

Nifty Tidbits

By **CHUCK RIGBY**

The coast of Southern Oregon is a very scenic location. The rocky coastline with small offshore islands, waves crashing on the rocks and small beaches, and trees growing almost to the water make a picturesque area.

To make it more accessible, there is a trail between the highway and the ocean. In addition many view points with parking areas have been provided by the highway department.

Just north of the town of Brookings there is a small state park, 173 acres, with many nice camping spots as well as a good beach on which kids and adults can play or relax. It is Harris Beach State Park and is named for George Harris, from Scotland, who settled in the area in the 1880's.

Going north from Harris Beach, the next accessible beach is called Lone Ranch Beach, named for an isolated ranch there. It is part of the southern end of Samuel H. Boardman State Park. Boardman Park continues north for approximately 11 miles and ends near Arch Rock Viewpoint. This park contains 1,471 acres and includes all the area between the highway and the ocean. The trail begins just north of Lone Ranch and continues north to Miner Creek where there is an access road.

The geology of the region is complex, but it is the geologic formations which make Boardman State Park so scenic. The underlying rocks began as sediments on the floor of the ocean. Because of movement in the crust the solidified sediments were scraped off the floor of the ocean by the formation of a large trench and then pushed eastward against the forming Coast Range mountains.

When the scraping occurred, some of the mantle material was picked up also and forced up to the surface. All of this movement generated great pressure which was applied on the rocks. The rocks in turn became hardened and distorted and the mantle was turned into serpentine.

Much later, as erosion occurred along the coast, the softer rocks were worn away first and the harder materials were left behind. This is the reason for the offshore islands which are called sea stacks. Erosion also carved many arches and caves and created waterfalls where the creeks drop down to the sea level.

Samuel H. Boardman considered the area a natural wonder and as the first superintendent of the Oregon State Park system, he worked hard to turn it into a park. Much of the land was purchased by the state from private owners or the Federal Bureau of Land Management.

One part was donated as a gift to the state by Borax Consolidated, a British company. The present part was finalized in 1957. At that time the coast highway followed the Carpenterville Road which wound along the ridge and made access to the coast very difficult. The present highway was completed in the 1960's.

Samuel H. Boardman was born in Massachusetts, one source lists his birthday as Dec. 13, 1874 and another source as Mar. 13, 1874. He was educated in Massachusetts and in Wisconsin and trained as a civil engineer. In 1904 he homesteaded on land in Eastern Oregon that is now part of the city of Boardman, Ore. which was named for him. Beginning in 1926 he started planting trees along the highway and later he was employed as an engineer by the highway department.

The state parks were originally part of the highway department and Boardman was named the first superintendent in 1929. He retired in 1950 after increasing the state park system from an original 4 thousand acres to 66 thousand acres.

IVCRT Insights

By **RON PHILLIPS**

It appears that funding will soon be available for a National Fire Plan project approved last spring. The goal of this project will be to increase demand for small diameter other thinning off-take by supporting local wood product businesses in their marketing.

This is a triple-purpose program. In addition to economic development and job creation which could occur were area businesses to expand, the increased market for thinned material should increase its value and in the long run help off-set some of the costs incurred in creating a defensible space around homes. The third benefit is in the form of increased visitor stop-overs in the valley. Given the high quality and variety of wood products made here, there is no reason that the valley could not become known as a center for handmade furniture and other creative wood products.

A first meeting was held regarding the National Fire Plan project on Friday, Dec. 6, at Wild River Brewing & Pizza Co. in Cave Junction. Al Devine, marketing vice president for Evergreen Bank, CRT Board Chairman, George Fence, and Kin Lane developer of web-based marketing systems through his company Original Web Solutions, were present.

Federal Contracting Workshop

I have identified several good sources who could serve as resources for a contracting workshop for small businesses interested in bidding on federal (Forest Service, BLM, RAC) contracts. I would like to organize such a workshop in January if ther is interest. So far I have only heard back from three or four people who would like to attend. If you are interested or would like to hear more, please phone me at the CRT office

GPDPS tips on stopping thefts from automobiles

Thefts from motor vehicles and purses have been occurring in parking lots and retail establishments in downtown Grants Pass, according to Grants Pass Dept. of Public Safety (GPDPS).

The thefts have occurred mainly during daytime hours.

From Jan. 1, 2002 to Dec. 1, '02, there have been approximately 371 thefts from motor vehicles reported.

GPDPS has a few suggestion to help protect yourself against harm and theft during this holiday season:

*Make sure someone close to you knows where you are going and when you will return.

*Avoid dark deserted routes, even if they are the shortest.

*Carry a little extra money for emergency telephone and transportation cost.

*When possible, travel with friends or relatives.

*Hold you purse close to your body, don't dangle it.

*If you put your purse in a shopping cart, secure it to the shopping cart and keep it zipped up.

*Don't overburden yourself with packages and groceries.

*Have your key in hand when you approach your vehicle or your residence.

*Be alert to your surroundings and the people around you.

*Carry a cellular phone or pepper spray if possible.

*If someone attacks you, scream, kick, hit, bite, scratch, etc., to do what it takes to get away.

