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Interviews With Nyssa Physicians

Dr. Kenneth E. Kerby

By Patty Werner

Dr. Kerby, came to Nyssa, directly from his internship in 1938. For the last 38 years his humanitarian efforts have left it's mark on our community. Most people retire with a gold watch after 20 years of service. Dr. Kerby after nearly 40 years would just like to trim his practice enough to "go fishing once in a while." However, unless Nyssa acquires additional Physicians, with his dedication, Dr.

Kerby, may have to continue to put in long hours of service to our community and few (if any) fishing trips.

Question: Why \$72,000 to recruit Physicians?

Answer: I've had many people ask me about this. I think what many people need to have clarified is the part of this money is to establish the physician in practice in our community. The money spent for the actual recruiting of the doctors will not be more than one-sixth (if that) of the allocated amount. The majority of the money will be for rent on the clinic, salaries for employees, insurance payments. Based on past averages of the \$62,000 spent to establish the physicians it is expected to generate \$300,000 - \$400,000 of additional revenue for the hospital.

Question: Why should we keep MMH?

Answer: If the hospital closes there is little chance that a doctor will come to this town. Many hours of dedication and efforts were put into this hospital in the beginning and down through the years. All of this would be gone and more or less wasted if we close the doors.

The closeness and convenience of the hospital means a lot to our community. Having relatives in the hospital in Nyssa has saved miles of travel for visitation.

Question: How crucial is the budget election?

Answer: We need the money for repairs and to improve our facilities. Many deaths have been prevented that would have occurred if further travel were necessary. Thirty-eight years of service to our community speaks for itself! Dr. Kerby supports the passing of this budget election.

Dr. Kenneth A. Danford

By Patty Werner

After six years of practice in Minnesota, Dr. Danford, in 1952 decided to move west. He spent much time inquiring of many towns in Washington, Idaho and Oregon. The main reason he chose Nyssa, he states, was due to the Hospital, the friendly community, and the good relation with fellow physicians. For a quarter of a century, Dr. Danford has dedicated his time, knowledge and energy to the members of our area.

Question: Why do we need the Hospital?

Answer: Both for recruiting doctors and for retaining the ones that we have. I feel it is very important for our community's medical needs to have the hospital. We need it for the convenience of Obstetrical patients as well as for visiting of our older patients.

Question: Why is the election necessary?

Answer: The levy is necessary to meet government requirements and to update our facilities to take better care of our patients. I can't see where we have

Dr. David W. Sarazin

By Patty Werner

Dr. Sarazin began his practice in Nyssa in 1958. Over the past eighteen years he has contributed the largest portion of his time and efforts to the health care of this community.

Question: Why recruit physicians?

Answer: Recruiting physicians is important but more important is **Keeping Our Hospital!** Nyssa had its' best health care when we had five practicing Doctors. Also with out the hospital, will the other Doctors stay? I personally would not want to practice in a town without a hospital. Parma doesn't have a hospital and they do not have any doctors. Dr. Kopp has stayed in Vale but I doubt if any other doctor would want to come to Vale, without a Hospital.

Question: How crucial is the election?

Answer: We must update to meet Government regulations. MMH needs modern facilities--new instruments & equipment--to accommodate out-of-town surgeons. Doctors from neighboring towns are willing to come if we have the proper facilities.

Question: Could MMH be changed to a Nursing Home?

Answer: I've heard people say it could but I don't see how. The cost of meeting requirements would be as great as the budget. Staffing a facility would be approximately the same as it is today.

Question: what are the advantages of keeping MMH?

Answer: Aside from all the personal contributions made in the past, there is also the personal care one receives here. Personal care that larger institutions are often lacking. It's difficult to know for sure how many patients

have been saved by having the facility in our town. I do know of times when I've contacted specialists out of town (coronary cases for example) and have been advised to keep the patient at MMH until they stabilized because transporting would be too dangerous. Where would they be without the hospital?

Also, without the hospital we would not have an ambulance service. In emergencies, the nearest ambulance would be Gayway Junction or Parma-- both long distance telephone calls. The service would not be as efficient as it is today.

Dr. Sarazin's fine reputation is well-known in this community. Although his dedication and life long ties to our community might convince him to stay in this town without a hospital, it is evident how strongly he feels the need for Malheur Memorial Hospital.

To Be Or Not To Be, That Is The Question

By Dr. Brandon L. W. Adams

Do we really need a hospital in Nyssa? I've heard a few people argue that we don't and perhaps they're right. I'm confident that Nyssa would continue to exist without the presence of Malheur Hospital, but even the most hard-headed Nyssan will probably admit that life in this community will be altered and modified depending upon whether or not there is a hospital here.

Articles previously written on this question have stressed the history of the hospital, its present financial agony, and there have been emotional appeals to the reader.

In this article I intend to take a cold look at our future for that is all that really matters. I leave the nostalgic fantasizing to those who have been here longer than I, and the emotional appeals to those whose lives have been warmed and enriched by the humane and competent care they or their loved ones received at this hospital.

