

## Lexington News

By Delpha Jones, 989-8189

by Delpha Jones

Thursday evening Holly Rebekah Lodge was honored with a visit from the President of the Rebekah Assembly, Frances Eddy and Grand Marshall of the Rebekah Assembly, Helen McClure. The evening started with a served dinner, to 33 members and guests, followed by a fine program by the Blue Mountain Chapter of the Sweet Adelines, who sang several fine numbers. The colors of the President are red, white and blue and the dining area was decorated in the theme of an Old Fashioned 4th of July picnic with those colors being predominant. The meeting was called to order by the NG Geri Martin. Introduced at this time and presented tokens of their visit to Holly were, Helen Pettyjohn DDP District 20 A; Gladys Biggerstaff DDP of District 19; Vivian Engles typist for the Assembly; Inez Wright Past Grand Matriarch of the LEA of Oregon; Margaret Wright, Grand Trustee; Leila Palmer DDP of Holly and the honored guests. There was a cute skit presented by Virginia Peck and Hilda Yocom to the tune of "How much is that doggie in the window" The president's song, Julie Dick sang a lovely solo "Faith Unlocks the Door." A tribute to the American flag was given with Hilda Yocom as flag bearer, Virginia Peck and Frances Peck as attendants, and Delpha Jones as reader. An interesting and instructive talk was given by the President who told of the work of the eye research through the John Hopkins Center, the work the Arthritis Foundations is accomplishing and of the other projects

for the Friendship House. She stressed co-operation between members and neighboring lodges, and communication between officers and members. We must try and help each other and be kind and respectful to one another. She read two lovely poems in closing. She has appointed Virginia Peck as a special deputy for San Souci Lodge to meet with and help them to get underway again. The District meeting scheduled for San Souci in March has been changed to Bunchgrass with Helen Pettyjohn as chairman. Pauline Rebekah Lodge gave a fine donation to Ruth's Friendship Tree, to go to the Neighborhood Center. All were pleased with the project and congratulated Holly on doing such a fine job with it. Pauline Lodge reminded the group of the Oddfellow and Rebekah Picnic in July and said it was too early to start thinking of the October Fun Night and dinner at their hall in Pendleton. They thanked Holly for the fine time and invited us to visit with them. Vivian McConnell of San Souci spoke a few words as did Helen Pettyjohn of Bunchgrass. Roll call was taken. Gladys Biggerstaff, Helen Pettyjohn, Leila Palmer and Delpha Jones were escorted to the center of the floor and received clever little plaques and seals for the unwritten work, by the President Frances. Seals were presented to DDP Leila for the unwritten work for the past president. The coin drill went to the President's project. Leita Messenger is now at the home of her daughter Betty Marquardt where she is recuperating from hip surgery. Hilda Yocom has been a patient in Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Jean Nelson had a very enjoyable Saturday when she rode the sternwheeler from Portland to Cascade Locks. They were served lunch and a barbecue on the boat, lovely scenery was enjoyed and a trip through the locks. A bus met them and they were taken back to Portland. The sternwheeler makes trips from Portland to Cascade Locks and back again. While she was in the valley, she also enjoyed the reunion of her class at college where she met and renewed acquaintances.

## "Forest Fire Controversy Sizzles"

By Mark Baggett

"Forest Fire Controversy Sizzles" The summer of 1988 will undoubtedly be remembered as the year of the forest fire.

And while uncontrolled blazes raged in virtually every western state, the most exemplary, of course, was the inferno that became the Greater Yellowstone Area of northwest Wyoming. For several months last summer and fall, an estimated 988,925 acres (45.5 percent), of the 2.2 million-acre attraction were host to flames that drew more than 25,000 fire fighters to our oldest national park, resulting in fire-suppression costs nearing \$120 million.

But the flames were not the only source of intense heat surrounding the Yellowstone incident. Tempers flared across the nation in opposition to the Park Service's "let burn" policy adopted in 1972 which states that naturally ignited fires within the park be allowed to run their course as long as human life or damage to developed areas is not at risk.

