

AROUND ABOUT

With Justine Weatherford

Today is Oregon's 121st birthday. It was Feb. 14, 1859, that Congress gave the people of this area and the state officers they had elected in 1858 a big valentine by ratifying the Oregon State Constitution.

Although Valentine's Day is the formal birthday of our state, it was June 3 before the congressional proposal to admit Oregon into the Union was accepted by the state, and John Whitaker began to function as its first elected governor. Oregon's star, the 33rd star, was first added to the U.S. flag on July 4, 1859.

February's holiday observations have become quite confusing with the modern changing of true dates to afford three-day weekends. Thus many city, county state and federal workers have Feb. 4 and Feb. 18 holidays this year. (The only city employee at work last week Monday was the city librarian, Bethel Heinrichs, who graciously checked out the latest Oregon State Blue Book for me.)

In this guide under Legal Holidays and Days of Special Observance, besides each Sunday, there are eight annual legal holidays listed; however, "other days may be appointed by the President or the Governor as a day of mourning, rejoicing or other special observance."

Also, "The statutes have further designated two days of commemoration to be observed in the State of Oregon, Feb. 14, Oregon's birthday, and Oct. 12, Columbus Day."

Of further interest is the statement, "Public school holidays in the state do not necessarily include Lincoln's or Washington's birthdays. Many schools have opted to combine these holidays into a single 'President's Day.' The schools are directed, however, to set aside classroom time for appropriate observation of the occasions. Similar classroom observances are directed for the last Friday in April, Arbor Day, and the fourth Friday in October, Frances E. Willard Day."

Yes, I can recall Arbor Day ceremonies in my early school years, but somehow I think my teachers did little to honor Frances E. Willard.

Before returning the Blue Book to the library, we should note a most amazing statistic from its paragraphs about Morrow County. It gives the area of this county as 2,065 square feet. Our population is listed as 6,400—which would indicate that each of us must average about one-third of a square foot of living space. How ridiculous! All the other 35 counties have their areas given in square miles.

Last weekend was not one of those weekends when young people of Heppner needed to cry out, "There's nothing to do here!" On Friday the seventh and eighth graders had a big dance. On Saturday after the completion of several basketball games, the high schoolers gathered for their annual Sadie Hawkins Day dance and fun party. This exciting festival promoted some strange goings on.

It seems that "Marryin' Sam (Mike Nolan) did a landoffice business. Couples stood in line to have him unite them in wedlock. One super-macho young male, it is being told, got married 10 times. Along with the pronouncement by the Dogpatch Parson came a little wedding band for each bride and a wedding certificate. The evening's fun at the high school took place to music by "The Ticket," which was "good and loud."

Friend Ola Mae Groshens is safely home after three weeks of visiting, which included a most interesting stop in Hemet, Calif., where she enjoyed a reunion with former Heppner folks.

As her son and his family took her from San Diego to Hemet, they stopped at Lawrence Welk's Country Village resort for breakfast. The restaurant and nightclub there afford many of the Welk TV performers a place to get preliminary stage experience.

Ola Mae says the Welk resort, like his TV programs, attracts many somewhat older folks who are tagged the "bi-focal set" by some Californians.

At Hemet the former Heppnerites who gathered in the spacious, double-wide home of Vi and Conley Lanham (former mayor) included Bobbie and Jim Driscoll (former postmaster) and Dorothy and Charley Heard (former publisher). They had much joy visiting and exchanging news from Morrow County.

In last week's column we mentioned the need for a dry-cleaning service in Heppner. A mature and capable, now unemployed, citizen who read the column has indicated to us some really serious thinking about beginning such a service. We hope this will become beneficial to that individual and to the community.

When this year's first baby arrived it was written that she is a member of the fifth generation of Cutsforths and that not too many residents could claim such a long family history in the county. Well, Etta Devin Parker and I were having a little sidewalk visit last week when Etta pointed out that her family, the Devins, is in its sixth generation here. How many other families can match that?

A suggestion which appeared in the New York Times seems astonishingly reasonable. The writer, Russel Baker, asks why have we put that extra day that leap year demands in such a miserable, cold month as February? "When the more civilized adjustment would be to add the extra day onto the end of July, giving everyone a bonus day in vacation season when a day is something to be grateful for. July 32 is no more absurd than February 29." (You know he is writing from a northerly state and not from Palm Springs or Tucson.)

