

# AROUND ABOUT

with Justine Weatherford

Along with what seemed like a big part of the population of Oregon and Washington I spent part of my Christmas weekend on highways. It was pleasing to have 80-N so driveable west and east on Friday and Tuesday and to find I-5 so great on Saturday, Monday and Tuesday.

The big bottleneck of Portland-bound traffic on the Vancouver Columbia River bridge was hectic on Tuesday morning. The only slightly problem weather I struggled with was thick fog around Bremerton and Tacoma, but as I moved away from those places the sun came through to brighten my miles. On Tuesday I was able to gather a Portland-Heppner passenger, Emile Groshens, who travels well and was very patient with my driving. We agreed how lucky we were to have such good traveling weather so late in December.

If everyone had as happy "family visiting" as I enjoyed, then their 1978 Noel was mighty fine. I spent happy hours with my brother and his family, with Bill's family and my five children and their families and with several cousins I too rarely see.

While I was in Woodland, Washington, I had a short telephone visit with Roberta Klaus. I learned that Debra has been chosen Junior Class Princess at Woodland High and that she is continuing her four-point grades. Rick and Ronnie are doing beautifully, too, in their new school situations.

The Klaus family has purchased land on the south shore of the Lewis River about two and one-half miles east of Woodland, and they are starting to build a new home there.

Those who remember this family know that they built a large home up on the west hill here which is now occupied by the Jerry Samples. They sent "Hello and Happy New Year" to their many friends here.

About two weeks ago I reported that Miss Emma Peterson had flown to Philadelphia to enter a retirement home. I did not report that her brother Oscar Peterson flew with her and that he hopped up to Boston from Philadelphia where he had a visit with a nephew of his wife and looked about in that great American historic town.

I hear that some fine Morrow County children have found a not-too-good way to keep from going back to school next week. I haven't any accurate figures but it seems like some kids are breaking out with Chicken Pox. Maybe some others have measles, too, like the children in Western Oregon were passing around before Christmas.

One of the excitements in the Bremerton-Port Orchard area this time of each year is the parade of lighted pleasure boats on the dark, blue water between the two cities. The colored lights are especially beautiful bobbing about and being reflected in the water—as Terry and Jan Lillybridge, natives of that area, surely recall.

On Monday when I left to start south toward Woodland, the ring of Olympic Mountains to the west was shimmering in the sun. I think that although I have hoped to see these mountains from the porch of my son's home at least a dozen times, this is only the third view I have had of them. It made me grab my camera to try to get permanent proof of how magnificent they are and that they really exist.

Don't you think our weather has improved since winter officially began last Friday? Guess I shouldn't brag so much about it though because I heard experts say that we are due for some exceptionally cold days this winter. Sure hope they are wrong.

With just three more days left of this old year, I am surely hoping that beginning next Monday everything will come up roses for everyone as the New Year begins.

Movies with sound tracks made their debut in Heppner 50 years ago this week, when the Star Theater hosted a road show demonstration of the Melophone system of "Talkies."

The first talkie to be shown featured Patsy Ruth Miller in "Beautiful but Dumb." Mr. Sigsbee, manager of the Star, invited townspeople to view the movie and offer their candid opinions, so that he could determine if enough interest existed to buy the new equipment.

Although most cars did not move as fast as today's automobiles, they could be just as dangerous. During this week 50 years ago, Frank Tracy of Heppner, a passenger in a Star touring car operated by Marion Cunningham, was killed when the vehicle failed to negotiate a curve and overturned. The two Heppner men had just attended a movie in Heppner, and were en route to a dance in Lexington at the time of the accident.

Sixty years ago this week, federal officials announced an increase in grazing fees on National Forest land. The new rate for cattle was set at from 80 cents to \$1.50 per head, depending on the quality of the grazing land. For sheep, the per-head rate was set at 25 per cent that charged for cattle.

Thirty years ago this week, an unseasonably severe cold snap made ice skating possible at the Orville Cutsforth ranch north of Lexington. Area children, familiar with Cutsforth's pond as a near ideal swimming hole, flocked to the frozen-over version in droves to try their hands at skating.

During this week 25 years ago, Heppner's Community Chest drive lacked just 40 cents from reaching its goal of \$953. Robert Ferrell, treasurer for the charity drive, said he felt confident that 40 cents could be found somewhere to put the fundraising effort over the top.

## Drug abuse forum set for tonight at 7:30 p.m.

Concerned Parents and Teachers—a group recently formed in southern Morrow County—hosts a drug and alcohol abuse forum tonight (Thursday), Dec. 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Heppner Elementary School multi-purpose

room. A panel discussion will lead the evening's program, with an audience question-answer period following. Those participating in the panel will be school district administrators, Juvenile Officer Carolyn Holt,

Morrow County Judge D.O. Nelson, Oregon State Police Trooper Tom Dixon, Heppner attorney Robert Abrams and Dr. Janice Green of the mental health clinic. The meeting is open to the public.

