

AROUND ABOUT

with Justine Weatherford

Under that beautiful pink sky on Sunday afternoon, dozens of pickups rolled in from the mountains carrying Christmas trees. Some carried extra wood for heating beneath their trees. All the decorated trees should lift spirits and the cut-up wood will warm bodies.

My spirit really slumped when I learned that our congressmen were considering raising their own salaries by 17 percent. They must be in a rush to regain any personal funds they expended in campaigning for re-election. Do you suppose that all pensions and social security income will jump upward that much? How in the world can this country ever reach a balanced budget with leadership that believes in big cuts for other people but wants to boost their own salaries?

Along with the news of the contemplated congressional salary raises came Oregon's governor's proposals for increases in several taxes, biggest of all in the personal income tax. These increases will hurt Oregonians but seem a more sensible approach toward balancing a budget than the plans of our national leaders.

What a busy time our world is into—Christmas parties, annual meetings, home decorating, Christmas card writing and mailing, package wrapping and mailing, the last minute rush to finish projects. Are you finding more postal card greetings in your mail this year? I have received five so far, all different, but each is bright and attractive. Considering the five-cent difference in postage now current, I wish I had been smart enough to use postal cards, too.

Last week the Morrow County Museum curator and directors were guests in the home of Amanda Duvall for their annual meeting. Mrs. Duvall has arranged these meetings since 1958, two years before the present museum opened in the building she gave to the community.

Amanda serves as a permanent director. Herman Green and Irene Swanson are being recommended to the county court for re-appointment for three-year terms; hold-over directors are Ken Smouse, O.W. Cutsforth and Elaine George. Rachel Harnett, who is now employed by the county for five hours per week, but who volunteers for many more hours, is titled museum director. Johanne Wood, who works at the museum 20 hours each week, is the curator.

The annual Farm-City banquet and the meetings of the Morrow County Cattlemen and of the CowBelles attracted many to Heppner last Friday. At the CowBelles luncheon one of the ladies who attended the recent Wheat Growers State Convention in Portland was saying how disappointing their banquet menu was. It seems they served fish and white rice to the wheat and beef folks. The CowBelles luncheon featured meatballs (beef) and spaghetti (wheat).

When board members and officers of the Bank of Eastern Oregon traveled to Arlington for that institution's annual meeting, the ladies who went along spent afternoon hours in the home of artist Mabel Krebs where they were able to view her lovely paintings, mainly of flowers.

As the new building for the bank at lone progresses, residents there are excited about its floorplan, about its safety deposit facilities, and its total contribution to their community.

Because this is a Christmas when most of my family are coming to Heppner, I have been mulling over what to feed the

multitude. My second son, who lives in Medford, loves to cook. When I wrote to him last week, I asked what he thought about us having smoked turkey for Christmas dinner? He telephoned me to say "That sounds good, Mom—would you like us to bring a smoked turkey from here?" I thanked him but said that I had planned to talk with a grocer here and I felt quite sure I could buy a good smoked turkey in Heppner.

Now I am feeling very good about the holiday meals, and grateful that Theta Lowe told me about this treat. I won't need to spend hours cooking the bird and it won't crowd other things out of my oven. It took me awhile to learn about this special treat being available in Heppner, but I would so much rather buy it from a friend here than get it from a large enterprise. After Christmas I'll let you all know how my family and I liked the smoked turkey.

Now for a final few words from Charles Dickens. "May each year be happier than the last, and not the meanness of our brethren or sisterhood debarred their rightful share in what our Great Creator formed them to enjoy."

Open house to honor Dicks on 40th anniversary

On Saturday, December 27, the children of Ed and Rachel Dick are having an open house in honor of their parents' fortieth wedding anniversary.

The open house will be held at the home of their daughter, Erin Clem, at 8706 S.E. Flavel, Portland, from 3 until 6 p.m. Ed and Rachel were married Dec. 22, 1940, in Ashland and have made Heppner their home ever since.

All Saints Episcopal has Christmas services

On Sunday, Dec. 21, at 10:30 a.m., Morning Prayer will be led by a lay reader.

On Wednesday, Dec. 24, at 8 p.m., a Christmas Eve service, "Candles and Carols," will be led by all three of All Saints' lay readers.

On Sunday, Dec. 28, at 10:30 a.m., the Reverend Dick West from Cove will hold Holy Communion.

PGG, Inc. mails profits to members

Checks totalling \$417,868.98 were mailed Dec. 15 to members of Pendleton Grain Growers, Inc. This is the largest single year revolving of patronage in the history of the company.

These checks, which are historically mailed at this season of the year, represent a portion of the profit made by PGG during 1972. "The money goes primarily to residents of Eastern Oregon and Washington and is made possible by members doing business with their locally owned company," according to Don Cook, general manager.

Cook commented this brought the total amount of cash paid back to local members during the year to a total of \$563,018.34. Cook

added, "These are local profits being returned to local economies, which is good business for the entire community."

Lutheran churches plan Christmas programs

The Hope Lutheran Sunday School will be conducting the church service on Dec. 21, at 11 a.m.

This is part of the special Christmas program entitled "Christ Is The Heart of Christmas."

There will be a coffee fellowship after the program.

The Valby Lutheran Christmas program will be at 6 p.m. on Dec. 21. This will be a congregational program. This is also entitled "Christ is the Heart of Christmas."

Women's Aglow plans fellowship dinner meeting

The Heppner Chapter of the Women's Aglow has planned a dinner and fellowship meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 30, at 6:30 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish hall.

Speaker for the evening will be Karen Thomas. Mrs. Thomas serves as treasurer on the area board of Women's Aglow and is the wife of Doug Thomas, pastor of the Christian Life Center (Assembly of God Church).

Adult Basic Ed. class cancelled over holidays

The Adult Basic Education class has been cancelled over the holidays, it was announced by instructor, Joy Krein.

The classes will not meet Wednesday, Dec. 24, Monday, Dec. 29, or Wednesday, Dec. 31.

Regular classes will, however, be held on Monday, Dec. 22, and classes will resume after the holidays on Monday, Jan. 5.

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