



KRISTI, DICK, TIM, MRS. PICKETT
Family of Rock Collectors Surveys Some of the Day's Haul

Sunny Stretch of Beach...

By DAN WYANT
Of the Register-Guard

Agates, vivid-colored jaspers, bits of petrified wood, bloodstones, Oregon "jade" . . . any of these are likely to end up in Tim Pickett's rock tumbler after a family agate-hunting trip along the beaches north of Florence.

Tim, who is 10, is the real "rockhound" of the Faye Pickett family. But with the beautiful Oregon coast just minutes from their Florence home, the whole family frequently joins Tim in rock-hunting treks along the beaches.

Since many Emerald Empire families like to include agate hunting on their trips to the coast, we accompanied the Picketts recently to pick up some pointers on ferreting out desirable stones.

It was raining in Eugene that day, but the Sun shone brightly on the beach near the mouth of China Creek, where we started.

"This is a popular spot for agate hunting," Mrs. Pickett explained, "because it is so accessible." Muriel Pomer Memorial Wayside is located where China Creek empties into the ocean. There is a road to the edge of the beach, and plenty of parking.

"Usually the best hunting is near the mouths of some

of the other creeks, where there aren't quite so many people looking for agates," Mrs. Pickett said.

She passed out empty plastic bread bags to Tim; to Dick, who is 12, and to five-year-old Kristie. They quickly scattered along the rocky beach, using the bags as containers for worthwhile specimens.

Agate hunting is simply a matter of selecting a section of the Oregon coast where the rocks are known to abound, then walking slowly along with an eye peeled for the semi-translucent stones.

The Picketts—like most family rock collectors—also pick up any other rocks with appealing colors. These include red, green and yellow jasper, petrified wood (which polishes to a luster), bloodstones, and other semi-precious gem material.

Wetting the stones helps bring out their color. Tim



KRISTI PICKETT
Ses of Pebbles May Yield an Agate

Is the Setting for a Family Rock-Hunting Expedition

usually dunks his in water before deciding on which ones to keep.

Most of the beach agate is pale yellow in color, some with darker bands, or waves of orange. Agate with pronounced color patterns is more desirable for finished stones. Tim noted. Most highly prized of the agates on the stretch of beach from Hecla Head to Yachats are "sagittates," a stone containing needle-like inclusions that can yield fantastically beautiful designs when the stones are cut and polished.

The best agate hunting comes during the winter, when storms churn up the off-shore ocean floor, according to Mrs. Pickett. But there are agates to be found almost any time of the year, she added.

"Sometimes," she said, "when a lot of people have combed the beach, it's better just to pick out a spot and dig."

The Picketts recently turned up some agates weighing a half-pound each and more by digging back amid some driftwood, where other searchers hadn't looked.

Once the rocks are home in the Pickett's garage, Tim takes over with his rock tumbler. The stones are rotated in a container with grinding material for 150 to 200 hours. They come out with brilliant polish and lustre.

Tim has used a few of the stones for key chain decorations but most are stored in egg cartons and other containers.

Amateur collectors who don't own rock tumblers can, for a fee, have a load of stones tumbled at commercial lapidary shops.



Family Affair

Agate hunting is a family affair for the Faye Picketts of Florence. Above, 10-year-old Tim, the "rockhound" of the family, examines a pebble while Kristi, 5, abandons the search temporarily to make a horse of a beached log. At right, Mrs. Pickett helps Kristi fill her plastic bag with likely specimens. Left, Tim uses a stick to uncover a possible hiding place of the wily agate.



LIVE BIG IN SPRINGFIELD



1877 Sq. Ft. on Two
Luxurious Living Levels

It's big in space, comfort and livability. See the entirely different foyer, then step up a few steps to the big balcony living room, inspect 3 large bedrooms with floor-to-ceiling closets, admire the glamorous bath with its Formica-topped vanity. The separate dining area and luxurious kitchen with ceiling-high scar-proof birch-finished cabinets capture the hearts of every woman.

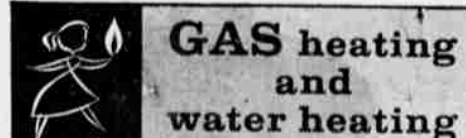
Downstairs, you'll enjoy a huge 18x24 sq. ft. area for a family room PLUS an 18x24 sq. ft. BONUS ROOM that can be finished for 2 additional bedrooms plus a bath, a hobby room or workshop—all the living you want! See it today!

