

# AROUND ABOUT

With Justine Weatherford

On Thursday night, July 3, an anonymous friend telephoned to tell me he was very concerned about the fact that the flags at the county courthouse had not been flying last week. He was especially anxious that the flag should fly on July 4th.

On that day many flags waved in Heppner, downtown and at residences, but not at the courthouse. I located our local flag etiquette expert, Jim Launer, just after he had taken down the Main Street flags and questioned him about the courthouse flag. Jim explained that the high pole from which it flies is broken and that the pole must be taken down and repaired or replaced before it is used further. Thus my concerned friend and I must understand that no one is being negligent about hoisting our national standard, but that the flagpole is due to be lowered and repaired soon.

The Thursday night fireworks at Lone drew a good crowd. The exciting displays were much appreciated, especially the super grand finale.

Friday, the Fourth, it seemed there were only a few of us left in Heppner. Many were in Condon enjoying the good parade in which our Fair and Rodeo Court looked great and the good rodeo at the Gilliam fairgrounds. The fire works there were pleasing and the dance which followed saw a fine crowd moving to vigorous music. The barbecue which has usually been in the city park was held in the school play shed, probably because rain had been predicted-but thankfully didn't materialize.

On Saturday three Heppner Garden Club members left early to spend time helping our younger, but larger neighboring city of Pendleton celebrate its centennial. Two of the traveling horticulturists made a long day of it, but the third, Alberta Johannes, traveled home in the afternoon with Harold and Julia Hill. Jane Rawlins and I saw as many centennial events as we could squeeze into twelve hours. We really enjoyed the Flower Show, the superb Quilt Show, the Main Street Craft Showings and the Animal Displays.

And in addition to really participating, perusing and indulging in the above three events, Jane and I overate, saw a good movie (the last showing of "The Coal Miner's Daughter") and enjoyed coincidental meetings with some special friends.

Charles, Leslie, John and Will Patching who have resettled in Weston, chose to have dinner at the same eatery we favored, and we six had a lively chat. Handsome, tall, merit scholar John will take his freshman year at Willamette University; fast-growing Will will be a high school sophomore next fall; Leslie is the new president of the Weston Library Board; Charlie is not as overworked as he was for awhile because appraisals have slowed with the slow real estate market. John and, perhaps, his mother will be in Heppner tomorrow, July 11, to keep an appointment with Dr. Huber.

At the United Artists Theater we two felt our ways in the unit auditorium to right aisle seats. Very soon a couple chose the two seats directly behind us. When I happened to turn around to view the size of the audience my eyes caught the remarkable profile of Bud Marshall, and sure enough, he and his famous kidney-patient wife Ramona-our Heppner neighbors-were our closest theater neighbors. So we shared a few words before the feature came on. We had noted Paul and Gail Arbogast and their youngsters queued before the box office, also.

After collecting our released flower show exhibits, we drove homeward along Highways 84 and 207, noting the many lights of the Hinkle railroad complex and of the Carty coal-fired plant. We were happy with the smooth highway from North Lex elevator into Heppner.

It seems that rumors fly about quickly in Morrow County. Often tongues wag before facts are searched out. You perhaps heard that Museum Curator Rachel Harnett had been "fired." Don't you believe that. However after over twenty years of remarkable service, Rachel is going to have some freedom to do as she might please on Saturdays and Sundays.

On July 1, Alma Van Winkle Green was no longer this county's secretary-she chose to resign. Very efficient, talented Alma had held several positions at the courthouse before she became the judge's secretary. When two previous judges resigned, I felt that Alma should have been the top candidate for that position.

Alma is the daughter of a well-established county family and, with retired husband Herman, is the parent of admirable sons, Clifford, Lawrence and Tom, and daughter Margaret. There are now seven Herman and Alma Green grandchildren.

Presently Alma is helping orientate her successor, Judy Laughlin. We know that Alma's many skills and kindly personality will be missed at the courthouse. We wish her a joyful new life, and also wish Judy years of success as the new top secretary.

