

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #348 - Sides A & B & C & D

Subject: Kathreen Woyak - With Video

Place: Woyak Home - Burns, Oregon

Date: October 27, 1993

Interviewers: Dorothea Purdy & Barbara Lofgren

Release Form: Yes

DOROTHEA PURDY: This is Dorothea Purdy along with Barbara Lofgren and today we're visiting with Kathreen Woyak at her home in Burns, Oregon. This will be stored in the library along with a video that we will be taking shortly. The number is 348, and today's date is October the 27th, 1993. Kathreen, we'll start by asking you your full name, and that includes your maiden name.

KATHREEN WOYAK: My name is Kathreen Holyfield maiden name, and then I was later married Schroeder, and now Woyak.

DOROTHEA: And where were you born?

KATHREEN: Meridian, Mississippi.

DOROTHEA: What date?

KATHREEN: November the 25th, 1911.

DOROTHEA: And what were your parent's names?

KATHREEN: My father's name was Watson Arthur Holyfield, and my mother's name was Lulabel Goodgame Holyfield, of course. Lulabel is all one word.

DOROTHEA: And how is Holyfield spelled?

KATHREEN: H O L Y F I E L D.

DOROTHEA: Were you some relation to Laird that married ---

KATHREEN: I'm his aunt.

DOROTHEA: You were his aunt.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

KATHREEN: He is one of the reasons that I came here. He was just 6 years, and he and his sister were 4 and 6. And their mother had just died and my --- Leon was my oldest brother, and he just needed some family support. But --- and I lived with them for six months. In those days, they didn't have telephones at Hines, and no trees either, this was 1935. And the Red and White Store, grocery store, was owned by the Schroeder family. Charlie was first year at Oregon State, and during the summer he would go, every morning, well he did this in high school as well, he'd go with his order pad out to all the houses in Hines, from house to house, taking people's grocery orders. There was a small grocery store out there, and that's where I met him, he came to the door.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

KATHREEN: He came and took my order. Six months later we were married. I didn't go back.

(Laughter)

DOROTHEA: So that's why you only stayed the six months?

KATHREEN: Yeah. Leon and his second wife --- she was an aunt to his first wife; they were still in the family. ... married the same evening because he didn't have a baby sitter. Charlie and I were married at the St. Andrews Church, and Leon and Mary Lou were married at --- I forget his name, I think it was Wolfe. But it was a minister that had his services in his home, a little start-up church, you know.

So, Charlie and I spent the night in the Welcome Hotel, that was our honeymoon. (Laughter) He had the only --- well then he, by this time he had gone, I'm getting ahead of myself, he went in business for himself. Tillers had a grocery store up there where the, in Bob Smith's building where the furniture store is, and Charlie had a meat counter in the back of that, on the side.

Then he later bought out a fellow, Davis, that had one down in where Micheline's is, in the Odd Fellow's Building. There was a, had an ice plant and all that kind of stuff out back. So, we were

just married seven years when he got pneumonia.

DOROTHEA: So, let's go back a little bit and find out if you have any sisters or brothers. I know you have a brother, because that's why you came to Harney County. But go on and tell us how many brothers and sisters you ---

KATHREEN: I had two brothers, both older than me, Leon and Herbert. Herb worked for the Standard Oil Company in Spokane. And when I came down here he came down to get me, he didn't want me to stay here, he wanted me to go up there. We hadn't been, we'd been separated as a family for just two or three years, but we always kept in very close touch. I have a younger sister, her name is Roberta and she lives in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. She has visited here several times, she was here last summer. She is three years younger than I am.

DOROTHEA: And what did your parents do for a living?

KATHREEN: Well, my mother was a traditional housewife, of course, but she was a pianist. And the earliest, I don't remember too much about her, because I was only 7 when she died. But World War I was on, and we were, they had a soldier's camp at Camp Shelby at Hattiesburg. And I remember taking a trip down there, they dropped us off at our grandparent's house, and they went on down where she entertained the soldiers. This has been USO 1918. My sister is still alive, she lives in Hattiesburg, and my two older brothers have died now.

BARBARA LOFGREN: So what year was it that you then came out to help your brother?

KATHREEN: 1935, uh huh.

BARBARA: And he had been married and had two children, and his wife passed away?

KATHREEN: Uh huh, yeah.

BARBARA: And in '35 you were how old then?

KATHREEN: Well, I was 24.

BARBARA: 24, okay. And you say you were working at a telephone office?

KATHREEN: Uh huh, Southern Bell, yeah Southern Bell Telephone.

BARBARA: Before you came out here?

KATHREEN: Yeah.

BARBARA: How old were your brother's children at this time?

KATHREEN: They were four and six.

BARBARA: Four and six. You just played mother to them, did you?

KATHREEN: Yes, I did. They were pretty much running the streets out there, you know. He was working, and their other grandparents were --- his wife's parents were, the family name was Laird, and they were both working and so they just sort of let them do as they pleased.

BARBARA: Why did your brother come to Harney County? Did he work for Edward Hines?

KATHREEN: He worked in Vernonia for the Oregon American Lumber Company and when they closed up, he came over here looking for work. And he worked in the shipping office there for how many years, thirty-one. He can't remember what year he left. When his daughter was still in, when she graduated he went to Lakeview. Anyway, from there he went to McCloud.

BARBARA: So, he was single when he moved out here first, and married a Harney County girl?

KATHREEN: Yeah --- no, he was single and he moved to Vernonia, and he married. No, these Lairds were from Sumrall, Mississippi.

BARBARA: Oh.

KATHREEN: But he met them, I guess they were, no he, yeah, he met them over there in Vernonia. It was sort of like Hines, Vernonia was at that time. It had a big mill and it went down too, it finally closed up. I don't know, it's still alive, the town is but I don't know what the industry is. But he just ---

But my dad, you want to know what my dad did? He worked for the railroad company. He was in the shop, he run the big lathe; he decorated the interior of coaches. Have you ever seen any of the passenger coaches that had all the curly-ques, all the gingerbread, and great big mirrors and that kind of stuff on them? You've missed something, they were just floating palaces. And there was a railroad shop at Meridian, that's what kept it, that was its main industry. And he ran the shop at, the woodworking part of it.

DOROTHEA: And so how long did he work with this?

KATHREEN: Until he was, they let him work until he was 67. He went to work probably when he

was about 30. He grew up on a farm.

DOROTHEA: And so, in other words he retired as an interior decorator for trains?

KATHREEN: Yeah, he did, yeah.

DOROTHEA: So okay, then you came to Harney County and met Charlie and married. And you had three children; can you tell us their names?

KATHREEN: Richard is the oldest, and Armond is next, and Ronfort is the third.

DOROTHEA: Can you spell these names? Richard is simple, Armond is spelled A R M ---

KATHREEN: O N D.

DOROTHEA: O N D.

KATHREEN: Yeah. Ronfort is R O N F O R T, and that is because the family name is not actually Schroeder from Europe, their name was Ronfort. When Mr. Schroeder came to the United States he jumped ship in, he told many tales but this is the most logical, that he jumped ship when he was about 16 in New Jersey because there was smallpox aboard. And he was from Luxembourg, that's where he was born and raised in Luxembourg. And he changed his name then to Schroeder because he was a sausage maker, and Schroeder was a German name, and he was not German, he was more French than he was German.

And so, this pleased him very much that we named the kids --- his father's name was Armond Julian Ronfort. So, when I named the boys from his family, he thought that was great. Much prettier name than Watson. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Right. That sounds like Scotland Yard or something.

KATHREEN: Yeah. But so, they really are not related to any Schroeder's except one another, the same way with all these grandchildren. I have eleven Schroeder grandchildren, and they're just related to one another, and that's all.

BARBARA: So, it was just kind of made up.

KATHREEN: Yeah, it was. They're still living with their head in the cloud. No, he wanted to take, he never did take out his naturalization papers because he started, and he was, and wanted to take them under the name of Ronfort. Well, she already had Charlie and Marjorie and she wouldn't

go for it, so he never took them out, he was never a citizen.

And there is an interesting thing that happened along that line. When Dick was living in Italy, she was going to go and visit him and she went to, applied for a passport and they wrote back and wanted her papers, his papers, and she didn't have any. It seemed that during the time they were married, I don't know how long this law lasted but it, you could find that out if you needed to know. For about ten years if you married an alien, you lost your citizenship and she didn't know this. They called from Washington and told her that she had to have these naturalization papers, then she had to apply. She would never let Irma and me tell this story, but now she can't help it, God love her soul. I've heard Irma tell it, so I don't feel I'm betraying her.

But she, they had a class up here; they were swearing in a lot of people, you know, a lot of the Bascos were becoming citizens. She would not go up there. The judge understood her feeling enough. She said, "I was born in the United States, I'm an American citizen, I don't care what Bob did, I'm an American citizen." So, he took her in his office in Portland and swore her in to give her her papers.

DOROTHEA: Okay, let's ask then your in-law's names.

KATHREEN: Her name?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: Hattie Belle Huffman.

DOROTHEA: Huffman.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: H U F F M A N.

KATHREEN: Uh huh, right.

DOROTHEA: And his name was?

KATHREEN: Robert Julian Schroeder, he went by. But his name was actually Ronfort.

DOROTHEA: And they had two children?

KATHREEN: No, they had three.

DOROTHEA: Oh, they had three children.

KATHREEN: Yeah. The young girl, she is an artist, her name is Irma. Irma Schroeder, she graduated from high school here. She is the same age as Rosie Runnels and Jean Scrivner; they all went to school together, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, well I've heard of her, but I didn't realize, I didn't connect it.

KATHREEN: Because she is so much younger than Marjorie and Charlie, were just three years apart. And Irma was, no about seven years later.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. So that's probably why I didn't connect it to the Schroeder.

KATHREEN: Uh huh. Yeah, as soon as she, about the next, when she graduated from high school, pretty soon after Charlie died. And that just floored her, she worshiped him. And so, she went to Portland and went to work, and she never did come back, only to visit of course.

DOROTHEA: Well, now did you ever work with Charlie in the store?

KATHREEN: Oh yes, I kept the books. And I never did work as a meat cutter, I couldn't. I got the job of cleaning chickens in the back room.

BARBARA: Oh yuk!

KATHREEN: Yeah, just like, you get the dirty part. The first time I ever had my hand inside of a dead chicken to, what do they call, drawing them, I had to learn a lot of names. Yeah, I did, I worked right up until the time I had these three children. As soon as I would get pregnant the bookkeeper we had would quit. And Jean Scrivner was one of the bookkeepers, and Bud Sloan's wife (Arbilla), what was her, Anderson. You know he was principal out at the high school. It was his niece, she was one of them, she married Bud Sloan. I'm sure those names must be familiar to you, because Armond played football with them.

DOROTHEA: And I can't right --- I'd have to get out my schoolbooks because I can't remember the names.

KATHREEN: I know.

DOROTHEA: So how, your children were what, two or three years apart?

KATHREEN: Yeah, Dick is almost exactly two years older than Armond, and Armond is two and a half years older than Ron.

DOROTHEA: And so how old were they when Charlie passed away?

KATHREEN: Two, four and six.

DOROTHEA: And what did you do afterwards? What kind of a ---

KATHREEN: Well, he owned the, we owned the market, you know, and I had to sell those. It took me about seven months to sell those. And then I had a dress shop here.

DOROTHEA: Before you sold, did you continue to operate the butcher shop?

KATHREEN: Both of them, I had to, you know.

DOROTHEA: Did you have a butcher come in, or did you learn to do this?

KATHREEN: Uh huh. No, Charlie had two guys working for him and they stayed on. I had a hard time keeping them, because they didn't believe that I could run the business end of it. But I fooled them, I did.

BARBARA: Women are smarter than they think.

KATHREEN: Oh, you bet they are.

DOROTHEA: You say you had a dress shop, what was the name of this dress shop?

KATHREEN: I don't know as I actually had a name. I saw --- I was looking through some old papers the other day and come across this clipping that Julian Byrd had put in the paper about the dress shop. I didn't have a --- I had it here in the house. And it didn't, I had it about two years.

DOROTHEA: You mentioned having your business here in the house, let's go to this house and find out how you acquired it. And you said you bought it just seven months or so before Charlie died.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: How did you come about buying this house?

KATHREEN: Well, from the time when I was living in Hines I would drive to town and see, bringing the kids in, you know, I was only out there six months. I'd pass and I saw the house, even then I wanted it. It was painted red, trimmed in yellow, but there was something about it that fascinated me.

And we lived in the little house down on South Egan for, well for seven years. And it was just too

crowded; I had these three little boys and two bedrooms. The whole house, the area, it wasn't as big as this room, cut up, you know, like little houses are. And so, Mrs. McGee wanted to sell it, her husband had had a stroke, and she had gotten rid of all of her boarders and so she wanted --- and she wanted cash for it. So, just bought it, it wasn't easy.

DOROTHEA: You mentioned Mrs. McGee, now what was her name?

KATHREEN: Cora McGee, Roy and Cora McGee. And they're not the McGee's that, you know, like Jack McGee and that family. They're not --- he worked, either he worked for the railroad or the forest service, and I don't remember which.

DOROTHEA: And they ran this as a boarding house?

KATHREEN: She and her daughter Frances, can't remember her last name, but she taught in the school.

DOROTHEA: Frances McGee?

KATHREEN: Yeah. But she had a married name. But she was teaching and they had a --- you know when they had the students out there at Hines, when they were building, when they were really beginning to operate? They had a lot of students from the Midwest, especially from Chicago where Hines was, and that's where the commissary got built. But there was an overrun, everybody that had a barn or anything to rent, there were people coming in here to work, you know, and there was no housing. So, everybody cut up his backyard, and there was a lot of little shacks around here then.

DOROTHEA: Let's talk about before the McGee's had it. Do you know who owned it then?

KATHREEN: Yeah, the Voegtly family. Charlie Voegtly built it to begin with. I can give you the whole, it's all written down, and it's a matter of record someplace, I don't know, it was given to me. He, there was a hundred and sixty acres that a fellow named Nick Voegtly from Pennsylvania bought from George McGowan, Archie McGowan's father. And it was all this land, and that's why I'm back from the highway, that was the section line across there. And Egan Street was the section line going down that way to the railroad, beyond the railroad tracks, because the railroad was built across Voegtly property. And I don't know how far down this way that the land went.

