



Santa's helpers get ready for Christmas

Santa's helper Alaura Mackey, five year old granddaughter of Heppner Neighborhood Center worker Neola Mackey poses with some of the dolls that she has helped prepare for the Center's Christmas Basket project. These dolls were dressed by Irene Swanson who is pictured with Alaura. The Soroptimists and other organizations and individuals have also donated dolls and helped to clean and dress them.

Although the Center has several dolls, there is a baskets said a Center spokesperson. Any donations of cars or trucks in good condition would be appreciated.

cars or trucks in good condition would be appreciated. Also needed for the Christmas baskets are new socks, underwear, stocking caps, and small personal gifts for the whole family.

Several hundred dollars are spent each year just to purchase socks because the Center makes a special effort to include in the Christmas baskets at least one new pair of socks for each member of the family.

Although the area Cub Scouts have planned to have a food drive again this year, any donations—cash, food, or personal gifts—may be brought to the Center before Friday, Dec. 14.

Enter your favorite recipe in 1985 Ore. Beef Cook-Off

"The variety of beef recipes that receive rave reviews is endless", said Kay Markgraf, State CowBelle Cook-Off Chairman in a recent press release which announced the start of the 1985 Oregon Beef Cook-Off.

"In past years we have focused on beef recipes with an ethnic background or those involving microwave cooking, but this year these limitations have been waived," Markgraf continued.

From the recipes submitted, five finalists will be selected to participate in the State Beef Cook-Off to be held on February 23 at the Northwest Food Fair in Portland. The deadline for entries is January 18.

First prize is a weekend for two at Oregon's Salishan Lodge, Glendon Beach and an all-expense paid trip to the National Beef Cook-Off. Second prize is a \$100 shopping spree at Kitchen Kaboodle. The three other finalists will each receive a dinner cruise for two on the stern-wheeler, "Columbia Gorge".

All recipes must follow these rules: 1) All beef cuts must come from the chuck, round, fresh brisket, plate, shank, or ground beef. 2) The recipe must contain a minimum of

one pound of beef and not more than five. Each serving must contain at least three ounces of cooked beef. Meat used must be exclusively beef.

3) Cooking time cannot exceed four hours, except marinating time. 4) The recipe must be specific with no use of brand names. 5) All entries are judged on taste (40 points), appearance (20 points), originality (20 points), and ease of preparation (20 points). All entries become the property of the Oregon Beef Council.

6) Contestants must be at least 18 years old. The contest is closed to Cattlemen, CowBelles, their immediate families, anyone with professional food status, and anyone who has owned cattle (or who lives in a household where any person has owned cattle) in the 12 months preceding October 1, 1985. 7) Contestants must live in Oregon.

To enter, type or print a favorite beef recipe on a sheet of paper, listing all ingredients and recipe directions, along with your name and address and send to: Oregon Beef Council, 1000 N.E. Multnomah, Portland, OR 97232.

All entries must be postmarked no later than January 18, 1985.

IRS asks for volunteers

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance is an Internal Revenue Service program for helping people who have problems preparing their income tax returns, says an IRS news release.

According to the IRS, volunteers learn how to prepare a simple tax return by successfully completing a special training course in basic income tax return preparation. Free classes are conducted by IRS and the Oregon Department of Revenue during December and January and the volunteers work with taxpayers at VITA sites throughout the tax season, January through April 15.

T. Blair Evans, District Director for IRS in Oregon, advises that as a volunteer you are not considered a professional tax preparer and will not be held legally responsible for the return.

Those who need assistance include the elderly, handicapped persons, low income and non-English speaking individuals. The VITA volunteers help these people fill out Form 1040EZ, Form 1040A, a basic Form 1040 including Schedule A for itemizing deductions and taking advantage of such credits as Child Care and Credit for the Elderly. They also help with preparation of State of Oregon forms.

The volunteer income tax assistance is provided free at community centers, libraries, churches and schools that set aside rooms for this purpose. In Oregon, VITA is especially in need of bilingual volunteers, particularly those who can speak Spanish and Asian languages.

Evans said, "Last year we trained over 300 volunteers in Oregon who offered their free tax help at many community locations." Nationwide there are about 36,000 VITA volunteers working at over 7,400 sites.

Those who would like to volunteer, or who belong to an organization which would like to be involved, should contact the IRS at their statewide toll-free telephone number, 1-800-424-1040, for more detailed information.

Willows to install officers

Grange officers will be installed December 8 at 2 p.m. at Willows Grange hall. After the installation, a potluck dinner will be followed by playing cards. All Grange officers are invited to participate said a Willows Grange spokesperson. This is open to the public.

