

### Nyssa Gate City Journal

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## Thanksgiving

Much of what I would share with you this Thanksgiving I say in words borrowed from a dear friend, and I do so without apology, for they are seared in my memory. I am deeply grateful for them. For I, too, have found it very hard to be honest and thankful and not appear selfish and full of pride. I suppose I am most thankful for things like these:

Whenever I travel I see places where people are poorer, where they live in the big city's drab concrete canyons, where work is dull and recreation meager. Then I am thankful that my income equals my outgo, that my home is here in this pleasant community where my work is fulfilling, and where I can enjoy putting in my garden or joining friends for a day of skiing in the nearby mountains.

When I meet those who have been laid off from work and lost their livelihood, I am grateful that my employers have not, on balance, seen fit to fire me.

When I hear of other women's husbands and sons who were crippled or killed, I find myself grateful that the men in my family were not of front-line combat age.

When I read of the problems of people in other parts of the world, of overpopulation and hunger, of disease and dictatorship, of revolutions and violence, I am grateful that I chose to be born in this country.

So it goes, and my list is just begun. For in the Pharisee's words, "I thank thee, Lord, that I am not as other men are!" But then I find I must ask, like Job only in reverse, "What have I done to deserve all this?"

That I was born in this free country, was fortunate enough to come west to work, and was called to live and work here in Malheur County—all this can be analyzed as more the doing of others than of myself.

And so goes the answer each time I ask "Why did this happen to me?" Each good can be attributed to circumstances, to the action of others, and so a tiny bit of pride and selfishness is purged from my thankfulness, being turned into gratitude for others: gratitude for my parents and family, gratitude for my countrymen, for friends and neighbors and companions.

But I am a religious woman, a Christian; at least I profess to be a Christian, and that question persists, "Why me, and not some other person?" Does God love me more than someone else? Or would His goodness to me be His will for all people? Is it not His will that all persons may have wholeness, that all may have health, and freedom, and truth and beauty and goodness—and love? Is His will to be done if any of us see ourselves as better or more deserving than others? Or does each blessing, each good, carry with it the burden, the necessity, to find a way to give to others according to their needs?

The amply fed must not look too often at the hungry, or their pleasure is tainted. The loved are weakened so long as any are lonely. The free woman is threatened so long as any are in slavery. The wise man knows the dangers of ignorance. "To whom much is given, of him much is required."

Rev. Letitia Croom  
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Nyssa

"Solitude is a good place to visit but a poor place to stay."  
 Josh Billings

# Merry Christmas Card



Christmas means special wishes and gifts for special people. You never know just where or when you'll find them... but your eye always catches those "perfect" gifts. Isn't it nice to be able to get them then... rather than returning a week later to find them gone? Wishes DO come true with a Western Bank Master Charge Portrait Card. And you don't even have to close your eyes to prove it!



## LETTER TO EDITOR

Editor, The Journal:  
 A sincere thanks to all who made our Parade of Homes such a great success.

A very special thanks of gratitude to those lovely and talented hostesses who shared their beautifully decorated homes with all of us, also the hostess home where refreshments were served.

The cooperation of our merchants in donating door prizes and the newspaper coverage was greatly appreciated. Such worthwhile events makes working in the Auxiliary a pleasure. Malheur Memorial Hosp. Auxiliary President, Gladys Newbill.

## OBITUARIES

### Ruth Conant

Graveside services for Ruth Conant, 47, of Pendleton, Oregon, who passed away in her sleep, Friday, November 12, 1976, were held at Owyhee Cemetery, November 17, under the direction of Lienkaemper Chapel. The Rev. Robert Simard, pastor of the St. Bridget's Catholic Church officiated at the services.

She was born to Daniel J. and Nellie Mays Metzger, November 1, 1928 at Harlan in Harlan County, Nebraska. She attended Alma, Nebraska schools.

Mrs. Conant came to Nyssa in 1947. She married Richard Conant in December of 1947. She was a member of the Catholic church at Pendleton.

Surviving are four sons, Rick of Boise, Rodney and Jeffery, both of Nampa, and Douglas of Tacoma, Washington; four brothers, Walter, Joseph, Emmett and Kenneth all of Nebraska; three sisters, Edith Fenn of Nyssa, Ethel Winland and Maxine Dillon, both of Alma, Nebraska. She was preceded in death by her parents, and two brothers, Ernie and Dan.

### John Haight

John J. Haight, 84, Kooskia-Kamiah area, a former Nyssa resident, died Thursday, November 4, 1976, at Parkhill Manor in Grangeville. He had lived in the nursing home the last four and one half years.

Funeral services were held Monday at Trenary's Funeral Chapel, Kooskia with the Rev. Earl Browning, Church of the Nazarene, Newport, Washington officiating. Interment was at Pine Grove Cemetery, Kooskia.

