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Nyssa Gate City Journal

FIRST
SECTION

VOLUME L

THE NYSSA GATE CITY JOURNAL, NYSSA, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1955

NO. 48

Santa Claus Due In Nyssa Saturday
To Give Free Treats To All Kids;
Free Double Feature at Nyssa Theatre

Santa Claus will come to Nyssa Saturday with enough treats for every youngster in the entire area, according to Wilton Jackson who has been making arrangements for Santa's first visit here. In addition to the special Santa Day, Nyssa merchants are joining together for one of their biggest sales events of the year.

Farm Bureau Sees
1956 Membership
Hit Initial 457

Announcement was made at the Farm Bureau victory dinner held Saturday night that county membership for 1956 had climbed to 457 climaxing a week's concentrated membership drive held in conjunction with national Farm Bureau week Nov. 23 to Dec. 3 according to Clifford Nielsen, co-chairman of the membership committee.

This figure exceeds the total membership of about 385 recorded at last year's victory dinner, and since this campaign was only the initial step in membership work which continues on a year-round basis, there is high hope of exceeding the 1955 total figure of 512 members which won for the county Farm Bureau a state cash award presented to them at the recent state convention.

F. B. Plays Vital Role

Dave Rees, membership chairman, had high praise for the campaign workers and stated that one of the biggest challenges facing farmers today is their steadily decreasing numbers. The last four years have seen a loss of about 10 percent of the nation's farmers and at the present rate of two and one-half percent per year, the next 10 years will see an additional one out of every four farmers leave the profession he asserted. This not only emphasizes the urgent need of farmers to organize into an effective group to represent them, but in the not too distant future it may tax the American farmer to supply the needs of the nation.

Entertainment for the evening was furnished by members of the Annex, Willowcreek and Nyssa centers. Joe Hobson, regional director of Ontario served as master of ceremonies.

Commodity Committees

The December meeting of the Malheur county Farm Bureau was held Tuesday evening. Tentative members were appointed to various commodity committees to represent livestock, dairy, fruits and vegetables and field crops.

These committees are being formed by the Farm Bureau in all Oregon counties in an effort to more effectively cope with problems pertinent to the various commodities. A meeting of the committees will be held Jan. 9 and 10 in Salem.

More Snow Hits
Valley Monday

A miniature "blizzard" hit the valley Monday afternoon and left highways and streets with a coating of ice that slowed traffic and kept many motorists out of their cars. Approximately three inches of snow well and small drifts were as much as 18 inches deep, but they were frequently next to bare ground.

Rising temperature Tuesday turned the snow to slush and by Wednesday a large part of the snow was gone. Steady rain last Tuesday night and Wednesday brought a total of .63 inches of moisture.

	Max.	Min.	Pre.
Nov. 30	41	33	.63
Dec. 1	44	35	
Dec. 2	41	30	
Dec. 3	44	29	
Dec. 4	37	22	
Dec. 5	34	21	
Dec. 6	45	27	.2
Dec. 7		31	

Holiday Lighting
Contest Underway

Nyssa residents are urged to plan Christmas window or exterior displays in preparation for the annual Christmas lighting contest sponsored by the Nyssa Civic club.

Cash awards for winning displays will be presented by the Civic club and Chamber of Commerce. Judging will take place Wednesday evening, Dec. 21, four days prior to Christmas. Mrs. Gene Grasty, special projects chairman for the Civic club announced.

If enough children express interest in arranging Christmas displays this year, a juvenile division will be added to the contest.

Real Meaning of
Christmas Given
At PTA Program

"Know the Meaning of Christmas" is the theme of an inspiring program to be presented before the Nyssa Parent-Teachers Association at their regular meeting tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock in the high school auditorium. At this time a new president will also be elected to complete the unexpired term of Mrs. Wayne Chesnut who is moving to Moscow in the near future.

The Nyssa churches have joined together to promote an outstanding program in song and word emphasizing the educational and spiritual story of Christmas. It will be presented under the direction of the Rev. and Mrs. Robert O. Jackson.

Everyone is urged to attend this meeting which promises to have one of the most inspirational programs of the year according to the program and publicity chairmen, Mrs. Ken Pond and Mrs. Glenn Hoffman.

Serving on the nominating committee were Walter McPartland, Mrs. Dwight Mason and Mrs. Bill Wahlert. Chairmen of tonight's refreshment committee are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wilson.

Local Banks Show
9.3 Percent Gain
Over 1954 Debits

The Burns, Ontario, and Nyssa banking area, which includes Nyssa banks, reported a 9.3 percent increase in bank debits in comparing the Oct. 1955 debits with those of Oct. 1954.

Debits for the month of Oct. 1955 were \$19,562,694 as compared with the Oct. 1954 total of \$17,894,979. The area also noted a 3.6 percent increase in comparing the Oct. and Sept. 1955 debits.