On December 12 a Willows Grange meeting will start off with a potluck supper at 6 p.m. followed by a program with guest speaker, Axel Trumppheller from West Germany. Axel has been staying at the Tom Currin home. Twenty five year pins will be presented at a Grange meeting following the program, which is open to the public.

At the November grange meeting, the following officers were elected: Master Bryce Keene; Overseer Willard French; Lecturer Helen Crawford; Steward Lewis Halvorsen; Assistant Steward Lee Palmer; Lady Assistant Steward Mary Ann Pal-

mer; Treasurer Betty Snow; Secretary Dot Halvorsen; Gate Keeper Bill Snow; Ceres-Geneva Palmer; Pomona Vera Lou Rietmann; Flora-Marilyn Childers; Executive Committee-Berl Akers, Wayne Rietmann and Anna Ball.

December 21 the C.W.A. will exchange gifts and reveal their secret sisters at the annual Christmas party. Turkeys will be cooked for a potluck supper that evening. The evening will conclude by playing cards.

BMCC announces schedule

The McCrae Activity Center at Blue Mountain Community College will close December 11 at 9:45 p.m. for the winter break, according to Jerry Mosby, MAC director.

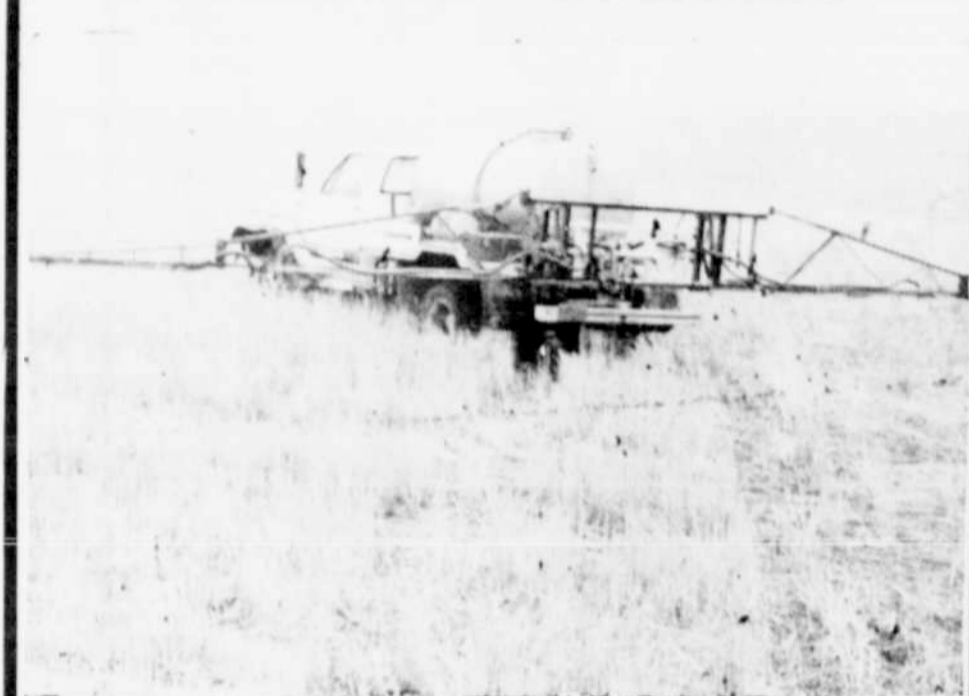
The MAC facilities will remain closed until the beginning of winter term, January 8, at 6 a.m.

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Neighborhood center taking appointments for low income energy program

The Heppner Neighborhood Center is taking appointments for December 7, 14 and 21 for clients who need to meet with the Low Income Energy Assistance Program worker said Center co-ordinator Pat Brindle. Group appointments can be made at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. to get as many clients as possible taken care of because federal funding has been reduced.

All clients must bring proof of all gross income: wages, pensions, interest, dividends, grants, tips, salaries. Adult and Family Service assistance or Unemployment Compensation. This year clients are also required to have an electric bill as well as a fuel bill for their household which is to be left at the Center. Medical expenses paid by the

client are the one allowable income deduction. Medical expenses for which a client receives some form of reimbursement are ineligible.

False information can cause repayment of the allotment plus fines of up to \$10,000 or imprisonment said Brindle.

Releases are being mailed to Adult and Family Services, and Food Stamp recipients who must bring the information with them when applying for fuel assistance.

This year all people over age 18 must also bring their Social Security cards when applying.

The staff at the neighborhood Center will be glad to answer questions, make appointments, and help in any way that they can. Call 676-5873.

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