

# AROUND ABOUT

With Justine Weatherford

Perhaps you noticed the picture of Fred Astaire, 80, and his attractive fiancée Robyn Smith, 35, in last Sunday's Oregonian. Their common interest is horses. A Sports Illustrated article a few years back told of this female jockey who first achieved national publicity when she was encouraged by Alfred Vanderbilt at his great New York stables. Now there have been many pictures and stories about Fred and Robyn in The National Inquirer and in movie magazines. Do you know that Robyn spent her early years in Heppner, Oregon?

Robyn's foster parents were June and Orville Smith. Many recall that Smith was associated with the late Phil Mahoney in the Heppner Lumber Co. and a mill at Monument. Robyn uses their name and speaks of Orville as "a wealthy, retired lumberman who lives in Washington State and Hawaii," although she does not choose to reveal much about her pre-Vanderbilt years and has been labeled a mystery woman.

However, quite a few folks here remember when Robyn was adopted by the Smiths and there was a big, community baby shower for June at the old St. Patrick's Church up on Chase Street (presently the Legion Hall).

The Smiths, whose son James had all of his public schooling here, also adopted two other daughters, Jennifer and Kathy. Heppner's John Pfeiffer is June's brother. The Smith family left Heppner in the 1950's when the mill was sold to Kinzua.

Inez Erwin has returned from the state convention of the American Association of University Women at Ashland, and joyful visits with several former Heppner residents. At Brookings she had a big visit with former fellow-teacher Inez Meador in her beautiful hillside home with an ocean view. She caught up with news of Inez M's daughters. Leslie is in Texas managing a fast food outlet, and Tami lives in Idaho with her husband and their child.

At Eugene Inez E. spent several days with Ruby (Fulleton) Shearer and husband Tom, both also former teachers here. They are keeping very busy working with their flower business, and Tom is also landscape supervisor for the Lane County Fairgrounds and also teaches two art classes in the Eugene schools each day.

Very active, Inez E. is at the Heppner School's sixth grade outdoor school this week being a volunteer helper to cook Gladys Van Winkle. Inez had much to do with the beginning of the outdoor camping program here while she was teaching.

Early last week if you stayed up to watch the one-hour complete telecast of the 84th Boston Marathon, as I did, you were disappointed not to spot local teacher Andy Clark. However the TV hour was exciting and educational, and the brouhaha which resulted over the crowning of Rosie Ruiz as the women's winner sort of stole the show from the great fourth winning performance of Boston's own Bill Rodgers.

Heppner's Andy Clark did well to complete the slightly more than 26 miles among the first 500 of the 5,300 qualified runners who began the run and the 3,600 who finished the course. He is back home now, teaching.

Sara Adkins and Hazel Bauman were concerned last week as they watched some children placing themselves in a dire position. Hazel said many children are enjoying the new Hager Park after school these days. A group of them managed to let their ball fall into Willow Creek. Sara and Hazel watched from their Cowins Street homes as the kids ran down along the bank of the now fast-flowing water trying to retrieve the ball.

Hazel recalled several drownings of years past and wondered if today's parents know what risks their children are taking?

Born Friday, April 25, in Boise—a fourth son, Marcus Shaw, to the Rev. Steve and Vicki Tollefson. His older brothers are Greg, Ben and Ted. The family has many friends here.

Last Saturday's warmness was lovely for the big Heppner High School Junior-Senior Banquet and Prom. The banquet at the Catholic Parish Hall was "just wonderful" and the mothers who prepared it were rated as the greatest of cooks. The post-prom breakfasts in several homes—Bob Abram's and Bob Harrison's for seniors and Vern Keithley's for juniors—rated great applause.

Surely other persons beside Lena Kelly forgot to turn their clocks ahead last Saturday night. Lena was rather disturbed on Sunday morning when a friend came to take her to church one hour earlier than she expected to be picked up.

By Sunday noon many so-energetic Heppner youth were off to sun and splash along the Columbia River. All seem eager to try for sunburns.

Last week's coronation party for Fair and Rodeo Queen Lori included a statement by Court Director Faye Seitz. Faye explains that she is a member of the Rodeo Board and is designated as court director. Under her authority is the court chaperone Maryann Palmer of Ione, who directly helps the Queen, princesses and pennant bearers all through the season.

