

May Yard of the Month



Betty and Larry Mills. Photo by Kay Proctor.

By Kay Proctor

Dedication is a recurring theme in Larry and Betty Mill's lives. They are dedicated to their family and friends, to community, to their many volunteer activities and to their home at 725 S. Chase Street. That dedication is what earned them recognition as Heppner Yard of the Month for May.

The Mills moved from Eastern Washington in 1969 with their son, Mike, and their daughter, Dianne, because of Larry's job as manager of Morrow County Grain Growers. They first lived in a home on Pioneer Street and worked in the yard there by building terraces to gentle the hillside.

In 1979, a local physician who was relocating sold the Mills the barely lived in, partly-finished home on Chase Street that was built on rocky hillside with shallow soil. The land had been farmed and still had two grain combines in the backyard. In the yard, Larry dug up a Fresno (a horse drawn earth scraper), which is now used as a planter filled with perennial carnations. The Mills had the back part of their sloped lot scraped (with modern machinery) moving the dirt and rocks towards and around the property front. Sagebrush was removed and 125 junipers were planted in the front of the home taking care of a slope problem. The white fence that Betty always dreamed of having in front of her home stands out against the juniper's year round greenery.

Additions to the house include a balcony with a table grapevine growing towards it and a large wooden deck in the backyard. A lattice trellis screens the woodpile and supports vining clematises.

Their backyard lush lawn is bordered with rock terraced flowerbeds, which grow a white bleeding heart, delphiniums, peonies and overwintering gladiolas. Yard ornaments are set throughout the beds and include little woodland animals, old locust stumps and several gnomes who have the same twinkle in their eyes as Larry.

At their driveway entrance is a water fountain surrounded by red rock and colorful plantings. Larry hooked up the end of the drip line to use as the water source and the fountain runs when the drip line is on, needing no electrical hookup.

Along with the beautiful view of Willow Creek Valley comes wind that makes establishing a yard challenging. They remember a time the wind blew the garbage can halfway down Chase Street to the old Catholic Church/Legion Hall. To establish a

windbreak and save their garbage cans, Larry and Betty planted scores of blue and green spruce trees. These now full and towering trees were planted as seedlings as the ground was too rocky to dig deep planting holes.

On the south side of their property are a row of fruit trees and a row of deciduous trees including a horse chestnut tree started from seed from Larry's folk's tree in Odessa, WA. There is also a birch, Chinese elm, sunburst locust and maple. A vegetable bed in this area is planted with tomatoes, peas, acorn squash, lettuce and beans.

Originally, the Mills planned to have low maintenance landscaping. But Larry's farming influence and Betty's artistic desire for unique plants expanded those plans. Some of the flowering shrubs are Oregon grape, flowering almond, potentillas, spiraea, snowballs, hydrangea, northern magnolia and an outstanding hybrid yellow blooming scotch. Betty's favorite plants are the azaleas and rhododendrons of which she has several varieties. There are also flowering trees such as Paul Scarlett Hawthorne, flowering cherry, redbud, flowering plum, pink flowering dogwood, a pink flowered crabapple and a red leafed crabapple. Betty has purposely chosen plantings with staggered bloom times to keep their yard full of color as long as possible.

Larry did add drip line irrigation for the plantings and underground sprinklers on a timer for the lawn more out of necessity for keeping things alive in the rocky soil. He says that he is the "weeder" and Betty is the "planner."

They have visitors throughout the summer who come in their driveway just to look at the row of mixed roses that runs more than the full length of their house. The roses are Larry's favorite as much for the fragrance as for the color. Other visitors are deer that decimated the arborvitae and their neighbor's friendly llamas and Jacob's sheep that gaze longingly over the fence at all the greenery.

Any visitor gazing over the fence at the Mills would be impressed at the dedication that Betty and Larry have shown in creating their hilltop yard.

The Heppner Yard of the Month recognition is co-sponsored by Green Feed and Seed, the Heppner Garden Club, the City of Heppner and Heppner TV.

Magnetic Door Signs
Heppner Gazette-Times

May 17 special election results announced

Following are the results of the May 17 special election as of 11 p.m., May 17. The results are still unofficial, as they have not been certified by the Morrow County Clerk. The results have been broken down by precinct, with Precinct 1-Boardman, Precinct 2-Irrigon, Precinct 3-Lexington, Precinct 4-Ione and Precinct 5-Heppner/Hardman.

Boardman:
Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 6 (at large): Rodney Parker- 115; Jack Matlock- 146; and Write-In 1.

Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 7 (at large): Kathy Neal- 321 and Write-Ins- 3.

Morrow County School District Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 180; John Renfro- 133; and Write-Ins- 3.

MCS D Position 3: William J. Kuhn- 136 and Martin Montes de Oca- 216.

MCS D Position 6: Barney Lindsay- 111 and Patricia Furgerson- 216.

MCS D Position 7: Berto Hernandez- 288 and Write-Ins- 3.

Boardman Community Education Committee Position 1: Dean Mason- 307 and Write-Ins- 1.

Boardman CEC Position 4: Kelly L. Doherty- 217 and Write-Ins 4.

