

Lexington news

Delpha Jones 989-8189

A correction to last week's news item Mr. and Mrs. Glover Peck also visited their daughter, Martha Ward and her husband and their two sons while in Juneau, Alaska and enjoyed some flying with Mr. Ward.

The Lexington Garden Bugs met at the home of Marie Steagall for a regular meeting. It was announced that Bev and Bob Steagall received the Yard of the Month award. It was announced that jams and jellies are being gathered to help at the Neighborhood Center with Christmas baskets during the holidays.

A new welcome wagon committee was appointed for the next quarter. Committee members are: Dorothy Burcham, Jean Brazell and Delpha Jones.

The next meeting will be at Delta Huber's home and will feature instruction on dried arrangements. Those attending are asked to bring articles to help make the arrangements.

Refreshments were served to Dorothy Burcham, Lois Allen, Jean Brazell, Kathy Tellechea and the hostess.

Mrs. I.D. Vinson, daughter of Katie Padberg, has been visiting at her mother's this past week.

The Three Links club met at the home of Kathy Tellechea with her mother, Dorothy Burcham, as hostess. Plans were made for the sidewalk sale, to be held July 30 in Heppner. The lodge will have a booth of homemade goodies such as pies, cakes, breads, etc.

Garden Bugs recognize Bob Steagall yard



Bev Steagall

The Lexington Garden Bugs have selected Bob and Bev Steagall's yard as the July Yard of the Month, announces Kathy Tellechea, club president.

The Steagalls have lived at 520 S. Front St. for the past 10 years, but have lived in Lexington for a number of years. "They built their home themselves and have turned five acres of bare land into a beautiful home site and landscaped yard," said Tellechea.

A focal point of the yard is a hillside landscaped with bark

The picnic which was scheduled for July was postponed due to the busy season with so many unable to attend.

The work for the Garden Bugs members was brought to everyone's attention, as they have been working at the Oddfellow lot adjoining the Rebekah Hall.

Those present for the afternoon were: Kathy Tellechea, Leila Palmer, Josie Peck, Virginia Peck, Luella Taylor, Ruth Robinson, Donna Papi-neau and the hostess, Dorothy Burcham. This meeting had been scheduled to be held at Mrs. Burcham's yard, but due to weather conditions, had to be changed.

Joyce Wojak from Los Angeles, Calif. has been visiting this week at the Kenneth Peck home, her aunt and uncle, and with friends Barbara and Orville Cutsforth and the Cecil Joneses. She also visited several times at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home with her grandmother, Emma Peck. Mrs. Wojak was the former Joyce Peck, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Peck, Lexington residents.

The Rev. and Mrs. Stuart Dick and family had Robin and John Roat-Martin of Seattle, Wash. as Sunday guests. They had a fine visit, renewing a friendship that started in Australia. They also have had other guests: Wolfgang Grote, a track coach from Lake Oswego, and three members of his track team. They were enjoying a vacation in the area, bicycling. The Dicks spent several days with them in the mountains.

Smiths take Yard of the Month honors



Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Smith

By JUSTINE WEATHERFORD
At 125 E. Cannon Street in Heppner, an entrance sign proclaims that Sonja and Gerald Smith and Vicki, Becky and Randy live there. Jerry and Sonja are Heppner's July 15 to August 15 Yard of the Month winners.

Their mobile home and adjacent buildings are completely surrounded by unusual log and wagon wheel fencing, rather unusual plantings and a well-kept lawn that is decorated in places with cement statuary. They have many varieties of cactus, some from Harper, Texas, and other southern spots, most of which have just finished blooming.

The Smiths have planted lots of colorful petunias, large daisies, marigolds and other flowers and have a nicely started variegated holly tree.

Jerry is a man of unusual talents, the landscaping shows his skill with cement, with wood and with metal. Sonja says "More people should make their yards more attractive and beautiful Heppner," she encouraged her husband in the acquisition of the yard sculptures. He says "She wanted the group of five bears we located at Long Beach, Wash., so I went back there and hauled them here."

The group of brown, cement bears, along with two deer and a fawn and other figures, decorate their backyard area near the pool over which Jerry built a small bridge which leads to the remarkable, shaded patio with its fine brick fireplace and unusual glass-topped, wheel tables.

Not only has Jerry Smith decorated his family yard, but he grows many edibles. They have 10 thriving fruit trees, a great vegetable garden, strawberries, raspberries and a pie-cherry hedge. This multi-talented man has also begun to form a small park across Cannon Street between the back of the city swimming pool and the Chase St. Bridge. He bought and hauled the wood chips, bought and planted the shrubbery and takes

care of this personal civic beautification project along with his own yard and with helping to care for the yards on either side of his. For his efforts, we think Jerry Smith should get a special good citizenship award.