Today, long after last year's flames in Yellowstone have been extinguished, the controversy still burns. Public and political sentiment now suggests all fires be suppressed when they start, while many biologists, land managers and naturalists still agree that fire is an important natural management tool beneficial to our forests and its inhabitants. Either way, the blazes of 1988 have resulted in some changes, if only temporary, in fire-suppression policies even here in Oregon.

Until this year, according to Ken Snell, USDA Forest Service's Fire Management Planner for Region 6, fires starting on national forest lands have fallen into one of two different classifications which ultimately determined how they would be handled: "wildfires" or "prescribed fires."

Snell said naturally caused prescribed fires (from which stemmed the terms "let burn" or "free burn") had to first meet stringent criteria within a pre-determined prescription area where ecologists have agreed such a blaze would prove beneficial. Accomplishing that, the fires would be allowed to burn as long as they remained within the prescription parameters. Only three prescription areas exist within the state of Oregon, all located within the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest in the northeast portion of the state.

## River Riders hold Open Colt Show

The River Riders 4-H Horse Club, Irrigon will be having their annual Open Colt Show July 9 at 8:30 a.m. at the Umatilla County Fairgrounds in Hermiston. This is for young horses foaled in 1984 through 1989. The River Riders will also be having their annual Open Horse Show July 16 at 8:30 a.m., also at the

Umatilla County Fairgrounds. Both shows have placings first through sixth, and high point awards for the different age categories. They will also have gaming events at the Horse Show. For more information call 922-2672 weekends and after 6 p.m. weekdays.

## Ball reunion at Blake Ranch

Members of the Archie Ball, Sr. family gathered at the mountain cabin at Blake Ranch on Saturday, July 1 for a reunion and get together.

Fifty members of the immediate family were present from Portland, Hermiston, LaGrande, Redmond, Lone, Heppner, Stanfield, Ontario and Reno, Nev

## Wright family gathers

Eighty descendents of the Wright family gathered together Saturday, July 1 at Anson Wright for a family reunion.

The families of Anson, Silas and Effie Wright Gilliam met for a picnic and visiting at the park.

Albert Wright built his first cabin across from what is now known as Anson Wright Park in 1872. He then moved to Rhea Creek and

homesteaded on what is now the home place in 1873. The ranch has been in the family for six generations and received recognition in 1973 as an Oregon Century Farm.

Families attended the reunion from Lewiston, Id., Seattle, Packwood and Roosevelt, Wa., Portland, Bend, Hermiston and Heppner.

Friends and relatives are cordially invited to a potluck and reception in honor of the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of Darrel and Creth Harris Saturday, July eighth at twelve o'clock noon. A reception will follow at two o'clock at the Hardman Community Hall, Hardman, OR No Gifts Please

## The Adventures of Grazelda & Clem...

(After Hours) 5:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.  
Clem gushed, "WAA HOO Grazelda, it's rodeo season. Skip on down to Miller's Mini-Mart & Chevron and get some gas and lunch stuff 'cause we're goin' to a rodeo. I'm gonna ride me a bronc and win me some of that prize money!"

Grazelda gushed, "Oh, great Clem, and maybe you can win enough to fix your aches and pains afterwards."

Clem gushed, "Don't worry about the pains from the broncs honey, I've lived with the biggest pain in the world ever since we got hitched!"



**FILTERS**  
★ Tractor ★ Truck  
★ Oil ★ Air ★ Fuel  
**Cab Filters**  
HYDRAULIC HOSES made to order  
Heppner Auto Parts (NAPA)  
676-9123 148 E. Center Heppner  
Make it NAPA BRAND new!

**HARVEST HOURS**  
BEGIN Wed. JULY 5th  
Mon. - Fri.  
7:00 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Sat.  
7:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Wasco Parts Outlet - 442-5781  
Lexington Store & Parts  
989-8221 or Ore Watts 1-800-452-7396  
Your Complete Harvest Time Source For All Your Supplies and Equipment  
Morrow County Grain Growers  
1-800-452-7396 350 Main  
Lexington, Oregon 989-8221  
A NEW SPIRIT OF COOPERATION  
CENTEX  
CENEX  
CENEX  
CENEX

Fires not meeting the requirements for prescribed burns were designated as wildfires and suppression efforts were begun immediately, using whatever means deemed necessary for each particular situation.