Total debits for the state, as compiled from 13 districts, were \$1,530,301,832 for the month of Oct., a 10.33 percent increase over last year's Oct. total.

Bank debits represent the dollar value of checks drawn against the deposit accounts of individuals and business firms. Bank debits are generally regarded as good indicators of current business activity. They are collected monthly by the University of Oregon Bureau of Business research from 151 banks and branches.

Good Response Noted Here as 525 Get
Salk Shots By Tues., More Expected

Nyssa parents are responding exceptionally well to warnings sounded to encourage inoculation of all children from six months of age through 14 before effects of the temporary gamma globulin shots wear off, it was announced this week. Nyssa's three medical clinics reported that 525 shots had been given by late Tuesday afternoon and indications were that at least that many more would be immunized by the end of the week.

It is estimated that there are approximately 1725 eligible children within the Nyssa school district. However, many of the shots already administered were for children living outside the school district.

Reports from Portland that vaccine might be withdrawn might have come through misinterpretation of press releases, according to Dr. Grant B. Hughes, county health officer, who reported Tuesday that there is sufficient vaccine on hand here to take care of all needs, but that it must be used within a short period of time or its validity runs out. The vaccine is expensive and could be used in other localities if it is known in advance that it will not be used in areas where it is now on hand. Dr. Hughes, however, re-emphasized previous warning for all parents to have their children inoculated immediately before the gamma globulin shots become ineffective. Gamma globulin was given to 2800 persons from infants through 34 years of age the forepart of November and the effectiveness last between four and six weeks, according to reports.

No ill effects have appeared from any of the Salk inoculations since it became available here several weeks ago, each of the clinics told the Journal this week.

Malheur county had 42 cases of polio last summer and early fall, three of them fatal. A majority of the cases were residents of the Nyssa area.

Dr. Hughes said that another case of scarlet fever was reported Monday in the Vale school district, bringing to four the number of cases in that community. All cases were described as mild and the number far from epidemic proportions. Reminders are being sent to all parents in the Vale school district to watch for such symptoms as rash.

Public Invited
To Band Concert

The Nyssa high school band will present a concert featuring a variety of band and instrumental solo selections Tuesday evening, Dec. 13 in the high school auditorium beginning at 8:15.

"Although this show is of a different type, we hope it will be as enjoyable as Friday evening's operetta," Ralph G. Anderson, director stated.

Included in the solo and special numbers will be a bass horn solo, trumpet trio, clarinet duo and trio and trombone duo.

There will be no admission charge. A cordial invitation is extended to the public, Anderson emphasized.

Al Ullman to Address
County Demo Meet

A county-wide Democratic meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 13 at the Boulevard Grange hall beginning at 7:30.

A potluck supper will precede a talk by Al Ullman of Baker. This special meeting is under the sponsorship of the Ontario Democratic club.

City Writes Off
\$7000 Delinquent
Sewer Accounts

The Nyssa city council, at its regular November meeting four weeks ago, wrote off approximately \$7,000 in old sewer charges, it was revealed this week by City Manager Jack Middaugh.

It was explained that the property involved was singled out because it consisted entirely of vacant lots at the time the ordinance was passed about 1940. Charges began in January, 1941, and all owners were billed until June, 1943, after which no statements were sent, Middaugh said.

Although some of the property owners paid their accounts in full, many parcels of property with unpaid sewer accounts have changed hands, making collection difficult now, the city manager went on to explain. The primary reason for the council's recent action was the lack of billing since 1943, it was pointed out.

The ordinance in question is still in effect and will be enforced to the fullest extent, Middaugh said. He expressed the opinion that the city needs a new ordinance to replace the existing one because of changing times, but all collections will be made as prescribed by the old statute until it is modernized.

Other discrepancies just discovered included four homes built five years or more ago with no record of any charges ever having been made for sewer connections and charges. The loss to the city is at least \$300, the city manager estimated, and it is highly probable that more similar cases will be discovered.

Firemen Elect
Year's Officers

Dale Bingman was elected assistant chief of the Nyssa Fire department Monday evening, succeeding Gene Stunz, who withdrew his name because he stated he will leave here early next year to attend school. All other officers were re-elected by the volunteers. They are: Ralph Lawrence, chief; Frank Morris, president; Ray Fox, vice president; and Everett Held, secretary.

It was announced that the annual Christmas party for all firemen and their wives will be Saturday evening at the fire hall.

Nyssa 1954 Retail Sales Amount
To \$7,000,000, 22% of CountyChristmas Story
To Be Presented
By 300 Children

Approximately 300 children of the fourth, fifth and sixth grades in Nyssa schools will present the Christmas story in pageant and music Thursday evening, Dec. 22 in the high school gym.