But anyway, he bought, it was never a homestead, he bought a hundred and sixty acres from him. Then he went back to Pennsylvania and died. He had a son, his name was Charlie Voegtly, and he was sort of a black sheep in the family, and they were glad he didn't want to go back, he wanted to stay here. And his father gave him this property, but he died so it was divided up amongst seventeen brothers and sisters. And there was one that wouldn't sell, the others all sold to Charlie. And he wouldn't sell, so eventually they bought it from him. He never, he was just hanging on, just to be what?

DOROTHEA: So, Charlie Voegtly had seventeen brothers and sisters, or I mean there were sixteen brothers and sisters besides Charlie.

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah. And he built that Voegtly building up town. And when he decided to build this house, there was a house right here, and there was a big tree, the first one that fell, which was several years ago, you know, it just uprooted, it was just so old. There was a house right here, sort of an A-frame house. And he moved it back on the back lot, and there was already a windmill, he built a windmill. I think they must have built that first; it was a windmill tower for their water, to all the trees. And he took him, took about, Claude Brown's father built the house, and another guy named of Billy White I think it was, something, anyway it took them about a year to build it (1907-1908).

And when they got it all built, and the land they valued it in those days at \$20,000, which was pretty good, you know, for the house. Well, you can see for yourself the material that's put into it. If you'll pull that curtain back you'll see the original woodwork there. I have refinished it; it's all pine, that's pine. The wood frames are cedar, and they're really soft, you can just run your thumbnail through them. But they had a lot of the material sent here.

And all the posts on the porch Ray Smith turned; I think his name was Ray. It was Helen McCart's grandfather, made all those. I thought they were machine made, sent in, because all this stuff was sent from the east. But he made those, he had a little mill around here someplace up in the hills, and he made all that by hand, a little hand mill.

DOROTHEA: That's Beulah Clemens' father?

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah, that's right. He did, you probably heard of him. And it took them ---

DOROTHEA: And I can't remember if it was Ray, it seems like it was.

KATHREEN: Uh huh, Ray. It's written down to get the exact name and whatnot, I have that, and you can copy it if you want to, you know. But Armond thinks he is going to live here, and so he wants me to keep all that stuff. I don't think he is, but he thinks he is. (Laughter)

And then, Voegtly's lived here until 1937, and they sold it to McGee's. By this time, they had three children, and when Ray told this, he forgot his brother Robert. There was one, Fred died here when he had the whooping cough when he was 3 years old. And I guess Raymond was the oldest, or maybe he died, he died --- Anyway Ray was about, he wasn't born in this house, he was several years old when he, like 8 or 10 or something like that. But I think Robert was born here. Robert is still alive someplace in Southern Oregon, but all the rest of them are gone.

DOROTHEA: Now Ray is Charlie's son?

KATHREEN: Charlie Voegtly, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Voegtly's son.

KATHREEN: Yeah. There was three of them.

DOROTHEA: And then Ray never, he never lived here did he?

KATHREEN: In the house?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: I think he and Lois lived here. They lived in that little cottage out back, that little A-frame house out there. They built this house over here on the corner, you know, that stone house. You remember where they lived, where Allan Jones and Ruth Jones lived over there?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: And when the depression came they had to move out, they had to rent it.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I understood that they had lived there for a while in that, rented.

KATHREEN: Uh huh, yeah, they did. And then they moved over here. And they were living here in this little one room house, is what it was. I don't think they even had a bathroom out there.

There could have been, but I think Mrs. McGee put a bathroom out there and she put an apartment

underneath the windmill house. Well all of this was pretty, hadn't been taken care of, and the windmill tower was looking pretty bad, the tank up on top blew off.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

KATHREEN: After, this was after Charlie died, so I had it all torn down, I was afraid of it for the kids.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

KATHREEN: And then when, we just bought it because we could raise the money, it wasn't easy. But Ray loaned me, he wanted us to have it. By this time, he got kind of sentimental about the place. Before then, he just wanted to get rid of it, because he was having to rake the leaves. And it was very hard for Mrs. Voegtly to leave. She was, I don't know if you remember her or not?

DOROTHEA: Yes, I do.

KATHREEN: Why the ceilings are all tall, and the rooms are big, she was a big lady.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: You look at some of these older houses, like Austa said out there where they lived, they had little tiny rooms. They had to take partitions out for it, but this always had big rooms. The master bedroom, right over this, is the same size as this room.

DOROTHEA: So, there are big rooms.

KATHREEN: Yes, they are, yeah. Three of the boys were there, and they would put up little fences, books, anything. And when one wasn't looking they'd move them, you know.

BARBARA: Their own little space, territory.

KATHREEN: Yeah. They say, your dirty socks. (Laughter) Andy grew up with a lot of fathers, because he was 40, he is 41 now, and he is just ten years younger than Ronnie, and ... and he was 15 years old when Dick --- Dick was 15 when Andy was born. So, they are --- no he wasn't 15, yes, he was. They are, they hardly know one another, Dick and Andy. I said something to Dick one day about Andy, what Andy had accomplished, and he said, "Yeah, he is a nice young fellow." And it was so impersonal until it just hit me, you know, they don't know one another. They've never --- Dick graduated from high school in '55, and Andy was born in '52, so he left immediately, you

know, including the times he run away. He run away several times, he always made sure I knew when he was going to do it so I would get him, which I did. I was very --- One time he got as far as Salt Lake City, and I had to send him money to come back on. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Now who is this?

KATHREEN: Dick.

DOROTHEA: Dick, yeah, yeah. I thought that's who you were talking about.

KATHREEN: Yeah, you remember. He went to school in McCloud (California) one year. And he was just not going to stay in Burns, I hate this place. He didn't like, oh what was his name, tall, used to work at Penney's, a teacher, a man, kind of a blonde guy. Anyway, he had gone to school with Charlie and he expected Charlie, Dick to be big and husky like Charlie was. Well Dick was big alright, and husky enough, but he had a spastic foot and he couldn't, there was a limit to his physical abilities, besides he didn't have that fight, fight, fight in him, which Armond got. But he's gotten over it, thank God. Yeah. Can't think of that guy's name, but I will. He worked at ---

DOROTHEA: No, I can't either. And a lot of this, you know, like I was telling you this morning, I've put in my past and can't seem to dig it out. And I know who you're talking about, because I've seen him, and I can picture him, but I can't put a name to him.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: I hope this is recording. I'm having a little problem with it. What did your children do, did they all go to school, or what did they do right after their father died?

KATHREEN: Well Dick was in the first grade, and then when they got, they didn't have kindergarten in those days, when they was 6 years old they started to school, yes. They all went to school here, they, and graduated here.

DOROTHEA: Now when did you marry Sam?

KATHREEN: In 1947. He was in the Marine Corp; he was in the South Pacific. He was a real good friend with Charlie. Sam was living here before he joined; he was from Little Falls, Minnesota. But he had a brother that was a millwright that came here to help construct the mill. And he lived down where, you know where Charlie Swisher lives, right down there on that North

Broadway. They had, Mrs. (Marie) Kvekskas had a boarding house, and she had a little cabin there, so Sam and his brother lived there. And Charlie stocked a lot of exotic meats and cheeses and stuff, because there was a lot of people from mid east, the middle of Europe, you know.

DOROTHEA: Minnesota, Europe, yeah.

KATHREEN: And they liked that stuff, and so he and Charlie were really good friends. So, when he got the --- Charlie died while he was gone. And he came down then to see the boys, and they would roll on the floor and play. And one day, he forgot to go home. (Laughter) Then he spent forty years trying to make me do what he wanted me to. Part of the time I let him think I was doing it. No, we were married, and we never would have had any children, but you know he had malaria pretty bad, or he would have been on Iwo Jima. That was his outfit that was on Iwo Jima. And they run out of quinine, and he took Atabrine, so the Marine Corp told him that he was sterile.

Well he wasn't! (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Well then, he came back here then after Charlie had passed away?

KATHREEN: Yeah. And he came, just came down to see us, and that's how we got reacquainted. By this time, I had the dress shop. And I also kept books for a lot of the farmers. You know they had the old slaughterhouse, they were slaughtering horses out there, you remember. Well Elmer Huston had a company there, and I kept his books here. And the guys that would bring those, what they called chicken feed horses in to sell, well they'd weigh them and then they'd come down here and I would pay them for it.

So, I kept books for two or three different people. Joe Fine, part of the time. People, you know, ranchers that didn't have computers and all that kind of stuff then. So, I had to make a living, Charlie didn't have any, there was no estate.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

KATHREEN: Everybody lived from hand to mouth in those days.

BARBARA: Before insurance policies and all that sort of thing, you just expected it to go from day to day, and take care of things.

KATHREEN: Uh huh, didn't do it.

DOROTHEA: Now Charlie, I understood, got pneumonia while he was working in the butcher shop, is that right?

KATHREEN: He was, we were living here, and he had, he didn't get it in the butcher shop, he was --- anymore than, I don't know exactly where he got it. But he was scoutmaster, he tried to take on everything, you know, there was no men left here. And every civic duty, he was very civic minded, where they didn't have anybody to do it, "Will you do it Charlie?" "Oh yeah, I'll do it." Well guess who did all the paperwork?

Anyway, this night Keith Bennett was supposed to get his Eagle Scout Badge. Nobody had ever gotten one in Burns before, and Charlie was the scoutmaster, and he was standing in the bathroom upstairs shaving while I was, while he was repeating his speech to me. Half the time he couldn't say what he wanted to say. And I said, "Charlie, you just can't go up there." And the wind was blowing hard, but he really wanted to present that badge real bad. Because he had not had an opportunity to be a boy scout himself. And this was the first, especially Keith Bennett was born, you know, he was Cecil Bennett's boy.

And he, after that, he didn't ever remember the speech. And when he come home, he never got up again. He went to bed, and he died here in the house. They wouldn't take him in the hospital because they said it would just be too many people hanging around, which it worked that way. The whole scout troop would be sitting out here on the porch all day, and half the night until their parents would come and retrieve them. There was Bob Smith and, oh Gene Timms, and kids of that age were in his scout troop.

DOROTHEA: Corky Corbett and that bunch.

KATHREEN: Uh huh, yeah. But he, it was, I don't think it was any exposure in the market at all. I think it was ---

DOROTHEA: Well, this is what I grew up thinking.

KATHREEN: Yeah, I know.

DOROTHEA: Worked so hard, and it had turned so cold, and with his freezer back there, that he just over exposed himself to the cold.

KATHREEN: What really killed him was the fat around his heart. He had been sick about a week. And Doug Mullarky was working for the governor at his, I think they called him lieutenant, no they called him the secretary, Oregon doesn't have a lieutenant governor do they? The next person ---

BARBARA: The secretary of state.

KATHREEN: Okay, that's what Doug Mullarky from Burns was doing. So, Ray Voegtly did that, they were living over there, back over there by this time, he contacted Doug. And so, Charlie was on the Keep Oregon Green Committee, and he told the plight that they had nothing, he had viral pneumonia and there was nothing that would touch it. So, they had not released penicillin for civilian use, they had it in Portland at McChord Air Force Base. What was in Portland, it was an Air Force Base?

BARBARA: McChord is in Washington.

KATHREEN: Yeah. Maybe this was just across the line there, I don't know. But I thought it was from Portland. Anyway, the governor ordered them to bring the penicillin here for him, and they flew it in. The first Dr. John had ever seen, he'd never seen penicillin before. And they gave it to him, and immediately it took effect. And when he died his lungs were absolutely clear, but his heart was beat to death because he was too fat around his heart. And he was sick about three weeks. But I don't think exposure in the butcher shop had anything to do with it. He could have ---

BARBARA: Just a virus that he picked up someplace?

KATHREEN: Yeah, he had a staff infection in his throat. And they didn't, at that time they didn't have a lab. And Keith Bennett and two of his friends, they flew the sputum over to, I mean they actually flew, they were in a car, but they had to get it there within a certain length of time before it died. They took it over to Ontario for, to be analyzed to see what type of pneumonia he did have. And that was then a staff infection that there was no cure for.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

KATHREEN: But so, the pneumonia, that's how he justified giving the penicillin to Charlie, and the fact that he was a prominent citizen.

BARBARA: A lot of people cared a lot about him.

KATHREEN: Oh yeah. We had a daily paper, and it was in the paper every day, his progress.

DOROTHEA: And what year was that that he died?

KATHREEN: 1944.

DOROTHEA: '44. Okay, and you and Sam got married --- what was the date that you got married?

KATHREEN: July the 4th.

DOROTHEA: Oh, the Fourth of July, Independence Day.

KATHREEN: He said the third, but I don't know, either the third or fourth, I don't ---

DOROTHEA: Third or fourth, okay, and what year?

KATHREEN: 1947.

DOROTHEA: And how many children do you have?

KATHREEN: Three, three Woyak's, altogether I have six.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh, okay, well I meant you and Sam.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And what are their names?

KATHREEN: Johanna is, her name is Johanna Kathreen, and she was born July the 21st, 1948.

DOROTHEA: And then you have another daughter?

KATHREEN: Yeah, Candy is two years --- she was born August 27th, 1950. And Andy was born in March 1952. He is just eighteen months younger. By this time, I was 41, or I would have had more probably. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Well, what do all your children do?

KATHREEN: Dick is a computer programmer, and he is in business for himself. He programs for eyes, for eyeglasses, eye wear. He is in, he's based in New Orleans, but he has more business in New York City than he does in New Orleans now, because the economy of New Orleans is about as bad as it can get. And he is trying to move up there as soon as they sell their home.

And Armond calls himself a computer programmer; actually he is also in business for himself. But he writes as many programs as he programs. But he does all kinds of, his main thing is for credit

unions. He has got credit unions all over. He's got customers in Honduras and in Connecticut, all over the United States.

And Ron is a lab tech, he graduated from --- he went into the Navy for ten years, and then when he got --- he went back to San Diego State and got his degree in microbiology. But he has always worked as a lab tech, because he likes little towns. He lived in San Diego for twenty-five years and that's enough, that commuting now. He, they moved up to Bridgeport which is just five hundred people. And that's, he worked as a lab tech, and he still is.