Now a few concluding comments about events in Pendleton. Although I am such a neophyte (this was only the second flower show I have attended) I was quickly convinced that the show that the Lone and Heppner Garden Clubs presented last fall in Lone was much superior in its staging, management and consideration for spectators.

The Quilt Show, which was arranged by some Weston ladies who are working toward the restoration of the historic Saling house, outshone the flowers, in my opinion. The gymnasium of the Helen McCune Jr. High was filled with an amazing display of 135 historic and modern quilts ranging in age from 150 years ago to 1980 models. What a variety of patterns and colors! What exquisite designs! The quilts were artfully hung from special scaffolding and many had fact sheets pinned on them at eye level.

The quilts were not judged or rated, simply displayed. However, each viewer was given a ballot on which to vote for his favorite. Jane was most thrilled with a gorgeous, appliqued Tree-of-Life delight, but I voted for an amazing Strawberry pattern of red and green on white that was created in 1845 and has been so lovingly and carefully treasured through the years. We both stated how happy we were with the exhibit and how difficult it would have been to have to pick winners. We both kept saying that we wished our friend, the Heppner quiltmaker and quilting teacher, Theta Lowe, was there with us.

The crafts displayed along the Main Street were very interesting. There were three potters showing their works, several needlework booths, a doll merchant, a booth with preserved foods and others. Motor traffic moved across Main

at intersections but not along it. We noted a small area that held a miniature timber carnival where woodsmen were scheduled to show their skills in axe throwing, sawing and related loggers' work.

The squeals of delighted young children emanated from the see and touch areas enclosed in bales of straw which held baby lambs, young goats, horses and colts and other beloved animals. Many parents shepherding young offspring sat on the bales while the children petted the lambs and kids and admired the larger animals as the Saturday sunshine favored Pendleton's celebration.

## Senior Citizens

Last week's Senior News somehow reported that the Cutsforth Park picnic would be on July 21-but it was yesterday, July 9. The bus outing given by the Scroptimists will be on Monday, July 21. Seniors must sign up for that trip soon. About 40 will travel on the school district Greyhound bus to John Day and Canyon City. The plan is to eat at the John Day Senior Center that noon.

Menus for next week at the Heppner and Lone mealsites follow. (The menus for the Irrigon site have not been sent out yet.)

On Tuesday, July 15, in Heppner-tomato juice, Argentinian meat with fruit, buttered spinach, snappy carrot salad, angel rolls and jelly and strawberry creme deluxe.

On Wednesday, July 16, at Lone and Heppner-orange juice, meat loaf, oven-baked potato slices, scalloped corn supreme, heavenly pineapple molded salad, corn bread, lemon pudding cake.

A group of senior citizens from Heppner and Lexington attended the five-county Area Agency on Aging meeting in Milton-Freewater June 24. They traveled on the Senior Citizen bus driven by former County Judge Paul Jones, through College place to Milton-Freewater.

During the morning session, the election of officers for the coming year took place. The committee on nominations chairman declared that the committee was happy to recommend the re-election of the present officers, therefore, a unanimous ballot was cast for President Paul Jones of Heppner, Vice-President Luke Witerall of Arlington, and Secretary Nina Cason of Condon.

Area Director Rollin Reynolds reported on federal and state matters and budgets and staff changes. There were reports and discussion of new forms which will be used by some programs for seniors.

The Matter of Title V, the older Americans' Act and Senior Employment was explained by Reynolds. This is not related to the CETA programs. They are administered under the Oregon Department of Human Services-the largest department in state government-but they are not Welfare programs. They are administered by local senior citizens and are often almost self supporting.

Several supervisors spoke about special programs such as the fuel program which is managed through community Neighbor Centers and the Vista Repair workers who work out of the Pendleton East Central Oregon Association of Counties.

the matter of holding areas mini-White House Conferences on Aging was discussed. It is hoped that Morrow and Gilliam Counties will arrange such a program at the Lexington Grange Hall in late August or early September.

