

# Nifty Tidbits

By CHUCK RIGBY

Two of our children and five of our grandkids live in Medford, and so we go there quite often, especially when they need some help.

Every trip, on going over Gold Hill and down into the Rogue Valley, I look at Mt. McLoughlin to check out the snow level. This is the tall volcanic peak east of Medford that is indicated by a sign along the freeway. The book, "Oregon Geographic Names," by Lewis McArthur, relates the complicated story of how the mountain received its name.

The first available map of the area, printed in 1838 by Samuel Parker, uses the name Mt. McLoughlin. Later, records by Peter Skene Ogden, a trapper; and by the cartographer for John C. Fremont, use the name Mt. Pitt for the same peak. Because it was spelled with two t's it implies that the name was to honor a person such as William Pitt, a famous British statesman, or an early settler. However, there is no record to substantiate that assumption, and there were no settlers living in that area when the name first was used.

In 1855 a government railroad survey noted that Mt. Pitt was named for pits dug near the mountain by local Indians to trap animals, as is the name Pit River farther south in Northern California. Why the double t's were used is not known. Journals of early Rogue Valley settlers showed that other names, such as Snowy Butte and Big Butte, occasionally were used, but Mt. Pitt was the most common name in printed reports and journals.

This name was superseded in 1905 when the Oregon Legislature designated Mt. McLoughlin to be the name, and this was accepted by the U.S. Board on Geographical Names in 1912, making it official.

John McLoughlin was named "Father of Oregon" in 1957 by the Oregon Legislature, and his name is found all over Oregon on streets, schools, museums, and parks. McLoughlin was born in Quebec Province, Canada on Oct. 19, 1784. Trained as a physician, which occupation he followed for a time, he later joined the fur trading business. He served in various posts in Canada and then was sent by Hudson Bay Co. to be in charge of its Columbia River region. He arrived at Ft. George on Nov. 8, 1824, which was the headquarters at that time.

Fort George started as Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia River and was built in 1811 by the Pacific Fur Co. founded by John Jacob Astor. Astoria was turned over to Hudson Bay Co. in 1813 because its leaders were convinced that the British would capture it anyway during the War of 1812. No bloodshed was involved, and England returned it to the United States in 1818 as part of the final treaty of the war.

One of John McLoughlin's first duties on taking over as "Chief Factor" for Hudson Bay was to build a new fort, where they would be free of American interference. In spring 1825 Fort Vancouver was started on the north side of the Columbia River, near the mouth of the Willamette River. It became the main center for all activities in the area which included fur trapping, but also military visits, settlement attempts, missions for the Indians and natural history collectors.

John McLoughlin became the benevolent dictator of an empire, which reluctantly allowed and even provided for the beginning of what is today known as the state of Oregon.

## Resource unit meet Nov. 7

The Siskiyou Resource Advisory Committee will meet on Thursday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Harbor Sanitary District office in Harbor.

The RAC will review and recommend Title II projects for fiscal year 2003, and will be updated on projects of the previous year. The public may address the committee between 11:30 a.m. to noon.

Resource Advisory Committees recommend projects that benefit trails, roads, forest health, fuels reduction, watersheds, and fish and wildlife habitat on federal lands.

The Siskiyou RAC recommends projects in Josephine, Coos, and Curry counties.

For more information, contact Nancy Rose, Siskiyou RAC acting designated federal official at (541) 471-6507.



**SUNNY BROOK CLUBHOUSE** -- Work on the clubhouse at the new Sunny Brook Mobile Home Park on Laurel Road is nearing completion. The first phase of the development, by John Constanzo of Aptos, Calif., will include 44 sites. Streets and water/sewer lines are installed; and landscaping is under way. Mobile home models are to be available in approximately three weeks. The 25-acre site is to be developed in three phases with a total of 120 to 125 sites.

**Recycle: Be part of the solution, not part of the problem.**

# Let's all help preserve Oregon's beauty.

Everyone can be a part of a coordinated effort for Josephine County during...