DOROTHEA: And then Candice does what?

KATHREEN: Andy ---

DOROTHEA: Candice.

KATHREEN: Candy, she is a millwright for Weyerhaeuser Paper Company. She's, nobody thought she could do it, especially her brothers, but she does. She really makes good money.

(Laughter) She is divorced.

Johanna lives in a group home in Salem. She stayed home until she was 16. They did, Mr. Slater, when they had money left that wasn't being used for teaching at home for handicapped --- people that couldn't get to school like being out sick, you know, well he released that money for Johanna's benefit. And Mrs. Briggs came here when she was 6 years old and started teaching her with flash cards. Well it didn't, her memory span was about forty-five minutes at the very most. But she kept this up until she was --- I don't know when Mrs. Briggs left, but Elaine Robe taught her for a while and she swore that Johanna could learn phonics. But she was so intense; did you remember her, Mr. Robe's wife? She was so, such an intense teacher that she, I think she had Johanna scared to death because she always come home with her pants wet. But she, anyway she was very persistent and she would about an hour, hour and a half. And Tess, oh you know Margarita Osa's son, what was his name, Osa.

DOROTHEA: Osa.

KATHREEN: Tess Osa, she had a taxicab here, and she'd come and get Johanna every morning and take her, because I didn't have a car. Take her up to Robe's; they lived up there on Grand

someplace. And then after that Lois Voegtly taught her.

And Raymond was always kind of a tough guy, you know, but he taught Johanna to finger the piano. He was very tender with her. And by the time she was 15, we knew that she was going to have to have perpetual care. She had been evaluated in, way down the line. Like when she was 3, he said, Dr. Griswold in Portland at the University of Oregon Medical School said that, "Take her down to Fairview and forget all about her, she won't know you in a week." And all they were doing for them then was putting them down; sitting them on the floor and giving them paper to tear up. And, but Sam told him, he said, "Well, she is going to be alright, you'll see, I'll bring her back in a year." "You come back and we'll have a beer, but she'll never walk or never talk." She carries on a conversation you wouldn't, you would never know outside of looking at her that there was, she was not normal. She has a little trouble expressing herself sometimes. Well, I've gotten to that age myself; I'm going down the other way. (Laughter) But anyway she, they, had to go to Fairview then when she was 16.

So, she had a, well she knows the town. She could walk up to Lois' house up there. And I think she could get around here now, because she comes back twice a year, or as often as she wants. To begin with, we were bringing her back more often than that, and they said we weren't giving her time to cut the apron strings, so we quit that. And after ten years they started opening up the group homes. And it wasn't ten years for her; it was when she was 21. She stayed in Fairview about four years, four or five years. And she was in the first group home, and she is still in the same one.

DOROTHEA: Oh, she is?

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Because I know Helen Lander's son has been moved several times.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: I don't know where he is now, but he has been moved several times. He just couldn't adjust, and so they would put him into a different home. But I think he had different kinds of problems.

KATHREEN: Yeah, he did. I don't really think that he had Downs Syndrome. Johanna just

simply did not have the proper amount of brain cells, that's all there was to it. Part of her brain works wonderfully well, and I always felt that I was lucky that she could take care of her physical needs, and feed herself and all these kinds of things. And she has a very good disposition. Well Helen's boy was, his father rejected him to begin with. And this was, the best thing that ---

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KATHREEN: Well mentally deficient people have, they're copycats. And so, the boys all had such different, you know, way of doing things until, and they were all very compassionate with her. And they feel that they learned a lot with that. So, she learned family love.

We forgot about what Andy does. He is a computer engineer, works for a company in Portland. He actually has more degrees in computer business than the others do. But he went to the University of Oregon.

Of course, I suppose you know Armond went to MIT for a couple of years, and then he transferred to Tulane. He graduated from Tulane.

BARBARA: So, you have two children in Oregon.

KATHREEN: Well, three actually with Johanna.

BARBARA: Okay.

KATHREEN: Yeah. And she is the reason I would never leave Oregon. I would never try to take her --- they've been doing this, you know, since they started closing Fairview, trying to make people take them home. Well, we've been separated now since 1964, and I would not, I made the break, physically I couldn't do it anymore. But I never would have gone back the other way because believe me that was not easy to take for six, seven years. It really, I would go --- and she lives in Salem, we'd be back to Bend, Sam and I both, where we wouldn't even be speaking to one another until we got there. We just were so emotionally worn out, you know, feeling that she, we didn't know whether she was happy or not, but she was, and she is now. She comes home for a weekend, and she's ready to go back.

DOROTHEA: She is ready to go back.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Does she work, is she able to work?

KATHREEN: Yes. She works in a rehab center, and they have a man that runs this place, has a, I'm trying to think of the name of it. Anyway, he goes out and gets contracts from different people for them to do. They had one that, when I was, last time I was there, they just had bags that they were sewing across this way, making bags of stuff. She works with screws, separates them in trays. And I think that it is --- one tire company gave them that. She works with her hands, she likes that. And they go, they have a bus ---

BARBARA: Can you tell us something about what Sam did for a living, and what you did then during the years that you were married to Sam?

KATHREEN: Well, when he was a kid he worked in Chicago, at home. He was born and raised in Minneapolis, I mean Little Falls, Minnesota. And they had a farm, he probably worked there. But they had a big boat works there too, so probably during off school hours that's what, you know, like kids used to work in the hay field around here. That's what he probably did. He went to Chicago to live with his sister, and he worked for the Railway Express Agency then. But he wanted to come out here where his brothers were, so he worked out on the pond out at the mill. Then when he went in the service he came back and worked out there a little bit. And he was, like all the guys that were in the war they were not satisfied, especially the single guys, they were not satisfied with anything, they didn't know what they wanted to do. He would go from here and work over in Bend for a little bit, and then he'd be back, and go back to Little Falls and visit his parents. And he always kept coming back to Burns.

And when we married, he was piling lumber down here for the Pine Lumber Company, Pine Cone Lumber Company. And he knew, we'd been married about six months, and he knew that wasn't enough to make a living. Well as a kid, he had worked with his brother-in-law as a plumber. And he was interested in the heating part of the plumbing and heating business. So, he went to Kansas City and went to school for a year to learn this heating business.

BARBARA: Did you go back there with him, or did you stay here?

KATHREEN: No, no, I had the three boys and by this time Johanna was nine months old. And he stayed there a year. And when he come back, he went in business in 1950, and it was, it wasn't easy. But it was, as far as business was concerned it kept improving, but it was a going business. With a \$156 you don't, it takes awhile to build up a little bit. But he did, he was a hard worker, and he liked his work. He liked the heating better than he did the plumbing.

But all the boys worked with him and they were, all of them could have been, they never got their license as a plumber because they were not 21, and the State of Oregon wouldn't let them do it. But they all understand plumbing and they work in their own homes. And it's, they just took it for granted, they never worked at the mill. And I wouldn't have, I saw too many kids go to work at the mill, they made good money, and that's where they stayed. But I couldn't see it that way, I knew they were capable of better things, and they wouldn't be happy.

BARBARA: Need to try a little something else first to show them that there was something else out there.

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah, that's right.

DOROTHEA: And in the meantime, let's go back a little ways now; you have your children mostly grown. But let's go back to the Schroeder's. Charlie's parents owned, you said, the Red and White

KATHREEN: Grocery Store.

DOROTHEA: Grocery Store. Can you tell us something about that?

KATHREEN: Well that was a chain store that was in business when I came here. It's not actually a chain store; the merchandise came from the company. All their products were red and white, like that was the label for them. And they had a meat counter in there, and had a very good business. And then she opened up the, it was in that same building that's over there now, only the store was on the far side, and the restaurant was on --- it had all glass, and she had a restaurant in there. And she took in these, had boarders for, that were on construction, they all had meal tickets. And she had a good business in there then. But they were not very good managers, they went broke.

BARBARA: Was that where the Pine Room is now?

DOROTHEA: Pine Room is.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

BARBARA: That was the grocery store there? Okay.

KATHREEN: Uh huh. It's the same building. Joe Abasolo bought the building; they never did own the building. Marjorie bought the building in the last twenty years or so, I don't know exactly when she bought it. But they all, they didn't own the building then.

DOROTHEA: Well then, I know that when the Trout Creek, let's just say Jap Camp, first became a camp up there, they used to supply their groceries all the time.

KATHREEN: Uh huh, yeah.

DOROTHEA: How did they start into the restaurant business? How was that --- where they now have this wonderful Pine Room Restaurant that's well know throughout, all over.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: And the tavern, how did that get started if they had lost their building and ---

KATHREEN: Oh, they went back. Marjorie had an unhappy marriage, and she came back here and went to work at the hospital as a cook. And Mrs. Schroeder was cooking at the Elks Club at noon in order to get enough money to open this place up, to open. And that's how it got started, opening as a dinner place. Because they were each one working, you know, and then they just worked at it, they were hard workers.

And as far as training is concerned, Mrs. Schroeder never had any training for cooking, she just knew how food ought to taste. And he was very good at that too, you know. That's my problem about cooking; I don't care how it tastes. (Laughter) But they, she and Marjorie worked together on that. They opened it up and ---

DOROTHEA: So, then they more or less eventually quit their jobs and did the cooking. And so that's how ---

KATHREEN: Yeah. The store, they sold the store, first time they went broke they sold the store to oh, Rineman. He had a shoe store.

DOROTHEA: Rudy Reinertson.

KATHREEN: Yeah, Reinertson, she sold it to him. And then he sold it to Mundy's son-in-law, Lee, you know he married the daughter, married Vivian McClendon. Lee McClendon bought the store. And then I can't remember how, let me think hard how that ended up, how it got into just a restaurant. They had an apartment up above, and it burned.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I remember it burned.

KATHREEN: Yeah. That was when they still had the store. I suppose I'm not getting this stuff in very chronological order, because it's a lot for me to think about. (Laughter) But that's ---

DOROTHEA: So, Marjorie and Hattie both cooked at the Pine Room, in other words.

KATHREEN: Yeah, they did. Well Marjorie wasn't cooking then, she was mostly waiting tables. When, and it was on this side, and the store was on the other side. They were still operating the store. And I was trying to think why and how, I think it was after the fire. It burned when McClendon's were there, and I believe they didn't open it up again. I think that that's when they converted the whole thing, put the restaurant over there and put the bar in. No, that bar, they had that bar license because to begin with they had to buy it in Charlie's name, because Mr. Schroeder was not a citizen.

DOROTHEA: A citizen.

KATHREEN: And she didn't, they didn't have the financial backing. But the bar was upstairs, and I don't know if you remember that or not but, because this was after Sam and I were married.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: They had a restaurant up there. They used to have big banquets up there for the Bascos. Used to, you know, they always associated with them so much.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I can vaguely --- I wasn't that old then, but I can vaguely remember when it was; well I can vaguely remember when it burned.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: And like I said, I couldn't have been much more than probably 12 years old or so at the time.

KATHREEN: Oh, I don't think you were that old.

DOROTHEA: Maybe not, yeah.

KATHREEN: I think, because I don't remember Dick --- Several people owned it, I mean they switched around. Bob was such a drunkard that it was kind of hard to operate something like that, you know. Because he was, he'd get drunk and throw his weight around.

DOROTHEA: But then they went into, and so Hattie more or less then cooked, and Marjorie waited tables.

KATHREEN: Yes, she, Marjorie was too young.

BARBARA: You're talking about Marjorie; Marjorie was Hattie's daughter and Charlie's sister. And this is Marjorie Kinder, is that correct?

KATHREEN: Right, uh huh.

BARBARA: Okay. We'll just get that on tape so we have a last name to connect it with.

KATHREEN: So that's how it actually come down to Butch, and he sure hated to give it up.

DOROTHEA: And so, this is what we were going to add is, Marjorie kept in this business, and her children mostly left Burns, except for Joyce (Wheeler) and Butch, which is ---

KATHREEN: Butch is her son. Joyce is just her stepdaughter.

DOROTHEA: Kinder, but I can't think of Butch's real name.

KATHREEN: Charles.

DOROTHEA: Charles. And he more or less got into this business. Apparently, he liked to cook.

KATHREEN: Yeah, he did.

DOROTHEA: And now it belongs to Joe Oltman.

KATHREEN: I think so.

DOROTHEA: They are still running the business. What do you do with yourself now that you're mostly alone? Do you do a lot of traveling, or ---

KATHREEN: Well, if I can. But I, oh the house keeps me busy. I ride the lawn mower and keep up the lawn myself, I have a tractor. And I have been, for the two years since Sam died, he left a lot of plumbing materials behind, I've spent a lot of time cleaning out the house. I've given a lot of stuff away, and sold some stuff. And Doug Cawlfild bought a lot of the plumbing left over. But I

just --- I don't know. (Laughter)

DOROTHEA: Let's kind of, I know that at one time, perhaps while Sam was still doing plumbing business, I know that the Senior Center came in down here. Can you tell us something about that? Or is that; was that something that Sam took care of?

KATHREEN: No, he didn't take care of the business at all, I took care of it. He never knew where we had ten cents or fifty dollars, he could care less. He didn't, he just depended on me to take care of that. No, they, I think they started in down there where the ---

DOROTHEA: Sears Store.

KATHREEN: Sears Store. Okay it got too small, and Sam had retired then, and they moved up here. And they had a nice place there. It was big enough for them, you know, for the people that were interested then. And they were there about five years, weren't they?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, or maybe longer. I know they moved in, and moved into just a small space. And then I know the DEQ, or whatever that thing is that comes in and tells them you can't have a bathroom for the ladies and men to use together, you have to have separate.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: So, they moved Sam back, and they kept moving Sam back until I guess they finally got ---

KATHREEN: Yeah, they had the whole thing except for the part that doesn't have a concrete floor. Well he had his shop in that.

DOROTHEA: Kind of like your garage, yeah.

KATHREEN: Yeah, it is now. But they had, he had a lot of shelves; he still had a lot of plumbing stuff. And he sold a lot out, you know, people, do-it-yourselfers come by. He sold a lot of that stuff; he had a lot of stuff to sell.

