

## Large turnout for basketball clinic



Ninety-one children attended the Morrow County Youth Basketball Clinic held Saturday at the Heppner High School gym. Eastern Oregon State College basketball players and head coach

Bill Ciancio conducted a clinic for boys and girls eight years through high school. In addition to instruction, children received a T-shirt and lunch in the all-day program.

Proceeds of the event went to Eastern Oregon State College coaches and varsity players for purchasing sweatshirts and pants. Betty Matthews was organizer of the event.

## Lexington News

By Delpha Jones, 989-8189

--The card party held recently at the Rebekah Hall was well attended with six tables in attendance. Prizes were won as follows: men's high-John Tellechea; second high-Lee Palmer; women's high-Josie Peck; second high-Irene Crabtree; traveling-Clarence Buchanan. Refreshments were served by the committee. The next party will be the first Saturday in January.

--The birthday exchange and party was held at the Rebekah Hall on Thursday evening. The ladies with birthdays received small pink individual cakes with candles, and cake and jello were served to all. Those with the cakes were allowed to take them home to enjoy. Dorothy Burcham, Fran Peck, Geri Martin, Delpha Jones and Luella Taylor were those enjoying the birthday cakes.

--The Lexington Oddfellows met on Thursday evening for their regular meeting with the NG Grand Lyle Peck presiding. The business for the evening was an election of officers. NG was Joe Yocom; VG-Lyle Peck; secretary-Richard Peck; treasurer-Cecil Jones and trustees-Bob Taylor, Edgar Murty and Glover Peck. They meet the first and third Thursday of each month at the Oddfellow Hall in Lexington.

--Mr. and Mrs. Joe Yocom visited with their daughter Millie West in Echo on Thursday evening and helped their grandson Joe, celebrate his birthday.

--Florence Gray was taken to the hospital by ambulance last week suffering from a fall at the home of her sister, Faye Ruhl.

--Luella and Bob Taylor, Virginia and Lyle Peck and Cecil and Delpha Jones attended the Willows Oddfellow Lodges' crab feed at the Oddfellow Hall in Heppner on Wednesday evening.

--Clarence Buchanan is reported to be recuperating nicely at his home from a recent cataract surgery in Pendleton.

--A PNG supper was enjoyed at the Cecil Jones home on Friday evening with nine ladies present. Each guests received a Santa face, which was part of the table decorations. Following the supper, secret sisters were revealed and names for the year 1990 were drawn. An elec-

tion of officers was held with the following: Kathy Tellechea-president; Joyce Buchanan-vice president; Dorothy Burcham-secretary/treasurer. Those present were: Leila Palmer, Joyce Buchanan, Annetta Padberg, Dorothy Burcham, Kathy Tellechea, Luella Taylor, Geri Martin, Virginia Peck and the hostess. The door prize was won by Annetta Padberg. The next meeting will be the first Wed. in March. Plans were started for the entertainment of the neighboring PnGn clubs in April.

--David and Barbara Anderson were callers over the weekend to visit their grandmother, Eula Bloodworth who is a patient at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home.

--Leila Palmer was one of the travelers via SCRAM bus to the Portland area over the week. She saw the ice follies and did some shopping.

--Lights are being turned on throughout Lexington for the wonderful holiday season. The airport hill and homes are lovely as are several other homes in town. The city park now has a decorated tree with colored lights and the Lexington Mercantile has window displays by Ellen Kennedy.

--Faye Ruhl attended the ball game in Eugene last week where her grandson Rick was playing.

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## Extension offers tips on poinsettias and trees

Holiday poinsettias are now available at many retail stores. Selecting a healthy plant insures that the poinsettia will last through the holidays.

Poinsettias may be white, pink, red or combinations of these colors, says Fred Lundin, Oregon State University extension agent.

The poinsettia flower, a small round pea-shaped nub, is located in the center of the plant's colorful bracts. Plants that don't have the flower are either past their prime or have gone through some type of shock that caused the flowers to

drop.

Besides having flowers, a healthy plant will have well-formed and completely colored bracts and leaves that extend to the surface of the pot.

Protect the poinsettia from extreme changes in temperature on the way home. A poinsettia taken from a warm store into freezing outdoor temperatures and then taken home in a cool car may drop its leaves within just a few days.

After getting the plant home, place it where there is maximum light and protection from drafts.

Water only when the surfaces of the soil appears dry and then thoroughly enough that the water will drain out the bottom of the pot. Discard excess water as soon as draining is complete. To maintain leaf color add fertilizer to the water at every other watering.

The change of environment from the greenhouse to store to home may cause bract color to lighten and the leaves and bracts to droop. This is called epinasty and is normal, Lundin says.

After the plants have adapted to the home, they will recover to some extent, but avoid purchasing plants showing extreme epinasty.

A fresher Christmas tree is greener and safer during the holiday season, says Lundin.

A freshly cut tree keeps its color longer and is less of a fire hazard while in the home.

"Buy a tree with a high moisture content if possible," says Lundin. To determine a Christmas tree's moisture content:

\* Break a small branch. If the branch breaks easily, the tree or that part of the tree is probably too dry. A dry tree is a high fire risk in the home.

\* Tap the tree trunk on the ground. If a lot of needles drop, a large portion of the tree may be dangerously dry.

\* Needles that bend and can't be easily pulled from the tree branches indicate the tree is fresh.

After putting the tree indoors, fill the tree stand with water and keep it filled for as long as the tree remains in the home. Some tree stands hold only a small amount of water so be certain to fill them every day.

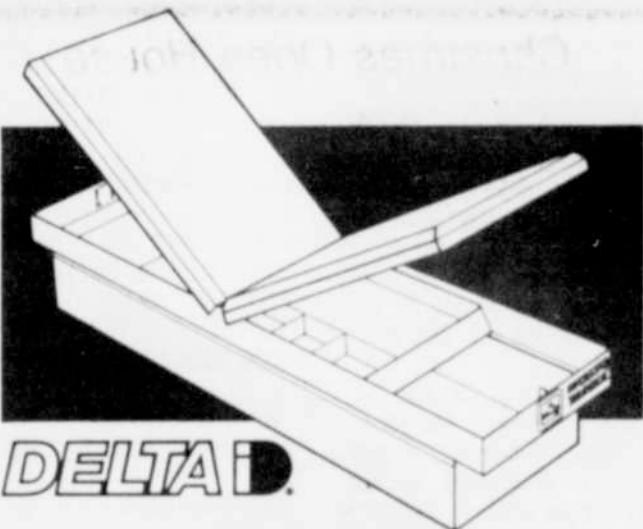
Lundin offers these suggestions for keeping the tree fresh and safe while in the home:

\* Set the tree away from heat sources, heat registers and radiators. Be certain to place trees away from doors so as not to block escape from the room in event of fire.

\* The cooler the room temperature, the longer the tree will stay fresh. Consider lowering the thermostat a few degrees until after the holidays.

\* If the tree is tall, consider stabilizing it with guy wires to the ceiling and wall. Thin wires are usually adequate and almost invisible.

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