

## EWING

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out of hot water," he added. Principal Iton Udosenata had similar remarks. "Pam is one of the best office staff I've ever been around. She will be sorely missed by the staff and the kids," he said. Ewing does a lot of office work

## OFFBEAT

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closure of federal lands to logging — this was the "spotted owl" era, remember — had put the big companies on notice that if they were going to survive, it would be on company-owned land. Boise Cascade couldn't afford to have the very best of that land occupied by unnecessary lakes, superfluous sawmills and half-inhabited towns.

So as other loggers and sawmill workers around the state were try-

## GARDENING

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"More people are using us every year. We make a difference."

Here's a sampling of some recent questions. Get on board with yours.

Q: I was told that one way to store onions is to leave them in the ground over the winter. However, when I went to dig one out recently, I noticed they had all sprouted new leaves, and when I pulled them out I noticed they also have made root shoots. What are my options? Shall I pull them all out and use them, or what will happen if I leave them in the ground?

A: Onions left in the soil will suc-

for the athletic director, a position that football head coach Gary Roberts has stepped up to since Presley retired.

"She is an institution," Roberts said. "She's the rock and has really made my life a lot easier as athletic director."

But perhaps the most sentimental words came from a colleague who

has worked by her side for 18 years. Lisa Thoms, the CGHS office manager, said that she's still in denial that Ewing is really leaving.

"Pam Ewing is the best coworker imaginable. You couldn't pick a more fun-loving, hardworking, creative, dedicated and wonderful person to work with," Thoms said. She continued to say that Ewing has made a

lasting impact on the school and has created lasting relationships between students and coworkers alike.

"It's not really a goodbye because I know we'll still see her, but best wishes to a much deserved retirement," Thoms added.

ing to find a new career, the people of Valsetz were put on notice that they'd have to find a new home, too.

This was especially harsh for those who had grown up in Valsetz and thought of it as home. Moreover, because they'd had their housing provided for free, they'd not had a chance to build equity in a home; they'd be starting from scratch, late in the game, in a new and unfamiliar community.

"Now I know how boat people feel," one of them told the Corvallis

Gazette-Times reporter at the time.

Local salvage companies tried to work out an arrangement with Boise Cascade, but by now the railroad line had been taken up, and the only way to get the houses out was on trucks, over 16 miles of primitive roads to Falls City. Boise Cascade wanted the town gone right away, so that the land it sat on could get back to producing logs for the company's mills immediately.

And the salvage companies couldn't meet the company's time-

line.

So the entire town was bulldozed into a giant heap of rubble and burned. And today, all that's left is that odd street grid, the foundation of the mill, and the bittersweet memories of its former inhabitants.

(Sources: Carlson, Linda. Company Towns of the Pacific Northwest. Seattle: UW Press, 2003; Corvallis Gazette-Times, 2-25-1984; Sacramento Bee, 3-18-1984; www.valsetz.homestead.com)

cumb to rot eventually. Pull the onions up, shake off the soil, and lay them out to cure with the tops still attached. Any warm, airy location is a good place to do this; you can even leave them outside on a screen as long as they aren't rained on. Bulbs must stay dry and have good air circulation. As the onions cure, the roots will shrivel and the necks above the bulbs will slowly dry — a natural process that helps to seal the top of the bulb, making the onions less likely to rot. After seven to 10 days, clip off the tops of the onions and the roots with pruning shears, remove as much dry dirt as possible without taking off the papery outer

skins, and store your onions in a cool place. Onions can be stored in the refrigerator if desired but also any cool dry place. — Jack, OSU Extension Master Gardener

Q: I would like to plant a camellia tree in my yard. Is it too late for planting that type of tree? I am worried about freezing, but could place leaves or plastic bags around the base, or would that promote disease or rot? Any suggestions about planting in November? — Washington County

A: This is the time of year to plant camellias. Success with camellias depends on the planting site and care provided. Although they may toler-

ate full sun, part sun to part shade is best — especially for younger plants. Choose a location that receives four to six hours of direct sun in the morning and shade in the afternoon, or a spot that receives bright, dappled shade through the day.

Newly planted camellias often fail to open most of their flower buds for the first few years, but this generally lessens as the plants become established.

Good drainage is essential. Do not plant camellias in areas that are poorly drained or where water settles after a rain. Where drainage is a problem, plant camellias on mounds or in raised beds.

## PASTOR

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popular, Webster is not a candidate for the position.

"It's a relatively long process of discovering a new focus and direction," he explained. "I've learned if they know why I'm here, and I know why I'm here, then we can get the job done. I divide the transition period into four six-month periods."

The first period is to get to know the people in the congregation and the church's history. The second is to help them understand who they are and what they have to do to attain the ministry and mission God is calling them to. The third period is helping them organize their strengths and weaknesses into a vision for the future. The fourth and final period is to practice putting the vision into practice.

Webster arrived in July and is completing the first six-month period. In January, church members will form a search committee to define what qualifications they are looking for in a new pastor. The typical search process uses the denomination's personnel services to identify 20-30 profiles of available pastors. They will then prayerfully select some to interview. A final candidate is then invited to visit and preach on a Sunday morning after which, the congregation will vote on whether or not to extend a call.

After five months on the job, he says there are three things he appreciates about the culture of the congregation. They love and take care of each other. They love the Lord and His Word. They understand what it means to give sacrificially to missions and to members in need. He believes these attributes accurately reflect the strengths of their former pastor during his 30-year tenure.

Webster and his wife Kelsey were former schoolmates at Sheldon High School and were married in 2003. They now have two children: Emerson, 4, and Maxwell, 22-months. They currently live in Eugene with Webster's parents as they seek financing to purchase a home. With a young family to care for, Webster hopes when his Cottage Grove assignment ends he will seek an American Baptist Church of his own to serve.

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