Haight moved with his parents, Horace and Ella Haight, to Glenwood area near Kamiah when he was ten years. He moved extensively during his working years returning to Kooskia after retiring.

He was born April 8, 1892, at Osage, Iowa, and he moved as a young man to Ritzville, Washington. He later returned to Idaho to homestead in Big Cedar area near Kooskia, where he met Vena Nicholson. They were married May 12, 1915.

He was employed by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation for many years, first at Spokane, then at Grand Coulee, Nyssa, Oregon, Lapin, Oregon and Soap Lake, Washington where he retired in 1957.

His family returned to Nyssa. Then moved to Grangeville and then returned to Kooskia. His hobbies were hiking, rock hounding, hunting, fishing and helping friends and relatives.

He belonged to the Church of the Nazarene of Grangeville and was involved in church work much of his life.

Surviving are his wife, Kooskia; four daughters, Muriel L. Canuel of San Jose, Calif.; Vera M. Stadman of Kooskia, Lela I. Pinkens of Lewiston and Ruth M. Davidson of Goldendale, Wash.; two sons, H. Dale, Lewiston, and David D. Kooskia; two sisters, Kloma Lemon, Davenport, Wash., and Irma Jacobs of Prineville, Oregon; a brother, Wesley, of Arizona; 17 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by two children, Ellen Berniece and John E.

## Church Directory

### Conservative Baptist Church News

Wednesday, November 24 - AWANA, 6 p.m.  
 Choir practice, 8 p.m.  
 Thursday, November 25 - Thanksgiving Service, 10 a.m.

Sunday, November 28 - Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship, 11 a.m. Evening Service, 7 p.m. Bible study and prayer meeting, 8 p.m.

Monday, November 29 - Evening Bible Study Class. Jim Robinson home, Pastor Beattie will continue a study in Revelations.

We will be having a Thanksgiving Service at our church again this year. Services at 10 a.m., November 25. This is early enough so that you may share the service with us and get home in time for your family dinner.

### United Methodist Church News

The United Methodist Church and the Rev. Jim Monroe welcome you to all church activities.

Thursday, November 25 - Community Thanksgiving Service at the Methodist Church. The Rev. Alex Najar of the Latin Assembly of God Church will be the guest speaker. Everyone is invited, 11 a.m.

Sunday, November 28 - Prayer Service, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Worship Service, Message "No Greater Love Than This," Part One - A World Hungry For Love, by the Rev. Monroe, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, November 30 - Bible Study at the church, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, December 1 - Devotional Service at the Church, 10 a.m. Pastor-Parrish Committee meeting.

"Home is where the heart is, In dwellings great or small And a home lighted by love Is the dearest home of all."

### MALHEUR HOSPITAL



Christmas Carolers are invited to sing for the Malheur Memorial Hospital and the Nursing Home during the holiday season. All churches, organizations, clubs and school children or others interested in entertaining the residents are asked to call Mrs. Mary Torell, R.N. nursing home supervisor at 372-2211, ext. 34. It is necessary to schedule the carolers so that they won't all be there at one time, says Mrs. Torell. The shut-ins really look forward to the seasonal singing.

### Community Calendar

Saturday, November 27 - United Methodist Church, Rummage Sale, Church Basement, 1-6 p.m.

Wednesday, December 1 - Golden Age Club, 113 Green Avenue, potluck, 12 noon.

## OBITUARIES

### Belvia Gabriel

Services for Belvia Gabriel, 91, Nyssa, who died Saturday November 20, 1976 at Malheur Memorial Hospital will be conducted at 10 a.m., Wednesday at the Lienkaemper Chapel, Nyssa, by the Rev. James Monroe, Nyssa Methodist Church. Interment will be in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Baker, Ore. She was born February 24, 1885, at Santa Barbara, California. She married George Gabriel February 3, 1927 in Albany, Oregon. He died in October 1970.

There are no known survivors.

### Park Avenue Baptist Church

Everyone is welcome to attend services at this Bible teaching church.

Sunday, November 28 - Sunday School classes for all ages, 10 a.m.

Worship Service - in the sanctuary with message by Pastor Dale Mitchell. Choir Practice and Christmas program rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, November 30 - Youth group, Macrame and painting classes for all young people. Church basement, 7 p.m. Wednesday, December 1 - Bible Study and Prayer meeting, 7 p.m.

### Nazarene Church News

Sunday, November 28 - Morning Prayer at the Church, 7 a.m.

Christian Education Classes, 9:45 a.m. Children's church, 11 a.m. Morning Worship with message by Pastor Russell, 11 a.m.

Choir practice, 6:30 p.m. Evening Gospel Hour, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 30 - Ladies Bible Study at the home of June Sloan, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 1 - Bible Study at the Nursing Home, 4 p.m. Midweek service for Caravan Children, Teens, Adult Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.