Yeah, and then they got, they wanted to buy the whole thing. But they wanted the whole end of the block. And that, they were going to cut all the trees down and everything, and make a long building there. But we decided that that wasn't very feasible to cut the block up because, and I still feel the same way. When I sell the house, I will sell the whole block, otherwise I won't sell. I don't want to

be left with that. It's been, I've kept it rented pretty good. They, of course the seniors were the best renters.

And then, Ken Dexter had a Second Hand Store there, and he did well until he died. And there has been a succession of those guys like Mike Cowan, that he can't be bothered to get out of bed most of the time. I don't know who is financing him, probably his grandmother. And he pays his rent, so that's all right with me.

DOROTHEA: Is that where he is at now?

KATHREEN: Yeah, he is out there now, has a second hand store.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, yeah, I think he is one of those young men that's too busy to work.

KATHREEN: Never has had any ambition. I don't know, seems like some families can split up and get along all right. But they sure, the minute his parents split up, everything went bad.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, that was a bad situation.

KATHREEN: Yeah, I guess it was. I didn't know them too well.

DOROTHEA: I think they felt sorry for themselves a little bit.

KATHREEN: Oh yeah, they still do. Mike, this is his attitude. I said, "Mike I'm having to, I'm going to ask for, get some help in the yard a little bit now." Because I knew, you can't get out and do that work when you've had a cataract. It doesn't hurt any, except you're just supposed to take easy, you know. Because I have glaucoma, and that's a pressure that you have to watch it.

He couldn't pay his rent, and I said, "If you want to do part of this work," --- I had a girl helping, and they're far better than a man any day. I said, "For the rent, for part of the rent" --- well he did fifty dollars worth of work, and that's it. He's supposed --- he went out there and lit that pile. I didn't want that stuff burned, was going to haul it off. It took me years to get rid of a pile of trash out there on the yard, you know. So, he is just typical. I told him yesterday he had to get that stuff out of the outside; it looked like --- those old refrigerators and stuff. He said, "That's what makes people come." I said, "It doesn't make me come, and since all you rented was the building, you didn't rent all the stuff around it because I've been cutting it all summer."

DOROTHEA: Well, can you tell us what's going on behind you here? Is there ---

KATHREEN: The little house?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, the little house. Does that belong to you too?

KATHREEN: Well no, it belongs to Johnny McRae. He bought that house for his mother when she moved in from the South End. And she was, he bought that shortly after, maybe he even bought it --- well he, I can't remember if he bought it after, he bought it before Sam and I married anyway. He's got just that, that's the widest part. The end goes out into a, you know, he only has thirty-five feet there.

So, Sam could get a GI loan when he got out of the service, and we wanted to get it out of there.

Bob Salladay wanted to use it for a parking lot, so if we could --- but he wouldn't sell it to Bob. At that time in '44, he wanted \$35,000 for that little piece of land. The house, you know, wasn't worth it. Well we didn't think it was worth it. So, they've hung onto it all these years. The plumbing is bad, people rent it, move in and out.

Then he let Roy Fenley put up that car wash. There is, was in there, I haven't seen anybody around lately, an outfit that put communication systems in cars.

BARBARA: Stereo systems, and sound ---

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah. And I don't know if they're still operating or not. I don't ---

DOROTHEA: Well, Hobe Tiller had that for a while too. And I was surprised that that didn't go on to the family, but maybe he had already sold it.

KATHREEN: He just leased it.

DOROTHEA: Oh, did he? Oh, I see.

KATHREEN: Yeah. I don't think, since then I think that, when Roy built it, I guess the deal was that after so many years it went back to the McRae's. Well Marge, it's not Johnny, it's Marge that does all the manipulating, you know. And I don't think she would sell it, I don't know. I don't know if she can. For a long time, Johnny was a very poor cattleman. This was before they were married, he, even the people down in the end, where this ranch was, you know, they had reported him for neglecting his cattle and that kind of stuff.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, yeah.

KATHREEN: You probably know all, more about that than I do. But when his mother died he just, he stayed on there. And I don't know what he had, what he operated on but he always had enough money in the bank. He wrote a lot of bad checks, and they didn't charge them so much in those days as they do now, didn't put him in jail.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, right, they didn't send the sheriff after him.

KATHREEN: They let them get away with it. Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BARBARA: Well ---

KATHREEN: So, I suppose they're going to keep it anyway. But that's all the land they own.

BARBARA: I wanted to go back just a minute. You were telling about having a dress shop in your home.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

BARBARA: Can you tell me who some of your customers were? What kind of dresses you sold?

KATHREEN: They were all good stuff, you know. Evelyn Dewey was probably my best customer. She was a friend; you know her husband was the manager of the mill.

BARBARA: Okay.

KATHREEN: And she had, we were church members together. And she bought for, well Ann and Jay Dewey, Ann Reinertson, Jay Dewey, do you remember them?

BARBARA: No.

KATHREEN: They are older probably. She would buy everything. Ann was a cute little thing; she was one of the Reinertson girls. And she bought everything for her. But it was mostly people that had the money to buy. It was expensive stuff.

BARBARA: Who were your suppliers? Where did you go to get your dresses?

KATHREEN: In Portland.

BARBARA: In Portland.

KATHREEN: The Singer Company.

BARBARA: And you had just a room that you ---

KATHREEN: Yeah, in there. I'll show you, as messy as it is, I'll show you. I need to get up and get some more water anyway.

DOROTHEA: Just a moment and I'll unhook you (microphone).

KATHREEN: Are we doing it?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

BARBARA: Okay, we're back on again.

DOROTHEA: Let's go --- Sue Dalton ---

KATHREEN: The people that run the Singer Store, was somebody that she knew. And I don't know how, I don't know if she'd even remember.

BARBARA: Sue Dalton?

KATHREEN: Yeah.

BARBARA: Okay.

KATHREEN: We went to Portland; I think it was somebody that she knew from John Day.

BARBARA: Oh yeah?

KATHREEN: Well yeah, Sue and I lived and breathed together in those days. She and Truxton and Charlie and I were really good friends. So, she was the one that got me, helped me, give me the confidence to do it, because I could sew. And I did make a couple wedding dresses. I've done a little bit of everything to earn a living.

DOROTHEA: I was going to ask you about your sewing, because I know that you did sewing.

KATHREEN: You know Mabel and Taylor, what was his name, that was janitor of the school so long?

DOROTHEA: Leonard.

KATHREEN: I made their daughter's wedding dress. He had bought this material in Japan, and if you think that wasn't hard to sew on, that pure silk, it would slip and slide all around. We didn't have all the fancy tapes that you can get now to make it easier. It was mostly by hand.

DOROTHEA: And did you have a machine that you could do all the fancy stitches with by then? Or had you ---

KATHREEN: No, well no I just had a plain straight old Singer.

DOROTHEA: Peddle, treadle kind?

KATHREEN: No, it was electric.

DOROTHEA: Electric.

KATHREEN: Well I did, that's what I learned on in the south, I taught myself to sew, from necessity.

BARBARA: Did you do alterations of some of the dresses that you sold?

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

BARBARA: Okay. And we want to get on tape here that you did go to Portland and got your, started out getting your dresses that you brought back here.

KATHREEN: Get my initial, yeah, uh huh, on consignment.

BARBARA: And was on consignment. And that later on you didn't have to go to market per se, they would send you things for each season.

KATHREEN: Yeah, uh huh.

BARBARA: And you did this for a business for how many years, would you say?

KATHREEN: I would say two.

BARBARA: Two years. And what were some of the brand names of the dresses that you sold, do you remember?

KATHREEN: You know, I can't remember.

BARBARA: Of course, companies come and go, so it's ---

KATHREEN: I guess they do. Yeah, I had, they were beautiful things.

BARBARA: They were all more or less dressy dresses, church dresses.

KATHREEN: Right, yeah people dressed up more then than they do now.

BARBARA: They didn't wear pants; women didn't wear pants in those days.

KATHREEN: No, no. I got my first pair of pants when Dick was about 3 years old I think, and I wouldn't wear them out of the house. I wore them around the yard; I wouldn't no more have gone downtown in those pants than the man in the moon. And I suppose your mother was the same way.

DOROTHEA: My mother never did wear pants.

KATHREEN: Yeah. I don't like them even now.

BARBARA: I can remember when I went to high school even, we were not allowed to wear pants; it was always dresses or skirts and sweaters.

KATHREEN: That's right.

DOROTHEA: The only time that we were allowed to wear pants was when we had a ball game, and then they allowed us to wear peddle pushers.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: What we called pedal pushers. And I don't know if they will ever come back or not. But they were the pants that were just knee length.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

BARBARA: Clam diggers.

DOROTHEA: We called them pedal pushers.

KATHREEN: That's right. I saw them, you know, Candy has a 16-year-old daughter, and this summer they were running around in Eugene. You know for a while they were wearing short, short, short shorts, and now they don't expose that anymore. They do it, the skirts they wear, they should wear pants, they shouldn't wear those skirts.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I look at some of the pictures of my daughter when they first come out with those hot shorts, and those short skirts and man, I mean, I said, "Why in the world did I ever allow you to wear these?"

KATHREEN: I know.

DOROTHEA: And you know we would get clothes and we would have to take the hems up in them because they weren't short enough.

KATHREEN: Oh yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Or cut the dresses off. And wow!

KATHREEN: I never did wear above my knees. I've been knock-kneed all my life, and I would not wear ---

BARBARA: Well, I remember one night at bridge you were telling about making your own blouses and skirts and things. So, did you sew for your own daughters and for your sons over the years?

KATHREEN: Oh yeah, yeah. I don't think Candy --- I sewed for the boys, I made all their shirts. I don't think Candy ever had anything from the store until after she was, went to school.

BARBARA: Did they like what you sewed for them?

KATHREEN: Yeah, they did, because they fit. The boys were, they got to be five ten, that's, but they were big enough this way that they should have been a lot taller. But they were not really tall men, they still were ---

BARBARA: Broad in the shoulders?

KATHREEN: Uh huh, and long waisted. Armond had longer legs, but Dick and Ron had, if they'd have had legs to match the body they would have been six feet four. My brothers were very tall, but --- And they liked it because I would make so the shirts would stay in, the shirttails would stay in. The things they would buy, you know, they wouldn't. Yeah, they never seemed to resent it. Even now Andy wants a new bathrobe for Christmas. "But Mom, have you got time to make it?"

(Laughter)

BARBARA: And where would you get your fabrics?

KATHREEN: Oh, we had several fabric stores here then. Penney's had a good, had a nice store, you know, where their, on the corner.

DOROTHEA: Where the Farm Store is now.

KATHREEN: Yeah. How long have you been here?

BARBARA: Since 1975.

KATHREEN: Oh well, that big store there, I don't know who put up that building, it was Penney's when I came here.

DOROTHEA: I'm not too sure but what Voegtlys didn't build that building as well. I'm not positive, it seemed like ---

KATHREEN: It's right next to the Odd Fellows. Now is that hooked on to the Odd Fellows, or is

it, was it an Odd Fellow building? Did the Odd Fellows build the whole thing?

DOROTHEA: I don't know. I know they built the Odd Fellow building, and Wallace Shepard's dad was the mason on that. But I don't know. Now see it is enough of the same material that somebody, they could have, whoever did that could have built that whole block.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: And I can't remember, but it seemed to me like that was a Voegtly Building.

KATHREEN: Well, that's not written up in their history that they put that building up. They could have, but I'm sure Raymond would have bragged --- see he had a little shop in there. No, it was up in the next block; it was up between the hardware store. It was where Lee Reed's Sign Shop was.

DOROTHEA: Oh, sign shop, yeah.

KATHREEN: That's where Raymond had his first little furniture store, and that's where he made his money. He was absolutely broke, and he would finance all these sales, and that's where he made his first money.

DOROTHEA: And then he moved from there down to the, where the police station is now?

KATHREEN: Yeah. Craddock and Shepard put up that building for them. They had an automobile agency.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. And also, what was it a harvest, what was that called, International Harvester.

KATHREEN: Yeah, they sold International Harvester products, yeah, they did. And then, I don't know, did Harvey Lehr, did he move down there first? He had the furniture store up there where the exercise place is, in that building. ... (Pause, phone rings.) Well if you don't want to unhook me (microphone), you can give me the phone, it's a portable, it's around the corner. Well, she's got me unhooked now.

Had a nice fabric store down in there where the, when they put up that bus stop building.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: There, somebody had a nice fabric store in there. And then Jean Rines had one where the perfume, where the Hoyt girl has her store there.

DOROTHEA: Oh, Trends and Traditions, yeah.

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah. She had --- Then there was a lady, the last one, a real fabric store, she lived up there close to where Hazel Otley lives. She had a stroke. Right there on the corner, where the sheet, where the linen, the guy has linen.

DOROTHEA: Oh, Mary ---

KATHREEN: Yeah, she had a lot of nice fabrics in there. There used to be a lot of people that sewed around here, but I guess they don't anymore.

BARBARA: Well maybe they do, but ---

KATHREEN: They can't get the fabrics.

BARBARA: Right.

KATHREEN: I like to sew.

DOROTHEA: And now that we're losing Sprouse Store, we're going to lose another place that has fabrics.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: So, it's going to be ---

BARBARA: Ben Franklin is the only place in town that you will be able to buy fabrics.

KATHREEN: Well you know, the PayLess Store in Bend has really a nice fabric store, so I don't know what they're going to do. I don't think anybody really knows how big their store is going to be.

BARBARA: We'll just have to wait and find out.

KATHREEN: Yeah. I just hope it doesn't spoil downtown Burns.

DOROTHEA: I hope so too, because I've already heard that was one of the reasons Sprouse more or less quit business, because of the fact that they couldn't compete with PayLess.

KATHREEN: You think that's really true, that they're shutting stores down all over.

DOROTHEA: Well, I knew they're shutting stores down all over, but Peggy could have continued running this store here, but she said there is no way she could compete with PayLess. And with it coming in, and the problems that she was having, so she decided that she might as well let them sell

out.

KATHREEN: She was personally unhappy, too.

DOROTHEA: Yes.