There are two possible futures awaiting us: life with a hospital here and life without it. I would like to explore each of these futures, but first let's look at some facts.

If you vote "yes", i.e., the forthcoming election, our hospital will probably endure and thrive for years to come, thanks to this badly needed transfusion of dollars.

A "no" vote makes the complete closure of this facility a likely probability in the near future.

Why is this? According to reliable estimates it costs the hospital \$80,000 per month simply to pay its way and continue operating. Since it is legally forbidden to borrow more than an additional \$20,000, if the monthly income of the hospital should ever fall below \$60,000 it will no longer be able to meet its financial obligations and must close its doors. It is estimated that **three consecutive months** of low utilization could bring about this condition.

Besides, even if the hospital were able to continue its present struggle by barely breaking even each month through fair utilization, badly needed improvements would remain unaccomplished and sooner or later one or another of the interested state or federal regulatory agencies would force the hospital to close for failure to comply with mandated standards.

So its logical to conclude that a "no" vote sentences our hospital to death sooner or later.

Now let us look at what life in Nyssa will be like without a hospital. Let's imagine that one full year has already passed since our



NYSSA PHYSICIANS endorse the hospital budget election next Tuesday, January 11. Shown, from left, are Dr. David

W. Sarazin, Dr. Brandon L.W. Adams, Dr. Kenneth E. Kerby and Dr. Kenneth A. Danford. (See accompanying interviews and stories).

Alfalfa Seed Growers Meet

A full day of "meaty" discussion has been planned for Malheur County alfalfa seed growers when their annual meeting gets underway at 10 a.m. on January 10, 1977 in the Oregon Trail Hall, announced Wm. H. "Bud" Panike, president of the Malheur County Legume Seed Growers Association.

All seed growers and those associated with the industry are urged to mark their calendars now and attend, he said.

The program for the day will feature reports from researchers on managing bees, controlling weeds and managing insect pests of the seed fields. Also covered will be a review of the seed certification program and an up-date on development and release of new varieties. Other items of timely interest and concern to the seed industry will also be discussed, Panike said.

Stressing the importance of grower attendance and participation, Panike noted that this meeting is specifically planned to bring growers up-to-date on the latest findings of research and give them an opportunity to discuss with the researchers the application of these findings in the growers' production and management practices.

County Officials Take Oath Of Office

Frank Yraguen, former Malheur County district attorney was sworn in as 9th District Circuit Court judge, Monday in the courthouse in Vale.

Administering the oath of office to Yraguen was Federal District Court Judge Alfred T. Goodwin, San Francisco. Yraguen had worked as a law clerk for Goodwin.

Yraguen then administered the oath of office to Dist. Atty. Byron Chatfield, Sheriff Bob Ingram, Vale Justice of Peace Mary Graham and Nyssa Justice of the Peace Don Engstrom.

County Court Judge Roy Hirai swore in Nick Toole, new county commissioner;

Floyd Holton, new assessor; and Jean "Pat" Bond, re-elected treasurer.

Participating in the program were Edward Sullivan, legal counsel to Gov. Robert Straub; William Cramer, president of the Harney County Bar Association, Father Cletus Kirkpatrick and Pastor Walter A. Schmidt.

Nyssa Blood Drawing Tops 100 Pint Quota

Elvin Ballou was awarded his four-gallon pin at the Blood Drawing held at the Eagles Hall, Wednesday, December 29, 1976. Duane Buchtel received his two-gallon pin; Peggy Vander Oord and Dick Martin were awarded one-gallon pins.

The drawing was sponsored by the Malheur Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and the hostess group was ladies of the Nyssa LDS Second Ward.

There were twenty first-time donors: Wendy Cleaver, Robert Duncan, Bruce Goodell, Deborah Hopkins, Danny Hiatt, Allison Jackson, Bruce Jackson, Ron King, Effie Martin, Pat Savage, Clayton Webb, Dennis Morton, Ken Vandewall, Dorothy Mahler, Harvey Mahler, Judy Trupp, Ethel Price, Sherri Simpson, Marilyn Peterson, Ted Morgan. There were twelve rejections, due to colds, etc.

