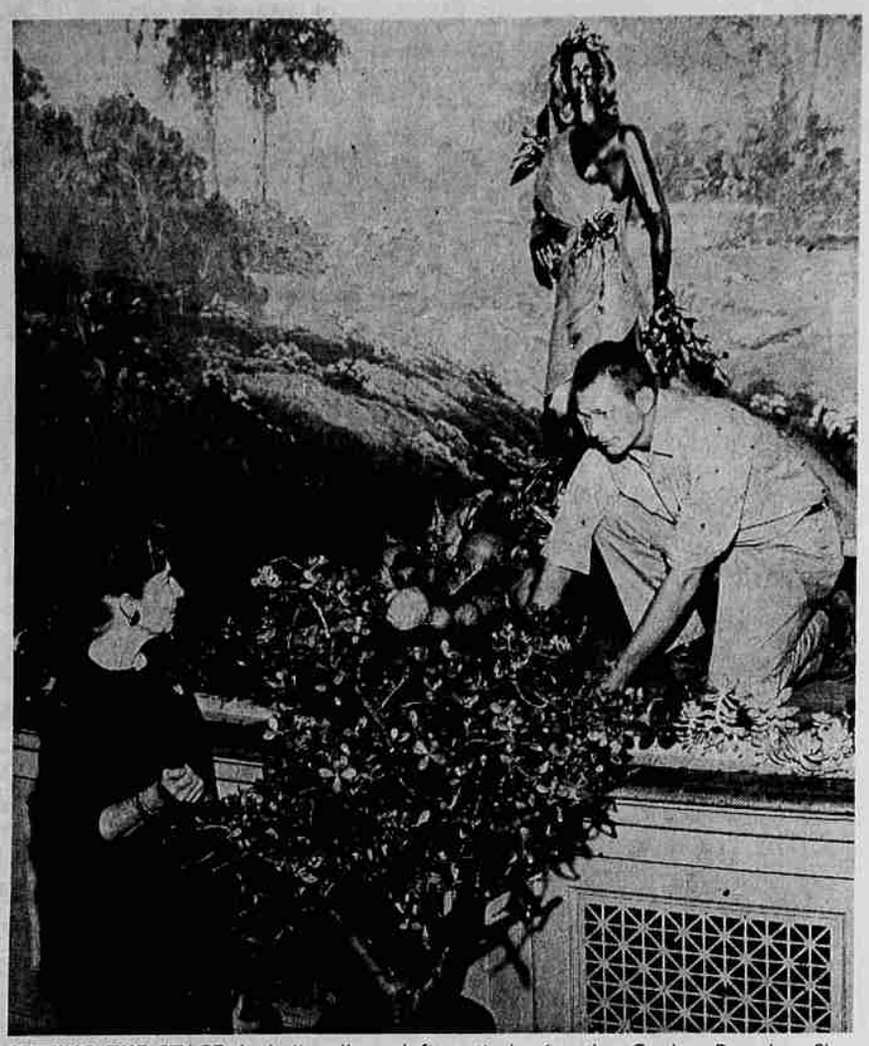

SETTING THE STAGE, both literally and figuratively for the Garden Roundup Show now in progress at the Veterans Administration Hospital, are these two key committee members. Pictured are Mrs. Sidney Domenico, district director, Umpqua District Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs, and Russ Madison, VA horticultural therapist. The show runs from 1 to 9 p.m. today and from noon to 8 p.m. Sunday. The public is invited to attend and there is no admission charge. The imposing "Goddess of Harvest" shown on the auditorium stage was designed by Mrs. Cal Bowles of Oakland. The 50-year-old jade tree in the foreground is being shown in the special exhibits' section. The show, sponsored by Veterans Administration in cooperation with garden clubs of the area, is the last major flower show of the season here and contains a wide variety of entries from the public as well as from the sponsoring groups. (News-Review photo)

Early Planting Of Daffodil Bulbs Provides Golden Display In Spring

Plan now to walk down a "daffy" path next spring—a path bounded on either side by the bright yellow or glistening white trumpets of the big narcissi commonly called daffodils.

The bulbs that produce these flowers must be planted this fall, the earlier the better—for daffodils need time to grow sturdy roots before ground freezes or gets too cold. Almost any soil will do for daffodils.

So, spend a few minutes looking over your favorite bulb catalogue or visiting your favorite garden suply dealer and select daffodil bulbs that will produce golden trumpets with white petals, pale yellow trumpets with golden petals, or with all parts white or yellow or deep gold. All of these colorings are available.

If you crave daffodils that are different from any of these colors—how about trying some of the newer "pink" flowering varieties? The blooms of these daffodils usually open white and the gardener who expected them to be pink is greatly disapointed. But in just a day or two the pink coloring appears, deepening as the blossom ages.

