

Wood burning stoves source of home fires

Burning wood is becoming more popular daily as an energy-saving change from former heating sources such as oil or electric furnaces. More and more people are

installing wood stoves, and trekking to the mountains to cut their own wood.

The heating season is here, so homeowners who have installed wood burning stoves

to reduce fuel costs should consider that these stoves can also be responsible for destructive fires. Care should be taken that the stoves are properly installed and maintained for safety reasons.

Following are some simple precautions regarding wood stoves:

- make sure there is proper clearance between the stove and any combustible material (walls, ceiling, furniture, or papers);
 - place the stove on a fireproof base;
 - be sure that the stove pipe and flue meet safety requirements;
 - if an old flue or chimney in the home is to be used, check it carefully to be sure it is in good repair;
 - check the stove carefully for cracks or defects;
 - clean smokepipe, joints and flues as well as the chimney before starting the first fire;
 - never use gasoline, kerosene, or any flammable liquid for fire starting. Paper and small "kindling" or twigs are a better safe way to start a fire;
 - seasoned, dry wood burns best;
 - don't make such a big fire that it overheats your stove.
- Be safe and enjoy the friendly, comfortable feeling of your stove. The wood stove was the center of the family gathering for many years.

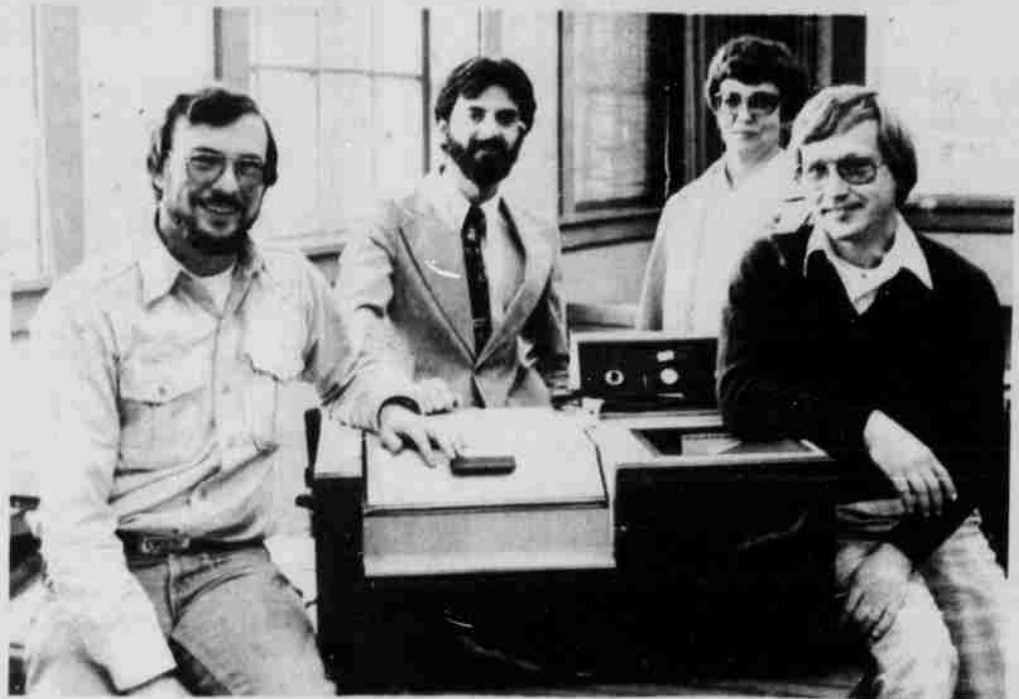
Window shades good energy savers

One of the first places to look for ways to conserve heat is your windows. Next to an uninsulated attic, windows are the worst energy waster in the home. They can be responsible for over one-third of winter heat loss in a typical home.

The quickest, easiest, and perhaps the least expensive solution to eliminating this heat waste, is to use window shades, according to OSU Extension Family Housing and Energy Management specialist.

If you are checking windows and blinds, check also the putty around window panes and caulking on the outside of window frames, and check also to determine if windows or doors need to be weather-stripped. Any drafts or cool air that seeps in causes precious heat loss which drives the fuel bill up. Get ready for winter, it's coming soon.

First National Bank donates copier



The Rev. John Maas (left) of Hope and Valby Lutheran Churches, First National Bank employees Michael Chacon and Jackie Allstott, and the Rev. Doug Thomas of the Christian Life Center, show the copy machine recently donated to the local Ministerial Association by First National. "The machine will be put to good use by the Ministerial Association," said Reverend Maas.

AROUND ABOUT

with Justine Weatherford

Some folks still don't know what people in this small town find to do. Well, hasn't this been a busy week? Monday was plenty scheduled with the Grain Growers 50th anniversary dinner meeting at 6:30, the Gong Show at the High School at 7:30 and the Heppner Garden Club meeting also at 7:30.

Heppner's volunteer firemen started the week early working at the 4 a.m. fire in Mrs. C.N. Jones' house on the Condon Highway. Renters Allen Burkenbine and family were not hurt.

Tuesday has become Chamber of Commerce day (after decades of Monday meetings). That afternoon the Bookworms gathered at Inez Erwin's home. Many Heppner people went to Pendleton on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday to see the inspirational film "Jon!" which was highly recommended. Almost every night there are evening classes here or in nearby Lexington.

Some of us stayed home most of Wednesday, except for the senior dinner. Tonight, Thursday, it is hoped that many will attend the AAUW's Energy Fair in the elementary school's multi-purpose room beginning at 7:30; others are working constantly preparing for the AAUW Artifactory coming Dec. 6.