Bob Wilson, recruitment chairman, announced that of the 104 people that had their names placed on the Master Donor Board, 71 came to the drawing. Those were: Arleigh Adams, Ethel Lawrence, Pat Savage, Carl Lassiter, John Price, Burdette Pratt, Peggy Vander Oord, Mary Ann Chadwick, Bill Morrison, Ed Lawrence, Helen Stunz, Florence Lewis, Jim Mattes, Newell Cleaver, Barbara Wilt, Larry Wilson, Rev. Walt Schmidt, Bill Schilling, Judy Trupp, Clayton Webb, Allison Jackson, Thelma Huffman, Ron King, Cees Hopman, Melvin Feik, Duane Buchtel, Jolene Reece, Bruce Goodell, George Craig, Debra Alexander, Bruce Jackson, Carma Nielsen, Elvin Ballou, Harold Kassman,

ning, Dan Kite, Shelia Esplin, Wilton Jackson, Dan Martin, Bill Wilt, Bob Wilson, Glenn Palmer, Dick Martin, Judy Martin, Ted Morgan, Don Somers, Evelyn Griffin, Danny Hiatt, Orville Needs, Gladys Cooper, Ernie Zinnic, Nadine Sparks, Steve Buchtel, Marie Wilson, Don Buker, Charles Chapin, Dr. David Sarazin, Dick Tensen, Carol Hoff, Dee Garner, Ellen Brittingham, Barbara Fitzsimmon, Ione Greig, Merril Call, Glenn Frederiksen, Marilyn Peterson, George Fanning, Art Cartwright.

Other donors were: Harold Alexander, Roy Belveal, Jane Ballou, Vivian Bair, Don Bullard, Roberta Belveal, Charles Daudt, Dirk DeBoer, Anthony Frost, Betty Hopkins, Earl Jennings, Ralph Lawrence, Klaas Laan, Larry Larson, Mary Laan, Beason Lewis, Mural Lewis, Carlos Moreno, Ernestine Messick, Elvy Madrid, Cecil Morrison, Mark Moncur, Dorothy Marez, Steve Marez, Le Roy Mecham, Calvin Mahler, Barbara Mahler, Gene Mahalaczki, Vernon McCain, J.E. Nielsen, Don Oldemeyer, Norma Perdue, Dorothy Pattee, Rev. William Russell, Connie Russell, Aleta Richter, Mary Staples, Rev. Robert Simard, Gene Stunz, Marion Tyner, Donna Webb, Larry Wilson, Dave Witty, and Pat Zamora.

Mrs. Robert Wilson, chairman wishes to thank everyone for their participation, all those who gave their time and their gift of Life - Blood. Also thanks go to the Eagles, Nurses, LDS ladies and Senior Citizens who watched the children during the drawing. The next Blood Mobile visit is March 17.



NYSSA JUSTICE OF THE PEACE Don Engstrom is being sworn in by Judge Frank

Yraguen as Mrs. Engstrom holds the family Bible. Argus photo.

Town Crier

By Pat Savage

As you are slipping and sliding around on our snow covered streets and sidewalks and you pass someone who is smiling, you can be certain he is either young at heart, a skier or a farmer. Oh well, what is January without some snow? Besides we need some moisture, and I'm really not that old anyway.

Speaking of snow brings to mind all the fun we used to have sledding and sliding down hills on the then popular coke-a-cola signs. They really sailed down the hill side. Now there are inertubes, magic carpets, etc. All of these are great fun and should be used safely. Haven't noticed any snowmobiles around our neighborhood, but am amazed at all the tubes and sleds being pulled behind cars in the residential sections. I was more amazed to find the kids weren't driving the cars, but adults were. These capers are fun, but could turn into tragedy if one of these youngsters hits a parked car or telephone pole or another car slides into the sledder or the car stops and tube slides under the car. Enough accidents happen without inviting them. Keep your kids safe, take to the hills to do your sledding. Better drive a few miles to the country, than have to ride in an ambulance or a hearse.

All young hunters, ages 12 and up will be interested to know that a Gun Hunters Safety Course will begin Monday, January 10 at City Hall from 7 - 9 p.m. The course will end January 31 and can accommodate 15 students. The Nyssa Police Department assisted by Miland Draper will be doing the instructing. They would like those interested to sign up at the City Hall before the 10th. Be safe, learn how to handle your gun and be a wise hunter. Parents get your youngsters signed up today.

The hospital election is January 11, don't forget to vote. Be somebody important, take part in community affairs, your town is only as good as the people in it. Don't be a complainer-be a joiner and a doer. There are lots of vacancies.



NEW NYSSA ATTORNEY, Steve Pierce is pictured with his wife Pam and four-year-old son Trevor. He has opened his law practice in the former Maulding Building, 20 South 2nd Street. The suite of offices has been newly remodeled and redecorated, and others in the building are Dan Hutsell, CPA, and Dr. Arthur Dole, Urologist.

Pierce is a graduate of Portland State University, and received his law degree at Gonzaga University in Spokane. He is a veteran of two years service in the U.S. Army, where he had the rank of Sergeant. Pam attended Spokane Community College, and the couple came to Nyssa from Portland, where both grew up.

WEATHER

Date	Max.	Min.	Prec.
Dec. 28	39	17	
Dec. 29	37	15	
Dec. 30	35	14	
Dec. 31	34	12	
Jan. 1	35	14	
Jan. 2	32	20	
Jan. 3	36	24	1.27
Jan. 4	38	19	.04
Jan. 5		13	

Owyhee Reservoir Storage
1-3-77 471,080 Acre Feet
1-3-76 595,970 Acre Feet