

Around About By Justine Weatherford

(Editor's note: the first portion of this column concludes a three-part series on Alaska.)

Inez and I walked through the shops, ate, marveled at the huge, tuberous begonias along the glacial stream which tumbles through the area. We especially enjoyed a large shop featuring Alaska jade articles. Then our tour continued to about fifty miles south of Anchorage where we stopped at the magnificent Portage Glacier where I saw my first icebergs floating in Portage Lake at the end of Turnagain Arm. On the way back to town we stopped for a quick look at the famous, little watering hole, the Birdhouse. The highway we traveled on was being rebuilt and enlarged and was very busy late in the afternoon as folks were leaving Anchorage for their three-day July Fourth holiday.

That evening Inez and I walked around downtown after dinner and were still in the large Book Cache when it closed at 9 p.m. It was so difficult to tell time in Alaska's 22 hours of daylight, but it was also great to be able to get in so much more looking around during each day.

Saturday morning, July 3, at 8:30 a.m., we flew out of Anchorage headed for Seattle, Wash. Our pilots pointed out many glaciers which were visible below us. Our loaded plane landed at Sea-Tac about 1:30 p.m., a little later than scheduled because of the strong headwinds which slowed us some.

We spent that night with the Weavers at Port Orchard, Wash. and left Ross there. At mid-morning on Sunday, we met Dennis, Joan and Irene Swanson at Tumwater, and we three grandmothers came home in Inez's car.

Our most interesting stop coming south was at the Mt. St. Helens gift shop owned by Ada Piper and her son John, near Lewis and Clark State Park off of I-5 between Toledo and Chehalis where the Pipers also own a trailer and R.V. Park.

I hope some of you have enjoyed reading my review of the exciting, quick look at Alaska. Last Sunday, in the good company of Ida Farra, I drove to Cascade Locks to pick up my visiting granddaughter, Anita Haberlach, 12.

Often when many of us drive down the Columbia River and home again, we just don't take time to see a few of the many interesting things along the route. Ida and I made a rather leisurely trip in the cool of the forenoon. Our most interesting "for fun" stop was at Cascade Locks where we took time to look around the park beside the old section of the locks and to go through the delightful museum.

There is no admission charged persons who view the three floors of exhibits in the house that was at one time the home of the supervisor of the locks. Ida, who has done much work at the Morrow County Museum, and I, were pleased with the whole arrangement of the museum: its main floor parlor-dining room, the little pantry, the larger kitchen and the upstairs with the two treasure-filled bedrooms which were extremely interesting. The full basement is filled with equipment used by early loggers and other workers along the river. The entire house-museum has old-time pictures on its walls and in its exhibit cases.

In the little souvenir shop beside the entrance hall, I purchased the booklet "The Oregon Pony" telling of the historic, small engine which is carefully preserved in a glass encasement out in front of the museum. The following two paragraphs introduce this 10-page booklet.

"During 1858-1859 a wooden portage railroad was built for the transfer of freight around the Cascade Rapids in the Columbia River. Mules were used to pull the small four-wheel railroad cars in transferring freight from one steamboat to another at opposite ends of the rapids.

"In 1861, the owners of the Oregon Portage Railroad determined to substitute a locomotive for the mules. Thus a locomotive was ordered to be built by the Vulcan Iron Works in San Francisco. It was the first locomotive built on the Pacific coast, and the first to be used north of the California line. Because of its small size it was named "The Pony," and the following dimensions show the name to be well chosen: Tractive force - 810 pounds at 10 mph; Drivers - 34 inches diameter; Cylinders - 6 x 12 inches; Weight - 9700 pounds; Length - 14 feet 3 1/2 inches; Gauge - 5 feet."

I further learned that the engine was brought by boat to Portland early in 1862, and it moved an average of 200 tons of freight every day between Bonneville and Cascade Locks for two years before being transferred to The Dalles - Celilo Railroad about 40 miles further up the river where it was used to transport freight around the Celilo Falls and rapids.

After meeting grandchildren Scott and Anita, with their maternal grandparents and lunching, Ida, Anita and I started eastward. Our most interesting stop coming home was one I have long intended to make. We went through the Old St. Peter's Landmark Preservation, Inc. at The Dalles. This lovely, red brick Catholic church is now owned by a non-profit and non-denominational organization that is restoring and maintaining the building which was dedicated on St. Patrick's Day in 1896.

