

Star-Herald

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 1999 3A

Local/Region Arts & Entertainment

Whistle Stop Cafe opens

Dream for old depot now a reality, after 22 years

By LYNN F. RUSSELL
Staff Reporter

A new restaurant, the Whistle Stop Cafe in Scottsbluff, is a welcome addition, say some customers.

Helen Rukavina and Christine Easton, both of Lyman, say they used to eat at Baily's, which recently closed, and have eagerly watched for the opening of the new cafe.

"The food is very good here," says Rukavina. The opening of the Whistle Stop Cafe, adjacent to the Riverside Zoo, is a dream come true for owners Judy and Junior Nelson of Scottsbluff.

The cafe is housed in an old train depot that once served Lyman. Built in 1922, it's been totally refurbished inside and out.

"They don't make buildings like this anymore," says Junior Nelson. The wood is nearly perfect with very few knots in it.

The cafe which has been on its present site since 1977 had an interesting journey from Lyman to Scottsbluff.

Originally offered to the city of Scottsbluff for free, the depot

came into the Nelsons' hands when Scottsbluff turned it down because of moving costs.

The city had intended to use it to house small animals at the zoo.

After successfully bidding on the depot, the Nelsons found a reasonably priced mover.

The depot ended up being on the road for seven days.

"The depot is so large it took up the entire road," says Judy.

"My six kids, our friend, Karen Banks of Scottsbluff and I donned those bright orange vests and stood in the road re-routing traffic."

When the depot arrived just outside of Scottsbluff, city police stopped it. The Nelsons had to go to City Hall to get a permit to bring it into city limits.

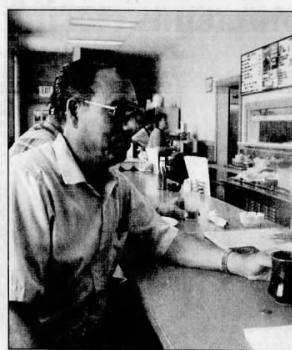
While standing in line at City Hall with the moving crew waiting, Junior new a lady trip and



Cafe owners Judy and Junior Nelson watch customers at their new restaurant, Whistle Stop Cafe, while Abe Escamilla of Scottsbluff enjoys a cup of coffee.

During those 22 years, the entire Nelson family and friends slowly renovated the building, going to auctions to equip it as a restaurant.

"Our stools at the counter come from the old Woolworth's store," Judy says. "They're about



65 years old."

"And we also got many other items from auctions. We had a long time to accumulate what we needed."

Judy explained how important the cafe is to her family. "After the first customers came

through the door, tears were streaming down my face, I was so happy."

The Whistle Stop serves home-cooked food, three meals a day, from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., six days a week. It's closed on Sundays.

Scottsbluff High School orchestra presents last performance of season

The Scottsbluff Senior High Orchestra will present its final concert of the school year on Monday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the SHS auditorium.

It will perform selections from the movie "The Lion King" and the first movement of Symphony No. 12 by Mozart.

The orchestra will perform the music from the District VI Music Contest, where the orchestra received straight superior ratings.

Bluffs Middle School to play final concert

The Bluffs Middle School Orchestra will present their final concert of the school year on Thursday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the BMS auditorium.

Groups selected to perform include the Sixth Grade Orchestra, the Seventh Grade Orchestra, the Eighth Grade Orchestra and a special performance by the Elementary All-City Orchestra.

Midwest Theater to show 'The Graduate'

The historic Midwest Theater in Scottsbluff will show the movie "The Graduate" tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

In this 1967, PG-rated movie, Dustin Hoffman stars as college graduate Benjamin Braddock, who spends his first summer out of school being seduced by the wife of his father's best friend.

Others in the cast are Anne Bancroft as Mrs. Robinson and Katherine Ross as her college-aged daughter.

On the Town

Dances

May 14

Gering — Bull Shuttles Square and Round Dance, 8 to 10 p.m., IOOF Hall. Caller: Steve Bailey of Holdrege, Neb.

Gering — Pats N Half Past Graduation Day Square Dance and Pot Luck Dinner, 6:30 p.m. (dinner), 8:30 p.m. (dance), IOOF Hall. Special guests: Student graduates, Caller: Lucy Kocherewer.