Senior Citizen News

A bus load of seniors departed from Heppner for Condon this morning to attend the bimonthly, five-county meeting of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council. They will join with the south Gilliam county seniors for a Valentine's Day luncheon.

Don't forget the free blood-pressure clinics that are to be held in Heppner on Feb. 19 and in Ione on Feb. 20. Also, if your winter fuel costs have become

a horrible hardship, be sure you consult with Pat Brindle at the Heppner Neighborhood Center soon about the helpful program she is administering here.

Next week's menus at the three county mealtimes are: on Feb. 18, in Irrigon—orange juice, hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes with turkey gravy, peas and carrots, cottage cheese and mixed fruit salad, relish dish with



Chicken 'Kari' is spicy dinner dish

The word curry is an anglicized version of the South Indian word, "kari," meaning sauce. In India the housewives blend their own curry flavorings by powdering dried spices—six or more usually—to make their many sauced dishes. Here in America we can buy curry powder already blended, which certainly simplifies the procedure. Curried Chicken With Tomatoes is a lusciously sauced dish, made easily, yet special enough for company. Browned chicken pieces are sauteed with curry powder to develop the flavor. Crushed whole tomatoes are added with onion flakes, salt and pepper, and the "kari" is simmered until the chicken is tender. It's lovely with rice and a spinach or cucumber salad.

CURRIED CHICKEN AND TOMATOES

- 2 tablespoons salad oil
- 3 pounds chicken parts
- 2 tablespoons curry powder
- 2 cans (16 oz. each) whole tomatoes, crushed
- 1/4 cup onion flakes
- 1-1/4 teaspoons salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper

In a large skillet heat oil until hot. Add chicken; brown on all sides. Drain and discard fat. Sprinkle curry powder over chicken; saute for 2 to 3 minutes. Add tomatoes, onion, salt and black pepper, spooning mixture over chicken. Simmer, covered, until chicken is tender, about 45 minutes. Serve with steamed rice, if desired. Yield: 4 portions.

'Middle Years' topic of home-study unit

The middle years, that time between 35 and 65, were once viewed as a time when people had made basic decisions about their lives that were to last until they were ready for retirement.

Now the middle years are recognized not only as the most productive time of life, but also as a tie of continual growth and change, points out Molly Saul, Umatilla-Morrow County Extension agent.

The two-county residents can learn more about the important time in their lives by enrolling in the four-lesson "Middle Years" correspondence course developed by the Oregon State University Extension Service.

The home-study lessons were written by Marcelle Straatman, Extension human development specialist, and by Vicki Schmall, Extension gerontologist. Topics for the four lessons are "Facing Adulthood," "Making Transitions," "Changing and Growing," and "Sexual Fulfillment."

The course is designed to give those in the middle years an understanding that "the restless questioning of ourselves can be seen as a fairly common experience and that although each individual is different there are common threads," Mrs. Straatman

Paralysis seen as vaccine effect

There is a very slight chance for a person receiving flu vaccine to develop what usually is a temporary paralysis called Guillaine Barre Syndrome (GBS). Even though the risk of a flu vaccine developing GBS is slight, those receiving the vaccine should be aware of it.

cheese sticks and St. Patrick's dessert.

On Feb. 19, in Heppner—Meat pie with biscuits, Honolulu slaw, biscuits and jelly and peanut butter pie.

On Feb. 20, diners in Ione and at Heppner should enjoy—Chops in mushroom sauce, mashed potatoes, pineapple glazed carrots, molded vegetable salad, cornbread and jelly and streusel pudding cake.

Live alone? New publication designed for one-person households

By Birdine Tullis
Morrow Extension Service
Lifestyles...Basic Ideas for Living

A new publication will be coming out in March, directed at those who are just beginning living on their own, with basic information on home-making topics. Titled, "Lifestyles", the publication is available free, and by mail, to anyone wishing to receive it. Just a call or note to the Morrow County extension service, phone 676-9642, or Box 397, Heppner, will get you on the mailing list for the monthly publication. The publication will include helpful basic information for any homemaker, both men and women, young singles, "on their own" for the first time, newlyweds, those newly single through death or divorce, and new parents. This publication is intended for men as well as women! Get your name in now to receive the first mailing of the bright new publication!

