

## The Gate City Journal

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## Nyssa Labor Camp

Nyssa in the past week has felt the sting, and has suffered from bad publicity, as a result of actions of two groups who supposedly represent Gov. McCall of Oregon and Gov. Samuelson of Idaho.

Apparently with no credentials, and having neither been appointed or elected as authorized representatives of any group, they have succeeded in gaining headlines and feature stories in the daily press, have been photographed and interviewed on television, and have received considerable radio time.

The Nyssa Labor Camp was built by the U.S. government in the 1940's. When the government wanted to get rid of the camp the Malheur County Housing Authority was formed to take over the camp, and it has since been leased to the Malheur County Farm Labor Sponsoring Association.

Since that time Nyssa's camp has been considered probably one of the best, if not the best, in the State of Oregon. Newer buildings have been added from time to time, the older buildings have been upgraded, and the camp has always met acceptable standards. The ratio of toilet and shower facilities is in proper proportion to the number of adult workers in the camp.

Admittedly not suited to year around living, the cabins have been adequate for camping during the summer, and the migrants are willing to pay the \$5 or \$6 a week for their use. Camp authorities say that they would not be willing to pay two or three times that much for better quarters, in fact would move out and pitch their tents on the river bank, and then we really would have problems.

Many of the same families have been coming here all these years. They reserve the same cabins, even store some of their possessions that they don't want to haul back and forth to Texas, and have been happy to return to Nyssa each year where employment has been good, and where they have received fair treatment.

Many of the migrants have stayed right here in Nyssa. They have bought or built homes, obtained jobs, educated their children and have become important citizens in our community. And in doing so they are no longer migrants, but permanent residents.

With the development and increased use of weedicides, herbicides, mechanical thinning and harvesting, the demands for migrant labor has been reduced about 10 percent a year for the past five years, and shows no signs of leveling off. As of this date there are 56 empty cabins at the labor camp, and they have never been in use this year.

Both the state and county sanitarians make periodic inspections of the camp, discrepancies are noted, corrections are made, and the Nyssa Labor Camp is rated far better than the average labor camp in Oregon. In an inspection last week, one toilet out of 27 was not working properly, and one shower head in 28 was not working. Both have since been repaired, as have other deficiencies noted.

As a result of the notoriety of recent days Judge Ellis White made a hurried trip to Salem and visited with the governor. He was told that the ring-leader of the dissident group does not speak for the governor or the governor's advisory committee, but only for himself.

Governor McCall is sending his executive assistant, Robert Davis, to an Inter-Agency meeting, which will be held at the Treasure Valley Community College Thursday, starting at 9 a.m. At that time Davis will state the governor's position. In the meantime, all responsible officials hope that cool heads will prevail, and that the camp will stay open. On the other hand, as a result of this fracas, the camp could close, and this wouldn't be fair to either the migrants or the farm people still dependent on their labor.

The whole thing shows what a small group, trained as militants, can do. Not local, they come in from Woodburn, Portland or wherever and succeed in gaining the ear of the news media. Perhaps the farmers, labor sponsors and most of us in general have over-reacted. Maybe it's time that we over-react and stop some of this subversion, this taking advantage of minority groups, and this wanton destruction of our established institutions. Let's also take a good look and be sure that our house is in order.

## In Memoriam

## Gladys E. Sasser

Gladys E. (Morfitt) Sasser, 59, passed away July 16, 1970 at a Boise Hospital after a short illness. Mrs. Sasser was born February 19, 1911, at Nyssa.

Her parents were Lem and Isabelle Wilson, well known pioneers of the community. The deceased attended Oregon Trail School and Nyssa School, graduating in 1930. She was employed in the Nyssa and McCall areas.

On August of 1933, she was married to Robert Morfitt at Caldwell, Idaho. They lived in Jamieson, Vale and Nyssa areas and moved to Owyhee Dam in 1952. They were living there at the time of Mr. Morfitt's death in 1963. She then moved to Nyssa, where she was employed. In January 1969 she married Foy Sasser at Weiser, Idaho.

The deceased was a long time member of the Owyhee Community Club (OKK Club), she was Honorary Mother of Eagles Auxiliary and a member of the Order of Eastern Star, Golden Rule Chapter #131.

Survivors include her husband, Foy Sasser, a daughter Mrs. Dudley (Roberta) Kurtz, Nyssa; a step-son, Norman Duane Sasser, Roseburg, step-daughter, Myrna Karleen Sasser, Washington, D.C.; six brothers, Bud Wilson, Barclay Wilson, Nyssa; Lem Wilson, Grangeville, Idaho; Frank Wilson, Ontario; Harold Wilson, Homedale; Robert (Red) Wilson, St. Paul, Oregon; two sisters, Mrs. Inez Sherrill, Merrill, Ore.; Mrs. Minnie Tyrrell, Nyssa. Also numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by a husband Robert Morfitt, parents Mr. and Mrs. Lem Wilson, three brothers Vernon, Bill and Jim Wilson.

Services were held Monday, July 20, 1970, at 2 p.m. at Lienkaemper Chapel in Nyssa. Interment was at Owyhee Cemetery under the direction of Golden Rule Chapter #131 Order of Eastern Star.

