

## SUNSET VALLEY ACTIVITIES

By Freda Astoreca

**SUNSET VALLEY** - Mrs. Georgia Pendarvis spent a recent day with her sister, Mrs. Marge Mitchell; not Mrs. Harold Snyder as was previously reported in this column.

Mr. and Mrs. Elver Nielsen, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Moncur and Curtis were Feb. 16 dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Nielsen at Homedale where they celebrated Matt Nielsen's first birthday anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Langley, Mr. and Mrs. Magnus Ekanger were recent visitors in the Elver Nielsen home.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glenn were recent visitors at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Jim Reilly in Apple Valley.

Feb. 11 dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glenn were Mr. and Mrs. Larry Culbertson and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Kent Lovelace and family of Wilder visited Feb. 18 with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glenn.

Gabe Astoreca and Julien Mendiola attended a Feb. 17 bull sale in Gooding. Later that day they went to Jackpot, Nev.

Mrs. Gabe Astoreca and girls, Mrs. Al Meier and Dewayne were Feb. 17 visitors of Mrs. Don Hatch and children.

Mrs. Al Meier and Dewayne spent a recent weekend with the Gabe Astorecas.

A farewell party was held in the Jim Langley home Feb. 18 for Eugene Pratt, who left recently for Germany. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. Eugene

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Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pratt and family, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Brewer, Mary and Louise, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hobson, Mr. and Mrs. Keith Langley and Todd, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hobson and Joe Jr. of Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Elver Nielsen were Feb. 18 visitors in the Cliff Nielsen home. While they were there, Mrs. Cliff Nielsen received a phone call telling her that her sister-in-law, Mrs. Douglas Benton of Baker, who has been in a Portland hospital, was much worse. Mrs. Nielsen left immediately for Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Astoreca and girls, Mrs. Duane Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Don Hatch visited Feb. 21 with Duane Smith in Caldwell Memorial hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Astoreca and girls, Mrs. C. P. Belveal, Penny and Judy of Nyssa, Mrs. Junior Matthews and Becky and Betty Jo Wenke were Feb. 19 guests of Mr. and Mrs. Don Hatch and family. Cake and ice cream were served in observance of Kellye's seventh birthday anniversary.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wood, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Robb and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gabe Astoreca and girls were among those from Sunset Valley attending the P.T.A. Smorgasbord in Adrian Feb. 24. Later the Robb family and Astorecas visited Mr. and Mrs. Don Hatch.

Wayne Robb, Gabe Astoreca, James Phelps and Ken Lorensen attended a Father-Daughter banquet served Feb. 23 by the Pioneer girls of Owyhee Community church.

Feb. 23 visitors in the Gabe Astoreca home were Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Robb and Mike, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Breshears of Roswell.

Mrs. Lois Council attended a Feb. 25 dinner party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Smith. Other guests were the Chester Councils of New Plymouth, Clara Connell, the Charles Moores of Ontario.

Mrs. Harley Wilson recently returned from a two-week visit with her sister, Mrs. George Johnson at Reno, Nev.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Chapin visited Feb. 25 with Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Hall at Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Glenn, and Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Shenk

of Succor Creek visited Feb. 25 with Mr. and Mrs. Lois Boren at Durkee.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Culbertson were Feb. 23 guests in the Charles Glenn home.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Chapin returned Feb. 19 from a six-week trip to the South with the National Soil and Water Conservationists.

Upon returning home, Mrs. Chapin received word that her brother-in-law, Oliver Walcott had succumbed in Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Alexander gave a Feb. 25 birthday party for their daughter, Linda on her tenth anniversary. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. John Grottwelt, Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Fogleman and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Elver Nielsen attended a Feb. 25 golden wedding anniversary celebration for Mr. and Mrs. Bert Heikes in Boise.

Ira Price recently underwent surgery at Caldwell Memorial hospital. Mrs. Price remained in Caldwell, staying with Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Price, Mr. and Mrs. Orville Groves. She also visited Mr. and Mrs. Earl Province while there.

Mr. and Mrs. George Folkman returned last week from a three-week visit with Mr. and Mrs. John Taylor at Lynnwood, Calif. The Folkmans fished at Lake Mead both enroute and returning home.

Mr. and Mrs. George Folkman recently visited with Mr. and Mrs. Claude Day at Adrian, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Byers.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Simpson visited Feb. 22 with the George Folkmans, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ritchie and family were Feb. 25 visitors in the Folkman home.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Holub were Feb. 25 dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ira Price.

Feb. 25 callers at the Magnus Ekanger home were Mr. and Mrs. Byrd Walters, Mr. and Mrs. John Cleaver, Larry Raymond and children, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Gordon of Marsing. The Gordon children spent the day with their grandparents while their parents went to La Grande.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Snyder, Tracy Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Price spent a recent weekend visiting in Malloia, Cornelius and Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Wilson and family were Feb. 25 dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Snyder. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Cates of Caldwell visited Feb. 25 with her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Snyder.

## SS BENEFIT CHANGES IN 1967 SUMMARIZED

The following summary of the 1967 Amendments to the social security law was prepared by the Social Security District Office at La Grande as a service to the Gate City Journal readers. It is not intended to be complete or detailed. For more detailed explanation of the recent changes, ask for pamphlet 1967-1 at the Ontario Resident Station or write to Social Security Administration, District Office, P. O. Box 1027, La Grande, Oregon 97850.