## Shauna Bergstrom to wed Ronald Stroble

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Bergstrom of Ione announce the engagement of their daughter, Shauna Marie, to Ronald E. Stroble, son of Mr. and Mrs. Everette Stroble of Pendleton.

Miss Bergstrom is a 1972 graduate of Ione High School and a 1976 graduate of Oregon State University with a bachelor of science in Home Economics education. She is currently teaching home economics at Pilot Rock junior and senior high schools.

Stroble is a 1973 graduate of Pendleton High School. He attended Washington State University and the University of Oregon, graduating with a bachelor of science in business administration and finance. He is employed by First Federal Savings and Loan of Pendleton.

The couple plan to be married June 16 at Valby Lutheran Church, Ione.



## Chamber Christmas lighting; winners are announced

Winners in the Heppner Morrow County Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting contest were announced this week.

In the residential division, first place goes to the Billy Joe

McMinn family on Sperry Street; second place to the Don Kenison family on Lynden Way and third place goes to the Larry Mills', on the hill overlooking the fair and rodeo grounds. Cash prizes of \$30,

\$20, and \$10 will be awarded the respective winners.

No entries were received by area churches in that category, so the chamber will make a cash donation of \$60 to the Ministerial Association.

## Evening class registration set

Blue Mountain Community College's winter term evening program in Morrow County gets underway next Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Participants who have pre-registered for BMCC's winter class offerings need only arrive at the first class session. Persons interested in attending a class who have not pre-registered may attend the first class session and register at the time, provided space remains.

Classes still open include:

Furniture Repair and Refinishing; Physical Fitness for Women; Beginning Swedish; Advanced Tole; Intermediate Guitar; Typing I; Spanish II; Advanced Cake Decorating; Expectant parents; Experiencing Fine Arts and German.

Any questions on registration and classes offered may be directed to Nancy Brownfield, BMCC's field coordinator, at 676-5039.

## Hospital Notes

Admitted to Pioneer Memorial Hospital the past week and still receiving care is Theresa Hyatt, Heppner.

Patients admitted and later discharged the past week were Melissa Schoonover and Linda Jones, both of Lexington; Art Stefani Jr., Ione; and Dreama Howell, Heppner.

## Oglesbee family welcomes new daughter

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Oglesbee, Heppner, are the parents of a daughter, Kari Michelle, 7 lbs., 7 1/4 oz., born Dec. 19.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Sid Nerdahl, Ogden, Utah, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Luck, Baker.

Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ray Miller, Aneta, N. Dak.; and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Rogers, Sumpter.

## WEDDING & SOCIAL

STATIONERY  
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GAZETTE-TIMES

## Some BMCC evening classes are canceled

Two classes scheduled for Blue Mountain Community College's winter term evening program have been canceled due to illness of instructors.

The first class, ballroom dancing, could still be held if a qualified instructor can be located prior to the start of the coming term. BMCC is looking for a couple well versed in the waltz, swing, box step and other dance skills. Prospect-

ive teachers are urged to contact Nancy Brownfield, BMCC's field co-ordinator, at 676-5039.

The other class that has been canceled is Accounting II. This class could possibly be held during spring term.

One other class, advanced tole painting, will be postponed at least one week at the start of the winter term.

## Sifting through the TIMES



Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Garrison won first place in Heppner's Christmas lighting contest during this week 10 years ago. The Garrisons featured a brilliantly lit Christmas tree in their yard, surrounded by figures of deer and snowmen.

Joseph Burcham, on leave from a U.S. Navy combat assignment off the coast of Vietnam, did not get the peace and quiet he probably hoped for when he returned home to Lexington for the holidays 10 years ago.

Just after visiting with his parents, Burcham's car was struck broadside by a Union Pacific freight train. The Lexington sailor was lucky to escape with only a head cut and several bruises.

Heppner had a brown Christmas during that week in 1968. A layer of snow had blanketed the town until two days before Christmas, but a chinook blew into the area, raising temperatures into the 50's.

The chinook failed to melt a 20-inch snowpack on Arbuckle Mountain, so skiers were able to use the facility when it opened on Jan. 4.

## An old 'New Year's' thought holds true

"A New Year is born and an old year dies. It's time to hang up a new calendar, make good resolutions and be at peace with the world. But, after all, a new year begins every day, even though the calendar may disagree. Every day affords just as great an opportunity to make good resolutions and keep them as does Jan. 1.

"At any rate, we wish to those who make good resolutions and keep them, to those who make and break, and to those who make no resolutions at all, an exceedingly happy New Year Day and a new year filled with days each happier than the day before."

We're out to do a month's business between Christmas and New Year's

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The Official Newspaper of the City of Heppner and the County of Morrow

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