 26.

The gathering included her

three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, all living in the Portland area. Mrs. Adkins said it was the first time in a year the whole family had been together.

She reported no trouble with the weather, though they encountered heavy wind in the gorge on the return trip.



Jeffrey Marshall...Lori Dunlap

## Marshall-Dunlap engagement told

Mrs. Lynda Dunlap of Heppner and Sgt. Richard Dunlap of Biloxi, Mississippi, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lori Denise, to Jeffrey Allen Marshall, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Marshall of Heppner.

The bride elect is a graduate of Heppner High School and Yakima Business College. She is presently employed at Sherwood & Roberts, Inc., in Pendleton.

The future groom is a 1973 graduate of Heppner High School and served three years in the United States Army. He will attend Blue Mountain Community College during winter term.

No wedding date has been set.

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