About one-third of the boys and girls sing in the chorus and the remainder of the group will take part in the various scenes of the Christmas story. The production is under the direction of the teachers for each room in these three grades.

This impressive portrayal of the Christmas story is an annual pre-holiday event in the intermediate grades and is looked forward to by hundreds of people from throughout the area.

4-H Youth Guests
Of OT Grange for
Dinner, Awards

More than 100 grangers and their guests, 4-H members and their parents attended a potluck dinner meeting at the Oregon Trail Hall last Thursday evening.

Frank Parr, grange lecturer was in charge of the program which included group singing and a welcome by Frank Sherwood, Grange master. Dolores Van Zelf presented a gift of money to the Grange for the aid they had given the 4-H on a scholarship.

E. M. Hauser, Malheur county 4-H club leader introduced the two clubs, the Oregon Trail and Owyhee and Buena Vista 4-H organizations and presented awards to leaders and members. Leaders receiving awards were Mrs. Lester Cleaver, first year; Mrs. Eugene Cleaver, second year, and Mrs. Harold Sisson, eight year pin.

4-Hers who earned awards were first year, Evelyn Cleaver, Alva Ann Cleaver, Bernell Schulties, Marie Niccum, Betty Jo Graham, Eugene Seuell, Dee Anne Adams and Linda Cleaver.

Second year, Edison Dee Child, Andrew Child, Cheryl Zesiger, Karen Norland, Donna Parker, Linda Parker, Francis Cleaver, Sylvia Cleaver, Linda Cleaver, Jennifer Stephens, Pauline Stephens, Joane Stephens, Audrey Tanner, Theresa Tanner and Beverly Herud.

Third year, Betty Jo Van Zelf, and Eric Boenig. Fifth year, Peter Ray Vander Oord, Dolores Van Zelf and Dean Sisson; sixth year, Stanley Sisson; seventh year, Sherral Sisson and eighth year, Nellie Vander Oord and Dick Winter.

Mr. Hauser expressed his and the clubs' gratitude to the Grange for awarding Garnet Ritchie a 4-H scholarship. Mrs. Sophia Aldrich of Ontario gave a talk and showed films of her trip to Europe with the Grangers.

Delbert Garner
Heads Seed Men

Delbert Garner of the Sunset Valley community has been elected chairman of the Malheur county Seed Growers' league and attended a weekend meeting in LaGrande. Attending the meeting in addition to the county chairman and his wife were Mr. and Mrs. Keith Wooley and Mr. and Mrs. Vern Garner.

Garner said that a meeting of county seed growers will be held soon in Adrian. The date will be announced as soon as arrangements are made.

Rural Mail Boxes
Need Attention

Postal service patrons on Nyssa's rural routes are asked by Postmaster Lloyd Lewis to assist speedy delivery of their mail during and after snowstorms by clearing an approach area to their boxes. Lewis said that any obstruction should be removed from rural box areas, but that carriers find the problem more noticeable following a snow storm.

Operetta Proceeds
Benefit Choir Robes

The operetta, "Hearts and Blossoms" presented by the Nyssa high school mixed chorus Friday night was well received by a large attendance.

Proceeds from the production will be applied toward purchase of much-needed choir robes, Ralph G. Anderson, director announced.

Food, Cars, Building Goods-Implement
Go Exceptionally High, Report Shows

Nyssa retail stores did more gross business in proportion to its population than any other town in the county during 1954 and it surpassed other towns in at least one line of business, according to a preliminary retail trade census of business released this week by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Retail sales here amounted to \$7,122,000, or about 22 percent of the total \$27,541,000 in retail business sales in Malheur county. During the same period Ontario's sales were \$12,551,000 or about 43 percent of the total of the county.

Nyssa Per Capita High

However, based on population of the two towns, Nyssa averaged slightly more than \$2820 in retail sales per person, while Ontario averaged slightly more than \$2810 in retail sales per person.

The county-wide figures are for retail stores of all types within the five incorporated municipalities as well as those in the various unincorporated towns and the numerous "corners" and wayside establishments throughout rural parts of the county.

Payroll High

Other pertinent facts are that the county's payroll in retail stores amounted to \$2,516,000 for 940 employees of whom 837 had a full work week, plus 320 proprietors of unincorporated businesses. Nyssa's payroll amounted to \$658,000 for 242 employees. Of this total 209 worked a full work week. There were 69 proprietors of unincorporated retail stores listed in Nyssa. At Ontario the payroll was \$1,249,000 for 477 employees of whom 424 were employed full time. Ontario's proprietors totaled 131.

Nyssa's retail employees are better paid than those in the county as a whole, and better paid than those in Ontario. The following figures are not to be considered annual pay, since they include part-time workers, but are for comparison only. In Nyssa the average was \$2,719, Ontario was \$2,620 and the county as a whole was \$2,660.

