

Fire guts Irrigon family home

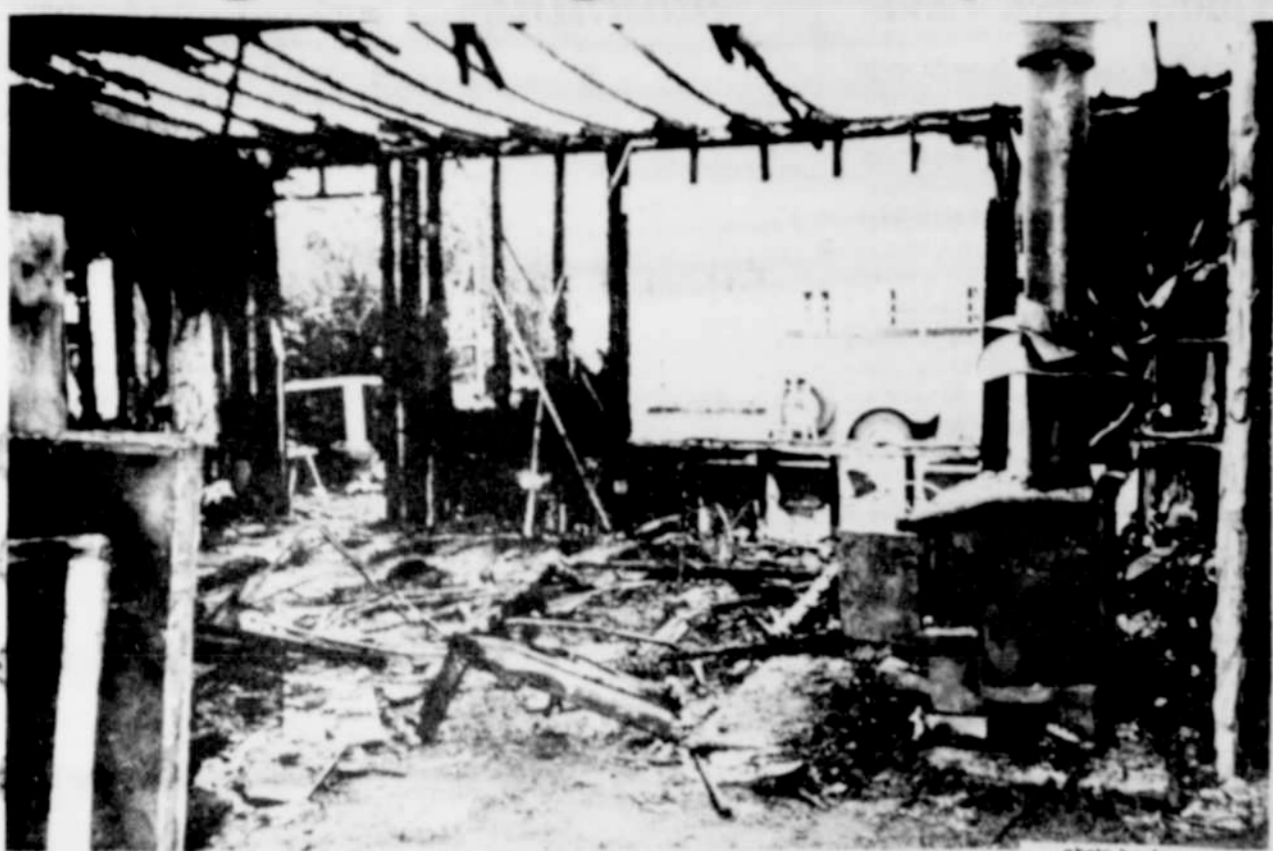


Photo by Joyce Hensley

The dark, burned out shell of this mobile home shows no proof that Rob and Lynnea Meakin were sleeping here just twelve hours earlier. An over-heated wood stove was the cause of the blaze to this Irrigon couple's home.

by Joyce Hensley

Prayers went up in Irrigon churches for an Irrigon family who lost their mobile home and everything in it to an early Sunday morning fire.

Rob and Lynnea Meakin, Eighth Street West, woke up to the sound of their smoke alarm. Rob, after opening his bedroom door could see the dining table and couch ablaze.

The Irrigon Rural Fire District dispatched three fire trucks to the

scene after receiving the call from the Meakins at 1:59 a.m. Eleven Irrigon volunteer firemen fought the fire, but couldn't save the dwelling.

"We think the wood stove overheated and caught the table on fire", said Fire Chief Don Adams. "That is where the fire was the hottest".

The Meakin's three children, Scott, 12; Michelle, 10; and Eric, 5, were staying in Wasco with their grandparents for Thanksgiving and

were not in the mobile home at the time of the fire.

As all of the belongings of the Meakin family were wiped out, the Irrigon Rural Fire Department is asking the community to pitch in and help the family. Donations of any kind, clothing, bedding, furniture, kitchen equipment, toys and money will be collected at the fire hall or city hall.

Boardman • Irrigon

News

Call 676-9228 with news items

Irrigon seniors complete Walk-in freezer

By Joyce Hensley

Chester Wilson, Irrigon, shows off the recently completed \$7,000 walk-in freezer installed in the Irrigon Stokes Landing Senior Center.