## RECYCLING AWARENESS WEEK

The week of November 9th through 16th is officially proclaimed by Governor Kitzhaber to be Recycling Awareness Week 2002. This year Oregonians can celebrate the week by continuing the trend of generating less waste. For the first time in history - Oregon's waste generation has declined.\* By practicing simple steps of reusing, reducing and recycling, future generations will continue the trend and can enjoy Oregon's beauty.

\*Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Solid Waste Program 2000 Recovery Survey Report.

**Only those who risk going too far will ever know how far they can go.**

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- MIKE JOHNSON, P.T.
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## WAYS YOU CAN REDUCE WASTE

### 1. REDUCE

*This is the most powerful tool in waste reduction!*

When you use less stuff, you use fewer natural resources and make less garbage. Reducing involves shopping smart and thinking ahead. The decisions that your family makes while shopping tend to be the decisions that have the greatest impact on how full your garbage can and recycling bin are at the end of the week.

### 2. REUSE

*When you use and reuse a product wisely, you get the most value out of that resource.*

You help to keep that resource in action and out of the garbage can. Then, when you are finished with a product that is still in good condition, you can sell, trade or donate it!

### 3. RECYCLE

*Recycling is available at various drop-off points in our area, and curbside recycling is available inside the urban growth boundary.*

*Recycling is easy, convenient, it helps the environment, and it can save you money by lowering your garbage services. For a complete recycling guide, stop by the Grants Pass Sanitation office.*



## THE SMART SHOPPER



*Ever notice those people who seem calm, cool, and collected during the holiday frenzied season? They seem to give gifts that are smart, they look refreshed, and even their trash seems well contained. Here are some shared ideas on how these people have reduced waste:*

*"I save all of the boxes, tissues, and gift bags from the previous year. With creativity and a few holiday rubber stamps I decorate last year's boxes and tissues to make the wrapping for this year's gifts." - Angela*

*"When I mail order my gifts, I request the company to group my order into one box and ship using cellulose (dissolves in water) packing peanuts. When I occasionally do receive the Styrofoam peanuts, I donate them to the local mail house for reuse." - Steve*

*"I shop at antique stores! I find wonderful, unique gifts for people. There is no unwanted packaging and the products are completely reused. It's wonderful and eco-friendly." - Arnie*

## QUESTIONS ON RECYCLING??

*Brochures and manuals on reducing waste and recycling are available for residents, businesses, schools and apartments. If you have questions regarding your recycling services contact your local sanitation service.*

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## COMMINGLED RECYCLING

For Households Inside The Urban Growth Boundary

**Curbside Recycling Is Easy!**



**Leave the sorting to us!**

*That's right - there is no need to sort through your recyclables. Just place them in your curbside recycling container. It's that simple.*

**Below is a simple guide to help you recycle:**

- Magazines, newspapers, and all that comes with your newspaper.
- Paperboard, cardboard, fiber egg cartons, shoe boxes, cereal boxes, such paper as paper towel cores. (Remove all plastic and flatten those boxes, cartons and tubes. Please no waxed cartons.)
- Plastic bottles with smaller necks than their base (#'s 1 - 7). For example; water bottles, milk jugs, laundry detergent bottles. Items that have a smaller base like butter tubs, cottage cheese containers, will not be accepted. Please remove all lids on plastics. Motor oil or anti-freeze containers will not be accepted.
- Tin cans (rinse thoroughly), aluminum pie plates, aluminum foil. No need to remove lids and labels, no need to flatten.
- Office or household mail, scrap paper, paper bags, phone books, paperback books.

**Please place recycling container at curbside when full on collection day by 6:30 am**

### PLEASE NOTE:

Glass recyclables or motor oil can be recycled at a recycle outlet listed below. Please continue to separate clear glass from colored glass and deposit into appropriate recycling bins. Place motor oil in sealed, unbreakable screw cap containers. WE CANNOT ACCEPT oil from transformers or oil in glass containers. To help the recycling process, please rinse out all food container materials and containers with soap residue.

## RECYCLING DEPOT LOCATIONS:

**Southern Oregon Sanitation, Inc.**  
1381 Redwood Ave., Grants Pass  
541-479-5335

**Kirby Transfer Site**  
Kirby Mainline Road



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