County Sales Up

The report showed that the census covered 293 stores in the county and that in 1948 there were 262 stores. Sales in 1954 showed a 17 percent increase over 1948 sales which amounted to \$23,549,000. Nyssa's stores totaled 67 and Ontario's total was 117, but there were no individual figures on that number nor the sales in 1948.

Only Nyssa and Ontario had individual reports for total sales and the breakdowns for various types of business. Vale and Jordan Valley, the other two incorporated towns, as well as unincorporated towns, were combined as "remainder of county."

Lumber, Implement Sales Huge

Probably the most unusual part of the report was that for "lumber, building materials, hardware and farm equipment dealers." Nyssa's business firms dealing in this category did 35 percent of all the business in the county and exceeded the total sales in Ontario by \$331,000. Total sales by this type of firms in Nyssa amounted to \$1,668,000 while Ontario's total stood at \$1,337,000.

(Continued on Page 8)

Health Officer
Goes To Meeting

Dr. Grant B. Hughes, Malheur county health officer, left Tuesday evening for Portland where he is attending a health officers' conference Wednesday through Friday. Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer, is presiding at the meeting.

The Nyssa doctor said that air pollution, performance budgets, crippled children, preventative medicine, migrant labor problems and many other factors pertaining to public health will be discussed.

Mrs. Broad Named
Cancer Chairman

Mrs. John Broad has been named Nyssa chairman of the 1955-56 Cancer fund drive. Announcement was made by Mrs. Eleanor L. Anderson, 1954-55 Malheur County chairman of the American Cancer Society.

Mrs. Broad will attend a training conference at Portland Dec. 9 and 10.

Malheur County exceeded its quota 108 percent last year. A total of \$1318 was raised through contributions and memorials.

Ted Morgan New
Chamber Prexy;
Discuss Health

Ted Morgan is the new president of the Nyssa chamber of commerce, elected Wednesday noon by unanimous ballot along with a full slate of nominees who had no opposition. Other officers are Gus Liming, vice president; Ham Chadderton, secretary; and Gene Grasty, Don Moss and Eddie Taylor, members of the board of directors.

Morgan has been vice president during 1955 under President Gene Stunz and has taken an active part in chamber activities for several years. A farmer in the Nyssa area, Morgan has been interested in all phases of community activities, both in and out of the chamber.

Following extensive discussion of the Malheur county health department, Stunz appointed Dellon Erickson, Ralph Lawrence and Clifford Main as a committee to study the problem and recommend to the chamber what recommendation should be made to the county court. At the present time the county does not have a recognized county health nurse and no sanitarian and a special tax levy has been proposed on the 1956 primary ballot for county health work.

Members were reminded to attend a banquet meeting with Oregon Trail Grange Tuesday evening where Jed Lewis will be the principal speaker and the Oregon Trail Hall association will provide additional entertainment.

Shotgun Accident
Claims Life of
Harve C. Harrell

Harve Harrell, 15-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Newton Harrell of Adrian died at 8 o'clock Wednesday morning at Malheur Memorial hospital. The youth was critically injured by a shotgun blast in his lower abdomen Nov. 27.

The accident occurred when Harve was visiting in the home of Larry Norris, 14, of Adrian. The two lads were alone in the house when Norris apparently started to hand the shotgun to Harrell and it accidentally discharged.

Harve Clyde Harrell was born Feb. 3, 1940 at Twin Falls, Ida. and moved to Adrian with his parents, July 1, 1954 from Sweet, Ida. He was a freshman student at Adrian Union high school.

Surviving in addition to his parents who operate Bill's Food Market at Adrian is his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Amelia Harrell of Rogerson, Ida.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday at 1:30 p.m. at Lienkaemper's chapel with the Rev. Henry Moore of the Adrian United Presbyterian church officiating. Burial will be in the Twin Falls cemetery with graveside services at 2 p.m. Saturday.

A coroner's inquest was held at 10 a.m. this morning (Thursday) at the Nyssa city hall.

Infant Treated After
Swallowing Fuel Oil

Alfred Gallegos, one-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Gallegos, Sr., of Nyssa was given emergency treatment at Malheur Memorial hospital about 8:30 Tuesday evening after swallowing some fuel oil.

The youngster was treated and released to his home in good condition, hospital attendants reported.

Swaners Attend Boise
Shippers Convention

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Swaner attended a shippers' convention in Boise last week from Friday through Sunday. The event was held in the Owyhee Hotel. Swaner is a Muir-Roberts official representing the local plant.

Mrs. Swaner attended a luncheon given Saturday afternoon in the Platinum room at the Owyhee in honor of the wives of the shippers.