A pleasant hostess greeted us inside and showed us about, and told us some of the building's history and of its furnishings. This almost pure Gothic style church has a steeple which rises 176 feet and is topped by a weathervane rooster. The roof is galvanized iron Spanish tile. Its bell weighs 533 pounds. The interior of the building contains six Rose windows and 34 magnificent stained glass windows made by Posey Brothers of Portland. The paintings in the interior were by a renowned German artist. The railing and altars were made in Italy from Carrara marble, and the Kilgen pipe organ made of rare tigerwood is outstanding.

East of The Dalles we became fascinated by the operating 200 foot tall windmills atop the Goodnoe Hills east of Goldendale, Wash. which were very visible Sunday afternoon. We watched them turning as we traveled along many miles of Oregon's I-84.

The next time you drive toward Portland and back, maybe you will take a few minutes to enjoy some of the special points of interest along the way.

Heppner Womens' Aglow Fellowship to meet Tues.

The Heppner Women's Aglow Fellowship will meet Tuesday, July 27, 7:15 p.m. at All Saints' Episcopal Parish Hall in Heppner.

Speaker for the evening will be Flora Cheadle of John Day. Cheadle is legal secretary to a circuit court judge, a wife and the mother of two teenagers. She is corresponding secretary on the Aglow area board.

The topic of her talk is "Jesus Is Life." She will be sharing the story of her life and discussing the need for loving others.

Babysitting is available by calling Kathy Clark, 676-5828, before 5 p.m. July 27 to make arrangements.

All women are invited to this dessert fellowship meeting.

Senior News More cheese available

July birthdays will be celebrated at the Wed., July 28 noon meal at the Heppner Senior Mealsite. Entertainment will be provided by Ella Mae Green, who will play the piano and sing.

Ione and Lexington residents needing a ride to Heppner on Wednesdays are asked to call Dot Halvorsen, 422-7143 to make arrangements.

Seniors attending the noon meal at the mealsite are not charged for transportation. For those over 60 who do not attend the cost is 75 cents round trip. Cost for commuters under 60 is \$1.50.

Heppner seniors needing a ride to the mealsite should call Mary Nikander, 676-5571 to make arrangements.

Anyone wishing to donate garden vegetables or fruit to the mealsite may contact Cherrie Clark, 676-5222 or Lynnea Sargent, 676-9621.

By NEOLA MACKEY
The United States Department of Agriculture has made available more surplus cheese under the government price-support program for dairy products. The five counties under Blue Mountain Economic Development Council jurisdiction have about 14,000 lbs. of the cheese to distribute.

The cheese giveaway began in Morrow County on Tuesday at Boardman and Irrigon. South Morrow County residents may apply for the cheese at the Heppner Neighborhood Center on Friday, July 23 at 10 a.m. Those unable to come to the center Friday may call 676-5873 for an appointment.

To be eligible for the free five lbs. of cheese, applicants must meet income guidelines set by the federal govern-

ment: a gross monthly income of \$487 for one person, \$648 for two, \$808 for three or \$968 for four.

An Adult and Family Services counselor will be available at the center on Wednesday, July 28 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Blue Mountain Community College classes conducted at the center will conclude next week. Joy Krein, instructor, will later announce the date when classes are to resume in the fall.

Ladies attending the Thursday social-craft time at the center are readying craft items to sell at the Heppner merchant's Sidewalk Sale on Saturday, July 24. Proceeds of the sale are used to purchase some of the needed supplies for craft projects.

Heppner Garden Club a very busy group

By JUSTINE WEATHERFORD

The July meeting of the Heppner Garden Club was held at the home of Bob and Babe Harris on Monday evening, July 12. President Theta Love conducted the business meeting while members were enjoying a potluck picnic in the Harris yard.

The members of the Yard of the Month Selection Committee: Irene Swanson, Dr. W. Wolff and Justine Weatherford, recommended that the garden of Everett and Helen Keithley be named Yard of the Month for the period between July 15 and August 15. Members unanimously approved this recommendation. Other matters discussed were the members' participation in the coming Morrow County Fair. All were urged to plan to take an active part in the vegetable flower and flower arrange-

ment divisions. Plans are being formed for the Blue Mountain District 10 meeting which will be held in Heppner on Saturday, Sept. 25. Eleanor Gonty and Irene Swanson reported that arrangements are confirmed that this affair will be held at St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Hall. Jane Rawlins presented

some suggestions for the district meeting, which is tentatively named A Fall Potpourri. Several club committees are scheduling meetings before the regular August meeting on Monday evening, August 9, at the Weatherford home.

Aerobic dance class slated in Heppner

A Blue Mountain Community College aerobic dance class will begin Monday, August 2 at Heppner Elementary School. The class will be

held each Monday and Thursday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Instructor for the class will be Joyce Hughes of Lexington.

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