Boardman CEC Position 6: Sylvia Barrera- 279.

Boardman Rural Fire District (at large) (elect 3): Randy Yates- 276, Don Russell- 273 and Rick Sandlin- 241.

Boardman Cemetery District (at large) (elect 2): David Pedro- 189, Blair Purcell- 265 and William Sharkey- 148.

Boardman Park and Recreation District (at large) (elect 2): Karen Pettigrew- 303, Kathy Moore- 222 and Write-Ins 6.

Oregon Trail Library District Position 1: Sally Walker- 261 and Write-Ins 1.

OTLD Position 2: I. Blaine Ganvoa- 279 and Write-Ins 1.

OTLD Position 3: Debra Stratton- 247 and Write-Ins 2.

OTLD Position 4: Barbara Huwe- 250 and Write-Ins 5.

OTLD Position 5: Annetta Spicer- 254 and Write-Ins 3.

Morrow County Health District Position 1: John Gochnauer- 227 and Write-Ins 5.

MCHD Position 2: Margie Hollandsworth- 249, John Murray- 99 and Write-In 1.

MCHD Position 3: Leann Rea- 279.

Port of Morrow Position 1: Jim Hollandsworth- 121, Chris Rauch 48, Don Russell- 209 and Write-Ins 1.

Port of Morrow Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 48, Joe Taylor- 234 and Daniel Creamer- 89.

Port of Morrow Position 3: Jerry Healy- 139, Michael Dipo- 227 and Write-Ins 2.

Morrow County Unified Recreation District Zone 2: Terry Tallman- 173.

Irrigon:
Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 6 (at large): Rodney Parker- 137, Jack Matlock- 153 and Write-Ins 1.

Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 7 (at large): Kathy Neal- 277 and Write-Ins 2.

Morrow County School District Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 147, John Renfro- 177 and Write-Ins 1.

MCS D Position 3: William Kuhn- 232, Martin Montes de Oca- 100 and Write-Ins 1.

MCS D Position 6: Barney Lindsay- 186, Patricia Furgerson- 138 and Write-Ins 1.

MCS D Position 7: Berto Hernandez- 263 and Write-Ins 2.

Irrigon Community Education Committee Position 1: Judy Brown- 307 and Write-Ins 3.

Irrigon CEC Position 3: Scott Ross- 271 and Write-Ins 1.

Irrigon CEC Position 5: Glenna Hoffman- 258 and Write-Ins 3.

Irrigon CEC Position 6: Beth Wheeler- 274.

Irrigon Rural Fire Protection District Position 3: Mark Calbick- 289 and Write-Ins 9.

Irrigon RFPD Position 4: William Cooley- 307 and Write-Ins 4.

Irrigon Park/Recreation District Position 1: Burrell Cooley- 313 and Write-Ins 11.

Irrigon CPRD Position 4: Melodee A. Tovey- 289 and Write-Ins 5.

Irrigon CPRD Position 5: Albert Partlow- 299 and Write-Ins 4.

Oregon Trail Library District Position 1: Sally Walker- 265 and Write-Ins 2.

OTLD Position 2: I. Blaine Ganvoa- 270 and Write-Ins 2.

OTLD Position 3: Debra Stratton- 279 and Write-Ins 5.

OTLD Position 4: Barbara Huwe- 279 and Write-Ins 10.

OTLD Position 5: Annetta Spicer- 275 and Write-Ins 6.

Morrow County Health District Position 1: John Gochnauer- 260.

MCHD Position 2: Margie Hollandsworth 159 and John Murray- 146.

MCHD Position 3: Leann Rea- 287 and Write-Ins 2.

Port of Morrow Position 1: Jim Hollandsworth- 81, Chris Rauch 70, Don Russell- 185 and Write-Ins 1.

Port of Morrow Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 55, Joe Taylor 114 and Daniel Creamer- 176.

Port of Morrow Position 3: Jerry Healy- 217 and Michael Dipo- 100.

Morrow County Unified Recreation District Zone 1: Bob Byrd- 145.

Lexington:
Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 6 (at large): Rodney Parker- 30, Jack Matlock 46 and Write-Ins 2.

Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 7 (at large): Kathy Neal- 84 and Write-Ins 3.

Morrow County School District Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 56 and John Renfro- 70.

MCS D Position 3: William Kuhn- 107 and Martin Montes de Oca- 21.

MCS D Position 6: Barney Lindsay- 123 and Patricia Furgerson- 9.

MCS D Position 7: Berto Hernandez- 72 and Write-Ins 1.

Heppner Rural Fire District 4-years (at large) (elect 3): Lyle Peck- 9, Brian Thompson- 5 and Mike Mahoney- 4.

Heppner RFD 2-years (at large): Donald Bennett- 6.

Ione Lexington Cemetery District (at large): Edward Baker- 94.

Willow Creek Park District (at large) (elect 2): Archie Padberg- 94 and Write-Ins 13.

Morrow County Health District Position 1: John Gochnauer- 104 and Write-Ins 1.

MCHD Position 2: Margie Hollandsworth- 15, John Murray- 118 and Write-Ins 1.

