

AROUND ABOUT

with Justine Weatherford

Now we are well into the shortest month of the year, and the days are stretching out longer. Besides being Heart Month and Black History Month, and a few other reasons for publicity, February is the State of Oregon's birthday month.

Valentine's Day seems to rate the spotlight, and it almost obliterates the historic fact that this state was born on Feb. 14, 1859, as the 33rd state in these United States. Our Beaver State has an interesting pre-birth history, beginning in 1579 when England's Sir Francis Drake may have touched its coast. We know that British sea captain James Cook discovered and named Cape Foulweather, north of Yaquina Bay in 1778.

Robert Gray and other Americans landed on the Oregon coast in 1788. Britian's George Vancouver explored and mapped the coast in 1792, the year that Robert Gray discovered the great river which he named after his ship, the Columbia.

Explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, with help from Sacajewa and others, reached the mouth of the Columbia by land in 1805, giving the U.S. a strong claim to the region stretching from Alaska to California and eastward to the Rockies. In 1811 John Jacob Astor founded Astoria. A treaty between the U.S. and Spain fixed the present southern border of Oregon in 1819.

In 1843 settlers and traders met at Champog and organized a provisional government. Then in 1846 a treaty between England and the U.S. established the 49th parallel as the chief boundary between them. Oregon became a U.S. territory in 1848. Oregon City was the territorial capital until 1850 when the government was moved to Salem. The state's present boundaries were completely established in 1853, when Congress created the Washington Territory. So next Saturday don't forget to say "happy birthday" to our 122-year-old state.

Just now the Oregon State Beavers are basking in basketball glory as they not only lead their conference but also rank tops nationally. Many here follow every game. I recall that during my years in Corvallis, I rarely missed a home game at Gill Coliseum. What excitement!

Did you get to visit with the young sheepshearers who were here recently? I think there were twelve young men working here and then moving over toward Madras. I chanced to visit with three of them; two said this was their second work-trip to Oregon. The more talkative chap said he came from the southern part of North Island, and that Wellington, the capital of their self-governing dominion, was rather near his home.

The day after I enjoyed chattering with the traveling sheepshearers, Clifford and Frances Williams, now of Hermiston, were in Heppner. They told me they would soon fly to New Zealand. It seems that the far south Pacific is Clifford's favorite part of the world. Just a few years ago they made their exciting trip to tiny Norfolk Island about which Clifford had written a study during his college days. They spent a little time in Australia during that trip, and now they want to take a good look around New Zealand.

Several months ago I was interested in a news report that folks in Arizona were bailing tumbleweed and selling it as industrial fuel. Some entrepreneurs were even compacting that favorite weed of the winds into stove or fireplace fuel similar to pressed fireplace logs.

Now I see that a Texan is cultivating thistles (carduus marianus). For four years now he has run his thistle crops through a combine and has "sacked" around 2,000 pounds of thistle seeds per acre. The seeds are shipped to an organic pharmaceuticals company in Cologne, West Germany, which uses a part of the husk in a drug called Legalon 70. The drug is used in Europe to treat cirrhosis of the liver, but in the U.S. it is still unavailable because (like DMSO) it has not been subjected to tests which satisfy the Food and Drug Administration.

Although we are only in the second month of 1981, publicity is being turned out about the 1984 Summer Olympics, slated for Los Angeles. It seems that eight big corporations have already put up a total of \$75 million to become official sponsors, and plans are to enlist 50 large official sponsors in all, which will undoubtedly lead to a renewed outcry against "commercialization" of the games.

Some newswriters have dubbed the 1984 games the "Hamburger Olympics" because McDonald's will build a \$4 million, 11,000-seat swimming and diving stadium on the University of Southern California campus for the games. After the games, McDonald's name will stay on the facility, but USC will get possession of it and will allow it to be used by residents of the predominantly minority-populated neighborhoods surrounding the campus. So "Big Mac" will gain untold publicity, and the taxpayers will not be out anything but their spectator tickets and the price of millions of "Big Macs".

With several oil-right leasing companies talking to landowners in parts of the county--we wonder if explorational drillings will come soon?

Last week when I visited the county courthouse to make my second one-third payment on this year's property taxes, I took a few minutes to look around. The new tax-collection quarters look great; I had not been aware of the judge's new private office, and I made my first visit to the nicely remodeled basement offices. All the recent improvements seem excellent.

Just one complaint. Former Heppner Mayor Sweeney and I happened to reach the doorway to the county court office at the same moment, and Jerry called my attention to the fine thermometer mounted there. It registered just over 72 degrees, which Jerry remarked was warmer than public buildings were supposed to be.

In these days of rapidly escalating heating oil prices, when many low income persons are pinched to both eat and heat, and when many of us are keeping our homes cooler than we like, it seems that our county headquarters might use a little less hot air. However, could we all look forward to more heat at reduced prices if oil is discovered right here?

Don't forget that right after you open your Valentines, you, too, must visit the tax office. There certainly wasn't much time between that first payment in December and this second one due by Feb. 15, was there?