Palbearers were William Peutz, Shorty Brandt, Bob Holmes, Swede Johnson, Rex Walters and Dale Garrison.

Honorary palbearers were Dr. K.E. Kerby, Clarence Wernick, Roy Holmes, Byrd Walters, Jack Walters, Aden Wilson, Eddie Taylor and John Broad.

## Luis F. Rodriguez

Luis Florez Rodriguez, 38, Nyssa, died when struck by a tree while fighting a forest fire near Grants Pass, Ore.

He was born Feb. 16, 1932, in Texas.

He is survived by his wife, Antonia, Nyssa, and eight children, Luis, Domingo, Eduardo, Arturo, Armando, Olga, Alicia and Rebecca, all at home. He is also survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Diego Rodriguez, Adrian and six brothers, Pasqual, Adrian, Candelario, Homedale; Francisco, Mexico; Leandro, Homedale; Vicente, Adrian; and Aeronimo, Owyhee Corners.

Recitation of the Rosary was July 19, at 8 p.m. at the Lienkaemper Chapel at Nyssa. Funeral mass was conducted at 10 a.m. July 20 at St. Bridget's Catholic Church by F. Charles Young.

Interment was at Valley View, Vale.

## Rev. Tom Winkler Ordained



Rev. Tom Winkler, left, is shown being congratulated by Rev. Jose Vicent after his ordination to the priesthood of the Episcopal Church Sunday, July 19, at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Ontario. Rev. Vicent was master of ceremonies at the impressive ceremony, at which ordination rites were performed by Bishop William D. Spofford of the Missionary District of Eastern Oregon. Rev. Winkler is minister of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Nyssa, and Holy Trinity, Vale.

Rev. Dirk Rinehart, Church of the Redeemer, Pendleton, gave the sermon. Rev. Rustin Kimsey, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Baker, read the Litany. Dale Hershey, resident of the Nyssa Migrant Ministry, read the epistle, and Rev. Louis Perkins, Cove, read the gospel. Grant Rinehart, Nyssa, read the Prayer of Intercession.

Ushers were Dick Tensen and William Schireman, Nyssa, and Stuart Griffin and Don Denning, Vale. Acolytes were John Tensen, Nyssa, and Dan McGowan, Vale. Jack Olsen, Nyssa, was crucifer. Mrs. D.W. Powers, Ontario, was organist.

The women's guilds of Nyssa, Vale and Ontario held a reception for the new priest in St. Matthews Parish Hall after the ceremony, and the Nyssa and Vale congregations presented Rev. Winkler with four chasubles (clerical garb) representing the colors of the church seasons.

Rev. Winkler's parents from Portage, Wisconsin were present for their son's ordination, and were the first to receive communion. Their gift was an antique ruby glass chalice, dating back to the 18th century.

Clergy from Episcopal churches and other denominations throughout the valley were among the large crowd present for the ceremony.

Photo by Mike Stringer

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH NOTES

Dale Hershey will be the guest speaker at Faith Lutheran Church, Nyssa July 23, at 8 p.m. There will be an identical service on July 26 at 10:30 a.m. Dale Hershey and his wife, for the past two years, have worked with the Mexican people in Nyssa and Adrian.

The Lutheran young people from Vale, Nyssa, and Ontario will have a water-skiing party at Owyhee following the services on July 26.

## St. Bridget's News

St. Bridget's parish will have their annual parish picnic this Sunday at Mason Dam Reservoir near Sumpter. All the parishioners are invited, and are asked to bring pot luck dishes. Those attending are advised to attend early Mass to get to the site before noon.

## SEVENTH DAY CHRISTIANS

Services for All who desire to keep "The Lords Day Holy" this Sabbath, July 25, at 2:30 p.m., 7th and Emison. Everyone Welcome!

## COMING EVENTS

TODAY, THURSDAY, JULY 23 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rummage Sale, Episcopal Church basement.

7:30 p.m. Nyssa Summer Band performs in South Park.

FRIDAY, JULY 24 - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rummage Sale, Episcopal Church basement.

SATURDAY, JULY 25 - 8 p.m. Recovery, Inc., meeting, Christian Church.



## TIKI TORCHES

Enjoy the evenings outdoor.

2-piece metal pole. \$1.49

Open til 9 p.m. Nyssa Rexall Pharmacy

## News About SERVICEMEN

## Lt. Wayne Riggs

Lt. Wayne Riggs graduated from undergraduate pilot training at the Air Force Base in Lubbock, Texas, and received his wings. He is being transferred to Spokane, Wash., for two weeks of survival training. Lt. and Mrs. Wayne Riggs visited in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Riggs July 20, enroute to Spokane.

## LOCAL SCOUT RECEIVES NATIONAL LEADER TRAINING

Kirk Savage, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Savage, Nyssa, is receiving specialized training in Boy Scout Leadership at Philmont Scout Ranch and Explorer Base in the Rocky Mountains of Northeastern New Mexico.

