

Heppner students grades 5-12 perform at Winter Concert



Heppner band and chorus students in grades 5-12 performed at a Winter Concert held Tuesday night, Dec. 15 in the high school gym. The concert featured a variety of songs as well as Christmas music.

Behold the
ETERNAL BEAUTY
of this blessed time!
A MERRY CHRISTMAS
to cherished friends
and neighbors.

Gardner's
MEN'S WEAR

Greetings

Best wishes
for a bright,
and merry
Christmas

CAL'S ARCO

May this be a holiday to remember, filled with the charm of cherished traditions... new-found hope and happiness.

Merry Christmas
Morrow Co. Abstract & Title

It's Christmas
HOPE
LOVE
PEACE
GREEN FEED & SEED
Lee & Barbara

What A Gift!

The best gifts are those that keep on giving year-round. A fine art reproduction, for instance, attractively framed, or a subscription to a special magazine can be constant reminders that you remembered someone with something special.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Hanging our holiday stocking for Santa, and wishing you the best Christmas ever!

PETTYJOHN OIL

Very Merry Christmas

Here's to a holiday trimmed with gaiety and good cheer. Thanks to you all.

P & D MOBILE



Former M.C. Extension agent receives honors



Harold Kerr
Harold Kerr, former Morrow County Extension staff chairman, was among other

Extension agents and specialists honored for outstanding Extension work. Kerr received the honor from the Oregon Extension Association, an organization of Extension staff members, at a ceremony held December 11 at Oregon State University in Corvallis. Kerr received his award in the experienced staff category after being nominated by co-workers throughout the state. Winner selection was made by a panel of OSU agents and specialists and was based on work he had done during his twelve years in Morrow County, said a spokesperson. The awards by the association recognize staff members

who have made outstanding contributions to the education program of the OSU Extension Service, continued the spokesperson. Kerr and his wife Carol left Heppner last February, when

Kerr began his position in The Dalles as Wasco County Extension agent.

Around About

By Justine Weatherford

Here is a story which was included in "Guideposts Magazine" quite a few years ago. It was written by Dina Donahue who titled it "Trouble At The Inn."

For years now, whenever Christmas pageants are talked about in a certain little town in the midwest, someone is sure to mention the name of Wallace Purling. Wally's performance in one annual production of the Nativity Play has slipped into the realm of legend, but the oldtimers who were in the audience that night never tire of recalling exactly what happened.

Wally was nine that year and in the second grade, though he should have been in the fourth. Most people in town knew that he had difficulty in keeping up. He was big and clumsy, slow in movement and mind. Still, Wally was well liked by the other children in his class, all of whom were smaller than he, though the boys had trouble hiding their irritation when Wally would ask to play ball with them or any game, for that matter, in which winning was important.

Most often they'd find a way to keep him out, but Wally would hang around anyway—not sulking, just hoping. He was always a helpful boy, a willing and smiling one, and the natural protector, paradoxically, of the underdog. Sometimes if the older boys chased the younger ones away, it would always be Wally who'd say, "Can't they stay? They're no bother."

Wally fancied the idea of being a shepherd with a flute in the Christmas pageant that year, but the play's director, Miss Lumbard, assigned him to a more important role. After all, she reasoned, the innkeeper did not have too many lines, and Wally's size would make his refusal of lodging to Joseph more forceful.

And so it happened that the usual large, partisan audience gathered for the town's yearly extravaganza of crooks and creche, of beards, crowns, halos and a whole stageful of squeaky voices. No one on-stage or off was more caught up in the magic of the night than Wallace Purling. They said later that he stood in the wings and watched the performance with such fascination that from time to time Miss Lumbard had to make sure he didn't wander on-stage before his cue.

Then the time came when Joseph appeared, slowly, tenderly guiding Mary to the door of the inn. Joseph knocked hard on the wooden door set into the painted backdrop. Wally the innkeeper was there, waiting.

"What do you want?" Wally said, swinging the door open with a brusque gesture.

"We seek lodging."

"Seek it elsewhere," Wally looked straight ahead but spoke vigorously. "The inn is filled."

"Sir, we have asked everywhere in vain. We have traveled far and are very weary."

"There is no room in this inn for you," Wally looked properly stern.

"Please, good innkeeper, this is my wife, Mary. She is heavy with child and needs a place to rest. Surely you must have some small corner for her. She is so tired."

Now, for the first time, the innkeeper relaxed his stiff stance and looked down at Mary. With that, there was a long pause, long enough to make the audience a bit tense with embarrassment.

"No! Begone!" the prompter whispered from the wings.

"No!" Wally repeated automatically. "Begone!"

Joseph sadly placed his arm around Mary and Mary laid her head upon her husband's shoulder and the two of them started to move away. The innkeeper did not return inside his inn, however. Wally stood there in the doorway, watching the forlorn couple. His mouth was open, his brow creased with concern, his eyes filling unmistakably with tears.

And suddenly this Christmas pageant became different from all others.

"Don't go, Joseph," Wally called out. "Bring Mary back."

And Wallace Purling's face brightened with a big smile.

"You can have my room."

Some people in town thought that the pageant had been ruined. Yet there were others, many others—who considered it the most Christmasy of all Christmas pageants they had ever seen.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Hope your holidays beat the band! Thanks all.

GONTY'S

AS WE GATHER TO LIGHT THE CHRISTMAS TREE, WE WISH OUR FRIENDS A Bright and Merry holiday

From Office Of **ABRAMS & KUHN**

warm wishes

We're purring with thanks this merry Christmas-tide. Hope your holiday's a bow-WOW!

Heppner Auto Parts

CHEERS

That festive holiday spirit is in the air! With hearts filled with excitement, we say Merry Christmas, and thanks.

Lexington Lumber
989-8586

JOY TO ALL

Gathered round Santa in merry celebration, we think of our friends and take this moment to say "thanks." We appreciate you continuing association and hope your holidays will be bright and happy!

Morrow County Grain Growers INC.