But following the Yellowstone incident, according to Snell, a joint moratorium set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of the Interior called for a review of the fire suppression policies which resulted in stricter criteria for prescription fire plans, halting such burns until the new requirements can be met.

"Until those plans are updated, we in this region can no longer have any natural-ignition (fire) and treat it as a prescribed fire," Snell said. "On national forest land in Region 6, every lightning-caused fire will be treated as a wildfire--and suppressed--regardless of whether it's inside one of those (prescription) areas or not."

Snell, who hopes to have the new plans ready for the 1990 fire season, said prescription fires benefit a forest's ecosystem in numerous ways, from improving wildlife habitat and forage to preventing the buildup of surplus fire fuels on the forest floor, which can contribute to potential wildfire hazards.

"It depends on where it is and what it's for," Snell said of any designated prescription burn. "Every one of them has a basic objective that will benefit whatever they (forest officials) are trying to manage--and that varies from A to Z."

But what of dramatic wildfire sites such as Yellowstone Park? Research conducted by the National Park Service suggests that the destruction there amounts to only a small fraction of what the general public was led to believe, and that many areas and most wildlife stand to gain much more than was lost.

According to the NPS, stands of trees actually burned and killed amount to only about 25 percent of the park's total area, with the remaining 75 percent appearing green and nearly unaffected in 1989. Wildlife populations within the park are expected to flourish, due to improved forage conditions and increased carrying capacity.

"I think about the only people that are surprised by that fact is perhaps the basic public," Snell said.

## Heppner Police Report

The Heppner Police department reports handling the following business during the past week:

June 26: 12:24 a.m.-false alarm;  
4:36 p.m.-report of Speeding; 4:45 p.m.-report of Speeding; 10:40 p.m.-motorist assist.  
June 27: 6:45 p.m.-citation issued for Vehicle Title Not Changed; Driving Uninsured; 7:20 p.m.-assist fire department; 8:24 p.m.-Civil Matter; 9:14 p.m.-false alarm.  
June 29: 12 p.m.-false alarm; 12:03 a.m.-request officer for Security Check.  
June 30: 6:39 p.m.-citation issued for Illegal 'U' Turn; 10:32 p.m.-assist Morrow County Sheriff's department.  
July 1: 10:16 p.m.-report of Fireworks.  
July 2: 8:07 p.m.-motorist assist; 8:46 p.m.-assist Morrow County Sheriff's department.

**PERFECT SYMBOL OF LOVE**  
The circle is unending. The diamond is the hardest substance on earth. Together they symbolize a strong, unending love. The favorite betrothal ring is a single diamond perched upon a delicate crown of gold. On the day the vows are spoken it is wedded to a simple circlet or a lace of diamonds woven in gold.  
Our romantic diamond engagement and wedding rings say "I will love you forever" - and they say it beautifully.  
Peterson's Jewelers  
MEMBER AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY  
Heppner 676-9200

Have Your Air Conditioning Serviced and Repaired Here! On the Farm Service We Also fix or Replace  
● Bearings ● Filters  
● Hydraulic Hoses Custom Made  
**B & C Repair, Inc.**  
422-7409 422-7418

**Morrow County Abstract & Title Co., Inc.**  
COMPLETE TITLE & ESCROW SERVICE  
Locally Owned & Operated Since 1929  
The branch office, in Boardman, is not manned daily, however, if you call the Boardman number, the call will automatically be transferred to the Heppner office. An appointment can then be arranged for you in the Boardman area.  
269 N. Main St. Landmark Square  
Heppner, OR 97836 Boardman, OR 97818  
676-9912 481-9261

**CHEVROLET**  
C1500 Extended Cab Silverado  
YOU CAN'T BEAT OUR DEAL  
Find A Better Price And We'll Beat It  
**SHERRELL CHEVROLET**  
296 E. Main  
HERMISTON, OREGON 567-6487