MCHD Position 3: Leann Rea- 105 and Write-Ins 2.

Port of Morrow Position 1: Jim Hollandsworth- 5, Chris Rauch- 86 and Don Russell- 36.

Port of Morrow Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 18, Joe Taylor 73 and Daniel Creamer- 36.

Port of Morrow Position 3: Jerry Healy- 112 and Michael Dipo- 17.

Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 6 (at large): Rodney Parker- 46, Jack Matlock- 93 and Write-Ins 6.

Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 7 (at large): Kathy Neal- 177.

Ione School District Position 3: John Rietmann- 150 and Write-Ins 18.

ISD Position 4: Anne Morter- 179 and Write-Ins 8.

ISD Position 5: Joel Peterson- 194 and Write-Ins 2.

Ione Rural Fire District (at large) (elect 3): Billy Rietmann- 182, Wayne Rietmann- 169 and Write-Ins 57.

Ione Lexington Cemetery District (at large): Edward Baker- 184 and Write-Ins 2.

Willow Creek Park District (at large) (elect 2): Archie Padberg- 168 and Write-Ins 42.

Morrow County Health District Position 1: John Gochnauer- 170 and Write-Ins 3.

MCHD Position 2: Margie Hollandsworth- 69 and John Murray- 136.

MCHD Position 3: Leann Rea- 188.

Port of Morrow Position 1: Jim Hollandsworth- 22, Chris Rauch 83, Don Russell- 103 and Write-Ins 2.

Port of Morrow Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 35, Joe Taylor- 119, Daniel Creamer- 49 and Write-Ins 1.

Port of Morrow Position 3: Jerry Healy- 183 and Michael Dipo- 22.

Heppner/Hardman:
Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 6 (at large): Rodney Parker- 135, Jack Matlock- 200 and Write-Ins 1.

Umatilla-Morrow ESD Zone 6 (at large): Kathy Neal- 364 and Write-Ins 5.

Morrow County School District Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 277, John Renfro- 248 and Write-Ins 4.

MCS D Position 3: William Kuhn- 442 and Martin Montes de Oca- 89.

MCS D Position 6: Barney Lindsay- 485, Patricia Furgerson- 58 and Write-Ins 1.

MCS D Position 7: Berto Hernandez- 318 and Write-Ins 4.

Heppner Rural Fire District 4-years (at large) (elect 3): Lyle Peck- 93, Brian Thompson- 92 and Mike Mahoney- 83.

Heppner RFD 2-years (at large): Donald Bennett- 100 and Write-Ins 1.

Heppner Cemetery District 4-years (at large) (elect 2): Albert Riney- 276, Kit George- 414 and Write-Ins 2.

Heppner Cemetery District 2-years (at large): Thomas Wolff- 422 and Write-Ins 3.

Ione Lexington Cemetery District (at large): Edward Baker- 5.

Heppner Water Control District (at large) (elect 2): Donald Bennett- 258, Robert Laughlin- 292 and Write-Ins 1.

Willow Creek Park District (at large) (elect 2): Archie Padberg- 416 and Write-Ins 33.

Oregon Trail Library District Position 1: Sally Walker- 425 and Write-Ins 4.

OTLD Position 2: I. Blaine Ganvoa- 309 and Write-Ins 1.

OTLD Position 3: Debra Stratton- 312.

OTLD Position 4: Barbara Huwe- 327 and Write-Ins 1.

OTLD Position 5: Annetta Spicer- 400 and Write-Ins 4.

Morrow County Health District Position 2: Margie Hollandsworth- 72 and John Murray- 473.

MCHD Position 3: Leann Rea- 430.

Port of Morrow Position 1: Jim Hollandsworth- 43, Chris Rauch- 306 and Don Russell- 173.

Port of Morrow Position 2: Nancy Vander Does- 159, Joe Taylor- 276 and Daniel Creamer- 85.

Port of Morrow Position 3: Jerry Healy- 487 and Michael Dipo- 63.

Marriage Licenses

May 10: John Elevation Chairez, 21, Hermiston and Amanda Dawn Jones, 20, Hermiston; Jason Scott Virgil, 23, Hermiston and Conni Lee Maret, 19, Hermiston.

May 19: Joseph A. Bourrie, 22, Phoenix, AZ and Heidi M. Turrell, 23, Phoenix, AZ.

May 23: Benjamin Aaron McElligott, 24, Ione and Lena Marie Gossett, 22, Pendleton.

Births

Savannah SkilLynn Medrano-Pruitt- a daughter, Savannah SkilLynn, was born May 8, 2005, at Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston to Brittany Pruitt and Juan Medrano of Boardman.

Paul Anthony Backman, Jr. a son, Paul Anthony, was born May 16, 2005 at St. Mary Medical Center in Walla Walla to Cindy and Paul Backman of Irrigon.

Thursday evening playday results

Ladies gathered Thursday, May 19 at Willow Creek County Club for evening play.

Cindi Dougherty took low gross for flight A and Deborah Kendrick took low net. Kandy Boyd brought in low gross for flight B. In flight C, Peggy Fishburn took low gross and Deona Hodges and Andrea Mortimer tied for low net.