KATHREEN: So, she is better off where she --- I think she has moved already hasn't she?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, she is in LaGrande.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: So ---

KATHREEN: Well, I'm glad that she could make the move.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. Yeah, she is going to go to school I guess, and become a medical secretary, I think. She doesn't think that she could ever, she kind of is interested in becoming a nurse, but she says, "I'm too old for that, I don't think that I could do the subjects." So, she said, "Instead, I will be involved in the medical line." But she is going to become a secretary or, or anyway whatever they're called that does the transcribing of the doctor's --- kind of like Meredyth Fox does I think.

KATHREEN: Yeah. Andy, the company that he works for is working on a computer that the nurse follows the doctor around and writes on this, and it all goes into the --- I don't know exactly how it works. But there is no danger of any --- of making mistakes in between. They sold to the Stanford Medical School, and then there is a big nurse's organization in Southern California that have gone on to these things. And Andy is an engineer on that project. And that's what she is probably, if she goes to school, that's what she'll get into.

BARBARA: Can you tell us something about your children, how your first three children got along with your second three children, your meshing your two families together? And maybe some of the things that your children did as they were growing up, and things that you got involved with, with your children?

KATHREEN: Well of course, I was perennial room mother for anytime anybody says who will bring a cake? Armond, "My mother will." (Laughter) I don't know how many I was room mother for. As far as other than that, and decorating and this kind of stuff, you know, junior/senior prom,

stuff like that. Because they had, you know, in the school they didn't have, go to a restaurant, and buy a tux and all that kind of stuff in those days. Parents put it on. I did that as far as the school was concerned. But I, I was always interested in their --- I don't know what you mean.

BARBARA: Well just activities, were they involved with plays, or music, or sports? Did they do that kind of thing together? Did they do scouting things, 4-H?

KATHREEN: They all, they sort of went their own way. But they were all interested in those things. Dick was less so than the others. He was kind of like a, he was a sort of a, protested everything in his mind, you know. He still does to a certain extent. Barbara knows more what I'm talking about; she went to school with him.

DOROTHEA: Dorothy.

KATHREEN: Dorothy, I mean. She knows, it's kind of hard to explain. But as far as the difference, they didn't know the difference; they were just all one family.

BARBARA: I see.

KATHREEN: They were so young, you know, when the sisters and brother came along. Dick is really the only one that was not really melded in, just because he was older. And it was his disposition too, he was 10 years old when Sam and I married, and he didn't accept it too well. But they got along; it was no problems there. Because I was always the head of the family, as far as, I never had any problems with them at all.

But they were interested in sports. And Armond was especially interested in the plays and stuff. But they all, all the three older ones played in the band. And Dick was very good on the trombone, they had that little, and he still would like to play it once in awhile. And Armond, they all played in the band. We were talking about it the other day. I talk to all of them on the phone regularly. They call me when, they get worried about me, you know, if I tell one I don't feel so good, he calls up the other one and the rest of them will call me then and see how I'm getting along.

BARBARA: Wonderful.

KATHREEN: Yeah it is, it really is. I feel very fortunate, because at my age, and their ages, and as long and as far as they've been away from home so many years, why a lot of people do sort of lose

contact with their kids, but I never have. That was, I've always told them, and especially when Sam died, that they didn't need me anymore probably, but I sure needed them. And so, they have been good.

But, Andy was interested in sports so much, but Andy was interested in track more than he was --- he played basketball, he had a ball, played them all.

BARBARA: So, you had a full house, a busy house, people going all different directions. Did you insist that they have a meal together, and kind of communicate, or was it kind of everybody ---

KATHREEN: Well, we always had breakfast together. And during the years that the older boys were in high school, it was up here at the Lincoln School, and they didn't have lunchroom. They came home for lunch everyday, even if they had --- well I don't know when did they ever have lunch up there, never did.

DOROTHEA: Never did.

KATHREEN: No, they used to have to take it. But it was just up to the top of the hill, you know, and so they came home for lunch. Oh, they had their spats and what --- now they're perfect friends, especially Armond and Dick, they talk on the computers. Dick operates out of New Orleans, and Armond right now has an office in Costa Mesa that he's using more because business in Alaska is like it is in New Orleans, nothing. Alaska has just gone to, business wise, you know, if they don't get another oil line they're going to fold up.

BARBARA: So, with their modems they communicate, huh?

KATHREEN: Yeah, they do. Yeah Dick, they both travel a lot when you're in this kind of programming business, the kind that they are in. I can't really explain it to you because I don't understand it myself; I just know how to spell the words. (Laughter) But they are all, and they talk -- and Ronnie is in Chester, California, which is right at the foot of Mount Lassen. He was divorced three years ago, and he has remarried, remarried last year.

DOROTHEA: Now he married one of the local girls, didn't he?

KATHREEN: Well, Linda Johnson was her name, but it wasn't, there is other Linda Johnson's here. She actually, she was, her father was a mechanic, automobile mechanic and they moved

around a lot. She only went to school here about three years. But she is the mother of his three daughters. They're all coming for Thanksgiving, Ronnie and his three daughters are coming. He has two grandchildren, now he has three grandchildren, so I have five great-grandchildren, and they're also coming.

DOROTHEA: How many grandchildren did you say you had, eleven?

KATHREEN: Thirteen.

DOROTHEA: Thirteen.

KATHREEN: Yeah, eleven of them are Schroeder's; I have two Woyak's. Candy has a daughter 16, and Andy has one 13. And the others are from, well Katie is 13 and Charles is 33. You remember that Dick and Joan Pettys married.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: And they had a son, he is 33 years old, and he lives in Salem with his mother. That only lasted about a year. And now he has three daughters. They live, one of them teaches school in New York City, and the other one works in his office, and the other one is a physical therapist in a hospital in Miami Beach.

And Armond's oldest daughter is a petroleum engineer working for Arco in Alaska. And Sam is teaching in the University of Alaska, he is right now. It's physics that he is teaching, he's working on his Ph.D. in physics, but he is teaching also. But he didn't have a teaching certificate, so --- And then his next son is a LPN in the Army. And then Hattie is the creative writing. She graduated from MIT last year, but she was going to Harvard for writing classes all at the same time, so she had two majors. And she is going in for the writing now, and she got a job teaching at Boston University. So, she is very interested in writing, there is really the difference in letters. All the grandchildren, most of them, write to me. And what she writes --- and she'll say the same thing they do, but it is much, much better. Of course, it would break their heart if they knew that.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. Let's stop for a moment and ---

KATHREEN: That's them right there.

TAPE 2 - SIDE C

BARBARA: We were going to talk about your hobbies, bridge playing, and your work with the church and the guild. Can you tell us a little bit, how you got, how did you get started playing cards? Was it mostly just for women socializing?

KATHREEN: You know a long time ago, yeah, when I was, first came to Burns when I was --- even when Charlie and I were married they used to have these huge bridge parties. I don't, they, up at the library when they had the library up above, you know the old building up there, they would have oh, fifteen tables. They would invite everybody. And then they had them in the Welcome Hotel, so I started playing bridge. Sam Gordon came here and had a class.

BARBARA: Is that right?

KATHREEN: Yeah. Mildred Corbett brought him in, and this was at the old church, the old Episcopal Church, and it was before Charlie died that we all took bridge lessons then. And I played a lot then. And then when he died, I just quit, I had other things I had to do. So, I got back in with this club about ten years ago because Vachel (Higgins) called me, they needed a sub, and she insisted that I could play, and I couldn't, but everybody --- I still don't concentrate too good, because I just --- it's not that important, it's more --- in that club.

BARBARA: More social, more socializing.

KATHREEN: Yeah, well in that club, you've played, we are likely to stop and talk about anything.

BARBARA: Right.

KATHREEN: We don't take it that seriously. But there is all kinds --- I've always been interested in the church since day one. My father always took us to church. I grew up in the Methodist-Episcopal Church, and when I came here there was no Methodist Church, so I went to the Episcopal Church, and there is no difference in them. My sister goes --- they're maybe a little bit more fundamentalism in the Methodist Church than there is in the Episcopal Church, but I don't find it that way. Anyway, they go back and forth to there.

So, I've just --- I've taught Sunday school when the kids got big enough, and I, when I could take Johanna. Then when she got to where she was a curiosity to the other kids, then I kind of dropped

out. I would keep her, because I never made my kids stay home with her, I took care of her myself. And I never made them stay out of church, and they were very good. The boys were all acolytes until they got out of high school. And Candy taught Sunday school, too. Then Andy was an acolyte, they all did. It was a big going church, you know, in those days, Shepherds were here. And you remember them; they had four or five kids. And Jordan's had three or four, and everybody had big families. And we couldn't get all the kids in the church in those days. They had a good YPF organization. It depends a lot on the priest. Mr. Perkins was very good, you know, for people, he had two or three, something; he really kept the kids interested. But now we have no children, everybody in there is too old.

BARBARA: Is that right?

KATHREEN: You know any church; I think the Baptist Church out at Hines probably has lots of children. But I notice the Lutheran Church, we rent our church part time to the Lutherans, they get fewer and fewer kids all the time because the population of the churches are older people, middle aged and over.

DOROTHEA: Well, the population of Burns is getting to be that way.

KATHREEN: It sure is.

DOROTHEA: We're getting to be more of an older person town.

KATHREEN: Then I go to the senior center twice a week. We have an exercise club down there; we go twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday morning.

BARBARA: And who teaches the class?

KATHREEN: We have a tape. Jo Groves used to teach it, and she got tired of it so she made us a tape. Well, they moved away from here. She made us a tape and that's what we use is her voice; we're still using the same tapes.

BARBARA: Well, wonderful.

KATHREEN: Yeah. Sometimes we only have three or four there, and we get up as much as six or seven sometimes. There would be a lot more except we go at eight-thirty, and a lot of people don't like to go that early. Yeah, but it's, works out for those of us --- actually I've been with the club

longer than anybody. I mean the population has changed, you know, people have moved on.

BARBARA: And do you go to lunch down there at the senior center?

KATHREEN: No, after I had the cancer surgery, my throat is narrow, and not only that, you can probably notice it if you look, when these nerves and muscles were cut, you see my mouth dropped down. Well it's about; it's not quite up to normal. But the dentist has never been able to get dentures for me that fit exactly, so I have a problem chewing. It won't ever be any better, and I'm very dry from the radiation, caused the dryness. So, they seldom have any food, you know, most people the meals are built around meat, which I can't chew. I eat tuna fish, or you know a little hamburger, but not much. I can eat it when it is mixed with other things, stuff like that. But I have a good protein in my diet. But I don't eat --- but I do serve, help serve the meals, that's all I do.

DOROTHEA: Do you paint any or ---

KATHREEN: No.

DOROTHEA: You don't paint.

KATHREEN: No. One thing I can do is sew.

DOROTHEA: You sew.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

BARBARA: And you really enjoy it, I can tell.

KATHREEN: Yeah, I do, yeah. I have very few, well of course I didn't make this, but I make most all of my clothes. I made Tillie, Candy's daughter, a black velvet dress this summer for her, going to wear to the prom. The prom was this month, but I made it this summer. She stopped in Bend and got the material, and the pattern. Well, it was cut lower than I would have let Candy wear at that age, but --- and she had a girl with her, and I said, "Your mother let you wear something cut down that low?" And she said, "Lower!" (Laughter) I said, "Well, Tillie you can't wear it any lower, I'll sew something in there." If I had known it was that low, I would have cut it higher. I would have made a statement.

BARBARA: Well, you have mentioned that you did a number of jobs during your early-married life, and middle married life, you did bookkeeping, and you worked in the butcher shop waiting on

customers. You talk about bookkeeping, did you have any formal training in this, or is it something that you just picked up?

KATHREEN: In high school, we had two high schools, we had a commercial high school and a liberal arts high school, was together even then they had this. People don't realize that, that schools have always been good if you get in there and look for it. And I went, of course I went to the commercial high school and that's where I had four years of bookkeeping and math. But we had bookkeeping on machines, kind of like the old bank machines, you know, they used to have. But we also did it by long hand, and typing, and shorthand. I had to take the regular history, four years.

BARBARA: ... but your electives then were the commercial part, is what it amounted to?

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah it was, it was concentrated on that. But we went to school from eight-thirty to five, until four. We went long hours.

DOROTHEA: That's what we did, too. I guess they have an early bird class that may start what, at seven?

BARBARA: They have early bird and late bird.

DOROTHEA: And late bird classes.

BARBARA: So, you can take more if you are so inclined, right. But you talk about, you worked with Joe Fine, did books for Joe Fine, you said.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

BARBARA: What kind of a person was he?

KATHREEN: He was an all right guy. He wasn't near as tough as he thought he was. He liked to be a swaggering cowboy, you know. And he was managing, when I first came here, was manager of the Swift and Company. The Roaring Spring Ranch belonged to the Swift and Company, and that's where he was. But he had his own operation on the side from that, and that's what I kept was his payroll, and it was mostly his payroll.

DOROTHEA: Now was that the Lamb Ranch, or what was that called at that time?

KATHREEN: Yeah, the one he was in was Springer, uh huh. The Lamb Ranch wasn't out there at Roaring Springs was it? It was up ---

DOROTHEA: Over, more out the Buchanan-Riverside way.

KATHREEN: Uh huh, yeah. Maybe --- he had that after he got, after he left Roaring Springs, huh?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I think he did, yeah, uh huh.

KATHREEN: Yeah, well I got along with him fine. He was a pretty heavy drinker, but he never did drink around me. I mean a lot of that was just hearsay as far as I was concerned.

BARBARA: And who were some of the other people that you did books for?

KATHREEN: Elmer Huston was his name; he had a meat market, sold horsemeat in Portland. And then he had a little, they put in a frozen out here, they were butchering the meat and freezing it right out here for dog food. They froze the dog food meat. But steaks and stuff like that they would send the animal just like they do beef. They cut it up, there was a big sale for it in --- You know to us that's kind of repulsive. But there is a big sale for it, and they say that it is very sweet and people like it.

DOROTHEA: I know they used to sell a lot of it in, like you say, the Portland area. And when people would say they ate horsemeat, I just about thought that was the most grotesque thing a person could do was eat a horse. But I understand that it is good.

BARBARA: It is all in your upbringing, I think.

KATHREEN: Yeah, it is, yeah. Especially Lithuania and those eastern countries like that, they didn't --- takes too much land to, horses will take care of themselves more so than cattle I guess. You remember Francis Griffin?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: They used to bring the horses out there and pin them up, you know, to butcher and he'd go out at night and turn them out. (Laughter) He couldn't stand that.