Last week right after I voted I started out to see our state west and south of Heppner. When I picked up passenger Martha King about 8:30 our town was sparkling in lovely sunshine—however, when we reached the lone are we lost lots of visibility in the heavy, moisture-laden fog that plagued us most of that day as we drove down the Columbia to Troutdale and on south to Silverton and then to Corvallis.

After I visited my cousin, Betty Kleinsorge, in Silverton, Martha and I lunched in a cafe there where former lone resident Patty (Mrs. Ralph) Kincaid greeted us. She is still very interested in Morrow County although they have lived in Silverton for about seven years now.

In Corvallis, Martha stayed with her sister and brother and I spent that night with another cousin. Watching the election returns wasn't too interesting. The national excitement ended so quickly, and I could not get any news of the voting in central and eastern Oregon. It was pleasing that the voter turnout was so good in spite of the premature concession by President Carter.

Wednesday I drove alone down I-5 to Medford to visit with my son, Bill Haberlach, and his family. My grandchildren there, Adam, six, and Anna, four, have each grown so much since I saw them six months ago. A high spot of my visit was the Medford AAUW branch's annual progressive dinner on Thursday evening. My daughter-in-law, Bette, is very active in that large branch (140 members), and she had arranged for me to be a guest on this occasion.

Friday I drove north to Corvallis and spent the night with a long time friend. We had time to look around and to shop some before we had dinner and spent three hours visiting in front of her TV watching PBS and J.R. and his family in "Dallas."

A most exciting part of our trip was our Saturday drive eastward via Lebanon, Sweet Home, Sisters, Prineville, Mitchell and Spray. The weather was so-so when we left Corvallis around 9:30, but before we got to Sweet Home rain was coming down in sheets. Visibility was poor and travel was slowed. When we finally approached the Santiam summit, which is several hundred feet above 4,000, we got into snow and proceeded through quite a blizzard until we dropped down in elevation near Suttle Lake. We reached the old Toll House cafe in Sisters before 12:30 for lunch.

At Prineville we drove up to the hilltop home of my sister-in-law, Edythe Newell, and her husband, George, where we four had a good visit and a tea break. We enjoyed the drive along the Ochoco Reservoir and were moving along nicely at 55 mph when we had quite an unusual experience before we approached Mitchell.

Very suddenly a good-sized buck deer charged onto the highway from the left. He ran right into the car, striking the rear, left side of it with much force. I was busy gripping the steering wheel as his antlers scraped the side window, and we managed to go on. Martha turned to see him fall toward the right side of the road momentarily then jump up and run off into the woods on the left side from which he had come. At the nearby highway junction we stopped to check the damage done and found that the chrome trim around the window was bashed and the window was scratched. The animal left us a small, tufted bit of deerskin as a keepsake. How lucky we were that the four point buck didn't cause us more damage. We were relieved that he was able to trot away; however, as we drove on toward Spray we were imagining what a horrible headache that beautiful animal must have suffered.

We saw three dead deer along the highway. We concluded that the deer hunters in the Mitchell-Spray area hadn't harvested quite as many animals as they should have.

The miles along the John Day River and up into Morrow County went quietly. We got past Hardman before the sun went down, and we were home before six that evening.

A telephone visit last Sunday with Ola Mae Groshens told me of her exciting several weeks in San Diego, and of the people who had been interested in the story in this paper about her husband, Emile. She said that Judge John F. Killenny was one of several who wrote saying the article was enjoyable.

Everyone should mark calendars right away so that you will not miss the nights of drama coming to Heppner High on Thursday, Nov. 20, and Friday, Nov. 21. Director Jane Rawlins says that these nights will see the first production involving some work of William Shakespeare done here in at least 40 years.

The high school thespians will have experienced performer, Jim Ackley, in their midst. Jim and his musical friends will also present several musical numbers. The dramatic program will be divided into two parts; first, a short, old-fashioned melodrama "Never Fear, Strongheart is Here" and then, after the intermission, a shortened version of "As You Like It." During the intermission pie and coffee will be sold by the members of the National Honor Society.

Director Rawlins, assistant director, Larry Cerullo, all the students involved in the production and Jim Ackley have put in many evenings preparing this entertainment for residents of the community. Surely you will want to support their efforts.

O'Connor Insurance changes hands



Jim and Monica Swanson have purchased O'Connor Insurance in Ione from Charles O'Connor. O'Connor has been in the insurance business there for the past 33 years.

The Swansons took over the business Nov. 1. Jim is a native of Ione; Monica is from Roseburg; both are graduates of Oregon State University. The Swansons have one child, a 17-month-old boy, Luke. The couple have been farming near Ione and say they will continue to do so in addition to the insurance business.

"We're real excited about this and hope people stop by and say hello," says Jim. He says O'Connor will still "be around" to help them out when they need it.

What is O'Connor going to do now that he is retired? "I'm just going to take it easy and let nature take its course," he says.

The phone number at the insurance office has been changed to 422-7410 and the office name has been changed to Swanson Insurance.

Go-Go Knitting

4-H Club meets

The Go-Go Knitting 4-H Club held its first meeting Nov. 5, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Debbie Hyatt's house.

Members present were Noella and Jennifer Rill, Trina and Dawn Palmer, and Tareena Nash.

Officers elected were: Jennifer Rill, president; Dawn Palmer, vice-president; Noella Rill, secretary; and Trina Palmer, news reporter.

This meeting was held to get organized. The club will hold meetings every other Wednesday after school at the home of leader Debbie Hyatt.

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