

Regional News

NO. 7 IN A SERIES

Five Children Keeping Area Correspondent Busy



MRS. DOTTIE HARBISON

Five children keep Mail Tribune Eagle Point correspondent Dottie Harbison busy. However, she has combined an interest in community affairs with a love for writing in keeping Eagle Point residents informed on happenings in the area.

Mrs. Harbison joined the Mail Tribune staff about a year and a half ago. Her husband, David, is the sixth grade teacher at the Eagle Point Elementary school. Their children range in ages from 14 to 4. Harbison children are Arthur, 14; Wayne, 12; Harold, 9; Tonya, 7; and Paul, 4.

"With five youngsters you keep quite busy," Mrs. Harbison says. Her youngsters have led her to become active in the Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts. In addition she is active in other young people's organizations. When she isn't busy with her children Mrs. Harbison likes to work jigsaw puzzles.

"My most satisfying experience as a correspondent came in acquainting people with the new regional page," Mrs. Harbison says.

Her other writing experience includes having articles printed in Seattle newspapers and organizing a church newspaper in Medford while she was in high school.

She is a graduate of Medford High school and attended Southern Oregon college for one year.

She and her husband have been living in Eagle Point for eight years. They have also lived in Seattle, Klamath Falls and Ashland.

Tablets

By REVEALON

Table Rock - A real estate deal was recently consummated giving Gerald Messenger, of Van Nuys, Calif., ownership of an 80 acre tract of farm land located in the northwest part of the Table Top ranch.

Messenger, an architect, will probably establish a business in Medford and with his wife and two teen-age children live there until a house is built on the new property. The land lies between the two Table Rocks. Snyder creek flows through it and it has access to three roads, the Table Rock-Sams Valley rd. on the east, Tresham lane on the north and a gravel road on the west. According to the county water master, the Table Rock Ditch Co. has granted his application for water for the tract which will be used for raising cattle. This transaction was handled by Max Cramer, farm salesman for the Pickell Real Estate Co. of Medford.

Kerby T. Rant, government trapper of Reese Creek, is a surgery patient at the Rogue Valley hospital with a knee injury received some time ago. Those needing help in protecting their livestock can call Mrs. Tant who will contact friends who have offered to help during Kerby's confinement.

Mr. and Mrs. Orville Hamilton and son Ernest, were holiday visitors with daughter Jean and family at the James Lewis home in Forest Grove.

Foggy speaking - Donald Richardson, the Portland lawyer, down here with his family for the holidays, started out Saturday afternoon for the Agate Beauty salon. Blinded by the fog, he went far past, finally getting his bearings at Four Corners, and then not by sight, but by scent from Bill Bray's auction yard. So Bill's auction yard is not only a great asset to valley stockmen, but acts as a guide post to travelers during foggy weather. Don probably told us this to make us believe that Portland doesn't have this type of weather. But we have been in Portland when the fog was so dense that pedestrians actually collided with each other while traveling on the sidewalks. This was a good many years ago. Maybe Portland weather has improved over the years.

Charley Hoover, the desert shiek, was over this way last Saturday and left us a beautiful little spruce tree.

Last Saturday afternoon while Benny Peek, herdsman at the Table Top Hereford ranch, had his crew moving some of the show cattle, they became confused in the dense fog, bolted and ran down a lane to the highway with the crew behind them, trying to get them under control but unable to see them due to the fog. A car coming from the opposite direction hit the cattle head on, killing two and doing extensive damage to the car. The two animals killed were among the prize-winning show stock and highly valued.

The Lucky Garrison family, who have lived here at the Hull orchards for the past six years, where Garrison has been employed, are moving to Eagle Point about the first of the year.

The Christmas program at the schoolhouse Friday night was well attended considering the weather. Some 60 people braved the fog. With a good program, and the prevailing Christmas spirit, every one seemed to have a good time. Old Santa proved to be very interesting, especially to the young fry, who had all been good.

Santa surprised one lad who had been "extra good" by telling him he heard he had been close to the border line at times. Lois Smith was so pleased with what Santa brought her, that she smacked him on the cheek with a kiss.

The Vernon Gebhard family were holiday visitors with Mrs. Gebhard's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard King, at Eugene, Oregon.

A better than usual number of local people and visitors attended Sunday's session of the local Sunday school. Among the visitors were Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Randall, of Medford, and Donald Richardson, Diane, Dennis and Debbie, from Portland. An appropriate program by the children was enjoyed by all.

Last Tuesday, we got into a white shirt, but had to have help to get the throat latch fastened, and drove to the Episcopal church in Medford, where we witnessed the Hamilton-Samson wedding. This was our first attendance at a

Indian Tribe To Perform in Eagle Point January 3

By DOTTIE HARBISON

Eagle Point - The Moon Mountain Indians under the direction of Bob and Richard Thorpe will present an Indian tribe in a program of Indian dancing at the Eagle Point Grange hall Jan. 3 at 8 p.m.

Lecturer Mrs. Delton Stephens stated that this meeting is open to the public free of charge.