The Smiths purchased the property they live on from Sylvia and Carl McDaniel after the disastrous Shobe Creek Flood of 1971. They worked very strenuously to clean away the mass of mud and debris and to transform the land into the lovely landscape and gardens they enjoy. When looking around, notice the border edgings made of old saw blades, the lanterns along the front fence and in the patio. Maybe Jerry will even show you the beautiful redwood clocks he's made and will tell you about some of the many carved-wood signs he has crafted.

Local 4-H'ers to attend Range Camp

By BIRDINE TULLIS
Program Assistant
OSU Extension Service

For the first time in many years, Morrow County will have 4-H'ers attending Oregon Range Camp in Logan Valley. Kevin Hughes and Chris McLaughlin, both students at Heppner High School, will depart Sunday, July 24 for the week long range management and leadership camp.

Oregon Range Camp is an annual event at Jackman Youth and Natural Resources Center Lake Creek Camp, 22 miles east of Seneca in Grant County.

The purpose of the camp is to help develop leaders with understanding of the inter-relationships between people and the environment and management of our natural resources. The week is filled with varying kinds of learning activities and recreation. Campers elect their own leadership as they are involved in daytime classes and evening events.

B.P.A. considering power rate relief for N.W. irrigators

Efforts to provide long-term power rate relief for Northwest irrigators is being met with initial interest by the Bonneville Power Administration though a final decision is several months away, leaders of Northwest Irrigation Utilities report.

In response to testimony submitted in the 1983 B.P.A. rate case by Northwest Irrigation Utilities, the Bonneville staff is offering some suggestions and alternatives to the proposal, according to Fred Toombs, Columbia Basin Electric Co-op manager.

"We don't yet know the practicality of some of the B.P.A. responses to our proposal yet. We will be analyzing them and letting Bonneville know of our findings as soon as possible. We want to ensure that irrigators receive long-term rate benefits, not just a quick-fix," Toombs said.

Northwest Irrigation Utilities, an organization of 14 preference utilities throughout Washington, Oregon and Idaho, has submitted a request for a seasonal off-peak irrigation rate that would reduce power rates paid by all of the region's irrigators.

The proposed adjustment, to be made part of the new B.P.A. rates effective November 1, would recognize the off-peak nature of the irrigation load, which is heaviest in the spring and summer when electricity consumption in general is lightest and there is surplus hydroelectric power.

Toombs said that no commitment for the proposal has yet been made by Bonneville, but the degree of staff interest is seen as a positive sign.

From 1942 until 1974, B.P.A. sold irrigation power at a lower rate. The special rate was phased out between 1974 and 1979 due to a dwindling power surplus, he explains.

"Now, however, the region again faces a surplus of power which is expected to continue through this decade," Toombs pointed out. "Every effort should be made to market more of the surplus power and hold down the cost per kilowatt-hour for all Northwest consumers."

Farmers in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and western Montana irrigate nearly 8.5 million acres. Without irrigation much of this land would revert to desert and the remainder would be limited to lower yield, less diversified dryland farming.

Toombs reports that many farmers have been cutting back on irrigation as a result of declining product prices and rising costs. This results in decreased power sales, despite the surplus, and forces B.P.A. and local utilities to charge more per kilowatt-hour.

Northwest Irrigation Utilities has estimated that a 10 percent drop in irrigation energy sales would mean a loss of some \$11.8 million in B.P.A. revenues. On the other hand, a 10 percent increase in sales as a result of the proposed rate adjustment would bring the agency an additional \$8.8 million in revenues.

Lexington busy turning empty lot into city park

By DELPHA JONES

The Lexington Garden Bugs have been very busy during the last few weeks turning the lot next to the Oddfellow building into a city park. Much work is being done, and much is left to do. The lot has already been cleaned and garbage hauled away.

The project, which is under the direction of the garden club and the Rebekah Lodge, includes a landscaped area with a sprinkler system, and picnic tables.

Help is needed in completing the project, and anyone

wanting to donate labor, machinery, money or other articles is more than welcome to do so.

This project is a big undertaking, especially financially, and everyone is asked to help support it. Donation cans will soon be placed in stores in Lexington to accept contributions.

Some of the people who have been donating their time to this project are Mr. and Mrs. Al Brazell, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. John Tellechea and other garden club members.

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Aug. session of swim lessons planned

Terry McElligott will offer a beginners and advanced beginners class at the Lone Swimming Pool from August 2 through 12, announced Carolyn Plocharsky, pool manager. The advanced class will be held only if enough swimmers pre-register, she said. Anyone interested in the classes should pre-register with Plocharsky at the pool before August 1. Cost for each session will be \$3.50.



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