

Color up the garden with evergreen Hebes

If you like to prolong color in your landscapes through the summer and into the fall, consider planting evergreen shrubs called Hebes for vivid color in both flowers and foliage.

"Most Hebes flower in the summer, but others bloom in late fall," said Neil Bell, consumer horticulturist with the Oregon State University Extension Service. "Some have colorful foliage that lasts through autumn. They provide an interesting change from the usual asters and maples we customarily rely on for autumn interest."

Native to New Zealand, Hebes (pronounced HEE-bees) have hundreds of cultivars, but only a few are familiar to American gardeners.

"The plants may have acquired a reputation for lack of hardiness because some of the most popular cultivars introduced here are not hardy in very cold winters," Bell said. "However, many Hebes do well in the Pacific Northwest if grown in a sheltered spot."

Large-leaved Hebes can be injured by temperatures below 25 degrees and are less hardy than those with small leaves. Rather than avoid buying large-leaved shrubs, consider putting them in a sheltered spot or



KYM POKORNY
Your Garden

in a container you can move indoors temporarily if it gets cold. For showy purple flowers in the fall, Bell suggests cultivars "Amy" and "Alicia Amherst." "Purple Picture" blooms in June but flowers profusely again in October and November. Some red-flowering Hebes, such as "Hobby," provide color through November and even through December in a mild year. "Bowles Hybrid" produces lavender flowers in summer, but will bloom again in the fall, even into January.

"Except for 'Bowles Hybrid,' which is hardier, all these hybrids are susceptible to cold," Bell said. Plant them against a sheltered wall or tucked between other shrubs. Be prepared to give them a little extra cover if the temperature threatens to drop suddenly."

Several small-leaved Hebe cultivars that are hardy west of the Cascades have beautiful and unusual foliage. Some are commonly sold in the Pacific Northwest. "Quicksilver," as the name suggests, has small



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With great bloom and red shoots in winter, Hebe 'Sapphire' has much to recommend it.

silvery leaves. "Boughton Dome" has grayish foliage. "James Stirling" has ochre leaves and resembles a small conifer.

Another unusual characteristic of some Hebes is a noticeable change in foliage color from summer to winter. Some cultivars take on a purplish or reddish cast during winter. Perhaps the best known is "Caledonia," which turns purple. "Sapphire" has shoots that turn bright red at the tips in the winter.

Several of the variegated cultivars are beautiful and

unusual, but are large-leaved and require a protected spot if you want them to survive the winter. They include Hebe speciosa "Variegata," "Tricolor" and "Andersonii Variegata."

In addition to a protected location, Hebes need at least partial sun, well-drained soil and water during the summer months. Most do well without much pruning, and annual moderate pruning after they bloom works well.

For more information, refer to an OSU landscape evaluation of Hebes.

MI TOWN

Yikes! Is anybody else wondering how quickly our wonderful summertime days and evenings are going by? It seemed like we were just getting out picnic baskets and yard furniture to celebrate Memorial Day — and now it's the last week in July. In our Willamette Valley, we still have several months of good weather on the horizon for outdoor activities. It's good to be optimistic about future adventures and opportunities for good times as summer continues.

It's time to get your country on at Main Street Park in Monmouth this evening, as Jenny Don't and the Spurs are set to entertain from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. as part of the 2017 Music in the Park Series, sponsored by the



PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER
Columnist

Monmouth Business Association and many of MI Town's businesses and organizations. Pack up a picnic basket, bring the family and enjoy a free summer evening with your friends and neighbors. These concerts have something good for everyone. Vendors are available for purchase of food, beer and wine, too. Please remember to leave the family pooch at home where he or she will be more comfortable, as dogs aren't allowed at public events in the park.

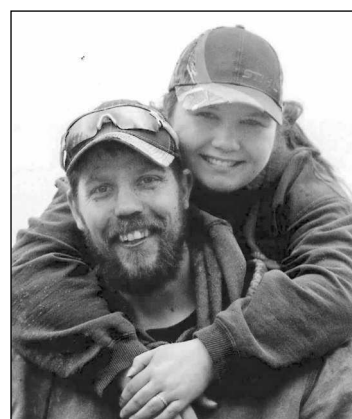
For those of us of a certain age, last Thursday brought back memories of the first footsteps by Astronaut Neil Armstrong on the moon — and the words, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," he spoke as he stepped on the lunar surface on that date in 1969. I can remember trying to keep two very young children (ages 5 and 8) from falling asleep, reminding them of this historical moment that we should always remember. Buzz Aldrin stepped out of the space capsule a few minutes later while Mike Collins remained in the spaceship that continued in orbit. Back in 1945, I remember my parents keeping me awake with the same story, to watch the signing of the United Nations Charter, televised

from San Francisco to Los Angeles.