DOROTHEA: He was an eccentric person that did a lot of strange things.

KATHREEN: Yes, he was. Well, his mother was superintendent of education when I came here, Mary Griffin.

DOROTHEA: Griffin.

KATHREEN: Uh huh, Griffin. Yes, she was. He had an unfortunate, he wasn't born that way.

DOROTHEA: Well, I never did understand what happened to him, do you know?

KATHREEN: I'll tell you what Dr. Smith told me. See, he was living in this little barn out here in back. Charlie was a kind of guy that took in every, anybody that didn't have any place to go, that's what I used to do was feed him. Anyway, Francis was just doing odd jobs around the yard, and he lived out there. So, when Charlie died he wrote me a letter and he said he wanted to marry me, that he would take care of me and the children, that I did never need to worry about having to sleep with him.

BARBARA: Francis?

KATHREEN: Yeah. So, I took it up to Dr. Smith and showed it to him, and asked him if I had anything to worry about. And he said "No, but encourage him to move on, he might become a nuisance." He said that when Francis was a young man he was accused of raping a prominent rancher's daughter down there, and he was convicted. And he said nobody ever thought that he was guilty, anymore than she was. And he was castrated for it, that was his punishment, and it affected his mind.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

KATHREEN: That's exactly what Dr. Smith told me that himself.

DOROTHEA: I'll be darned. Because I know he was a man that always --- my grandfather had the ranch out there, and he always spent a lot of time with Grandpa. And he would come out there with his horses and his big longhorn steer, and Grandpa would feed him and he would stay two or three days and then he would move on.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: But he was always going to write this book, and I don't know whether he ever did or not.

KATHREEN: He did write some, he had a typewriter, remember, hanging on his --- but his handwriting was perfect. He could write.

DOROTHEA: I know he had beautiful handwriting.

KATHREEN: Yes, he did. And it didn't really, it didn't make too much sense when he would write

it out, you know. And because ---that was just a gist of what this letter said to me, he went on and on and on. And my brother was still living at Hines at that time, and of course I showed it to him. And he, right now he wanted to throw him out, right now, because he just didn't understand him. But I don't know, mentally deficient people have never worried me. So, I guess that's why I could handle Johanna, that it never --- I don't see any difference in them, they're what they are.

DOROTHEA: Well it depends on their ---

KATHREEN: Extent of it.

DOROTHEA: Right, yeah, some of them are just as safe as could be. I mean, you know, I have been around several that are that way, and others scare you to death. So, you know, it depends on the way they act, you know. But Francis was never ---

KATHREEN: Yeah. He wouldn't hurt a fly. In fact, he was so far the other way, until it was pretty hard to believe that he was that vicious, you know.

BARBARA: It's sad that something like that would have to happen to a person.

KATHREEN: Yeah it would, to a man who was really brilliant. He was, he ---

DOROTHEA: Because even when he wasn't all there, he was quite brilliant still.

KATHREEN: Oh yeah, yeah.

DOROTHEA: So ---

KATHREEN: Yeah, the last time I talked to --- he came by and he came in, we were eating dinner, and he came in. And he was, there was a loaf of white bread on the table, you know how it is, unless you have company you don't take it out of the paper because it is dry in five seconds. He says, "I'll go and get you some good bread, that's bad for you." He understood, you know, a lot. And I said, "Well, you bring it after while Francis, we're through eating." And he asked me then how many children I had, and I told him six. And he said, "My you're a fertile woman." (Laughter) So he understood, you know, he knew a lot. It was --- I remember that Andy was sitting at the table and he said, "What's he talking about?" (Laughter)

BARBARA: Do you remember some of the other interesting people that you have encountered over the years living here in town, maybe the customers of either of your husbands? Things that

you might have gotten into, customers or ---

KATHREEN: No, not off hand, I can't. People have always been very good to me. I can't imagine --- even now if Don and LaWanda (Williams), if they don't see me every day they'll call me up, or Don will be over here. And Meredyth, my shades have to be a certain way when she goes to work, or she'll come over here and see what's going on, what's the matter.

BARBARA: So, you have everyone looking out after you.

KATHREEN: And the Evans, they are ---

DOROTHEA: Well, I'll have to confide in you a little bit. I was worried this morning when I couldn't get a hold of you, so I called the Senior Center and they called Meredyth. And she said, "Well, I saw her put her blinds up, so I think everything is okay."

KATHREEN: She won't go to work until --- I have to beat it downstairs or she won't go to work. So, and nobody wants me to move which makes it very nice.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. Well, it is nice that you have such good neighbors.

KATHREEN: Yeah, it is.

DOROTHEA: That way you know you are being, still being taken care of, and it makes it nice for your kids too.

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah it is. They all have all my kid's numbers, especially Candy and Andy, because they know them better, you know. They were here a long --- well Don and LaWanda knows all of them.

DOROTHEA: Well, I tried calling Don and LaWanda and couldn't get a hold of them.

KATHREEN: No, she is ---

DOROTHEA: So, I tried calling Meredyth, and I couldn't get a hold of her. So, I called the Senior Center, because I knew you exercised there. And they called Meredyth, and I don't know, she must have been at work. And they said, well you opened your blinds, so then I just waited a little longer and I called later then.

KATHREEN: She'll call me tonight when she comes home. So, she would have, she would tell me anyway, yeah, she will. It is wonderful to have people, you know.

DOROTHEA: Well, I was concerned, I couldn't get a hold of you last night, and I couldn't get a hold of you this morning, and I thought my goodness ---

KATHREEN: Armond does the same thing.

DOROTHEA: So, I was a little upset. So, I had called several people trying to find you.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

BARBARA: When your husband had his business, the plumbing and heating business, did people extend credit during this time, or was it cash and carry?

KATHREEN: For him, or for the customers?

BARBARA: For your customers.

KATHREEN: Oh, they, I sent them a bill on the first of the month. And most people are very good. I didn't, we never, we lost very little money over the years. Maybe in thirty years we may have lost five thousand dollars, which maybe sounds like a lot, but that's not.

BARBARA: Well not really, over that period.

KATHREEN: No, no it isn't. I'm tough!

BARBARA: You kept dinging them until they paid their bill?

KATHREEN: Had to have it. You can't bring up five kids, six kids on nothing.

BARBARA: That's right. Well, you have to pay your suppliers, so people have to understand that you need to have the bill paid in order to pay your supplier.

KATHREEN: Oh, you bet, yeah. The worst people to pay on time is the government. Sam did a lot of work for the state, you know, and they're going to go ninety days. If you owe them, they're going to charge you interest, but they sure as heck don't pay interest. I used to add on the interest, they just cut it right out, they wouldn't pay it.

BARBARA: Is that right?

KATHREEN: Yeah, they don't, they really don't. And the federal government is even worse. He did a lot of work out at the Indian Village, you know, for the guy out --- he knew the headman out there, you know. And they, unless this guy would just, he would send the bills in himself way ahead of time, you know, I mean didn't wait until the end of the month, yeah. Yeah, Sam had a lot.

Of course, in the first ten years everybody had frozen pipes, they never learned to cover them up or what, I don't know. Every morning, start in about five o'clock when you have a real cold night, I'd stand there at the phone.

DOROTHEA: You were talking about out at the Indian Village, was that when, what was his name, he married Jo Ellen Higgs? Oh, my mind has gone blank. Who was the administrator of the Indian Village at that time?

KATHREEN: I can see his face. They didn't have too many out there then, you know, they built that Indian Village after ---

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. But they had this man, lived there; with Jo Ellen Higgs was his wife.

KATHREEN: They lived in that big corner house. Teresa Guinee lived there for a while and taught school there, didn't she?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: Then after that Jo Ellen, I can't ---

DOROTHEA: And then they moved. Did he die first?

KATHREEN: I think so, I think he died. Was his name Smith?

DOROTHEA: No. This is terrible, bring up a name and you can't even remember what it is.

KATHREEN: Gee, there is so much to remember, isn't there?

DOROTHEA: He was the truant officer, and also the Indian Agent, or whatever they called it.

KATHREEN: The Agent, that's what they called them in those days.

DOROTHEA: And ---

KATHREEN: He handled all their personal finances, affairs. I mean he helped them like he was their lawyer.

DOROTHEA: I want to call him John something, and I'm not even sure that's his name.

KATHREEN: No, there was a John. I saw her the other day. I think he died; they lived out there for a long time. Kathy (Baugh), she was in Ronnie's class.

DOROTHEA: Oh Retherford, you're talking about maybe, huh?

KATHREEN: What?

DOROTHEA: Kathy Retherford, no?

KATHREEN: No, no that's not it. It's just a short name, it's not Barr, or is it Barr? She used to wash --- I used to wash over there, I was holding out to get my laundry in the basement. Sam didn't want to put it down there, so this is my way of getting my way. I washed over there, that embarrassed him. (Laughter) But I enjoyed it, I'd see and visit with people that I didn't see otherwise, you know.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. Well, I guess his name is not going to go down on tape, because I can't remember it.

KATHREEN: You edit all this and take out some of the stuff?

DOROTHEA: No, we do it verbatim. It's everything that's in this tape we leave in, unless there is something that you remember that you don't want to be in there, and then we take it out.

KATHREEN: You know the beauty of being 82 years old, you don't remember those things.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I wish I could remember that man's name; it's going to drive me crazy until I can think of it. But I know they used to have a lot of problems at the old grade school too, and probably Sam got called on that.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, I don't know when we finally got smart to cover up the pipes and, especially where they went into the house. That's where they would freeze up.

KATHREEN: Well, you know, there was a time there in the early, in the 30's and 40's that they were building so fast, and they didn't really have, the builders didn't have to follow certain laws like they do now.

BARBARA: Building codes.

KATHREEN: Yeah. There was talk at the bridge club last night that, whoever bought these lots up here on the highway, that he was going to put in an office building, and was going to have a wheelchair access, places. I said, "Well, they have to, that's according to law anymore." He might get a building permit in Burns, but the state would come and step in.

BARBARA: Right.

KATHREEN: But I don't even know if that is true or not. You're going to hear all kinds of things.

DOROTHEA: Well, we've heard all kinds of things.

BARBARA: I've heard that it's supposed to be an office building for the human services, where all the agencies are going to go, to locate to one big building.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Now is that where BLM and Forest Service and all this will go to?

BARBARA: No, no, no. This is like children's services, and that sort of thing.

KATHREEN: Yeah, they have, they rent some things and then ---

BARBARA: Right, they have several different offices around town, and they're going to put it into one facility then. Anyway, that's what I heard that was going to go in there.

KATHREEN: Yeah, uh huh. Yeah, because they do rent down at the Center, they rent one or two office rooms down there. They've got their funds cut back enough, you know it's too bad, they really have a hard time making ends meet down there.

DOROTHEA: Well, anything to do with seniors anymore it seems like our government is against. Social Security, and Medicare, and anything like that.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: It seems like our government is getting to the place where they are cutting back, and cutting back on this. I'll bet this is going to be good on tape, because I lost this and I've been kicking it with my foot (microphone).

KATHREEN: Yeah, they really do, you know. And then it's a shame because when my mother, if she --- my mother died when she was 38, but I had some of her sisters live to be as old as I am, and even over a 100, so that's what I'm basing my longevity on. I expect to be here, just to spite them. (Laughter) Just to prove I'm better than they are. But they all had to move in with children, you know, you couldn't live independently like I do. Even though they all had money, but they didn't really, I mean they just contributed to the family coffers I guess, or maybe wait until she died and got what was left. But I don't have any money, but I live comfortably. I don't know what I'd do

with it.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. Well, talking about living, and living alone, how do you manage your home? Do you have a housekeeper come in and help you?

KATHREEN: I have, for the first time I had, come in, and she took down these draperies. And the, I have glass curtains --- because I promised Candy I wouldn't climb up there, she thought I was going to fall. That's the first time I've ever hired anybody to help in the house. I just never did want anybody messing around in my stuff. (Laughter)

But I have a hot water heating system, the boiler is in the basement, so it's comfortable, you know. Mrs. Voegtly, when she knew I was going to buy the house she says, "You're going to freeze to death, you're crazy." And the first year that we were here, I didn't freeze to death, but I got cold. But water upstairs would freeze. But the house was heated by --- had a chimney here, and one in the other end, and it was two great big stoves. And in the kitchen was a cook stove. So, you just made the rounds, stoking up these great big heaters.

DOROTHEA: You kept yourself warm by putting wood in the stoves.

KATHREEN: We used coal, you know, they had big lump coal then. And they don't have that anymore.

DOROTHEA: This is something else I was going to ask you, the differences between when you first moved to Harney County, Burns - Hines area, and now. What, have you noticed a lot of difference in people, in surroundings, of course in cars?

KATHREEN: Oh cars, yes. People no, people have always been --- I say the best people in the United States live in Harney County. I don't know why anybody wants to live any other place. The people is what --- anytime a town this small that is so isolated, it's the people that make it I think. I've never had any trouble with people. I suppose people do, because the police get busy. But most people work anymore. This is one problem we have in the church is all the people that are young enough to really be active in the church are working all day. But then I come from a family that everybody always worked. But ---

DOROTHEA: Well, I have this question in my mind all the time, you know, what has happened to

our, I'll call it civilization? I can remember when I was a young girl, and we used to go out and have fun doing anything. Kids can't seem to have fun now.

KATHREEN: No.

DOROTHEA: And we trusted everybody, and you don't trust people anymore. Have you noticed that yourself, or is it mostly ---?

KATHREEN: Oh yes, I noticed it more. I lock myself in because I can't hear. I wear a hearing aid, and so I have a bell that, it has a little portable, it's just like a portable phone. I take it all over the house; otherwise I couldn't hear people at the back door. People have quit using the front door.

Maurine Minar was the only person, only friend I had that would, she absolutely would not come in the back door. But people have quit coming in the front door, I don't know why.

I noticed it more in Eugene when I was over there. Tillie (Bjerke) is 16 now, and she drives her own, she goes to South Eugene High and she, the first thing she does is, she even locks the doors before she puts her seat belt on. And when she travels, if she's going at night she puts the dog in the car with her. She goes out and baby-sits, and she puts the dog in the car. Because while they live in a very nice neighborhood, they all do this. They just, better to be safe than sorry. Because, of course Candy is divorced now and they live together alone, and so she feels a strong responsibility for Tillie, and she may be going a little overboard, but it's better.