To hold this delicate coloring and keep it from fading, set bulbs of pink daffodils in a situation where the flowers are shaded from the hot sun.

Increase Is Bonus

The beauty of daffodils is not only in their flowers but in the fact that they increase in numbers each year. A single bulb, which may produce one or two flowers the first year, soon becomes a clump of bulbs, with a dozen flowers waving above.

In five year's time one daffodil bulb may have grown to be a dozen, all of which may be separated from the mother bulb and planted individually. This constant increase without any effort on the part of the gardener makes daffodils a real joy.

Pansies, with their pixie faces, and English daisies, with their round, tight buttons for flowers, bloom at the same time as daffodils. While they are too short to compete with the big trumpets, they complement daffodils in color and size.

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Bulb Planting Time Is Here

It's time to start planting bulbs for next spring's bloom. Plant the small bulbs, like crocus or grape hyacinth; next daffodils; then most of the other bulbs; and tulips last, usually not until October.

For solid plantings it is best to remove all the soil from one bed, one shovel deep, prepare the soil in the bottom, place the bulbs, and then replace the soil on top of them. This results in a more even-timed stand of blooms. Bulbs other than tulips, of course, should be planted less deeply.

However, if you are planting in informal clumps or naturalizing them, it's easier to plant them with a narrow-bladed transplanting trowel or a bulb planter but, in any case, be sure to put some good bulb-fertilizer into the soil under them.

If the weather has been unusually warm chill the tulip bulbs if you want to be sure of flowers.

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Plastic Bag Is 'Plant Sitter'

Everyone at one time or another has been faced with the problem of arranging for a "plant sitter" when vacation days roll around and many persons still have vacation time coming, especially with the approach of the hunting season.

Delicate house plants can suffer irreparable damage unless watered regularly, but many times it just isn't convenient for someone to come in to take care of your plants in your absence.

There is, however, an easy way to solve the problem.

Part of a plant's normal growing function is "transpiration" which involves the exhalation of water vapor from the cells of the leaves through minute openings called stomates.

This process can be arrested and the moisture preserved by simply inverting a plastic dry cleaning clothes bag and carefully enveloping the plant.

Bunch the neck together and secure it around the stem of the plant with a plastic covered "twist-to-tie" wire available in any nursery.

Several thickness of newspaper can be spread over the soil in the planter to retard the loss of water through evaporation. If the paint is in a small pot, the bag can be brought down and secured with a plastic covered wire tie about midway around the container.

Give your plants a good drink and you can take off for as long as one month with peace of mind that they are taking good care of themselves.

AZALEA CLUB

The Azalea Garden Club met recently at the home of Mrs. Hugh Morrell with 12 members present and one visitor, Mrs. Kenneth Murray.

The meeting included the answering of roll call with garden suggestions or questions. Mrs. Morrell gave a reading on fall gardening and planting. The hostess prize, a potted plant, went to Mrs. Carl Koehler.

The hostess served refreshments following the meeting.

Fall Planting Of Trees, Shrubs Assures Head Start For Spring

Many home owners are not fully aware that fall is one of the best times to plant trees and shrubs. This includes balled and burlapped evergreens, most deciduous (leaf-dropping) shade trees and shrubs, many fruit trees and rose bushes, whether canned, burlapped or bare-root.

Get Head Start

Top growth is finished for the year but the soil is still warm and vigorous root growth takes place, getting them firmly established before spring planting even comes around.

One of the most important points to remember is to prepare the soil well—the plant is going to be in it a long time. Dig a large hole, at least three times as large as you are tempted to settle for, and at least the same depth. Then loosen up the soil in the bottom and mix in plenty of peatmoss or other humus to lighten heavy soils or add water-holding capacity to sandy ones. Also mix in a generous amount of coarse bonemeal.

Next turn your attention to the soil you took out. Mix in plenty of humus here, too, to make the soil nice and spongy. Then add the bonemeal here, likewise, using at least two "father-size" coffee cupfuls to every bushel of soil and about half as much of a good tree or vegetable fertilizer. If you use one with a ureaform (slow-releasing) nitrogen, results will be even better. Mix them in thoroughly.

Planting Comes Next

Now, you are ready for the actual planting. Set the plants no deeper than they were in the nursery—the soil mark shows on the stems—except for roses. Set these with the top of the graft (the knuckle-like part) at the surface (in the south) and 1 to 2 inches deep in most northern states. Then fill in the soil around the roots until you have the hole half full, tamping in the soil firmly with your shovel handle or, better, with your feet.