Robinson wins \$1,700 at rodeo

Kyle Robinson, Heppner, has won the calf roping event at a recent rodeo held at El Paso, Texas.

Robinson netted around \$1,700 in competition.

Robinson is the son of Merlyn and Don Robinson,

Heppner.

Another Heppner man, Clay West, recently returned from rodeo competition in Denver and Fort Worth. West is the son of Jim and Carlene West, also of Heppner.

Dessert honors HHS leaders



Heppner High School students entertain their audience with a jingle praising HHS club advisors at a Leadership Dessert program Monday night.

Fr. Lounsbury to School advisory committee to meet be at All Saints

All Saints Episcopal, Heppner, will hold its regular Morning Prayer service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 15.

Fr. David Lounsbury from St. Michael's of Newberg will be celebrating Holy Eucharist the evening of Feb 15 at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

The Heppner-Lexington Advisory Committee meet Thursday, February 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the Heppner High School Library.

Items to be covered on the agenda are:

Recommendation of certificated personnel.

Report on budget committee action regarding the 1981-82 school budget.

Information regarding advisory committee and district board vacancies; and

Northwest Schools and Colleges Accrediting report on Heppner High School.

Federal Land Bank Assoc. of Pendleton schedules annual meeting Feb. 19

Kirby Brumfield of Portland General Electric, author, film producer and lecturer is the featured speaker at the annual stockholders meeting of the Federal Land Bank Associa-

tion of Pendleton, according to Robin A. Fletcher, manager.

The meeting is set for February 19, at 12 noon at the Red Lion Motor Inn, Indian Hills, Pendleton. A luncheon will be served.

Activities include a report on association progress during the past year, election of two directors and a report from the board of directors on important actions taken since last year's stockholders meeting.

Directors of the Federal Land Bank Association of Pendleton are Royal Raymond, Helix, Frank Tubbs, Adams, Don Hawkins, Pendleton, Bill Etter, Pilot Rock, Richard Wilkinson and Edwin "Tad" Miller, Heppner, and Robert Peterson, Ione.

The association makes long-term loans to farmers and ranchers in Morrow and Umatilla counties and has services to field offices in Hermiston and Heppner.

Irrigon Irrigation awarded Mexico trip

By FRANCES ROSE WILSON

The family-owned-and-operated corporation of Irrigon Irrigation was recognized for being the fastest growing business of the Gould Pump Co. and was awarded an expense-paid trip to Mexico.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil "Babe" Rock and sons, Cecil, Rick and Donald, are partners in the family-owned business which has been incorporated.

The family has the dealership for Wade Circles and the Wade-rane Wheel Line, also affiliated with Goulds Pump Co.

The Rock family has worked hard to build up their dealership and back their work with a five-year guarantee, saying that if it doesn't work right they'll come back and fix it. Young Cecil, who is soon to be married, does the engineering and designing.

Their daughter, Tammy, a student at Whitworth College in Spokane, went along with the family at her own expense. They flew from Portland to Mazatlan in Mexico and from there went on several tours, one of which took them 125 miles into the interior where they said they saw the "real" Mexico. They visited several ancient Spanish missions dating back to 1565 and also went on a cruise.

REMEMBER Valentine's Day FEB. 14th

GIFTS that spell L-O-V-E on Valentine's Day

FREE Transfers (Your Choice) On All Shirts Purchased From Us.

Many New Styles & Colors On Hand.

Also Sign Up For Our Free Shirt Given Away The 15th Of Each Month.

Fri.—Sat.—Mon. **TALK N TOPS**

your valentine **DESERVES OUR SOMETHING SPECIAL**

30% off

Pants & Jackets Winter Coats

NEW Jessie Jeans Tapered Leg

Many Spring Tops For Juniors

Lebush Shoppe
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Shop these Heppner Merchants For Valentine's Specials

Love At First Sight

Flower Shop Valentine's

POSY PATCH FLOWER SHOP

Roses

Cut Flower Bouquets

Green & Blooming Plants

The Sweetheart Bouquet for Valentine's Day

Artificial Plants

Bouquets Starting At \$15

VALENTINE GIFTS CENTER

Oval Fitted Celelite Travel Kit

Celebrity Reg. 7⁰⁰ Special 5⁵⁰

Luxury Perfumed Gift Soap Reg. 5⁰⁰ Special 3⁵⁰

100% Natural Boar Bristle Hair Brushes

A superb quality brush line with a large selection of styles and handles.

Specially Priced To Sell at 50% Below Regular Retail

Murray's Drug
HEPPNER CONDON ARLINGTON

PRECIOUS GIFTS for Your Precious Valentine

Special Turtle Neck Sweaters

Friday, Saturday & Monday

1/2 Price

Winter Weight Underwear

1/2 Price

Valentine's SHORTS SOCKS

Special Flannel Shirts 8⁰⁰

Special Nylon Hooded Rain Jackets 5⁵⁰

Gardner's MEN'S WEAR