

# The Mill City Enterprise

ON THE SCENIC NORTH SANTIAM HIGHWAY — OREGON'S FAST GROWING VACATION WONDERLAND

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## Up and Down The Avenue

By Don Moffatt

It was interesting to sit in on the Linn County Taxpayers Protective Association meeting held at the fire hall here last Wednesday. The reaction of the different people present was varied. One of the things most noticed, was that many expected some action taken at once which would lower their taxes immediately, or at least that was the impression I got sitting on the sidelines. This first meeting here was merely for organizing a chapter in Mill City. As far as giving any solution to the tax dilemma, it was not forthcoming, nor should it have been expected at this time. These tax bills did not grow overnight, nor will they be lowered overnight. One thing that did amuse me was the fact that as soon as the speaker said he wanted \$6 a year for dues in the association, the crowd thinned somewhat. Several there did not join that night, even though they were interested, until they know more about how the organization will work.

Their one main plea was that in unity there is strength. It was explained that an individual going to the court house has a lot less impact than a group representing possibly 10,000 taxpayers. Then it gets down to the nitty gritty and any person in office, who seeks re-election, will sit up and take notice.

When it comes to lowering taxes, I think it is something like unloading hay. You don't start at the bottom of the load—you begin at the top and work down. I feel that we should be doing something about spending on the federal level before we get down to the state, county and local level. Sure, there is room for economy all along the line, but after Uncle Sam gets his bite out of you, there is not much left to dole out to the other taxing districts.

Schools are in a sorry position. They are the whipping boy for all taxes, as it is about the only place where the individual taxpayer can make his voice heard. Possibly this is not right, but that is how the cookie crumbles at the present time.

Again, briefly on taxes. What a lot of people fail to realize is that they continually ask the government for more money—spending programs, then complain loudly when the bill comes due. The Federal government is no Santa Claus. It can only spend the money it extracts from you in the beginning, minus a lot of red tape and office routine. Did you know that there are now at least 59 major bills awaiting final legislative action in Congress? Many of these will require new government spending on top of present record spending levels. Inflation-breeding federal deficits are getting out of hand.

For that reason, we must be less demanding of our government. We must learn to do more for ourselves, as that is the only way we will ever get out of this mess of never confiscatory taxes. But who is there who does not want something, with the hope that someone else will pay the bill? I guess that is only human nature, but we are going to have to learn that living within our means, while not much fun, is still a pretty good idea if we wish to stay solvent.

Looking around our town, one can see evidence of the Christmas season. Many homes and some business houses have decorated their display windows in the traditional festive manner. It is nice to see. The City tree has not as yet been lit up, but most likely will be in the near future. All these things go along with the annual celebration. Sometimes I think with all the fluff and tinsel, we forget the true reason for Christmas—the remembrance of the birth of Christ.

## Chamber May Have Info Booth

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the North Santiam Chamber of Commerce held last Wednesday, President Harold Wiltse informed the members that the Chamber will try to have an information booth set up at the Calico Cat in Mehama by the time tourist season rolls around again next summer. Hattie Golliet, owner of the establishment said she would be willing to take care of the center free of charge.

Chamber members have long felt that an information center was necessary in the area to let tourists know what there is to see and do here.

Secretary Chris King read a letter from Congressman Al Ullman stating that he was working with the Corps of Engineers trying to get them to establish a more stable water level at Detroit Reservoir. He informed the Corps that some 750,000 visitors register at the site each year and that recreation "should get greater consideration" than it has in the past.

Jerry Coffman brought up the proposition of having a Kayak race on the Santiam river this coming year. President Wiltse named Coffman and Orville Brown on a committee to look into the feasibility of having such an event. They both stated something should be done in the Canyon to encourage more people to use the area for recreation. They will report at the next meeting.

## Youth Group Tops Missions Goal

The Christ's Ambassadors, youth group of Santiam Chapel Assembly of God, Lyons, set out this year to raise \$525.00 for Speed-the-Light, a project to provide missionaries with modern transportation and communication equipment. By working hard in various fundraising drives, the church teenagers managed to exceed their goal by raising \$530.01. "The adults of the church were just as happy as the teenagers when we met the goal. In this day when so many young people are wasting their lives in meaningless and even destructive pursuits, it is refreshing indeed to see a group of teens work together toward a worthwhile goal with genuine dedication," said Pastor Jepson.

## Lecture To Put Up Yule Tree in Idanha

IDANHA — The American Legion, Idanha Post, is making preparations to mount and illuminate a Christmas tree in the Idanha area.

Since in the past there has been a problem of lights disappearing from ground level trees, the tree will be mounted on top of the Post Office this year, a spokesman said.

Preparations are also being made by the Detroit City Council to illuminate Detroit's five tree next to the city hall, in the near future. The illumination of the trees is sponsored jointly by the Detroit Woman's Civic Club and the City Council.

## Cub Scout Pack 49 To Meet Dec. 11

The Mill City Cub Scouts will hold their Pack Meeting Friday evening, December 11 in the Eagles Hall at 7:30.

