

Around About By Justine Weatherford

So we have almost come through January in this unusually mild winter, and it has felt so good to have had sunshine on many of our gradually lengthening days. Some retired and unemployed persons, who have found that it is most difficult in these times to afford to both heat and eat, have been financially aided by our mild weather. When one reads of gasoline prices really dropping elsewhere to less than one dollar per gallon; one can't understand why the proclaimed "glut" of oil doesn't lower the cost of heating oil. We all feel distress over the Washington Public Power Supply System fiasco, but can all sincerely offer thanks for the mild winter (so far) and the longer, lighter days.

Because I don't need to go into the courthouse very often, I am not feeling very well acquainted with many of the recent new county employees and the new office arrangements already in place.

I am especially pleased by the fact that Karen Wheelhouse, now of Hermiston, who was one of my first neighbors in Morrow County, has won the state "Make It Yourself With Wool Contest." Now Karen is to go to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma for the national contest. I remember Karen as such a pretty little girl, but I must now realize she has already completed some college work and is planning to go to a modeling school in Phoenix, Arizona. How time races by.

You know that nearly 100 years have raced by since this newspaper began serving the Heppner community. I have talked with Frances Parker Mitchell about some of her mother's family members (Crawfords) who were with the paper in its early years and owned and operated it for many years. Frances is writing to Art Crawford senior and Art junior in California to try to get some historic information about the newspaper. Rather recently in a magazine, which I can't locate now, I learned that our paper has a twin. I read an article about America's rural family newspaper "Grit" which is also celebrating its centennial in 1983.

It may seem premature to many, but January is a good time to be thinking and planning ahead for next August's Morrow County Fair. Last week a group of eager members of the Lone and Heppner Garden clubs were called together by the Heppner Club President, Theta Lowe, to do some paper work leading to a few revisions in the fair schedule pertaining to the open class flower division.

There is less than one week before the February 1 deadline for paying for advance copies of the Morrow County History Book. I have sent along some tentative paragraphs to my stepchildren for their possible approval or improvement. I surely hope I get mailings back from them soon.

After you have taken care of your county historical writing, be making plans to treat yourself to the very nice sit down dinner (not a buffet) that the Chamber of Commerce is arranging the night of February 14. After that we will all need to be Irish, think Irish, plan Irish and get set to enjoy the great day of March 17. I know that Pendleton's KUMA radio station is again making big plans to come here, and they have started again to really promote Heppner as the Irish capital of Oregon that day.

It has always pleased me to recognize how unusually cosmopolitan, how wide-worldly this little town actually is. Heppner was founded by and named after a German-Jewish immigrant. Among the early settlers here were American Indians, then vigorous Irish and careful Swedes and Germans. Through the years there have been clusters of English, Chinese, Scotch, French and other folks from many other ethnic groups including now our Laotian Thongdys and soon, we hope, the Polish Doboszynski family.

I know that early athletic teams from Heppner High School were heralded as the "Fighting Irish," and although "Mustangs" is a good tag, I still would prefer that our teams carried the same athletic label that Notre Dame has made so famous.

Just for fun, in thinking about coming special days, I've done some checking. In February, our shortest month, the big days confuse me. Of course the 14th honors Saint Valentine, which doesn't make it rate holiday status, but I have long thought that because our state was born that day, it should be a state holiday in honor of Oregon, the Valentine State, born 124 years ago on February 14, 1859. I still wish to remember Abraham Lincoln on February 12 and George Washington on February 22 and am not yet really ready to accept Presidents' Day which comes February 21 this year. Sometime back I learned that Heppner's patron saint, Patrick, died on March 17 over 1,500 years ago, in about 461 A.D. The date of his death has been observed in America since colonial days, and is now again being fittingly observed in Heppner thanks to Jimmy Farley and the St. Patrick's Church's Altar Society.

'Shoot-out' for Easter Seals to be held in Heppner Feb. 12

Local young people are invited to compete in a "shoot-out" February 12 at the Heppner High School gym — but they'll take aim with basketballs as they join in the Fourth Annual Jack Ramsay Basketball Shoot-Out, an Easter Seals benefit.