\$15,900



FULL PRICE INCLUDING LOT
and FINISHED RECREATION LOT

\$600 DOWN F.H.A.



GAS heating
and
water heating

OPEN DAILY 12-8 P.M.



THRIFTY THREE BEDROOM RANCH



ALSO ON DISPLAY

Walk through this beautiful one level ranch style home with roomy 1060 sq. ft. PLUS garage. Its features galore will amaze you . . . sliding glass doors to big 10'x14' patio, scar-proof birch-finish cabinets and interior doors. Bath and one-half for the modern family. Sprayed acoustical ceiling. Viking aluminum siding. Covered entry. Diamond pattern windows. Snack Bar separating the kitchen from the dining room. Nice big lot. Certainly a lot of house for the money!

\$450 Down FHA Full Price Including Lot **\$13,800**



URBANA . . .

Seventeen Choice Lots to Choose From
a sparkling new planned neighborhood, all new
homes to protect your investment. Don't you
owe it to yourself to see this?

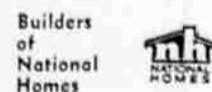
TRADES ACCEPTED

MODEL HOMES
COMPLETELY FURNISHED by
JOHNSON
furniture company

YOU'LL LIKE THE FACT that the improvements are already in. Sidewalks,
paved streets, sewers, city water, near Schools, Churches, Shopping

ELLISON & PLATZ

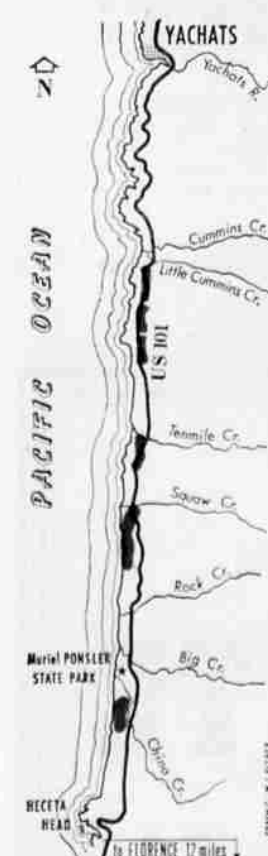
SPRINGFIELD RI 6-8913



DIRECTIONS:
Located on "L" St.
Between Mill St.
and 5th

EUGENE DI 3-6122

BE INFORMED ON SPORTS
Read Dick Strite's Highclimber
Column . . . in the Sports Pages



Favorite Spots

Some of the favorite agate-hunting spots of the Faye Pickett family are near the mouths of creeks running into the Pacific Ocean between Hecla Head and Yachats, indicated on the map in red. Other areas of the Oregon coast also yield agates. In photo at right, Tim Pickett, 10, holds an agate to the Sun to see if there's an interesting pattern inside.



Electric Dishwashers near top of Mother's Day Gift list this year

Mothers Appreciate Release From Dishwashing Drudgery

It's no wonder so many Mothers requested and received Electric Dishwashers this year, on "Their Day." Every homemaker would like nothing better than to be free forever from that three times a day ritual of dishwashing. Dishes, dishes, dishes . . . how she would love to get away from them. Just think, no more soap, no more hot water on the hands, no more rough scrubbing. It's truly a huge, unending task. Mother is glad to be relieved of it.



Vast Improvement in New Dishwashers Spur Sales

Year in and year out, Electric Dishwasher sales have been climbing steadily. As more and more women are using this new kitchen helper, they tell their friends who soon purchase one and in turn tell others. This together with the Electric Appliance manufacturing industry's policy of constant and intensive research to make present machines even better has resulted in now famous electric automatic dishwasher of today. Personal references plus extensive research to make the equipment even more efficient keep sales climbing.

Electric Dishwashers Are An Important Part of All-Electric Kitchen

Your all-electric kitchen works like a team for you. Electric range, refrigerator, freezer, disposal, small appliances and, of course, your modern electric automatic dishwasher. The dishwasher is an all important component of this labor saving team and its usefulness cannot be stressed too strongly. Be sure it is included in your plans.

"Better Late Than Never" Mother's Feeling when it Comes to Dishwasher

If you are the one who forgot to mention the dishwasher as a gift idea to the family this year, assure them that you will appreciate it just as much later this week. There are still years of dishes ahead to be done and the family will be glad to know what you really want.



**Electric Association
of Lane County, Inc.**

live better, ELECTRICALLY

P.O. Box 321, Eugene, Oregon