On the program will be their annual cake auction. The cakes are to be baked and decorated by father and son. Following the cake auction, trial runs will be held for the Pinewood Derby. All families and friends are invited to attend.

## Christmas Program To Be Held in High School Gym

Because of delay in shipping of the seats for the new school auditorium, it will be necessary to hold the school Christmas program, scheduled for December 22 in the high school gymnasium, according to word released by Wes Jahn of the local school. There was a 15-day delay in shipping the seats from the factory.

Jahn said the building is basically completed except for some of the "usual odds and ends." Following the installation of the seating will be the installation of a stage curtain and carpeting of the isles. He said the building should be completed around January 1.

## Candidates Picked For Santiam Hospital Directors

At a board of directors meeting held at Santiam Memorial hospital Tuesday evening, a report from the nominating committee was read and accepted.

Candidates whose names will appear on the ballot which will be mailed before long are as follows:

Sublimity — Lanny Fredericks and Roy Todd. Aumsville-West Stayton — Boyd Hilton and Louis Scofield.

Scio — Andrew Silbernagel and Bill Lulay, Jr. Detroit-Idanha—Lee Hopson and Noyes Whitten. At Large — Utah Crowson and Ed Lewin.

## 704 Permits Have Been Issued By Forest Service

DETROIT — Christmas tree hunters have purchased 704 permits so far this season in the National Forest lands.

The figures, released by Forest Service officials Monday, showed 604 of the \$1.00-cutting permits were sold in the Detroit District, and 100 sold in Siuslaw National Forest.

Sales are lagging behind last year's record. Through the first weekend of the season last year 745 permits were sold in the Detroit district. Ranger Lee Boeckstiegel blamed the lag on snow, which has closed all good hunting roads but two.

Last year 1,632 permits were sold in the Detroit District during the second weekend of the hunt. Permits are sold and hunting tips offered at the Ranger station.

## Fire and Water Districts in Canyon Elect New Directors

Several canyon fire and water districts held elections Monday. There was no contest in the Mill City Rural Fire Protection District and Adolph Brunner was re-elected as a director.

In Idanha, Dave Roberts was re-elected by 21 votes in another uncontested race for director of the Idanha Rural Fire District.

In Lyons, Calvin Culbertson was re-elected to a four-year term on the Lyons-Mehama Water Board. He defeated Frank Sherwood III by a 20-8 margin. Incumbent Gerald Rockwell won the two-year term edging John Kokkistis 16-11. George Neal was unopposed and was re-elected to a four-year term on the fire board.

## Freshman Ball Team Wins from Stayton

Santiam Frosh traveled to Stayton, Monday, November 30, to beat the Eagles 34-31.

Matt DeMain was high scorer with 11 points. Don Hoover was next with eight points. DeMain was high rebounder with 11 points followed by Grant with eight.

## Chukar Fraternizes With Chickens



This wild chukar, evidently separated from its mates has adopted this flock of bantams at the Ray Roberts home near Mehama.—Photo by Jean Roberts.

## McNary Hilanders To Perform Here Monday, Dec. 14

The McNary Hilanders will be presented Monday evening at the Grade school gym at 7:30. They are an outstanding group of high school singers and the public is invited to attend this program. There will be no admission charge.

The vocal group will be guests of the Lions Club and Auxiliary at a potluck dinner earlier in the evening, for Lions club members and their guests.

## Mari-Linn, Stayton Teachers Enroll in Reading Classes

By Jean Roberts LYONS—Teachers at Mari-Linn and Stayton Elementary schools are enrolled in an in-service reading program to further their teaching ability in the field of reading. Reading is being stressed this year throughout the nation following the recommendation that each child in the United States be able to read.

Teaching the teachers is Curtis Benefiel, Mari-Linn principal and Mr. Robertson of Stayton.

## Toys for Tots Dance Held at Gymnasium

A dance was held Friday night at Santiam High school, with all proceeds being donated to the Mill City Jaycees to use in their "Toys for Tots" project.

The annual dance, which was sponsored by the Santiam Chapter of the National Honor Society, collected a large box of toys and approximately \$10. Admission was one useable toy or 35c.

## Water Line Extended--

MEHAMA—Mehama-Lyons water system has been extended from the Curtis Benefiel residence to the mouth of the Little North Fork, by going along the east bank of the river.

The water pipe was laid, tested and chlorinated by Darwin Fehlen of Stayton, and Jeff Clearwater of Mehama and inspected by Harry Clason of Mehama, Mehama-Lyons water commissioner.

## Weather, Detroit Dam

7 a. m. Daily Weather Reading	Pool			
Max.	Min.	Elev.	Pcp.	
Dec. 2	36	32	1481.68	0.55
Dec. 3	41	33	1479.08	1.05
Dec. 4	40	32	1476.39	0.64
Dec. 5	39	35	1473.38	0.74
Dec. 6	43	37	1471.80	0.50
Dec. 7	46	40	1471.42	1.35
Dec. 8	45	38	1472.35	0.02

## Dayton Wins in Opening Game Here

Dayton traveled to Santiam and defeated the Wolverines by the score of 53 to 38. The score was in doubt up through the first half with Dayton leading 24 to 19 at half time.