Bridgeport — Jeremiah Scott Graduation Dance, 8:30 p.m. to midnight, Eagles Club.

Sidney — Prairie Schooners Square Dance, 8 p.m., Central School. Caller: Mal Marshall. Caller: Mike Koley.

Scottsbluff — True Country Dance, 8 to 10 p.m., Scottsbluff Club. Music by: Mike Nuss & The Country Cats.

May 16

Scottsbluff — Eagles Band Jam, 3 to 8 p.m., Eagles Club, Highway 71.

May 18

Gurley — Prairie Schooners square workshop, 7:30 p.m., Gurley Community Hall. Caller: Mal Marshall.

May 21

Sidney — Senior Citizens Dance, 7 to 10:30 p.m., Cheyenne County Community Center. Music by: Paul and Ken Country Sounds.

Concerts

May 17

Scottsbluff — Senior High Orchestra concert, 7:30 p.m., high school auditorium.

May 20

Scottsbluff — Bluffs Middle School Orchestra concert, 7:30 p.m., middle school auditorium.

June 27-30 and July 1-3

Scottsbluff — "Steel Magnolias," 8 p.m., WINCC Theater.

July 8-11 and 14-17

Scottsbluff — "The 1940s Radio Hour," 8 p.m., WINCC Theater.

Movies

May 14 and 16

Scottsbluff — "The Graduate," 7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 1:30 p.m., Sunday.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 1 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 2 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 3 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

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Scottsbluff — Village Twin 4 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 5 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 6 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 7 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 8 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 9 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 10 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

May 14-20

Scottsbluff — Village Twin 11 "Entrapment," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m.

9:20 p.m. 2 "Never Been Kissed," PG-13, 2:05 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7:05 p.m., 9:15 p.m.

Afternoon shows only on Saturday and Sunday, 9 p.m. shows only on Friday and Saturday.

Scottsbluff — Cinema Six 1 "The Mummy," PG-13, 1:50 p.m., 4:20 p.m., 6:50 p.m., 9:20 p.m., 2 "Matrix," R, 1:45 p.m., 4:20 p.m., 6:55 p.m., 9:25 p.m.

3 "10 Things I Hate About You," PG-13, 2 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:15 p.m., 4 "Baby Geniuses," PG, 2:10 p.m., 4:10 p.m., 7:10 p.m., 9:10 p.m., 5 "Life," R, 9:15 p.m., 6 "B.M.A.," R, 1:50 p.m., 4:20 p.m., 6:50 p.m., 9:20 p.m.

7 "The Out of Towners," PG-13, 2:10 p.m., 4:10 p.m., 7:10 p.m., 9:10 p.m. All-temon shows only on Saturday and Sunday, 9 p.m. shows only on Friday and Saturday.

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4. BABY GENIUSES (PG) \$5.95

5. LIFE (R) \$5.95

6. B.M.A. (R) \$5.95

7. THE OUT OF TOWNERS (PG-13) \$5.95

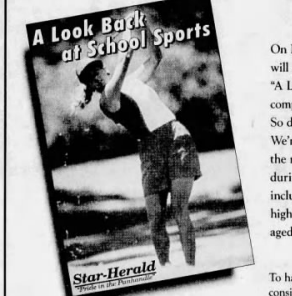
Village 2 632-6950

1. NEVER BEEN KISSED (PG-13) \$6.95

2. ENTRAPMENT (PG-13) \$6.95

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Send Us Photos of Your Young Athlete in Action!



On May 22, 1999, the Star-Herald will publish a special section, entitled, "A Look Back at School Sports," comprised of your photo submissions. So don't miss out on the action! We're looking for kids throughout the region who participated in sports during the 1998-99 school year. This includes elementary, middle/junior high school, high school, and college-athletes.

To have photos of your schoolaged child considered for publication:

1. Simply select the best sports action photo of your child that you have on hand.
2. Fill out the form below - make sure you include a brief description of the photo.
3. Forward both the photo and information form to the Star-Herald at the address listed below.

Send us your submissions today!
Entry deadline is
Monday, May 17, 1999!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: () _____

High School: _____ Grade: _____

Sporting Event: _____

Return to:
Star-Herald - Attention: Lisa Keith - P.O. Box 1709 - Scottsbluff, NE 68961-1709

Star-Herald
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