

## Around About

By Justine Weatherford

Although there are several especially pretty times during each year in the wonderfully diversified reaches of Morrow County, to me the weeks from mid-April to mid-May are particularly lovely because I am always so thrilled with the lilac blooms. Having a fragrant blooming lilac nearby is sort of an inspiration to those of us who don't get our wedding done earlier.

As soon as we get past these cold nights, we can begin the busy rush of preparing our vegetable gardens and planting. I have learned that when I have been too eager, the chill frost has made me have to re-plant—another case of "haste makes waste."

My South Court St.-lower Gilmore St. part of town has sprung into brighter times since a group of snowbirds has moved home again from winters in southern sunshine. All of these lucky traveling homeowners are now resettled for awhile, which makes me feel less lonesome.

The Wheat League travelers Don and Martha Peterson had an interesting recent time in Washington, D.C. Don told the Chamber of Commerce about their experience riding the speedy metro, about the tremendous security measures in and near all the federal buildings. He made a few pertinent comments about political activities.

My April travels have taken me to Medford, via Salem and Corvallis, for family visiting and an envious viewing of the gorgeous azaleas and rhododendrons and other flowering shrubs. I also made a quick trip to the Cheney, Washington area with Nina Denton observing the flourishing green wheat fields as we traveled through eastern Washington.

Did you read the article in last week's G-T about the annual exchange of eighth graders which takes place between Heppner and Lynch Terrace Middle School? One youngster who visited in the east Portland area stated that there is so much to do down there "There are just the same old things to do here all the time. After school sports, there's nothing to do here." Tough!

Of course I'm terribly old, but I still find more things to do than I can handle well. Folks who try to schedule events here have all kinds of problems settling on a "free" time. I wonder if the bored youngster who finds "nothing to do after school sports" has tried roller skating, bowling, golfing, 4-H activities, fishing, biking, volunteering in a community institution, or maybe sewing, reading, gardening, or doing the family shopping and cooking?

Besides juggling five club meetings weekly, bi-weekly and monthly, I have so enjoyed several delightful events recently. Going to Irrigon last Thursday for the Annual Homemakers Day was most pleasing. The program, demonstrations and great luncheon in the spacious, attractive, new, north-county Senior Citizens Building were rated "outstanding" by several long-time County Homemakers I talked with. The Extension Division leaders really organized things beautifully and the Irrigon-Boardman Seniors prepared and served a superior noon meal.

Several hundred lovers of music were treated to an old-fashioned country music show April 26, promoted by Chevrolet dealer Ron McDonald in St. Patrick's Catholic Parish Hall.

Along with expert fiddlers, guitar pickers and singers who came from distant points, four local performers sparkled. Of course, our talented Scotch friend, Ron McDonald, shown; Jim Hayes Sr., now of Hermiston, was a featured fiddler; lone music teacher Geneva Mathews wowed folks with her western singing and expert guitar playing and our new Neighborhood Center Director, carefully-gloved Pat Scott, backed up the large, lively performing group all evening beating a "gut bucket."

Several impressive community events are being planned for May and June. The top May event, on Sunday, May 25 (the day before Memorial Day) will be the Morrow County picnic at the fairgrounds which will be managed by the Kilkenny clan. This year's traditional reunion will feature several outstanding innovations planned by the descendants of Irish pioneer John Sheridan Kilkenny and his wives Rose Anne Curran and Lottie Russell. Mike Kilkenny of Pendleton will be the master of ceremonies.

A really exciting happening known as "Reno Night" is coming on Saturday evening June 21. This extraordinary fun night is being planned by the Heppner Booster Club of which Dick Devin is president. Ken Turner, who is working on publicity for this tremendous event, says there has never been anything like it planned here. Ken says that thousands of dollars in prizes will be given out. You will hear more about this excitement soon, but be sure you've made marks on your calendars for May 25 and June 21.

## County Agent's Corner

By Fred Lundin  
County Agricultural Agent

Before you plant a shade tree, think about how big an area the tree will need to grow in.

Don't plant a tree under the power lines if you don't want to have to cut it back every year.

If you want the winter sun to shine in, don't plant an evergreen on the south lawn.

If you're worried about snow load breaking branches, and the branches breaking your house, plant a shade tree far enough from your house to limit the problem.

The following are some examples of deciduous shade trees which are adapted to Morrow County. There are many others besides these, but space prevents me from listing them all.

Trees 50 to 75 feet high  
-Boxholder, *Acer negundo*: this is a tree of no great distinction. It belongs to the maple family, and can be used in difficult areas as a quick screen or shade tree. Remove later in favor of slower growing trees.