BARBARA: Have you ever felt frightened about being here alone since Sam has died?

KATHREEN: No, I haven't. Only one time was I concerned here in the spring. There was three boys, three young boys came to the front door, and I didn't open it, the screen was locked, and I just opened it. I could see these young boys there, so I opened it just enough to talk to them. And this one tall black boy, he looked like he might be about 13 or 14, maybe a little older; it's pretty hard to tell. They wanted to know how much did I rent the house for. I said, "I own it, I don't rent it."

"You live here?" "Yeah," I said, "yeah me and my family." This is what I always say, I didn't say how many of them are here or not. I never tell strangers that I'm here alone. And this tall boy, he was trying to look around me to look into the house, and wanted to know if they couldn't come in, and I said, "No." He wanted --- and then they said they were new here. I knew they were, I know

most of the kids in the neighborhood, and, which we don't have very many. He said, "Where was the post office?" And this was on Saturday afternoon, and I directed him to the post office. Then they wanted to know where the police office was, and I said right next door. They probably knew, because I pointed out the post office, and they didn't even listen. So, this was a little bit of a concern, because I think we are likely to have more vandalism than we are real, you know ---

I understand why the house is a curiosity to some people. And I lived through last Halloween, but I don't know what's going to happen this year. But I don't, I just turn all my lights on, and I don't try to close it up. But no, I never have because I have so many people, you know, that help me watch.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. That's what I was going to ask you too, is Halloween is coming up; do you have a lot of trick-or-treaters? Or do you ---

KATHREEN: I haven't had for the last couple of years, but I don't think anybody does. Well, now Sam has been dead two years in December. The last year before he died I simply turned --- he didn't want to be bothered with them, so I didn't invite anybody in. I found they don't come unless you put your lights out.

DOROTHEA: Put your lights on.

KATHREEN: Yeah. I think the people who are trick --- those that come otherwise, the vandalism, now that, we could, we've gotten more of that this last year. And that could be a problem this year, I don't know.

DOROTHEA: Well I asked my grandson, I said, "Are you trick-or-treating this year?" He is 11, and he said, "No." He said, "Last year was my last year." He said, "Mostly anymore," he said, "it's for little kids."

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: But he said, "You've got a lot of your high school kids running around with sheets on and try to take your candy away." And he said, "I don't need the candy anyway," so he said, "I'm not trick-or-treating." So, I think that's the problem.

KATHREEN: The danger amongst them, not what they do to people, you know, it really is. There was, several years ago when Tillie was still little, and oh maybe as much as six or eight years ago,

they passed an ordinance in Eugene that kids can't trick-or-treat without adults.

BARBARA: Supervision with them.

KATHREEN: Uh huh. And they would pick them up right now, and take them to the juvenile hall if they were.

DOROTHEA: Well, I never did let mine, of course we lived in the country, so I never did let my kids go out, I always took them.

KATHREEN: I did too.

DOROTHEA: Met them, and we walked with them. But they, I think trick-or-treating has gone beyond trick-or-treating anymore.

KATHREEN: Yeah, it is.

DOROTHEA: I think it's something that's probably going to be in the past.

KATHREEN: I hope.

DOROTHEA: I kind of hope so, too.

KATHREEN: They now encourage kids to bring their candy and stuff, so they send it --- used to send a lot of it to Fairview when Johanna first went down there. Dr. Cliff and I would collect it, we collected a lot. I collected a lot of clothes and stuff for Fairview, of course I don't do that anymore, they don't want it. When Johanna went there, there was three thousand people there, now there are less than five hundred.

DOROTHEA: What is happening to that, is the state not, are they not a state building, or I mean a -- I don't know what I'm trying to say.

KATHREEN: Institution.

DOROTHEA: Institution anymore.

KATHREEN: Yeah, they are. They can't, without an act of the legislature they can't close it entirely. And they do have people there who are vegetables, they just lie in bed, they can't do anything. You know, I went all over the place in the years, the five or six years that Johanna was there, and there were a lot of kids that did not belong there, that never should have been committed in the first place. Just like the doctor telling us to take her down there and forget her. Well they

had told people that, and they didn't realize, they didn't really know what mental retardation is. But this, have you ever seen that place?

DOROTHEA: I've been there, yes.

KATHREEN: With all the buildings they have. It's a big; I don't know how many acres it covers. But there is a, driveways round and round, and these huge what they call cottages, each one of them would house at least two hundred people, besides the staff. And I don't know what they're going to do with those buildings, very expensive buildings, but they're emptying them out. They had a big laundry, and they had a big --- and they just recently, in the last ten years have put up a building for cooking and serving meals, a whole thing, because the old one wasn't sanitary enough, they said. But the state, I don't really know what their responsibilities are. They take on --- Johanna of course gets social security because of Sam. And the state has been trying to cut that out, because they have to match it. There is only one or two of these places, and Johanna is in one that they call Title 19, that they get federal funds.

But the fellow that owns them is a retired, I don't know what branch of the service he is in, but he is independently wealthy anyway. It's just something that he wants to do. He is a widower, and he has a son who is about 30 years old, and this boy is interested in teaching, or caring for these people. And he seems to keep getting his money, but the legislature just gives them less and less money all the time.

So, they don't --- now at Fairview the nurses, the people who work there now, they have a union and they're well paid. When Johanna was there they were just housewives, you know, just taking care of them. They weren't getting any training or anything like that.

I think the Salem school district takes them on for education, but they don't have, they don't keep those anymore. They have made, well I've seen it in the paper where they have made some people who are, a lot of people 50 and as old as 60 take their children home. And they're not children, you know, they are adults.

DOROTHEA: Adults, and adults that are getting up in age as well. No, I was there with Helen Landers when she went to see her boy one time. But I never got any further than the front door, I

just stayed, I saw several people that I, I didn't like the site of. So, I mean, I don't know how to put that, that's pretty blunt.

KATHREEN: They were repulsive to you?

DOROTHEA: But --- no, I felt sorry for them, you know. And I thought I can't go any further, so that's as far as I went, I didn't want to see any more. Probably had I had someone there, it probably wouldn't affect me like that.

KATHREEN: No, it would have. I could not work there. This is, if I do sell here, I would like to move to Salem, but I won't move there because they continually want you, need volunteers, and I can't do it. Now Johanna is ---

BARBARA: It takes special people in order to work with that.

KATHREEN: Yes, they do, yeah, they are.

BARBARA: Day after day, after day.

KATHREEN: They did have, when she first went into the group home, they did have students from Willamette that were girls, that were majoring in this sort of thing, you know, and they were working for scholarships and stuff, and it was very good. But now they just seem to pick up anybody, and outside of the fact that most of, that all --- there is twelve girls in her unit and they are all about the same mentally. They can look after themselves, you know. So, they don't get much personal care outside of they cook for them, and help them with their laundry. She, they have washing machines and stuff, and she does her own laundry. Of course, everything is a pale gray, but --- I don't know what kind of stuff they use. But she does that, she knows when she comes home, you know, she can do this and fold her clothes and stuff. So, she ---

DOROTHEA: Well, it is amazing to me, and I think that they found out since Johanna was born even, that these children are not really what you call retarded children, because they are very smart in some respects.

Jeannette Wolverton Gill, she was telling me about her, I think it's one of her older grandsons that has Downs Syndrome, and he is very, very smart in electronics. And so, they figure that he will be trained in some kind of electronic work when he gets older. And I'm really amazed that the

difference, say when I was a child, and children today, that how they have accepted so much more than they ever used to.

KATHREEN: That was never a problem in our family, because I think the children just patterned themselves after us. And it never occurred to us to hide her, or to deny her condition. Because I've always felt that she did more with what she had to do with than they did. She worked harder to perfect, to what she had to do. But like Tillie and Katie, they grew up with Johanna, they'd go to the, Candy and Andy both visit her because they're closer. Andy just lives in Beaverton and it's just forty miles, and she gets on the bus and goes up and visits them. But she is one of the, she is very fortunate for what, you know, for the world as far as Johanna is concerned, that she grew up in a family like that. But a lot of people have never, have never really accepted them.

I know Grace Farster had a lot of trouble with Dennis, he just couldn't stand to have Linda --- well she is wild as a March hare, they can't do anything with her. I don't know if they have tamed her down a little bit. She would just run away, and so they quit letting her come home because she would --- about the time they would get her settled down, why then she would --- Well Bud and Gracie just took her camping and what not, you know.

I never tried to make things nicer for Johanna here, than she had there, I just didn't think that was wise. But there are a lot of them that have some of those boys, big, over six feet, and you look and you would be afraid of them, I would be.

But they have a cottage that, they're back to back; that this guy owns that has boys in them. And, but they're mild, they do come over, and a couple of them --- Johanna has never showed, well she did for a little while when she was about 14 or 15, something like that, show a little interest in the opposite sex. And this one guy would come and they'd sit and watch television together and hold hands. And you know those are the things you are concerned about; how sexually active they want to be. But they, I get reports on her all the time, and they say now that she shows no interest ---

TAPE 2 - SIDE D

BARBARA: Can you tell us about some of the businesses that were around during the time that

Mr. Schroeder had his butcher shop? Did they have a Chamber of Commerce? Did you as merchants and business people have an organization that kind of tried to keep business in the town going?

KATHREEN: Oh yeah. Yeah, Carol Jordan was the perennial secretary of the Chamber of Commerce. And there was a Reed's Drug Store, it was in the Brown Building, just about where that service station ---

DOROTHEA: I think it's Texaco, no, no ---

KATHREEN: Richfield it was for a long time.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, it's Texaco now.

KATHREEN: But that was a separate building, wasn't it? It was just hooked on to the Brown --- you probably remember that Reed Drug Store.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

KATHREEN: There was two brothers that were pharmacists and druggists. That's where everybody went for a Coke, you know. They had a lot of these tables with the wire chairs, you know, and it was all, had little tiny tiles in the floor, just like you see in the movies, that's what it was. And that was the place to gather when I first came here. And then they had a Liberty Theater that Skiens run, a movie --- was it upstairs in the Brown Building?

DOROTHEA: I don't remember it being upstairs. It seemed like it was right, just right through the door, but I don't know, I can't remember. I don't know if I ever went to that.

KATHREEN: No, you wouldn't. I don't think you did, I think you were too young for that. Because the Skiens, Tic Skiens, not Tic Skiens, well it was his brother that operated it.

DOROTHEA: Tobe, I think, is it Toby Skiens?

KATHREEN: No, it was one, it was, they were all the same family. But I don't know, I can't remember. And then always --- those Clemens buildings was always across the street, they had a furniture store in there. What was on the corner?

DOROTHEA: Which direction? The Arrowhead Hotel was there on the one corner.

KATHREEN: No, that was way down the street.

DOROTHEA: Oh, you're talking about way up here.

KATHREEN: I'm talking about way up there, yeah. That lot where they had the parking lot for the, was a vacant lot there. And right next door the, Gertrude and Bennett, which Bennett was he? He was Cecil's brother, older brother. They had an insurance agent in there. Gertrude used to, had the, she would direct the plays and stuff, you remember? Because she did, Armond, she was never a teacher.

DOROTHEA: But I can't remember which one she was. Is that Stan's, no that was Elsie, or that was ---

KATHREEN: They just had one daughter named Katherine.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: He seemed to be, financially the most successful of all of them.

DOROTHEA: Cleave, Cleave?

KATHREEN: No, Cleave was one of Cecil's ---

DOROTHEA: Cecil's --- no ---

KATHREEN: No, he was Ellis' boy.

DOROTHEA: Ellis' boy.

KATHREEN: Uh huh. Are you going to remember all of this Barbara?

BARBARA: Sure.

KATHREEN: Word for word.

DOROTHEA: When she types it up.

KATHREEN: Yeah. Well now, the Bennett family was very prominent, there was three or four brothers, and they had a lot of offspring's, and they all stayed around for awhile and went in various little --- They always were in the business world downtown somehow or other.

DOROTHEA: Well, Carroll was telling us about it, and I can't remember their dad's names. There was Frank, and Cecil, Ellis, their dad.

KATHREEN: Well, yeah. Wasn't Ellis Carroll's dad?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, uh huh.

KATHREEN: Uh huh. And then this other, Bill Bennett, he was the oldest one of all of them and he had, they just had this one daughter.

BARBARA: Did the business people ever get together and try to have promotions like they do anymore now? Or were people just pretty much into their own little business, and try to keep it going? Or were they concerned about everyone in the downtown area?

KATHREEN: Oh yeah, they were concerned about everyone, you know. You'd go and open your doors and then you were out running up and down the street visiting with everybody.

BARBARA: Seeing how everybody was doing?

KATHREEN: Yeah.

BARBARA: What could we do to get more customers?

KATHREEN: Oh yeah.

BARBARA: Or what should we carry, or that type of thing?

KATHREEN: Yeah. Corbett's had a drug store there on the corner where the Randall's is, and Mildred had a food counter in there.

BARBARA: Snack bar?

KATHREEN: Yeah. Oh, she served everything; well I guess sandwiches and soup.

DOROTHEA: Mostly sandwiches.

KATHREEN: I don't know if she served soup or not, but she served sandwiches and stuff.

DOROTHEA: I think she served soup, too.

KATHREEN: And then the hardware store was next door. Harris and, Bill Harris and, and who was in with --- Dillman's, Dillman had that hardware store to begin with, and they sold it to Harris.

DOROTHEA: And then Baird.

KATHREEN: Yeah, Baird.

BARBARA: Did people, well like when you had your meat market, would they charge and pay by the month, or did they pay each time as they came in?

KATHREEN: No, they had charge accounts.

BARBARA: Charge accounts.

KATHREEN: Yeah.

DOROTHEA: Did you take produce and things in on some of the bills, or did you raise your own garden, or ---

KATHREEN: Well, we didn't have much of a garden; Charlie and I didn't, because he was too busy. I was busy having babies and he was busy working in the shop. We didn't have a garden down, when we lived down there on South Egan; we didn't have a garden down there. Sam and I had a big garden here. But no, I don't remember that.