Dayton scoring was led by Randy Freeborn, All State Basketball, who made 18 points. Santiam scoring was led by Mike Elliott with nine. Gary Richards was next in line with eight points. Santiam shot 26% from the field and 40% from the free throw line making four out of 10 shots.

Line Scores Dayton—R. Freeborn 18, E. Lambert 12, R. Smalley 8, L. Morgan 6, B. King 7, R. Roberts 2. Santiam—

Mike Elliott 9, G. Plotts 6, D. Pittam 5, J. Story 2, G. Richards 8, J. Ruby 5, A. Eevers 2, D. Cox 5.

J. V. Score was 43 to 38—Santiam.

## Detroit School Program Slated

DETROIT — Detroit's annual school Christmas program will be held December 22 at 7:30 p. m. in the grade school gym.

Participating in the evening program will be all of the grades from Kindergarten through the 8th grade, under the direction of Mrs. Margaret Zelfer.

The program will consist mostly of songs portrayed by dramatic acting. The fifth grade will present a small skit.

As in the past the American Legion-Idanha Post will erect and decorate a large tree for the occasion. The Legion Auxiliary will again furnish treats for the children. This year the Auxiliary has packed 350 sack treats for the event.

Detroit's High School, De High Chorales chorus, will present several selections Sunday, December 20 at 2 p. m. in the grade school gym.

## Lyons City Council Officers Take Oath

LYONS — Officers were sworn in at the meeting of the City Council Wednesday night, Dennis Clippell, Mayor, for a two year term, Elmer Culwell and Wilson Stevens for four year terms, and Mrs. John McPheeters for a two year term. City ordinances have been reclassified, regrouped and renumbered.

The Christmas tree lighting contest has been completed. An increase of \$25.00 per grave at the Fox Valley Cemetery was approved with \$25.00 to be placed in the perpetual care fund. Letters are to be sent to families who have lots there and donations to be placed in the perpetual care fund.

The new city park is progressing slowly due to weather conditions, and it was suggested that the City Library cards be raised from twenty five cents to 50 cents.

## Wolverines Win from Sherwood 36-35

In a pre-league basketball game December 5 the Santiam Wolverines came from behind to overcome the Sherwood Bowmen 36-35. At the game, at Sherwood, the Bowmen led 24-16 at the half. In the third quarter held the Bowmen to three points. With the teams tied 35 to 35 and three seconds remaining, Gordon Plotts was fouled. He made the shot and the Wolverines won 36-35.

David Pittam was top scorer with 18 points. Dan Cox outjumped all to grab seven rebounds while Gordon Plotts and John Ruby each sneaked three steals.

Shooting percentage for Santiam was 280, making 14 out of 50 shots. Little Red stepped on Sherwood's toes 45 to 31.

## Montoya Heads Local Tax Group

Wilburn O. Watkins, secretary-treasurer of the Linn County Taxpayers Protective Association, Inc., was present in Mill City last Wednesday night to meet with about 75 to 100 taxpayers who came to learn more about the association and make an attempt to get their taxes reduced.

Wilburn explained that the primary purpose of the first meeting was to get members, and said: "the more members we can get, the better chance we have of being heard. There is strength in numbers and that is what it takes to get any action from those responsible for the large increase in our taxes."

He was under the impression that there was too much overlapping in government agencies and it appears that "those in office want the people to be regimented."

Watkins had a "tax pie" that showed that 82.4% of the present budget went for education. He said: "I am not against education, but I feel that we are spending too much for what we are getting."

When asked what we can do to cut our taxes, he said: "not a thing right now, but we have to get organized now to keep our taxes down in the future."

Watkins stated that none of the officers of the Linn County group received salaries—that they were doing the work free of charge. The money will go towards lobbying and getting information out to the public.

Martin Kelly said "we can't get to first base unless we are organized, and that is just the first step. We must watch our legislators, and we cannot get anywhere by working individually. We need more government economy."

About 30 signed up as members at this first meeting, and Jim Montoya was elected as deputy president of the local group. He plans to hold at least two meetings each month, and will keep on trying to get more members.

## Readers Asked To Mail Questionnaire

Questionnaires in the state-wide Weekly Newspaper Reader-Interest Survey are pouring into the Portland office of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association from all sections of Oregon.

"Those selected readers of The Enterprise who have not yet mailed their questionnaires are asked to do so right away, so the Research Center at Portland State University can accomplish the big task of compiling the findings," said Publisher Don Moffatt.

The study is designed to tell editors and publishers more about their subscribers and their reader-interests. These facts will enable editors and publishers to improve their newspapers. As the findings from the 39 newspapers participating in the study are combined it is believed Oregon newspapers will know more about their readers wants and interests than ever before, according to the sponsor, the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

## Hazel Wirth To Be Honored Dec. 20

By Jean Roberts LYONS — A reception for Hazel Wirth, honoring 47 years of public school teaching, will be held at Mari-Linn school December 20 from 2 p. m. until 4 p. m. Former students, parents and friends are invited to attend.

She will be replaced by Jean Roberts, who will receive her B. S. degree and teaching certificate in December.