A quote by William Penn, "Do good with what thou hast or it will do thee no good."

### Missionary Baptist Church News

Sunday, November 28 - Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Worship Service, 11 a.m. Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. Worship service, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 1 - Studies in Revelation.

Saturday, December 11 - Youth Rally, 10 a.m. Pastor, W. K. Frensiely

## Conservative Baptists Slate Banquet

The Nyssa Conservative Baptist Church will be having their annual Christmas banquet, December 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the East Side Lions Den. The Rev. Sid Frank of Gladstone, Oregon will be the featured speaker. He is well-known as the Gospel Musician and by means of electronic pre-recordings, is able to play one instrument while other instruments are played at the same time by recording. He also does the same with voice and does quartet numbers in this manner, in which he sings all four parts.

## Nyssa Woman Will Become One Of First Female Priests

By Betty Hopper  
 The Idaho Statesman

Her name is Tish, short for Letitia, and in a few weeks she will be one of the first ordained female priests in the Episcopal Church.

Being ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church is a new experience for women, granted them by the church's General Convention in Minneapolis in September.

But being ordained a priest is "a normal extension of the ministry in Eastern Oregon," said the Rev. Letitia "Tish" Croom. "My ministry as a priest is needed to serve my congregation."

"We took it for granted when a man in the church became a priest. We should feel the same about women," she said.

The Rev. Croom will be ordained in Vale on January 16, one of the first women ordained as a priest since the approval was granted, and the first in Oregon and Idaho.

The Rev. Croom, 51, has been in Episcopal Church work for nearly 30 years. The past two years as pastor of the St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Nyssa and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Vale.

"I haven't been pushy in this situation or haven't actively sought becoming a priest," she said. "All Christian people, by virtue of Baptism, are called to represent Christ. What higher calling can there be?"

"It is at the right time, right place and right circumstances for me now."

Croom received her education and seminary work in New York and has specialized in Town and Country work and rural Christian Education.

For 18 years, before being called to serve the Nyssa and Vale churches, she worked in Idaho, out of Boise, both in Christian duties and on the Bishop's staff.

As deacon-in-charge of the two churches, Croom is part of the team ministry with the Rev. Tom Stevenson and the Rev. Warren Sapp.

"Team ministry is a new concept and one we are working towards," she said. "No one person can be all things to all men and with the team ministry, we hope we will be able to do more for our people."

Other assignments of Croom include editor of the semi-monthly Diocesan newspaper and she serves on the Diocesan council and was secretary of the Diocess convention.

"Becoming a priest is not something I actively sought. It didn't seem possible during most of my years in church work."

Croom said she views the situation evolving about her, the vote of the General Convention to allow the ordination of women as priests, with optimism tempered with experience.

"I do think it is important that women be priests, to answer that calling, that is what it is, a calling. I can't understand the push to be ordained. Ministry is a serving process, you must be called - it is not a personal trip."

Being ordained will not really change her life style, she said. "It means I will preside at the Eucharist, at the Lord's Supper. That is what people see when they think of a priest."

The decision to allow women to become priests has the wholehearted approval of Bishop William C. Spofford. "I personally rejoice that we may now ordain qualified women to the priesthood of the church. We contemplate ordaining Rev. Letitia Croom to the sacred priesthood in early January," Bishop Spofford said.



The Rev. Letitia Croom

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 208-724-6131

Adrian Oil Company  
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 208-724-6130

Ben's Beauty Bar  
 503-372-2653

Callahan Repair Service  
 Wrecker Service  
 503-372-3213

Freel Brothers Trucking  
 Commodity & Livestock  
 503-372-2736

Martin's Market & Adrian Supply  
 503-372-2722

Mirage Cafe & lounge  
 Live music Sat. night  
 503-372-2338

Parker Lmbr. & Hrdwre  
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 208-724-6174

Stephen Plumbing  
 Oregon & Idaho licensed  
 503-372-2783

Van DeWater Levelling  
 503-372-2562

Webb Service Garage  
 503-372-2464

### CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank the many friends and relatives who brought food and the flowers at the time of the funeral of our mother and sister. The family of Ruth Conant

### THANK YOU!

Many thanks to our friends, neighbors and relatives for making our 50th wedding anniversary such a happy and successful occasion. We sincerely appreciate the lovely flowers and cards, the money tree and your many kindnesses. Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Adams.

### THANK YOU!

I want to thank everyone at Malheur Memorial Hospital, the nurses, the staff, Dr. David Sarazin and Dr. John Nielsen for the fine care I received during my recent surgery. Many thanks for the beautiful flowers, cards, telephone calls and visits. All of your kindnesses and thoughtfulness is most appreciated. Mrs. Jim Griffin

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