Next month a new generation is going to join the rest of us in yet another historical occasion — a total solar eclipse on Monday, Aug. 21. Visitors from all over Oregon and many other states will be here in the mid-Willamette Valley as we are in the "path of totality." We're getting advice from all kinds of sources on how to plan ahead by stocking up on groceries, prescription medicines and even changing appointments for that day because of the high volume of road traffic predicted. Scores of parents and grandparents will be reminding another generation of children to try to remember this historical event as well. It's what we do.

WEDDING

Rak-Weaver



Nikki Weaver, of Salem, and David Rak, of Salem, were married on July 15, 2017, at Advidia.

Nikki graduated from Dallas High School in 2012. She is the daughter of Jeannie and Brad Weaver, of Rickreall. She graduated from Western Oregon University with a bachelor's in business and works as an office specialist at the Polk County Fairgrounds & Events Center, as well as at the Polk County Veterans Service Office.

David graduated from Sprague High School. He is the son of Daniel Rak, of Salem. He works on the grounds crew at Polk County Fairgrounds & Event Center, and served in the United States Army.

ENGAGEMENT

Brumley-Anderson



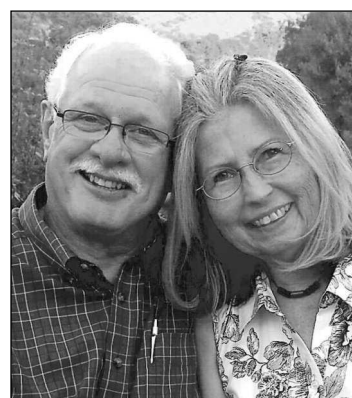
Margi Anderson, of Dallas, and Rob Brumley, of Wilsonville, announced their engagement. The couple is planning an Oct. 28, 2017, wedding.

Bride-to-be Margi graduated from the Oregon Health and Sciences University-Oregon Institute of Technology in 2016 and works at Salem Hospital.

Groom-to-be Rob graduated from Oregon State University in 2014 and works at Nike Headquarters. The wedding will be at Langdon Farms.

ANNIVERSARY

Norfleet - 50th



Bill and Nathelle (Kirkman) Norfleet reached their 50 years of marriage on June 18, 2017.

They were married in Ventura, Calif., after meeting on the beach in 1965. While Bill was in the U.S. Navy, his submarine duty took them to different

parts of the West Coast. After moving to Oregon in 1977, the couple settled on a small family farm just south of Dallas. Once their two children (Bill and Hanna) went to college, they sold the farm and built a home close by, where they are loving the quiet country life.

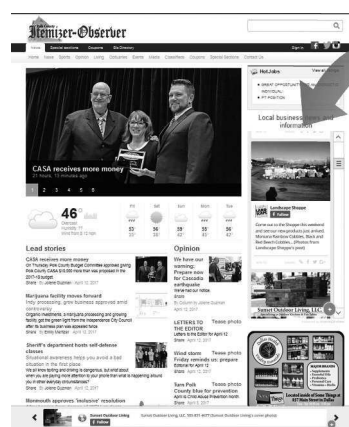
They spent their anniversary at the Sister's Rodeo, and will travel to Ventura to celebrate with family and friends. They are both retired and enjoy spending any free time with their two grandsons, Noah and Evan.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Continued from page 6A
WEDNESDAY, AUG. 2

- **Senior meals, Dallas** — 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, LaCreole Manor, 204 SW Walnut St., Dallas. Free, but \$3 donation suggested. Reservations required. 503-623-6232.
- **Senior meals, Monmouth** — 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S. Warren St., Monmouth. Free, but \$3 donation suggested. Reservations required. 503-838-2084.
- **Scrabble with Betty** — 1 p.m., Independence Public Library, 175 Monmouth St., Independence. Scrabble games first Wednesday of every month. Free; refreshments and prizes available. 503-551-7687 or 503-838-1811.
- **Willamette Valley Food Assistance Program Food Bank** — 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., 888 Monmouth Cutoff Road, Building E, Dallas. Weekly distribution for eligible community members. 503-831-5634.
- **Yarning for Others** — 3 to 5 p.m., St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 1486 SW Levens St., Dallas. Knitters and crocheters gather to make clothing and accessories for those in need on the first Wednesday of every month. 503-689-7222.
- **Pickleball** — 9 a.m. to noon, Roger Jordan Community Park. Meets on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon and Sundays and Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Karen Freeman, 503-871-4172.

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