DOROTHEA: Now did you, did you move over across the street where VanCleeef's were? Charlie didn't have his shop in there at one time?

KATHREEN: No.

DOROTHEA: It was just where Micheline's is?

KATHREEN: Uh huh. It was, both on that side of the street in Tiller's Store, and in that place right there where --- Frank Hirsch had his electric shop there after Charlie sold to, Fenley's sold it to --- You know, I sold it to Fenley's.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: Both shops. And then they sold that out, and they never owned the building, the Odd Fellows owned the building. They built this building over here, Fenley's did, I mean Roy Fenley did.

DOROTHEA: Roy, and he had the grocery store right, yeah, where NAPA is now.

KATHREEN: Yeah. But he didn't buy from me, Bill Fenley bought his, his uncle or cousin, and they just more or less put him out of business, they just took over. He had made a lot of money selling pilings down in, during the war. And he was carried away with his wealth, he drank a lot, and he was --- he liked to brag about the diamonds he had on his wife's finger and all that kind of stuff.

BARBARA: You first mentioned when you met Charlie to begin with, that he went around and would take daily orders from people. How long did he and his family continue to do that? When you were married, would he still go around and do that?

KATHREEN: No.

BARBARA: Or was this just for a short period of time?

KATHREEN: They had been doing it always, but it was very short. Because what happened, Mr. Tiller opened this grocery store, he had the grocery store up there, and he came down to see Charlie and he said --- his father was a pretty heavy drinker, so it was a family problem all the time. And he said, "Charlie, I'm going to put a meat counter in up there and you can operate it if you want to, you can have it if you want to. Otherwise, I'm going to get somebody to come in." So that's when Charlie went in business for himself.

BARBARA: So, he figured that the competition that, you couldn't have two going at one time?

KATHREEN: Well he, no, he'd rather do it himself than have somebody else do it. Yeah, the town wasn't ---

BARBARA: Wasn't big enough to accommodate two.

KATHREEN: No, no, I don't know what the population then was, but Hines was still not a lot of people living out there. They had those few houses that they started with, but people were living in apartments all over the town, every place.

DOROTHEA: Well, did Charlie run kind of a butcher shop or a meat shop in this Red and White Store at that time, or how did he get into the ---

KATHREEN: Well his dad did, it was supposed to be his dad.

DOROTHEA: Oh, I see.

KATHREEN: He was, he went to high school, he was a very good football player, so that's about -- - he was about 20 when he graduated from high school, because he stayed and helped out. And this is the way his mother saw it.

DOROTHEA: And so then right, just before or just after you were married he went to work for Tillers then, or as the butcher at Tillers.

KATHREEN: No, he was in there when we married, he'd already gone in there for himself, yeah.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, you'd already gone there. So, did they also, he went around and took order too at the houses for the groceries. Did they also deliver?

KATHREEN: Yeah. Then later, see, he would do this before school, then he'd go to school.

Compton Moffet did the delivery.

BARBARA: What Moffet?

KATHREEN: Compton.

BARBARA: Compton.

KATHREEN: You know Lucille? I mean, is that her name, his wife?

DOROTHEA: I don't think she lives here anymore, does she?

KATHREEN: I don't know, but he hasn't been dead too many years.

DOROTHEA: No, but I don't know if she lives here anymore.

KATHREEN: She worked at the mill office for a long time after --- Yeah, there was a thousand people, they were doing twenty-four hour shifts at the mill when I came here, and there was a thousand people working there.

And as I said before, people in those days had more children so the school, they already had that school built when I came here. I don't know what the population was, but it went through the eighth grade up until the last, even when you were in school they had through the eighth grade up there.

And I asked Armond recently, I said, "How did that antagonism between Burns and Hines start?" And he said, "It was Mr. Anderson." He had the basketball team, you know. And he said, "That old rascal, he did that." He would tell them, you had to beat Burns. It was just, you know, they didn't have to beat anybody else ---

BARBARA: Cross town rivalry, huh?

KATHREEN: Yeah. And it went, it was just handed down.

DOROTHEA: And you know it made it hard for when, like now, like say for instance when our class graduated out of the eighth grade, and the same class graduated out of the eighth grade in Hines, when they came to Burns to go to school at Lincoln, or what we called Burns High, there was a lot of animosity there.

KATHREEN: Yeah, oh yeah.

DOROTHEA: And it was hard to get, and of course that was the class of all boys that year, there was no girls.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: So, they had to be better than our boys were. And I think they finally got to the place where they got along, but when that first freshman year, man I mean there was a lot of competition.

KATHREEN: Yeah. I can't think of any of Armond's close friends, or people that he still remembers and likes to contact when he comes around, that live in Hines though.

DOROTHEA: That came from Hines.

KATHREEN: I don't remember any of them.

DOROTHEA: Yeah. So yeah, it was, it was like ---

KATHREEN: Uh huh. And at parties they'd always go outside and have a little fisticuff.

DOROTHEA: Fisticuffs. Yeah, they did.

KATHREEN: That was just waiting for the chance.

BARBARA: What did you as young married couples do for entertainment?

KATHREEN: Oh we, we had bridge clubs in one another's homes. And we ---

BARBARA: Did your husband play?

KATHREEN: Yeah. Sam didn't, but Charlie, we're talking about with Charlie. He, we started this supper club they've got.

BARBARA: Yes.

KATHREEN: We were, we had it originally.

BARBARA: Is that right?

KATHREEN: Yeah. It was the Daltons and the Felts, and the Voegtlys, and Charlie and me, and Alice and Bob Sawser, and Myrtle and Harry Fuller. Well you met on a birthday, whose ever birthday it was, we met at their house and the hostess furnished the meat, and everybody else --- it was always a potluck. So, I was, they had it; we had it here one time before Charlie died on his birthday. His birthday was on the fourth of March, and he went to bed on the 26th. So, this hit the

bridge club pretty hard, or birthday club we called it. And so, they kept on just, they kept on, and they invited other people to help them. And I never did go, of course they always invited me, but I never did as a widow. I hate that word! There is two words I hate, mental retardation and widows, I don't like either one of them. But I didn't, if anybody called me a widow I wouldn't speak to them. But you're a fifth wheel, I was.

DOROTHEA: Yes.

KATHREEN: And I didn't like it a bit. Now there is so many single women and no men, and most women earn as much money. I know this is true in Candy, she is 43. She has a bunch of girls, and they mostly go to church together, that they go out, and they don't even think anymore about trying to get men to go with them. Because Candy says, she is a nice-looking woman, and she said, "I can have boyfriends every day in the week, Mom, but all they want is to go to bed. They think that's what you want."

DOROTHEA: That's that one-track mind.

KATHREEN: Yeah, it is. Well, Jeannette was telling me that the same thing goes on around here. She was, I was asking about Peggy, and oh, Melanie Harris, those girls that are divorced, you know, and that are really young. And I said, "There is no boys for them, no men for them to go out with. All the good ones are married." This is what Meredyth said, you know, when years ago when Dave died. She said, "I'd like to go out and have a, to dance, you know." Because she likes a party, she is really a party girl, or she was. And she said, "There is nobody, all the good ones are married." And she wasn't interested in a weekend fling. You grow up in that generation, you know, you just don't have any fun doing that. It would be, you wouldn't enjoy it.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, yeah, that's where my daughter is at. She says, "There is other things besides that."

KATHREEN: Yeah, there is. (Laughter) I remember when I was trying very hard to be, to tell Candy about the facts of life, and I didn't really know how to go about it, you know, so I think it's great for trained people to do this. But I said, "You know Candy, it only lasts for a couple of minutes, and it's not worth the ninth months you're going to pay for it." So, she told that to Tillie.

She said, "I'll tell you what Mom told me." (Laughter)

BARBARA: It served you well, so it ought to work, huh?

DOROTHEA: Well, you're talking about granddaughter Tillie, that's kind of a strange name. What did that come from?

KATHREEN: Her father's mother was named Tilda.

DOROTHEA: Oh.

KATHREEN: They were Norwegians.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: And so, she, her name is really Tilda, but of course they end up Tillie.

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. And so how do you spell that? Is it ---

KATHREEN: T I L D A is the way it's spelled, but then of course we write it L L I E.

DOROTHEA: I E. Okay.

KATHREEN: Yeah, she ---

DOROTHEA: Well, we've been here close to three hours now.

KATHREEN: Have you really?

DOROTHEA: We're really extending our time a little bit. Is there anything else that you can think of that maybe we could talk about? Or Barbara, can you think of any other questions you'd like to ask? I could think of a lot, but I think that we've probably spent our length of time.

BARBARA: We don't want to wear out our welcome here.

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

KATHREEN: Oh, you're not doing that, I enjoy talking to you.

BARBARA: Are there any other things that you can ---

KATHREEN: Not that I can think of, no. This painting up there, Robert Sawyer painted that. You went to school with him.

DOROTHEA: Oh, he did, yes.

KATHREEN: When he was in high school.

DOROTHEA: And he's retired now and works off and on out of Burns, I guess. Once in awhile he

KATHREEN: Doesn't --- only paints. I talked to him when his father died.

DOROTHEA: Oh, uh huh.

KATHREEN: And he just paints for presents for his nieces and nephews, wedding presents, that's all he paints for.

DOROTHEA: And that's all, huh?

KATHREEN: That's all. And you know he had absolutely no training.

DOROTHEA: Well that's a beautiful --- oh yeah.

KATHREEN: And Mrs. Weittenhiller would encourage him, and criticize. And so, he entered a contest when he was in high school in Portland, and Art took him down there and he had made this picture, a rabbit. They told him it was too realistic, wouldn't even enter it. It was better --- oh Art was disgusted. It was better than anything, you know, they wanted things to be sort of fuzzy I guess.

DOROTHEA: Look like a painting. Yeah, because Bob was good, he was really good.

KATHREEN: Yeah. He's a little older than you, isn't he?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, a year is all though, yeah. He went to school with, just a year ahead of me.

KATHREEN: Uh huh.

DOROTHEA: But that's a good picture.

KATHREEN: Yeah, it is. I asked him, I asked Rosina (Sawyer), I said, "What am I going to do with it, am I going to leave it in the house?" And she said, "Well, I don't have any place for it." She didn't even want to come and look at it.

DOROTHEA: Well you might, maybe one of Bob's kids might want it or something. I don't know why I'm calling him Bob, because he was Robert all the time, but they call him Bob now, so ---

KATHREEN: Yeah, we did call him Robert, didn't we?

DOROTHEA: Uh huh. Yeah, he went to school as Robert, but they call him Bob now.

KATHREEN: Well, there is a possibility that Ralph might want it. But, you know, everybody, they're all getting to retirement ages themselves, they don't want all this stuff. It's like ---

DOROTHEA: Right. Well Robert is retired, and so ---

KATHREEN: Yeah. All of my furniture is so big, none of my kids would ever, they don't have any place to put it. This ---

BARBARA: You talk about retiring and maybe moving, and you say that your children do not want you to sell this home.

KATHREEN: No, Armond thinks he wants to live here.

BARBARA: To move back to live here?

KATHREEN: Uh huh, yeah. He would move back in a minute. I don't think that his wife would live here. They have a beautiful home in Anchorage, and they have been living up there since 1966, she has lots of friends. And she is 51 or 52, maybe 51, and she is very active in many things. And she does, you know, Anchorage is quite a bit bigger than Burns. And I just ---

BARBARA: Well at that age, it's kind of hard to start over in a new community. When you're younger you have your children to get you involved in things, it is easier. But when you are in your 50's or 60's, to move to a new place and get acquainted and involved it is more difficult.

KATHREEN: Well, two of the children live there too in Anchorage. And it's just that Armond, I think, is sentimental. But it is especially this time of the year, you know, just to stand outside is so peaceful and whatnot.

DOROTHEA: And really, when you live around here, and you go someplace else, it's awfully noisy.

KATHREEN: Oh, isn't it though. That's what I had in Eugene, you know, I made several trips down there to finally get --- and I still have to go back one more for another check-up because he wants to check the glaucoma to see how much pressure has been down or up, or whatever it is. I see, I didn't think I needed the cataract removed, but things sure do look different. A little pink, you know, things look a little bit, a little purple color through this eye.

BARBARA: But you would find it real difficult to leave here and go someplace else, do you think?

KATHREEN: If you think at middle age it would be hard, what do you think at my age?

BARBARA: Uh huh.

KATHREEN: Well, I'm not ready for structured living, I mean I don't want to --- I want to eat when I want to eat, and what I want to eat, and where I want to eat. And I do have special needs. And I don't want to, I wouldn't live in a retirement center where everybody could come, or they couldn't, and I just don't want anybody telling me what to do.

BARBARA: But maybe to go into an apartment or something near some of your family perhaps?

KATHREEN: Yeah, if I had a physical, if I had problems with my health I would move. It would be a hardship on them. I would never stay here until it made it hard for my kids, I'm not that dumb, but, or that selfish. I just, and I could get along somehow. Candy finds, every time I go down there, she finds me another apartment. (Laughter) There is one, a studio apartment this last time I was there. And a girl that she knew at St. Mary's, her mother had just moved down from LaGrande, and they were trying to get me to come over and look at it. And her mother thought it would just be great. Well, I wasn't interested in a lady looking for a companion, I just, I don't want that.

BARBARA: Well, after you have lived by yourself for a while it's hard to have someone take up some of your space.

KATHREEN: Oh, why heck, when the kids come home, you know, they're here four or five days, I'm glad when they go. (Laughter)

BARBARA: Well I mean, that's true.

KATHREEN: Yeah, they know that too.

(Difficulty with tape recorder) ... more so now than ever for a few hours. But Austa (Carlton) will call me on the phone ---

BARBARA: ... look forward to the next one.

KATHREEN: Yeah, yeah. Well, Ronnie has always come for a number of years for Thanksgiving when he could, because they all have their Christmas at home. Last year, Andy came down and got me, and we picked up Johanna too. Johanna has always come home for Christmas. And I don't know what she would, how she would accept never coming here again, but I think she would be all right. Because when she was here last summer, she comes --- she used to come and stay two weeks, she doesn't want to stay that long, she is ready to go because she is talking about all the

people ... (Difficulty with sound on tape recorder.)

(END OF TAPE)

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