Box Elder or  
Ash-leaved Maple



-Green ash, *Fraxinus pennsylvanica lanceolata*: this hardy shade tree is quite salt tolerant. Grows in most soils with moderate moisture.

Red Ash or  
Green Ash



Trees 75 to 100 feet high  
-Norway maple, *Acer platanoides*: This is a dense, round tree. Different varieties may have different leaf colors, from light green to purplish red.

Norway Maple



-European Beech, *Tagus sylvatica*: This is a good street and shade tree with some varieties having purplish leaves. Most are dark green and lustrous. London planetree, *Platanus acerifolia*. Large, wide shade tree. Bark is rough on trunk, smooth, creamy colored above.

Common Beech or  
European Beech



Oil-base paints can be removed from the skin with plain baby oil.

Trees over 100 feet high  
-Silver maple, *Acer saccharinum*: This tree is quite vigorous and very winterhardy. It has yellow fall colors.

Silver Maple



-Maidenhair tree, *Ginkgo biloba*: This is a unique tree for many reasons. It is the sole remaining representative of a type of plant which was widespread in prehistoric times. It is free of insect and disease pests. It's quite variable as to structure. Becomes very large with age.

Maidenhair Tree



-Honeylocust, *Gleditsia triacanthos*: plant one of the newer varieties. (Moraine, Shademaster, Skyline, Sunburst) These are superior forms of the honeylocust, without spine or fruit and rapid growing.

-Black walnut, *Juglans nigra*: This is a robust tree with fine textured, dark green leaves. Quite large in age.

Black Walnut



-American linden or basswood, *Tilia americana*: This is one of my favorites. Hardy, beautiful, but intolerant of dry conditions.

American Linden,  
American Linden or  
Basswood



## Stanfield to host Technology Fair

On Saturday, May 17, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Standfield High School will be hosting the first annual Columbia Basin Technology Fair.

The fair has been created in an effort to provide all Columbia Basin senior high school students and teachers the opportunity to display their talents, compare skills, swap ideas and gain exposure for their technology programs.

In addition to displaying student projects, numerous professional display booths will be provided demonstrating the latest technology in industry and manufacturing. Finally, technology films and a computer program swap along with various mini-seminars will be scheduled throughout the day, providing a broad source of valuable technology and do-it-yourself information. The fair will be open to public viewing.

## Stay cool, Smokey

What will Smokey the Bear think when he learns the U.S. Forest Service purposely torched 1,000 acres of Colorado timber with napalm? Stay cool, Smokey. An international wildlife magazine reports that is was a friendly fire, set to create grazing grounds for a herd of bighorn sheep. Fire will become an increasingly common tool for renewing aged and disease-ridden western forests. Man's success in controlling natural fires has led to the rise of tree parasites and dead timber that could fuel catastrophic wildfires.



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## Society's problems need attention says university's extension program leader

Keeping the family sound during times of economic hardship and reduced federal, state, and local budgets should be the major economics focus of the Cooperative Extension Service, says the new home economics program leader for the Oregon State University Extension Service.

"Helping our clients see the major problems of society must be our goal," said Naurine R. McCormick who recently joined the staff of OSU's College of Home Economics as acting associate dean and acting program leader for home economics extension.

Her task will be to facilitate the flow of information from the college to county extension agents and to the public until a permanent associate dean and program leader is selected.

McCormick came to Oregon State from Washington D.C., where she spent six months as a volunteer lobbyist for the American Home Economics Association, a group of some 30,000 individual members.

She had taken early retirement from June 1985 from another "OSU," Ohio State University in Columbus, where she had been state home economics extension leader for 20 years.

As a lobbyist, McCormick urged Congress to maintain federal financing of home economics extension and high school education programs. Without federal support, she said, local programs would be nearly non-existent.

"The issues important to home

economics extension are the issues important to families," McCormick said. Families need to know how to manage their resources, including income and skills.

"Family stability depends on simple things, such as three meals a day, cleanliness, staying in school," she said. "And meals depend on adequate diet and decent food."

"People just don't happen to know how to prepare meals, or how to parent," McCormick said. "High schools, the extension service, articles extension agents put in newspapers, and 4-H all bring that knowledge, which comes from research at the universities, to the public."

Threatening those programs she said, is the Reagan Administration budget proposal that cuts 59 percent from the entire Extension service. What is more, the remaining 41 percent is limited to soil and water conservation and farm profitability programs only. Home economics, community development and 4-H programs would lose federal support, she said.

As a lobbyist when the Reagan proposal was first presented to Congress, McCormick said some senators and representatives, including some from Oregon, "didn't know much about the Extension Service. Those who did support it a lot."

What I'm trying to emphasize is that family management, nutrition and individual relationships are essential."

"We still have a lot of teaching to do."

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