The Moon Mountain Indian Dancers is a non-profit organization instituted by Richard and Bob Thorpe for the purpose of preserving and teaching Indian lore and crafts and history of the American Indian. Thorpe's grandmother was a member of the Mohawk tribe, one of the six tribes of the Iroquois confederacy in New York state. His family are all members of the tribe.

Because of the background and stories he heard when a small boy, Bob's interest in Indian lore, especially dancing, has been a high point in his life since he was four years old. The formation of the Moon Mountain Dancers and the Moon Mountain Preservation is the culmination of his and his father Richard's plans, although they are just getting started. Bob is presently in the United States armed forces but is home on leave.

Richard and Bob Thorpe have purchased a large acreage near Rogue River and have turned it into a campsite for the purpose of preserving the almost forgotten legends, dances, crafts, powwows, lores, and study and research of the colorful American Indians. Thorpe has built an animal refuge and a workshop where crafts are now being taught to any youngster interested free of charge. He is in the process of building a dormitory where the tribes may stay during the winter months. It is their goal to have a riding stable and have the entire mountainous acreage built up for use of any group or organization for camping, fishing, dancing, singing around camp fires and a place where they can teach youngsters the Indian lore. Thorpe said he hoped to have the entire village ready soon so the public can come out and watch the dances and forgotten ceremonies of earlier days.

The Moon Mountain Dancers have already become a familiar group in this area. They made their first appearance in complete Indian costumes at the 1958 Gladiolus festival and since have appeared publicly at such places as scout and club meetings, round-ups, parades, and conventions throughout the United States. Richard Thorpe has taught Indian lore for over 40 years with his son Bob starting the Indian dancers about four years ago. Anyone interested in this sort of program is welcome free of charge at the preservation.

Thorpe stated that many of the legends about the Indian are not true - even the name Indian is confusing.

The expression "red man" was used to describe the Indian by white traders and the pioneers who left their homes in the East to travel across the country, risking their lives and braving untold dangers to settle the lands in the West that were the homes of our American Indians. A few of the Indians painted themselves with red oxide. Actually, the color of the Indian varies from light yellow or olive to very dark brown, according to Thorpe. Their eyes vary in color from black, brown or hazel, to gray or even blue; their hair from straight coarse black to soft brown.

Thorpe stated that they need to have an organization or group help sponsor the group if they are to continue with their project here in the Rogue valley or he would be forced to go elsewhere. This is a non-profit group with the youngsters making their own costumes but he stated that a group to handle publicity and other things is needed badly.

wedding in this church, and the ceremony, setting, and all was very solemn and impressive. At the reception we met many relatives, and friends, some of them of long standing. Doc Inskeep asked about our health, and we told him we had worn out some three or four doctors and might live to wear him out. After some of the ladies kept telling us how lovely we looked framed in a white shirt, we became suspicious, and decided that the little woman had something to do with this, thinking this would cause us to don a white shirt more often.

The Landrace breed of swine, imported from Denmark, is increasingly popular with Canadian breeders.

Recreation Areas Topic of Meeting

Grants Pass - Josephine County Judge Raymond Lathrop reported there are five governmental agencies interested in operation and development of recreational facilities in the county, at the Dec. 27 meeting of the Grants Pass Lions club.

The county now has 14 parks, including one accommodating trailers, Lathrop said. He also pointed out that most areas have facilities for picnicking and boat launching.

Lathrop stressed the importance of knowing about the county recreational facilities and informing tourists about fishing, camping and other vacation facilities available.

Furnishing Needs For Community Building Outlined

Eagle Point - A report of proposed furnishing needs for the new Eagle Point Scout Community building was presented at a recent Scout-Community building committee meeting in Eagle Point.

The report was prepared by the building furnishing committee and presented by Mrs. Harry Hanscom.

Included in the furnishing committee report were items deemed necessary for the building. These included approximately 60 to 70 chairs and a piano for the main auditorium; two davenport sets at each end of the dining room with end tables and lights by each davenport, foldaway tables and benches for the dining room, a pool table, juke box, portable ping pong tables, portable snack bar and stools, two davenports, card tables, shuffle board painted on the floor, drinking fountain, games, radio, television and step ladder, all for the recreation room downstairs; built-in dressing tables and benches, two wash basins and a mirror to be included in the rest rooms.

Specifications for the kitchens were temporary, pending the report of Ernest Gregg on the required specifications needed for a group to put on a paid dinner with a few of the following suggestions given: three-tub stainless steel sink, drip-drawer coffee maker, garbage cans, dishwasher possibly, pay telephone and ovens and grills.

Any persons having donations of any items either listed or not listed are asked to call Mrs. Virgil Hayes for pick up and they will be either used or sold to buy the items needed for the building. Play pens that can be used either as beds or play pens for the small fry will be appreciated. Coat racks were discussed for use throughout the building.

President Harry Hanscom reported that the bond beams were poured, the laminated beams were ready as soon as they are scraped and sanded and that they would call an all community work day during the holidays to put the roof of the building on.



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It's truly a lengthy story, but the new year with its wishes for happiness is a friendly time.

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