Next pour in enough water to fill the hole and let it settle away. Now you are ready to fill up the rest of the hole. But, don't mound the soil around the stems. Instead, make a shallow basin to hold water. Level it just before hard freezing (if it gets that way) and spread over it 2 to 3 inches of old hay, straw, corn cob mulch, sugar cane or whatever you can get to hold in the moisture and prevent alternate freezing and thawing, not to keep the soil warm.

The principal exception is roses in the northern states. Bank them at planting with 6 to 8 inches of soil around the stems. Mulch as above.

One word of caution—it is not safe to plant dogwoods, tulip trees, poplars, most oaks, and magnolias in the fall.

TRY BOTTLE CONTAINERS

One of the many assets of bottle container flower arrangements is that you don't need mechanical aids such as needle holders or chicken wire. The slim necks of bottles suport flowers adequately. However, don't crowd the stems. They may become bruised and unable to draw water up to the blooms.

With clear glass or light-colored bottles when you can see the stems, be extra careful in placing the flowers. They must be considered as an interesting part of the total picture.

RIDDLE CLUB

The Riddle Garden Club held its first fall meeting Sept. 10, at the home of Mrs. Guy Townsend with 12 members present and one guest, Mrs. Hardin Hollowell, who became a member of the club during the business meeting.

Mrs. Austin Wilson, president, opened the meeting with the conservation pledge, and announced her theme for the year as "Beauty Around the Calendar." Committee chairmen appointed by the president were: Mrs. H. G. Townsend, publicity; Mrs. Pearl A. Lawson, librarian; Mrs. Charles A. Walker, historian; Mrs. G. J. Aspey, horticulture; Mrs. J. L. Aikins, scrapbook; Mrs. Guy Townsend, ways and means; Mrs. Hardin Hollowell, anti-litter; and Mrs. H. W. Hiles, friendship.

Mrs. John Durgin is in charge of "maverick" entries of veterans at the Garden Roundup Show. The hospital therapy chairman will be appointed at a later date.

The group enjoyed a potluck dinner at noon. The regular meeting date of the first Tuesday in each month will be resumed in October. Mrs. H. G. Townsend will host the October meeting with Mrs. Harry Williams as co-hostess.

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CARNIVAL By DICK TURNER

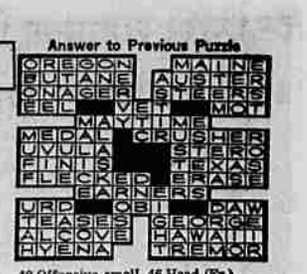
"Mom says he's just like one of the family—tracks in mud, keeps her busy picking up and is always hungry!"

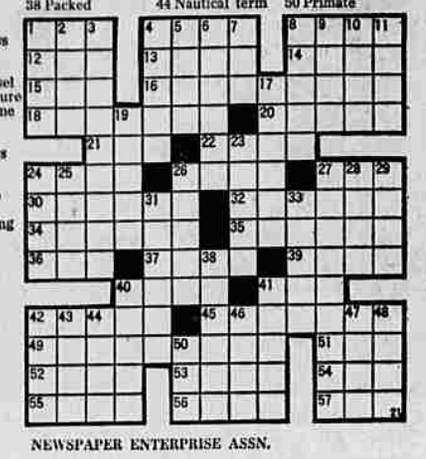
Table Fare

ACROSS
1 Bit of butter
4 Main course
8 Breakfast item
12 Malt beverage
13 Sea bird
14 Solitary
15 Brythonic sea god
16 Lively dances
18 Pilchard
20 Poker stakes
21 Cereal grain
22 Swedish nightingale
24 Emporium
26 Pealed
27 Decay
30 Each
32 Moon goddess
34 Rope strand
35 Expunged
36 Landing vessel
37 Liquid measure
39 Hardy heroine
40 Location
41 Wager
42 Having wings
45 Began
49 Confirmed
51 Yellow bugle plant
52 Prayer ending
53 Masculine nickname
54 Neither
55 Cultigen
56 Paradise
57 Obtain

DOWN
1 Chums
2 Athena
3 Intimidator
4 Earn
5 Ireland
6 Feminine appellation
7 Beverage
8 Light-colored
9 Plant part
10 Girl's name
11 Promontory
17 Peril
19 Palm fruits
23 Insert
24 Shaded walk
25 Egyptian sacred bull
26 Mitigate
27 Setting anew
28 Individuals
29 Scatters
31 Reproduced
33 Tardier
38 Packed
40 Offensive smell
41 Community in Switzerland
42 Grandparental
43 Halt
44 Nautical term
46 Head (Fr.)
47 Cry of bacchanals
48 Australian pompano
50 Primate

Answer to Previous Puzzle





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