The Fair and Rodeo Board pay for three complete dressup outfits for the three members of the court (one outfit for each), which now come to more than \$250 apiece. Until four years ago there were five members on the court, but because of increasing expenses the number was reduced. The queen and princesses buy a couple of everyday or work outfits, for themselves, and they pay for all their travel expenses for themselves and their horses.

The four pennant bearers pay for their own costumes and for their own travel and incidental expenses all season. Director Seitz says that this year several of the more distant appearances are being cut from the girls' schedule because of the expense of traveling.

The much-admired decorations at the coronation party deserve mention. The dinner tables in the grange diningroom were decorated with horseshoes and flowers in the queen's colors of burgundy and grey. Court Director Seitz and Queen Lori's cousin Leora Kane, Lexington, worked together quite a few hours decorating the hall, the stage and the dinner tables.

This Saturday, May 3 will be a mighty busy day for many. The court and pennant bearers will appear at the Arlington Rodeo. County artists will show their productions at the West of Willow. We haven't heard how many will travel to Walla Walla with the Morrow County Historical Society.



Betty Rietman shows students a small pine tree donated by Harold Kerr, Morrow County Extension Service agent, to Ione Elementary School.

## Ione pupils plant tree to mark Arbor Day

The Ione Elementary School celebrated Earth Day and Arbor Day on Friday, April 25.

Students held a tree planting ceremony in honor of Arbor Day. They learned that Arbor Day was started by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska on April 10, 1872. Oregon first celebrated Arbor Day in the spring of 1889. Along with planting a tree, students buried a container at the tree's roots which carried the signatures of all students in the elementary school.

At the ceremony, the flag salute was led by the kindergarten class, the fourth grade led the singing of "America, The Beautiful" and the fifth grade gave an oral reading of Joyce Kilmer's poem "Trees."

During the day the classes

celebrated the 10th anniversary of Earth Day by cleaning the school grounds, painting trash cans and planting flower seeds in planters, which were constructed by the fifth grade.

The sixth grade also prepared ground for a vegetable garden which the students will plant and care for during the coming months.

## DAV office van due in Hermiston

The Disabled American Veterans' Van and Personnel will be in Hermiston May 5 at 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the C.R.C., Second and Orchard, to give free counseling, claim services and benefit information for disabled veterans and their families.

## Senior Citizens

At the senior dinner last Wednesday, Paul Jones talked to the diners about the need for everyone to work toward better use of the Morrow County Senior Bus.

He suggested that more trips should be scheduled and praised the Ione seniors for their plan to visit the Hood River Blossom Festival the following Sunday.

He stated there is a possibility that the county could lose the bus if it is not used more.

Pat Brindle is back at work this week. She asks that seniors be alerted about the visit of the Social Security Administration representative Friday morning, May 9. He will be at the Neighborhood Center from 10 a.m. until noon.

Menus for next week's dinners are: At Irrigon May 5—orange juice, macaroni and cheese with weiners, potato rounds, green beans, celery filled with peanut butter and other relishes, tossed green salad, bread, butter and apple jelly and gooseberry cobbler.

At Heppner May 6—tomato juice, burger casserole with macaroni and cheese topping, baked fish, seasoned green beans, tossed salad, biscuits and jelly and cream puffs.

At Ione and Heppner May 7, a special Mother's Day dinner—orange juice, fried chicken, cranberry sauce, baked sliced potatoes with butter, frozen buttered peas, molded fruit salad and banana crunch cake with ice cream cups.

## Vinson family to host Pioneer Picnic

Members of the pioneer Vinson family are serving as the committee for the 1980 Morrow County Pioneer Picnic.

Chairman Darrell T. and his wife, Sue, of Little Butter Creek, announce that the May 25, Sunday dinner and program will begin at 1 p.m. in the county fairground pavilion. All members of the Vinson family will assist with

preparations and greeting and serving at the community potluck.

The committee expects State Senator Ken Jernstedt, Hood River, to speak. There will be some entertainment and the introduction of special guests. The Lions Club will assist by setting up the tables, the Soroptimists will register the people and give each a name tag, and the Heppner Garden Club will gather and

arrange flowers for the tables.

