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Opportunities for 4-H members

This is the time of year to keep your eyes open for all kinds of leadership, scholarship, recreation activities that will be going on in the spring and summer, says 4-H Agent Bill Broderick. "Take a chance and try some new fun activities."

The Summer Week information has been mailed to 4-H club members. Call the Extension Office, 676-9642 for additional information and answers to questions.

Camp counselor and Leadership Training at Brooks Park is coming up. Those 4-H'ers who haven't signed up yet will want to do that soon. Leadership training is the perfect place to get started. Camp counselors will come from the 4-H members who have had leadership training.

1988 St. Pat's plans to begin

A meeting of the St. Patrick's Day Committee will be held next Wednesday, April 1 at Charlie's Pizzeria in Heppner.

A discussion on this year's event will be held, the budget examined and a date for next year will be picked, says co-chairman David Sykes. All those interested are urged to attend.



The cavalry rides again

(Editor's note: The above photo appeared in last week's G-T minus identification of the gentlemen pictured. We thought we'd try again.)

The great State of Eastern Oregon cavalry visited Heppner during St. Patrick's Celebration. The Cavalry, accompanied state officials who were here to hold a legislative session, pictured above are: (L-R) Lt. Butch Boetcher (Union Co.); Lt. John Moyer (Morrow Co.); Gov. of the State of Eastern Oregon Neil "Doc" Werner; Major Stan Henders (Baker Co.); and Col. Stan Wellman (Baker Co.)

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Decide on wood stove before choosing chimney

Q. A wood burning fireplace insert saves floor space and simplifies venting by using an existing chimney. Does it provide as much heat as a free-standing wood stove or is a significant amount of heat lost to the brick behind and on the sides of the insert? E.C., Corvallis.

A. Fireplace inserts usually don't perform as well as their free-standing counterparts. Stove design and chimney placement make the difference.

Inserts lack the exposed stovepipe that can contribute 10 to 30 percent of the total heat output of a stove. But if the fireplace and chimney are interior and exposed, sooner or later much of the heat absorbed by the masonry will heat the house.

Measured performance of inserts indicate efficiencies as high as 50 percent. Higher efficiencies may be possible, but it's unlikely that they would approach the 55 to 65 percent efficiency of an average stove.

Readers who are familiar with recent tests by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality may notice that a 50 percent efficiency is lower than results DEQ got on their insert tests. That's because DEQ tested the inserts outside a fireplace, rather than inside as they would be used.

The 50 percent efficiency figure we cited above came from earlier tests of stoves and inserts that in-

"Cheese is milk's leap toward immortality."
Clifton Fadiman

dicated the difference in efficiency in actual use. These tests were of non-catalytic stoves and inserts.

Q. My new dishwasher (a General Electric Potscrubber 980) has two energy-saver buttons on it. One is for the wash cycle and one is for the dry cycle. I know the energy-saver button on the dry cycle lets me air-dry my dishes rather than heat them, but I don't know how to use the wash cycle energy-saver button. Can you explain? S.U., Portland.

A. Glad you included the make and model number. We know how the wash cycle energy-saver button works on that one. Others may work differently.

On your dishwasher, if you select the energy-saver wash cycle, the dishwasher will use less water than it normally does. You'll probably find it most useful when you wash a small load or a load where the dishes aren't very dirty.

Your dishwasher model has an internal heater that automatically boosts water temperature to 140 degrees Fahrenheit. The energy-saver button has nothing to do with that. But the booster heater and the energy-saver button are both energy-saving features.

But since your new dishwasher has an internal booster heater that heats the wash and rinse water to 140 degrees, you can lower the thermostat on your water heater to 120 degrees Fahrenheit. You save energy because it uses less energy to boost the water temperature at the dishwasher than it does to keep all the water in your tank at a higher temperature.

Oregon State University Extension energy agents and specialists will answer energy questions of interest to readers. Send your questions to Energy Answers, OSU, Corvallis, OR 97331. Include your name, address and phone number.

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