"The freezer was planned as part of the building," said Wilson, secretary for the Stokes Landing Senior Center Board, "but, we had to wait to complete it."

Contributions from all directions came in to finance the project. The Columbia junior high students from Gary Hunt's home room had a car wash Community Service Day and donated the receipts, Morrow County United Way gave \$1,000, and a fund in memory of Wayne Bivans was set up by the Bivans family for the freezer, according to Wilson, "besides our regular fund raisers."

The center, completed in the spring of 1986, is planning a stew and pie feed for their next fund raiser, December 3, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. according to chairman of the board, Ruth Bentley.



Photo by Joyce Hensley

Chester Wilson stands in doorway of walk-in freezer

School Lunch Menus

December 7-11

Ione Schools

Monday-scalloped potatoes, weiners, peas and carrots, vegetable sticks, bread and butter, fruit and milk.

Tuesday-sloppy Joes, cheese sticks, carrot sticks, green beans, fruit and milk.

Wednesday-stew, pear and cottage cheese salad, crackers, pickled beets, cookies and milk.

Thursday-chicken and noodles, blueberry muffins, peas, vegetable sticks, fruit and milk.

Friday-vegetable soup, turkey or peanut butter and honey sandwiches, crackers, pickles and milk.

RHS

Monday-ham slices, baked potatoes, cheese sauce, peas, peaches and milk, sandwich bar.

Tuesday-taco's, lettuce, meat, cheese, rolls and butter, oranges, tapioca pudding, milk and sandwich bar.

Wednesday-grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, vegetable sticks, pickle spears, apple sauce, graham crackers, milk and sandwich bar.

Thursday-potato skins, (taco) green salad, jello, cake, cherry topping, milk and sandwich bar.

Friday-chicken nuggets, tartar and sweet/sour sauce, buttered rice, rolls, honey and butter, apples and milk.

Sam Boardman

Monday-hamburger tater tot casserole, green beans, cheese stix, fruit, cake and milk.

Tuesday-chili, cornbread, honey butter, vegetable stix, applesauce and milk.

Wednesday-little sausage, hash browns, orange slices, cinnamon rolls and milk.

Thursday-pizza, green beans, pears, graham cracker and milk.

Friday-beef gravy, potatoes, carrots, rolls, fruit and milk.

Tillicum club selling Christmas items

The Boardman Tillicum Club is having their Annual Christmas Bazaar to be held Friday, December 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Inland Empire Bank in Boardman.

A large number of baked goods and homemade craft items will be available for sale.



Photo by Joyce Hensley

Eric Jorgensen 11, left, and his sister Stephanie 8, prove you are never too old to sit on Santa's lap and give him your Christmas list at Irrigon's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Party Sunday night.

Santa attends Irrigon's Christmas tree lighting party

by Joyce Hensley

Little eyes lit up when the exciting moment arrived. Santa Claus jogged into the midst of the Irrigon Christmas Tree Lighting Party in the city park while a combined community choir sang "Here Comes Santa Claus".

Santa didn't get there in time to enjoy the Living Christmas Tree light up as Mayor Don Eppenbach plugged in the cord, or to enjoy the old-fashioned community Christmas carol sing, but he did spread plenty of cheer, not to mention candy canes, donated by Browns' Truck Stop, to the anxiously awaiting children.

Santa's mouth watered as he ho-ho'd his way through the crowd as they nibbled on doughnuts, donated by the churches, businesses and organizations of the community, and sipped on hot drinks, served by the

Irrigon Watermelon Festival committee.

He couldn't resist. Putting off his diet for another day, Santa had a yummy pastry.

After waving a jolly good-by, Santa admired the brightly lit nativity scene in the miniature manger, donated by Betty Wadkins of B and J Ceramics, as he jogged by to find his sled and eight tiny reindeer.

Off and away he went, down Main street, following the guiding lights of the newly completed set of Christmas decorations, twinkling their full \$5,000 worth raised by the community through the Irrigon Watermelon Festival. He sailed through the air toward children in another town waiting to whisper in his ear their many wants of Christmas.

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Irrigon scholars will compete in National Knowledge Master Open

The excitement and satisfaction of a good performance in competition aren't reserved for athletes at Columbia Junior High School in Irrigon. A team of the school's scholars, along with those from hundreds of other schools, will face 200 challenging questions from all curriculum areas December 2 in the National Knowledge Master Open academic contest.

The contest is sent to each school on a special computer disk so teams can compete without the expense and disruption of traveling to a central site. The computer compiles the students' scores on the base of speed and accuracy.

This is the first time that Columbia Junior High has entered the

Knowledge Master competition. Academic coach, Sally Edinger, anticipates her students will meet this challenge with eagerness and high expectations.

Over 2,000 middle schools, junior high schools, and senior high schools are expected to enter the upcoming edition of this biannual meeting of the minds. The eighth running of the event was held last April and involved about 27,000 students representing 1,896 schools in all 50 states and Canada.

The results of the contest are tabulated into national, state and enrollment-size rankings by Academic Hallmarks, the software publisher which coordinates the event.

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