The first Vinsons came to this area in 1852, according to "Yesteryears of Morrow." John S. Vinson from Iowa, who ran a store and sometimes a post office at the place named for him along Big Butter Creek, was not technically a resident of Morrow County but had influence on it, according to Giles French in "Homesteads and Heritages."

George Vinson, born in 1845 in Des Moines, Iowa, was established on Little Butter Creek in the 1860's and lived there until his death in 1934. He lived further down the creek than his son, Elza Henson Vinson, on whose place Darrell and Sue Vinson now live.

Elza H. Vinson married Emma Alice Ferguson in

Sept. 1895. They had eleven children, the youngest two being the twin sons Delbert Ted (now of Lexington) and Darrell Tim. (Delbert T. is married to Suzanne and Darrell T. to Sue).

Late 19th and current 20th century Vinson genealogy is carefully charted. It reveals relationships to many other families whose names are known in present-day Morrow County including: Ferguson, Hinton, Way, Schoonover, Harshman, Ward, Brown, McDaniel, Grosheens, Irvin, Breeding, Bellenbrock, Martin, Cecil, Padberg, Vaughn and Wilson.

The family of Mrs. John Brosnan (Zetta), also of Little Butter Creek, will be the committee for the 1981 Pioneer Reunion.

## Methodists plan 'whale of a sale'

Methodist women have been working all week to get ready for what they hope will be a whale of a sale slated to begin at 9 a.m. Saturday on the church lawn.

## Mother-daughter meeting slated by women's group

A mother-daughter meeting is planned for the Heppner Christian Women's Club May 5 at 6:45 p.m. at the West of Willow Restaurant. The theme is "Mother May I?"

Music will be performed by Walter Woods.

Ann Stilson, of Spokane, Wash., is the guest speaker. She is a former Washington State Teacher of the Year and is listed in the "Who's Who" among educators.

The club will provide a variety of desserts rather than the usual salad bar. Tickets are \$2.

## Heppner pair attend TOPS gathering

"Calling All TOPS" was the theme for this year's State Recognition Days for the Take Off Pounds Sensibly Club members which took place at the Eugene fair convention center April 25 and 26.

Cherrie Clark and Nancy Bruch of Heppner attended the convention.

There were many weight loss winners honored with division winners, greatest improvement and charm and beauty contests. The king weight loss winner was from Silverton and he lost 49 pounds and the queen was from Springfield and she lost 93 pounds.

Bruch was honored as a KOPS (Keep Off Pounds Sensibly) in waiting.

There were class sessions at the convention on ideas for contests and fraudulent devices for weight reduction.

TOPS meets Monday nights at the Neighborhood Center on Willow Street in Heppner. Weigh-in is from 7 to 7:30 p.m. with the meeting following. More information may be obtained by calling Clark at 676-5222.

## Mother's Day MAY 11th



## STOP LOOK & GLISTEN

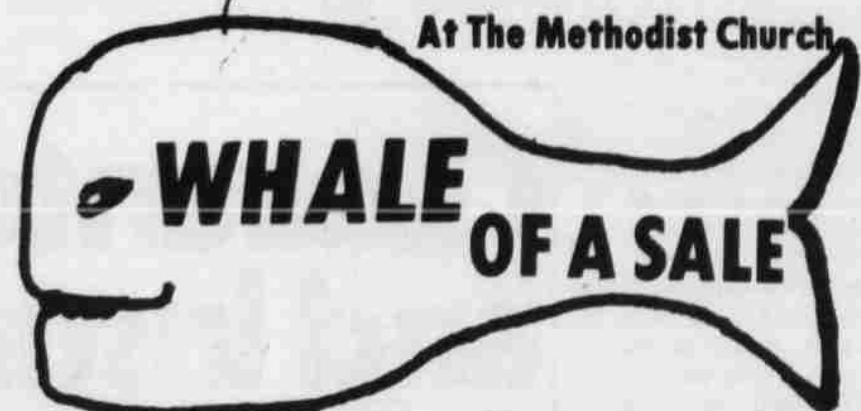
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## Come Early Stay Long

Saturday, May 3 Begins at 9:00 A.M.

At The Methodist Church



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