Dave Gunderson of Heppner, chairman of the event, says that the popular contest is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Entry forms are to be available at Pepsi displays in local grocery stores, plus display posters around town and at school. Pepsi Cola and NIKE, Inc. are sponsoring the event for students 18 and under.

Oregonians with physical disabilities will be the real winners in the statewide competition. Shoot-out participants will each secure sponsors who will make pledges,

based on the number of baskets sunk, to the Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults of Oregon. Contributions are tax-deductible, said a society spokesperson.

Local contest officials say that each player will have three minutes to shoot baskets. Both girls and boys are eligible to compete, and baskets may be shot from anywhere on the court as balls are continuously fed to contestants.

The local hoopsters are also going for an exciting prize package: the seven top regional contestants in the state, determined by the amount of pledges each turns in, will visit Portland on Friday, March 18, to be guests at a Trail Blazer practice, have lunch with Blazer Coach Jack Ramsay, and attend that evening's Trail Blazer game,

where they will be introduced at half-time. Grand prize winner will receive a scholarship for one week at Perry's Basketball Clinic in 1983.

Top fund-raisers in each city will be invited to appear on their region's Easter Seal Telethon broadcast March 26-27. Each Shoot-out participant who turns in \$35 or more will be awarded special NIKE prizes from Painters Caps to windbreakers and autographed basketballs.

Key committee members for the Heppner event also include Brent Eggers and Bob Ployhar.

Health Dept.

Friday, Jan. 28 - free blood pressure clinic and immunizations, Lexington Health Department office, 8 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

Co. officials request VISA cards

By MARYANN CERULLO

Requests for two new Visa accounts were made to Morrow County Court at their Wednesday meeting, Jan. 19, by Barbara Bloodsworth, Morrow County clerk and Margo Sherer, county treasurer.

According to Sherer, both she and Bloodsworth have had to borrow charge cards from other departments while on county business. They then have had to divide the expenses from the monthly statement. She felt that the one-time fee of \$10 for opening each new account was worth the book work that would be saved.

Bloodsworth pointed out to the court that all the male elected officials in the courthouse have Visa accounts. She and Sherer are the only two elected female officials and

they do not have the accounts. "Ten dollars is nothing. I'd be willing to pay that out of my own pocket. It's worth that much to me," stated Sherer.

The court agreed to consider it. In other business, the court received a letter from the dispatchers of the county sheriff's department expressing a concern for their safety.

According to the letter, dispatchers are often left alone in the sheriff's office with a prisoner who is being held there. The dispatchers are not authorized to carry firearms.

The dispatchers also expressed concern over the security of both a door leading outside and the door to the prisoner's holding room.

In June a man and his wife damaged both doors in the sheriff's office while the man was in custody. Both doors are

still in need of some repair, claimed the dispatchers.

The court discussed security measures that could be taken and then recessed to look at the two doors in question. When the commissioners reconvened they agreed to defer any decision until the matter could be discussed with county Sheriff Larry Fetsch.

In other business the court also:

— promoted Claudine Warren, Heppner, to chief deputy clerk from her position as deputy clerk.

— promoted LoRayne Bowman, Heppner, from the position of county judge's secretary to administrative assistant.

— appointed Bowman as county budget officer.

— approved a contract with Morrow County Abstract & Title Co. to microfilm county records.



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CAULIFLOWER SNOW WHITE LARGE 49¢	CALIFORNIA KIWI BAG OF 12 EA. 1.75	POTATOES PREMIUM BAKING 5 LBS. \$1
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QUALITY FRESH MEAT



OLD FAITHFUL HAMS
SMOKED AND FULLY COOKED
\$1.99 LB.

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PORK SPARERIBS MEDIUM SIZE 4-6 LB. FRESH LB. \$1.49	CHILI ROLLS HYGRADE 1-LB. EA. \$1.69
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