Savage, a Life Scout, is one of more than 600 Scouts selected from across the nation to participate in the 12-day summer course at the Junior Leader Instructor Training Camp, located on the 214 square-mile ranch. The purpose of the course is to prepare these Scouts to assist their council in training other junior leaders.

A member of Troop 419, sponsored by the Lions Club, Savage is receiving intensive instruction in the skills of leadership and Scoutcraft, including patrol and troop activity planning, hike planning, campfire planning and conducting training programs. The Scouts participating in each session live in tents and are organized into patrols. Throughout the training program, patrol positions are rotated to give each boy a well-rounded experience.

The Junior Leader Training camp is part of a far-reaching program conducted by the Boy Scouts of America at Philmont, involving more than 17,000 Scouts and leaders who hike the mountain trails each summer. In addition, 1,000 volunteer Scouters and 4,000 members of their families visit the ranch for a week of training and vacationing at the world's largest boys' ranch.

## BIRTHS

## MALHEUR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 1970

July 19 - To Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Contreras of Ontario a girl.

July 20 - To Mr. and Mrs. Ray Miller of Parma a girl  
July 21 - To Mrs. Margarito Carrasco of Nyssa a girl.

## HOLY ROSARY HOSPITAL, 1970

July 16 - To Mr. and Mrs. James Hipwell of Nyssa a boy.  
July 21 - To Mr. and Mrs. Tim Phillips of Nyssa a girl.

## OUT OF THE PAST

## 10 YEARS AGO

Don Oldemeyer, Nyssa Lions Club president informs the Journal that a study of the swimming pool is continuing. As soon as plans have been formulated they will be published.

Jean Evans, Miss Malheur County is among the 19 contestants vying for the title of "Miss Oregon of 1960".

Lynn Butcher, custodian of Nyssa Schools, scored a rare "Hole-in-One" on the Ontario course. Others in the foursome were Bill Hamilton, Dick Butcher and Ted Brammer.

John Dorm Gilmore, prominent Nyssa merchant and Chamber of Commerce president, drowned Sunday while diving at Cascade Reservoir. The diving equipment was checked and found to be in perfect working order. It is assumed that a physical mishap hit Gilmore suddenly.

## 20 YEARS AGO

Contracts totaling \$261,409.50 have been awarded by the state highway department for projects in Malheur County.

The largest contract involves improvement of the Ontario-Nyssa section of the Old Oregon Trail highway. The federal and state project call for widening and paving 11.46 miles of grade between Ontario and Nyssa and furnishing 3000 cubic yards of materials in stockpile.

Mr. and Mrs. Houston Wilson are the parents of a daughter born July 18 at Holy Rosary Hospital.

## 30 YEARS AGO

The Hitchcock Packing Co. of Salinas, California will start construction of a \$4000 packing shed in Adrian, about August 1. Lettuce and carrots will be the principle crops handled in the plant. The Adrian district should become a second "Salinas Valley" in the production of lettuce.

Electricity, often called the farmer's most valuable hired hand, sometimes becomes a potential accident hazard when hay derricks are being moved from one field to another under power lines. Bernard Frost, local manager of the Idaho Power Co. urges proper precautions be taken.

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## 40 YEARS AGO

Sid Burbridge, Osa Blaylock and Norville Leuck returned the first of the week from the Deschutes River where they had spent several days trying to provide themselves with some of the large members of the finny tribe which are said to abound in those waters.

They refused to tell the size of the big ones that got away, but we understand that each had the following pinned to his hat: Oh! Lord! Grant me to catch a fish so big that even I, in telling of it afterwards May have no need to lie.

## 50 YEARS AGO

Between tanglefoot and the fly swatter the path of the fly has been thorny enough, but now he is in far more trouble. The Nyssa Meat Market has installed an electric fly machine that is said to kill 'em as fast as they come.

S.N. Emison bought 70 acres of land from Wm. Vogts this week. This land is on the island, about one mile from Nyssa. The land is not improved but it commanded a very good figure.

The trees of the Apple Valley orchards are so heavily loaded with young fruit that thinning has been resorted to. The boys and girls of Nyssa are being employed in the work, almost any kind of a kid, receiving \$3 a day.

## 60 YEARS AGO

How about that alfalfa mill, you ask. Well, it isn't built yet, but that is no reason it will not be. The Commercial Club is still working on the location and will until it is built.

Tuesday afternoon the inhabitants of this city were treated to a demonstration of the burglar alarm recently installed in the Bank of Nyssa. A fair sized crowd soon gathered to have the mysteries of this system explained to them and to see and hear for the first time in Nyssa, the clamor of the gigantic alarm.

## IN APPRECIATION

Words cannot express our deep gratitude and appreciation for the many acts of kindness from our friends, during the time of illness and death of our loved one. The lovely flowers, cards, food and thoughtfulness will never be forgotten.

We especially wish to thank the OKK Club, Eagles Auxiliary and Eastern Star for their dinners, and Rev. Manley for his comforting words at the time of our sorrow.

Our heartfelt thanks — Foy Sasser, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Kurtz and family. The Family of Gladys Sasser.

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THURSDAY — FRIDAY — SATURDAY

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**Farm Safety Week**  
July 19 - 25

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