- Most benefit checks due the first week in March will be increased 13%. Those who retired at age 65 who are now receiving \$44.00 will be increased to \$55.00 per month. Those people over age 72 who are receiving the special \$35.00 a month will be increased to \$40.00. The increase is automatic. You do not have to apply for it.
- The amount a beneficiary under age 72 can earn and still draw all his benefits has been increased from \$1500 to \$1680 yearly, starting with 1968. Those who work full time part of the year and earn well over \$1680 can receive benefits any month they do not earn over \$140 in wages or render substantial services in self-employment.
- Widows age 50 and over, who are totally disabled, may be eligible (starting in February) for reduced benefits on their former husbands account. The total disability must begin within 7 years of the death of the husband or within 7 years of the time the youngest eligible child reached age 18. In some cases totally disabled dependent widowers and divorced wives may also be eligible. The payment to widows applying under this new provision of the law will be less than the full widows benefits at age 62.
- Young disabled workers, under age 31, no longer need five years of work under social security to qualify for payments. Those totally disabled before age 24 need only 1 1/2 years work out of the three years before becoming disabled. Those disabled between the age 24 and 31 will need work credits for half of the time between age 21 and the time they become disabled.
- It is now easier for some

dependents of women workers to qualify for monthly benefits. Previously a mother needed 1 1/2 years of work in the three years before her death, disability or retirement, in order for her children to be entitled on her account. Beginning with March, children may receive payments if their mother had worked long enough at any time to be 'fully insured'. This change could also affect the rights of some dependent widowers and husbands.

Benefits under this provision may be paid in March 1968, but they may be based on death or disability that occurred some time in the past.

- People now over age 65 who did not enroll in the medical insurance (doctor bill payment) part of medicare during the original enrollment period or who have dropped out may now sign up. The current enrollment period will end March 31, 1968. After that, enrollment periods will run January through March each year but a person must enroll within 3 years after the first opportunity to enroll. This current period will be the last chance to sign up for most people who were age 65 when medicare started in July 1966. Those who wish to cancel their enrollment may also make this change during the current period.
- People reaching age 65 this year will need at least 3 quarters of covered work under social security to qualify for hospital insurance unless they can qualify as the dependent of an insured worker eligible to receive monthly benefits.
- Medicare coverage has been extended in many areas. A lifetime reserve of 60 days of hospital coverage has been added to the 90 days that are available for each 'spell of illness'. Medicare pays all but \$20 a day of hospital expenses when these days are used. An itemized statement of services is all that is needed now when submitting a claim for medical insurance (doctor bills etc). Out-patient hospital costs have been taken out of the hospital insurance and is now covered under the medical insurance and the special deductible that did apply to out-patient treatment has been dropped and is now included in the regular \$50

## Grazing Fees On BLM Lands Not Changed

Grazing fees on Bureau of Land Management rangeland in eastern Oregon and Washington during 1968 will be the same as last year. Again this year the fee will be 33 cents per animal-unit per month (AUM), BLM state director Archie D. Craft announced Tuesday.

Grazing fees per AUM for BLM rangelands are one and one-half times the average price per pound received by livestock growers the previous year. Livestock prices did not fluctuate enough to result in a change of grazing fees, he said.

An interagency study of grazing fees on public lands is receiving careful consideration by livestock operators, BLM advisory boards, and other groups, but conclusions have not been reached.

Grazing fees for BLM lands in western Oregon have not yet been set for 1968. Last year they were 60 cents per AUM.

## Handicapped, Retarded Child Group Reports Recent Progress

The Treasure Valley Association for Handicapped and Retarded Children held its monthly meeting Feb. 13 at the Moore hotel in Ontario, with President Mrs. Joe Mollahan presiding. Among visitors present were Mrs. Genevieve Merrill, retardation Coordinator of the Idaho Health Department from Boise and Mrs. Betty Gill from the Office of Economic Opportunity in Emmett.

Mrs. Merrill commented briefly on current programs and projects for the mentally retarded in the State of Idaho. Mrs. Gill expressed interest of her office in working with the association.

Mrs. Lamar Cowan, teacher of the trainable class, gave an informative report about a recently established program for trainable retarded children. The class now in its second week of operation convenes in the basement of the Methodist church in Ontario. There is a present enrollment of 5, 1 from Nyssa and 4 from the Ontario area. "All games and activities are planned with an ultimate goal in view," according to Mrs. Cowan. She stated that she is interested in helping the children develop in three specific phases.

"Socially - To help the children learn to live in our society. Physically - To develop coordination of large and small muscles through use of exercises, rhythms and games. Mentally - To help them develop basic concepts concerning personal safety."

The trainable instruction is available to any child within commuting distance. Those desiring more information about the class may contact Mrs. Cowan at 889-9140 in Ontario.

Current project of the association is to obtain an automatic three-speed record player for Mrs. Cowan to use. Any person desiring to help with this project may do so by mailing either partially or completely filled Gold Strike Stamp books to Mrs. A. W. Guerrant, Route 3, Weiser, Idaho, 83672.

Stamps may also be turned over to Mrs. Cowan or at the Day Care Class-Church of Christ in Ontario each Saturday between the hours of 1 and 4 P.M.

Mrs. Rudolf Broderson of Payette, reported on the Day

## CLUB NEWS

NYSSA 4-H CLUB

Second meeting of the Nyssa 4-H Club was called to order by Vice President Fred Child, in the absence of President Ron Moffis, on February 20, 1968 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Sappe.

The national and 4-H pledges were led by Carolyn Sells.

Jane Joyce called roll and read minutes of the last meeting.

We discussed a name for the club and decided that we would all take a name for suggestion at the next meeting.

We also decided to take \$1 to the next meeting to buy 4-H insurance.

After that our leader Don Bowers showed how to make halter ropes.

Refreshments were served by Mrs. Robert Holmes. The reason she took refreshments was because this meeting was to be a birthday party for her son, Robert Holmes Jr. Her plans back-fired when Bob had to go to a basketball tournament.

Meeting was then adjourned. - Fred Child, reporter.

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