

Stroebers selected August yard of month

by Kay Proctor



Don and Jan Stroeber



St. Josephine and one of many Stroeber flower beds



Granddaughter Morgan Correa

Don and Jan Stroeber at 960 Fairview have been chosen as the Heppner Yard of the Month for August. Many know this location as The Country Shears, Jan's beauty shop that is part of their residence.

Jan grew up in Spray, attended beauty college in Bend and moved to Heppner in 1963 to work in Jeannie Dobb's shop. After marrying Don, making a move to a home in 1975 with a beauty shop already in place made sense especially with active daughters; Shelley, Cindy and Christy. The beauty shop was part of the original home built by Hank Stotts.

In the early 1960's Don's family moved from Elgin to Heppner where his dad was head electrician at Kinzua Mills. Don logged in the woods until he was injured and then farmed awhile for Eldon Padberg and Kenny Turner. He retired from Morrow County Grain Growers in 2000 after 28 years of employment. He keeps busy now with AT'ing and hunting. He also works for Brian Thompson during haying season.

Like so many Heppner houses built on hillsides, the Stroebers' yard has extensive terracing, some done by them, some done by other owners. The front terrace is made of stacked stone and was filled with overgrown juniper when Don and Jan moved in,

which they removed. These terraces are now filled with pink Simplicity roses, spireas, hardy ivy, Basket of Gold, cotoneaster and an exceptionally lush rock daphne.

When Jan's clients climb the front steps, they are met with a "fair view" of a brick planter full of colorful annuals and a green lawn with a flowering island. Upon leaving, the clients, now themselves "fairer of view" after Jan's hairdressing skills, can "view" to their left the Morrow County "Fair" grounds. Jan, her daughters and her grandchildren, one boy and four girls, have actively participated at the fair in 4-H and with open-class exhibits. Many of Jan's clients are gardeners themselves and shop talk often turns to that. Jan has been given advice, garden gifts, plant starts and friendship from the "girls in the shop" including a glass gazing ball from Jane Rawlins. One gift she particularly remembers is from Jean Nelson, formerly of Lexington. Jean often said that Jan needed a red, climbing rose and a few years after Jean moved to an assisted living home in Mt. Angel, Oregon, she had a red climber delivered for Jan to plant. Four maple trees anchor the yard that were there when Jan and Don bought the home, but the

Stroebers have added to what was lawn only before.

Don's favorite place at home is the large covered patio which looks out at Jan's favorite place; a large planted area, backed with white lattice, and showcasing a doubled tiered half-whiskey barrel fountain with water flowing from an old hand pump. Around its bricked path are various plantings, including an aspen tree, delphiniums, bee balm, sea thrift, woodruff, dianthus, phlox, yellow yarrow, dahlias, white wisteria and sweet alyssum. An old metal wheel standing upright was a gift from Gene and Faye Pierce. There are other rustic yard decorations including a large cast iron pot from Olamae Groshens which is now full of pansies and coreopsis. Higher up on the property, Jan planted a long row of bright sunflowers that edge the former horse pasture. Enjoying all the finches that the sunflowers attract, Jan also keeps a hummingbird feeder by the patio. In the old horse pasture is a fenced area for the Stroebers' vegetable garden where peppers and tomatoes grow. The horses contributed naturally to the soil enrichment there and throughout the yard. So did the pet rabbits and the pig (who later had piglets) that was won at a fair pig scramble. Between the patio and sunflowers is a private dirt road that leads to Don's shop and a covered carport. Planted along and around this road are rhubarb, larkspur, snapdragons, purple coneflower, asters, miniature irises, obedient plants, raspberries, cosmos, lambs ear, hyssops, candytuft, lilac, Virginia creeper, burning bushes and hollyhocks. A large log planter on the hillside is full of bright annual flowers. By the road are fruit trees, apples which Jan makes pie filling out of, pears and peaches which she cans. A rough looking white fir tree, pruned by a goat kept by their daughters for rodeo practice, is lovingly called "the goat tree".

