

interviewed and photographed. Each person's story is an inspiration. One is about Sara Nichols who looked beyond her yard and eventually helped others on her block landscape their yards. Her 110 yr. old neighbor, Mrs. Jackson, who can't garden because of her age, now enjoys the fruits of Sara's labor. By mutual agreement the fence between them was taken down and Sara has filled both yards with their favorite flowers.

Quote: "You know, whenever I get lonely, I go outside and look at all those flowers and realize that life is just too sweet to whine about," Mrs. Jackson said.

If you have just started to garden or have gardened for years and want to further your education there is an Oregon Master Gardening course that is available through O.S.U. Clatsop Co. Extension office in Astoria. The phone number is (503) 325-8573. There is also one in Tillamook. Contact them at (503) 842-3433. The classes start in January. Sign up before Jan. 12, '95.

You don't have to be an expert to garden, just "Dig In," Bobbie Hord once advised me. Anyone remember Bobby? He had a small grocery store years ago on the corner of Van Buren and Hemlock. After I asked him what flowers grew best on the coast, he said, "June, have you got an old Spruce stump in your yard? If not, drag a piece of driftwood off the beach. Buy a packet of nasturtium seeds, toss them around the wood, cover them with some chewed up soil from a mole hill and let the rains water them. Next summer you will have a real beach garden."

He was right. In two years the nasturtiums not only covered the stump but had nearly surrounded our cabin. Now twenty years later they have traveled to my neighbors' yards and even found the path to the beach. Every summer I pick a bouquet and fill a special blue vase in honor of "Bobbie", and remember our conversation and his many stories about "beach life". Bobby is no longer with us but the nasturtiums live on and now grow in many other yards. One of the pleasures of gardening, for me, is to exchange seeds and plants with others.

If you would like to share your gardening experiences, comments, or questions about coastal gardening I'll try to direct you to the right resources. Write to: June's Garden, PO Box 74, Cannon Beach, OR 97110.

My first question to you readers is: Who stripped off all the berries of my Skimmia plant, leaving the red, half eaten berries scattered all over the porch steps and the gravel path?

It has to be a night creature, otherwise my dog "Barker", appropriately named, would have sounded the alarm. "Mom, there's a thief in our garden!" He sits all day on the front porch above the Skimmia shrub and loudly claims the porch, the yard, and the street are "His" territory.

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WILDLIFE ON THE EDGE
JANUARY 1995




A local bird frequently seen this winter is our own little Oregon Junco, cowed and modest with its muted grey-brown cloak and white front. A member of the Finch Family, the Junco is found across the country in variations but only Oregon is proud to put its name to a particular cousin.

Though Holly becomes a national showpiece this time of year, many aspects of its private life are unheard of to mere seasonal fans. For instance - as the tree grows older the leaves develop fewer and fewer pricks and points, thus pointing out the younger plants as more feisty and cantankerous. (The tree pictured is easing into middle age.) Also, like most forms of life, Holly can only produce fruit with the help of a mate. If your Holly bears no rubbed crown it means it has no significant (or even insignificant) other in the neighborhood, and is probably desperately lonely.



The Pacific Razor Clam is unwittingly the cause of much cold weather fluster and zeal. All late fall and into early winter, these intrepid mollusks must constantly be on their toes to avoid wild-eyed shovelers, permits clutched in sweaty palms and minds bent on the capture of their five-inch shelled prey; in most cases Razors are quick to dig themselves out of reach.

BY SALLY LACKOFF



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LEONARD PELTIER NEEDS YOU

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD--DEMAND CLEMENCY
FOR AN INNOCENT MAN!

For almost nineteen years Native American activist Leonard Peltier has been imprisoned. This despite the fact that following his trial for the 1975 FBI orchestrated ambush that involved over 150 FBI agents, BIA Police, US Marshals, and the local police known as the GOON Squad opening fire on approximately 30 Indian men, women, and children, it has been discovered that evidence was fabricated, exculpatory evidence withheld, witnesses terrified and coerced, and perjurious statements given by the FBI. The government concedes that they "don't know who killed" two FBI agents during the shoot-out, nor "what part Peltier may have had" in their deaths. The death of the Indian activist murdered that day, Joseph Stuntz, has never been investigated. Peltier's co-defendants were acquitted during a separate trial on grounds of self-defense. Yet, Leonard Peltier remains a prisoner! Please join 26,000,000 world citizens, Amnesty International, members of the Senate, Congress, and US Commission on Civil Rights, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nelson Mandela, and all people of conscience in calling for President Bill Clinton to grant executive clemency and let justice finally be done!

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