At noon the busload of seniors from the 18, five-county mealsites joined the Milton-Freewater seniors for a noon meal in the Senior Center there which occupies the re-converted, old M-F

Railroad Depot. Some of the Heppner ladies had a special tour of the center's kitchen.

During the afternoon session Suzanne Jepson presented a Homemaker Program report which revealed that many oldsters and handicapped are being given excellent help under the Oregon Project Independence programs in their own homes.

Nutrition council members or mealsite representatives from the 18 mealsites gave encouraging reports on the attendance and activities at their sites. The new site at Echo which serves noon dinners on Wednesdays is the 18th site in the five counties. Some sites have interesting programs planned. Some give door prizes at meals. Many celebrate birthdays and anniversaries.

The matter of home delivered meals to seniors and handicapped was discussed. It was suggested that those getting home delivered meals might also make a freewill, cash contribution to the mealsite just as do most of those who eat together at the various locations.

The bus usage in various counties was reported and discussed. In Umatilla County seniors keep two buses busy. One makes daily rounds in Pendleton where it has a CETA driver and the other makes many special excursion trips. In Grant and Wheeler counties, the buses are used regularly. Morrow county rates very low in bus usage. Gilliam County forfeited its bus since the citizens there decided they would not use it enough to warrant it.

As the meetings concluded at 2 p.m., Reynolds invited the Area Agency on Aging to hold its August 12 meeting at his home at Meacham. This large body meets every second month during the year. The August meeting will begin at 10 a.m. and there will be a noon picnic luncheon.



Tradition associates pearls with tears and opals with bad luck.

## Eruptions not expected to hurt wheat export

Shipping problems caused by Mount St. Helens' recent eruptions will not "seriously erode" the overseas markets of Northwest wheat farmers, says an Oregon State University economist.

Canada and Australia, major wheat export competitors, don't have the grain supplies or delivery systems to "take advantage of our problems," said Michael Martin, a transportation specialist who prepared a background report for an OSU school of agriculture task force set up to help farmers and others cope with Mount St. Helens related problems.

The Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station researcher said his "quick assessment" is that disruptions in wheat exports caused by the volcano's awakening have been relatively minor.

The May 18 eruption that sent silt and debris down the Toutle and Cowlitz rivers, clogging the Columbia for more than a week, came fortuitously close to June, traditionally the lowest month in wheat shipments, he explained.

Martin said long-run effects of the shipping problems, barring unpredictable developments, probably will be minimal if Army Corps of Engineers dredging efforts return the river to full width and depth in early July as scheduled-before winter wheat begins arriving in mid-month.

"Even assuming export shipments are temporarily halted, none of our region's major competitors will be able to fill the void," he speculated. "Australia does not have supplies large enough to seriously erode our markets, and

Canada's west-bound transportation and logistics system is marginal at best."

If a reduced shipping capability persists through August, typically the most active wheat shipping month, Northwest white wheat would get first priority, he said, guessing that part of the hard red wheat grown in Montana and the Dakotas and shipped through Columbia ports would be diverted to the Duluth-Superior port in Minnesota.

Such a diversion probably would be a one-time strategy, he said because Duluth-Superior "has had its problems in recent years," including labor strikes, a sunken ship blocking the harbor and the ever-present threat of early winter ice.

If the Columbia is fully opened on schedule, some shipping companies that perceive risks still may divert their ships to the port of Longview, Wash., this summer and fall to avoid coming farther upriver, Martin said.

From June 1979 through May 1980, 207.5 million tons of wheat-about half soft white and half spring and winter hard red-were shipped from Columbia River ports, according to OSU Extension Service marketing specialist James Cornelius.

Major markets for Northwest wheat include Japan, South Korea, Bangladesh, The Philippines, Taiwan and Indonesia.



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