

Celebrate Valentine's Day

with your *Sweetie* at the Village Green!

Dinner specials in the Seasons
at the Green Restaurant

Enjoy live music
& dancing in the
Fireside
Lounge

Featuring:

Beef

Bourguignon,

Mahi Mahi

Veracruz &

Slow Roasted

Prime Rib



Reservations recommended: 541-942-2491

Now's the time to put rose pruning and planting on the calendar

BY KYM POKORNY
OSU Extension Service



A beautiful rose depends on appropriate annual pruning, which is easy with a little practice.

Valentine's Day is coming up, and that means it's time to pay attention to your loved ones and your roses, too.

On the west side of the Cascade Range, mid-February is generally time to start thinking about pruning, according to Amy Jo Detweiler, a horticulturist with Oregon State University's Extension Service. In Central Oregon, April or May is the best time. In both cases, take your cue from the plants. When the buds begin to swell and get ready to break open, pull out your pruners.

Detweiler recommends using bypass pruners rather than anvil because they cut more like scissors and won't crush the stems. Make sure they are sharp. Have some rubbing alcohol on hand to for dipping the blades in between cuts, especially as you move from rose to rose.

As you get started, stand back and survey the rose. First cut out any dead, diseased or damaged wood (also called canes). Remove anything smaller than a pencil. Then find three to five of the healthiest canes and clip those back uniformly to 14 to 16 inches above the ground. Make your cut just above a bud that faces outward and prune at a 45-degree slant.

"You want the shrub to grow outward so that the center remains relatively open," Detweiler said. "That increases

air circulation and reduces the chances of disease."

Be sure to clean up and remove all debris.

Detweiler's directions specifically apply to modern roses such as hybrid teas, floribundas and grandifloras, but also pertain to old-fashioned and shrub roses, though those can be pruned taller – just a third of the plant's size. Roses that bloom just once a year should be pruned right after blooming.

In western Oregon, prime planting time is coming up, Detweiler said. However, it's too early for Central Oregon, where gardeners should wait until the ground starts to thaw at the end of April into May. When you go to the garden center to buy a rose, look for a healthy plant with stems that are green and healthy. Dead branches or die-back might indicate disease.

Also, make sure the roots aren't winding around inside the pot or growing thickly out the bottom drainage holes.

Whether you live on the west or east side of the mountains, planting is the same, she said. Dig a generous hole, twice as wide as the pot the rose came in and as deep. Mix together one third organic amendment such as planting compost and two thirds native soil that came out of the hole.

Place plant in the hole and fill in with soil and compost mixture. In milder climates, make sure graft line is above ground. In colder climates, bury it 2 inches below ground. Water well. Mulch with two to five inches of organic mulch, such as bark chips or compost. Keep it level and even, not like a volcano.

CASCADE

Continued from page 3A

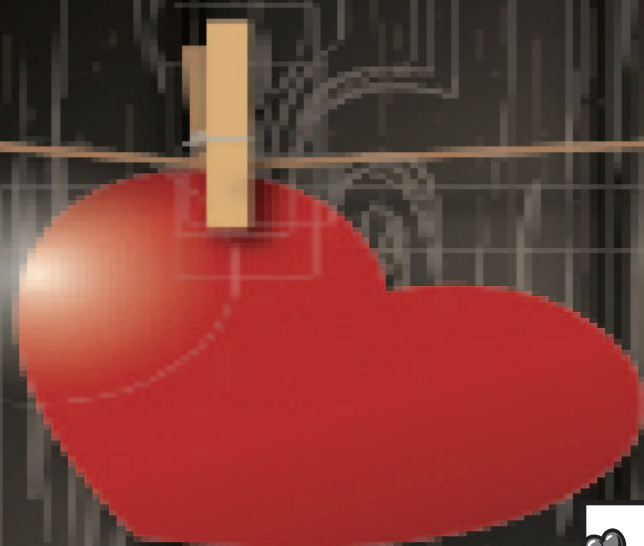
Gold Beach Lumber Yard has been in business since 1959 on the southern Oregon coast. As part of a long line of family in the business, Ryan Ringer grew up driving forklifts and delivery trucks. After attending Southern Oregon University and earning a degree in business administration, he returned to the family business as its vice president in 2002. In 2008, he opened a second store in Brookings and

in 2012 opened a third store in Port Orford. Ryan is married to Jocelyn Ringer, and they have three young boys.

While operations may not change noticeably in the near future at Cascade, Ringer said that, with five stores now in operation, his company will be able to more closely align categories and department in each store.

"The customer will see things slowly change," he said. "The

previous system worked at Cascade, but there are little things that can be done with regard to inventory flow that can help us cater more to the professional contractor, which is where our background is, and which should help the do-it-yourself customer thrive, too. Cascade is very good at retail and the DIY market, but we need to reach out to local contractors so they can stay local instead of having to go to Eugene for their supplies."



More to Love

Valentine's Day Special

STACY'S
COVERED BRIDGE

RESTAURANT
Dinner Specials
Lobster Tails • Crab Stuffed Shrimp
Lobster Bisque • Chocolate Strawberries
Open Sunday • 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Reservations Recommended

SCHWEITZER'S
CASUAL WEAR

VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL
20% OFF
FEBRUARY 3RD-13TH

MONTANA
SILVERSMITHS
JEWELRY

CASE
KNIVES

730 E. Main St. • 541-942-4249

Patton's Country Gardens

for Valentine's Day
Lots of In-store Specials
that Fit your Budget!

Roses • Flowers

Local Delivery Available
1 mile N of Delight V. School
80432 Delight Valley School Rd.

VISA 541-942-7672 MasterCard

Treat Your Sweetheart

Join us for
Fajitas for TWO
including Chocolate Lava Cake & 2 Drinks

\$45.00

EL TAPATIO
725 E. Gibbs Ave. • Cottage Grove
541-767-0467