Quilt Block Contest

Oregon Extension Homemakers Council is co-sponsoring a quilt block contest as one of their cultural projects this year. With all the interest in quilting in our local area, some may wish to become involved in the project. Complete information and entry blanks are available at county extension office, or through study group chairmen. Individuals entering the contest will make two quilt blocks, which should be completed by May 1, 1980. All blocks entered will be included as part of a folk art

display at OSU Mini-College in June. Blocks will be selected from those entered to make a quilt. Some will be chosen to be sent to the national meeting of Extension Homemakers. Call Birdine for more information!

Still Time for a 4-H Club

If you've been thinking it might just be a challenge to get more involved with youth, there is still plenty of time to start a 4-H club. Our modern 4-H program offers opportunity for all kinds of clubs; they may be short term projects, as well as those that require longer periods. You, the leader, make the decisions relative to your club. Many 4-H projects are ideally suited to the shorter term projects, for example, creative arts or entomology...both of which are great projects for summer months! There is still time, however, for home ec, livestock or other projects! Think about...the youth of Morrow County need leadership for projects and activities which offer them opportunities to learn new skills, make new friends, learn citizenship, and have fun while they are doing it! Call John or Birdine and they will give you the "whole picture" of 4-H leadership. Families...

There is much emphasis on the family in America at present...and families are undergoing some changes. There has been a dramatic increase in the number of one-person households. One out of every four households now consists of a person living

alone, or with nonrelatives. More young women are remaining single longer. In 1970, about one in three women, ages 20-24 were unmarried. This year, it is expected to increase to nearly one in two.

Family eating habits are changing, too. American families aren't eating the way they did previously. They're really not eating any more, but their choice of foods is different. The U.S. Department of Agriculture says families are spending a larger part of their food budget eating out and overall on more expensive cuts of meat, and food and drink containing heavy amounts of sugar. The department points out that families are spending more on protein foods, snacks, spices and sauces. The purchase of soft drinks has almost doubled since 1960.

Two out of three people think they take "good or excellent" care of them-

selves; two in five say they watch their weight, and one in two say they are careful about their drinking habits.

More women are working outside the home. This does not mean the children are suffering, according to a Stanford professor who is a leading authority on children. His research shows that the majority of working mothers make adequate arrangements for the care of their children, and that often working mothers are happier, with this feeling spreading over to the children. Mothers with limited time to spend with their children often provide a higher quality of "mothering" in the limited time. So, if you have noticed some changes around the old homestead, you are among the majority of families entering the 1980's. The Census, coming in spring, 1980, may tell us some even more surprising things about families today!

Lexington man to show slides to Adventists

Del Piper of Lexington will present his slide show "Things Beautiful '76" at the Adventist church Feb. 23 at 7 p.m.

"It has been a pet project of mine," he said, "to photograph the super little things that usually go unnoticed. Birds, flowers, rock formations, clouds—the beauties of nature. I love the great outdoors."

Club plans its next meeting

Happy Home Makers

By Jaci Sumner
Jan. 12 we had another meeting. We talked about our next meeting.

We talked about what we are going to do at our next meeting. We were going to make our own lunch but we did not have a meeting because it was too cold.

Not this meeting but the next meeting, we are going to make a practice skirt for the fair.

SALE

2 For 1 Sale Still In Progress

SHOE BOX

Reflections of Love
For Valentine's Day

For Him

- 10 Karat Gold Elk's Ring \$175⁰⁰
- 10 Karat Gold And Rubies \$174³⁵
- 14 Karat Gold \$160⁰⁰
- Genuine Jade and Coral 14 Karat Gold \$80⁰⁰

For Her

- 12 Karat Gold Filled \$23⁹⁵

Peterson's Jewellers
Heppner 676-9200 AGS

For Your Valentine Thursday, Feb. 14

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- ASSORTED CHOCOLATES 1 LB. \$3.75

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