

Plant clinic celebrates start of summer

By OSU Master Gardeners
Tina Burnside & Edith McBean

A wonderful group of Warm Springs residents enjoyed the recent First Day of Summer Celebration at the OSU Extension Services building.

During this kickoff event of the Plant Clinic summer series, participants enjoyed two different homemade salsas along with chips during the garden and plant discussion topics.

The winners of the plant prizes awarded in the drawing were Martha Winishut, who received an Anaheim chili pepper plant; Juanita Pacheco, receiving a Cherokee purple tomato seeds packet; Myra Johnson, wildflower seeds packet; and Sherri Miller, Oregon spring tomato plant.

The plants and containers were generously donated by Desert Valley Garden Center, Hugh Vibbert, located at 365 N.E. Meadowlark Lane in Madras. Everyone who attended the celebration was entered in the drawing.

Tina Burnside, OSU Master Gardener, discussed simple steps to success using raised bed garden techniques.

The advantages include creating richer soil than our typical native Central Oregon soil, as well as water-effective and weed-efficient areas for veggies and flowers. A volunteer from the audience, Danica Greene, demonstrated the proper planting technique to transplant an



Clinic winners Martha Winishut, Juanita Pacheco, Myra Johnson, Sherri Miller.

Anaheim pepper plant from the 4-inch pot to a one-gallon container, with input from the Master Gardeners.

Fara Currim, OSU Extension Agriculture Agent, gave an excellent noxious weeds presentation that included samples of the weeds. Although these weeds may look like pretty flowers, they can be harmful. To rid your yard of them, we recommend hand-pulling the plant, including the root, and disposing of it in the garbage.

Handouts at the clinic included a fresh salsa recipe, a publication on raised bed gardening, and recent issues of gardening magazines contributed by a popular Bend landscape designer Chris Hart-Henderson. See the website at www.heartspringsdesign.com.

Edith McBean, OSU Master Gardener, assisted in answering

a variety of questions from the audience, such as how to best fertilize plants. She was also the photographer.

Many attendees shared great success stories when asked the question: "What's currently growing in your yard or garden?"

Wendell Jim brought beautiful samples of the healthy mint, sage and honeysuckle plants flourishing in his garden, and offered them as transplants.

Thanks to all the attendees, participants and OSU Extension Service personnel who contributed their efforts to a successful event. Make a note in your calendar to attend the July plant clinic on Monday, July 26, from 12-1 at the OSU Extension Service office. Several topics will be discussed, including container gardening and fire resistant plants. We'll also enjoy snacks made from fresh summer fruits.

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Tips on container gardening

By OSU Master Gardeners
Edith McBean & Tina Burnside

Container gardening helps new gardeners get started and old gardeners to create. You don't need to be a full time gardener to reap the benefits. Containers are one of the great ways to have beautiful flowers, tasty herbs, and a spectacular splash of color. You don't need to be an expert to get great results taking a minimum amount of time and effort. And it will instantly jazz up your deck, patio or liven up a window-sill. If you have a houseplant, or a pot of geraniums, you are already a container gardener.

One of the challenges of con-



Example of a hanging container plant.

tainer gardening is finding the right pot. You can buy many different types of containers, but you can also be as imaginative as you like. You first may

want to think of where you would like to display your plants. An old shoe for instance might look great on the back step. A large decorated pot may be handsome for greeting you at your front door. The tried and true wooden barrel, set in a sunny location, may be just perfect for your herbs and tomatoes. If you prefer viewing your floral display from inside and out, a hanging basket in front of the window may just meet those needs. The range of possibilities with container gardening is amazing and will add to even the grandest of gardens.

Basically to get started you need a few plants, a clean container and great soil. Weight of the soil and water may be an issue. If your container is deep you might just be wasting good potting soil.

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BPA: need for better consultation

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Irrigation districts, for instance, can be difficult to get on-board when it comes to fisheries mitigation projects, because there may be an initial lack of trust, said Brunoe.

If the tribes approach the irrigation districts with a proposal, and then fail to follow through, "It is hard to get back the level of trust," he said.

In response BPA representative Bill Maslen said, "The last thing we want is for you to lose trust from the local communities. We're here today to hear your concerns."

Maslen said the BPA budget is based on power sales, not on federal tax money. During bad years in the power market, "our cash resources approach zero."

The BPA has to justify money going out for projects

such as fisheries restoration. This is why BPA makes the detailed budget requests regarding the restoration plans.

Terry Luther said he can see the BPA receiving the hydro-project mitigation credits, but at the same time not funding necessary restoration work in the future.

Harold Blackwolf Sr., chairman of the tribes' off-reservation fish and wildlife committee, and Ron Suppah, Council chairman, also commented that the BPA needs to better understand what it means to "consult with the tribes."

They said that for a BPA staff person to talk with a tribal staff person about an issue does not constitute consultation with the tribes. The Tribal Council and the committees are the bodies that are to be consulted with.

Young Achiever Sierra Patt

Sponsored by Madras Builders Center

Sierra Patt is 7 years old, and next school year will be in the third grade. "She is an all-around outstanding student," said Warm Springs Elementary School Principal Dawn Smith.

Sierra says that the things she likes most about going to school is having the chance to learn new things. Her favorite school activity is writing, and she likes to write letters.

Her parents are Karla and Hobo Patt. She has an older sister Chelsea, who goes to the middle school; and two younger brothers Byron and Jordan.

Sierra says she wants to be a teacher when she grows up.



Sierra Patt

Small Hands to Hold Love ... Not Fire

Fact: Children from age two to seventeen start fires that endanger lives, cause injuries, death and burn millions of dollars in property.

Fact: Children under the age of three cause a majority of these fires and lose their lives in the process.

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