*Get the best description you can and dial 911.

To improve the security of your vehicle:

*At night, park in well-lit areas close to your residence or the building you are visiting.

*Always lock your doors and roll up your windows completely after parking your vehicle.

*Never leave valuables visible in your vehicle. If so, lock the valuables in the trunk.

*If you have a vehicle alarm system, make sure you use it.

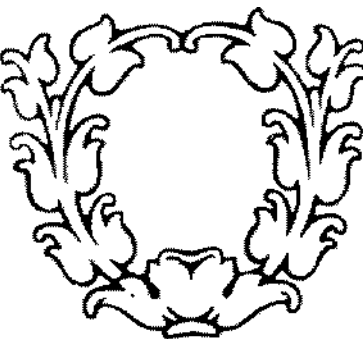
How to keep your checks under check

When ordering checks have only initials (instead of a first name) and last name put on them. If your checks are stolen the thief will not know if you sign your checks with just your initials or your first name but your bank will.

Put your work phone number on the checks instead of your home phone. If you have a post office box, use that instead of your home or street address.

Never have your Social Security number printed on your checks.

Make copies of the contents of your wallet, making sure you do both sides of each article. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. If you lose your wallet or it is stolen you will have all the account numbers, phone numbers to contact to report the loss or theft.



Medicare+Choice available to seniors in 13 Oregon counties, and growing

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved a request by Health Net Life Insurance Co. to offer a new Medicare+Choice plan in 13 Oregon counties and Clark County, Washington, as part of a demonstration program recently announced by Tommy G. Thompson, Health and Human Services Secretary.

The health plans under this program are modeled after coverage offered by preferred provider organizations (PPOs) to many Americans under 65.

Health Net Life Insurance Co., based in Clackamas, WA, can begin on January 1, 2003, to serve beneficiaries in Josephine, Jackson, Benton, Clackamas, Columbia, Hood River, Lane, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Polk, Washington and Yamhill counties in Oregon, and Clark county in Washington.

These counties include the cities of Grants Pass, Medford, Portland, Salem, , and Eugene, Ore. and Vancouver.

Medicare beneficiaries can sign up for the plan immediately during the current Medicare+Choice open enrollment period.

The demonstration plans will be considered Medicare+Choice plans and must offer all of Medicare's required benefits, but will also have the flexibility to offer additional services.

For example, Health Net

will cover routine physicals, preventive dental services, and vision services. Unlike traditional health maintenance organizations (HMOs), the new Health Net PPO option will allow beneficiaries who choose to enroll access to services provided outside the contracted network of providers, and referrals to a specialist are not required.

More than 402,000 Medicare beneficiaries live in the 14 counties. These beneficiaries already may also choose among other Medicare+Choice plans offered by Central Oregon Independent Health Services Inc., Kaiser foundation Health Plan of the Northwest, PacificCare of Oregon Inc., PacificCare of Washington Inc., Providence Health Plan, Regence HMO Oregon, and Sterling Life Insurance Co.

"This program gives senior and disabled individuals with Medicare new options for their Medicare coverage similar to that available in the private insurance market," Thompson said.

"Greater access and expanded options and choices in health care are key goals of this administration."

Congress created Medicare+Choice in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 to expand the types of health care options available to Medicare beneficiaries, enabling them to receive new preventive benefits and greater patient protec-

tions.

Preferred provider type coverage was previously unavailable to Medicare beneficiaries.

"Whether beneficiaries enroll in a PPO or another Medicare+Choice plan, or fee-for-service Medicare, we are doing more to guarantee they understand the Medicare options available to them," CMS Administrator Tom Scully said.

"The under-age-65 market is rapidly flocking toward PPO products, which give patients the flexibility they need. Seniors want the same options and this is the big first step in getting them there."

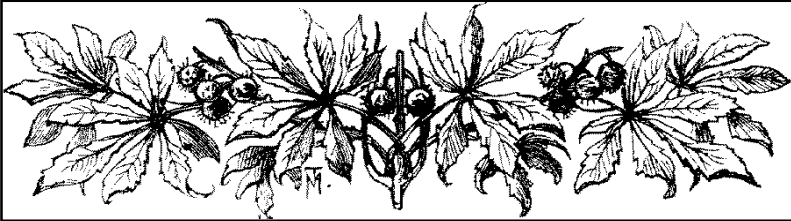
Currently, Medicare+Choice plans are available where private companies choose to offer them. Approximately 5.6 million

Mdicare beneficiaries out of a total of nearly 40 million aged and disabled Americans have enrolled in Medicare+Choice plans.

Original fee-for-service Medicare, available to all beneficiaries, is currently chosen by more than 34 million beneficiaries.

The demonstration program, includes new health plans that will ultimately be available in 23 states across the country, expanding health care options to approximately 11 million Medicare beneficiaries.

For more information phone (800) 633-4227.



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Wayne and Phyllis
and their family

request the honor of your presence at the celebration of their 50th Anniversary on Saturday, December 14th at Community Bible Church in Cave Junction. We will have an open house from 1 to 5 p.m. There will be a short program at 2:30 p.m. We hope you will be able to attend.