Don is the family's lawn mower while Jan spends hours tending and grooming the plants, which seems a natural activity for a hairdresser. Along the property line wood fence,

Jan has edged the flower beds with bricks and keeps the plantings there well mulched. These include hostas, barberry, hardy geranium, mugho pine, lilac, yew and decorative rocks from various outings. Part of the yard contains a memory corner where decorations have a special meaning, including a sapling basket made by Jan's father, Frank Cecil. Many birdhouses and planters throughout the yard were made by her mother, Melba. A statue of St. Francis has a special spot there as it was first owned by Don's mother, Rosemary Buschke, who loved to garden. St. Josephine is also present in the yard; that is the name given to Don's two-year-old energetic Airedale Terrier.

Don's favorite flowers are roses in general while sunflowers are Jan's. She recommends attending the Heppner Garden Club's plant exchange every April for good starts and good advice.

While standing in their front yard one August evening describing the watering system he plans to put in someday, Don spotted several deer on the rocky hillside across the road making their way to water and grazing.

Looking to the east of the deer was a peaceful scene of the lower Hinton Creek Valley with green fields, golden hills and open blue skies. This brought to mind "maybe that is where the street's name of "Fairview" came from". Maybe... probably. But the yard full of flowers at 960 Fairview has contributed to that descriptive name, too.

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

Sheriff's Report continued from page 4

-MCSO received report of a Heppner Justice Court warrant on Jason Trickle, 31, for failure to pay fine, driving while suspended. He was already in custody on other charges.

-MCSO arrested Jeanette Lynn Brantley, 22, for providing false information to a police officer. She was also arrested for driving while suspended. She was released to appear.

-MCSO received report that the Hermiston Police Department arrested Derek Stokes, 25, on an Irrigon Justice Court report for failure to appear/driving while suspended.

August 25: MCSO arrested Chaunesy Lynn Allan, 34, on a Umatilla County Sheriff's Office warrant for parole violation/possession of a controlled substance II. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-MCSO received report of a stalking complaint.

-MCSO received a request for Heppner City workers to check to see if a Heppner resident's water heater broke because of all the water line construction.

-MCSO received report of a subject getting water all over the fence and into the complainant's yard in Boardman.

-MCSO arrested Emily Chick, 20, on a Heppner Justice Court warrant for failure to pay fine/minor in possession. She was released on her own recognizance.

-MCSO received report of an 87-year-old in Heppner who had fallen and hit her head.

-MCSO received report that Pilot Rock Police arrested Matthew Townsend, 20, on a Morrow County Circuit Court warrant for probation violation/unauthorized use of a motor vehicle. He was lodged at Umatilla County Jail.

-MCSO cited Leo Edward Porto for failure to yield to an emergency vehicle.

-MCSO received report of intoxicated males who broke into a Heppner resident's home while her son was there. Damage was done to her door.

-Boardman Police cited Samuel B. Huchin, 18, for driving without an operator's license. Jose Marcelo Huchin, 21, was cited for providing a vehicle to an unlicensed driver.

-Boardman Police received report of an audible business alarm in Boardman.

-Boardman Police cited Mario Garcia Garcia, 31, for disobeying a traffic control device and driving without an operator's license.

-Boardman Police received report of a nude subject/public indecency in Boardman. The incident is under investigation.

-Boardman Police received report of a small bush fire at I-84 milepost 156. MCSO was advised. It was a controlled burn.

-Heppner Ambulance received report of a possible stroke victim at a residence in Heppner. The resident was fine.

August 26: MCSO cited Eldon Dean Slape, 52, for driving 77 in a 55 mph zone.

-Clackamas County Sheriff's Office arrested Roxanna L. Brown, 55, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for failure to pay fine/driving under the influence of intoxicants.

-MCSO received report of an attempt to steal gas from a site in Boardman.

-MCSO received report of a subject stranded at Divide Wells Campground near Heppner and a request for a welfare check. Subject was fine and returning home.

-MCSO received report of two male juveniles suspected of stealing at an Irrigon store. Subject said it was an ongoing problem.

-MCSO received report of a suspicious person wandering around in a pasture in Boardman.

-MCSO received report of male subject bitten by a dog in Ione.

Fair and Rodeo Court tryouts set

Tryouts for the Morrow County Fair and Oregon Trail Pro Rodeo Court will be held Sunday, September 25, beginning at 1 p.m. at the Morrow County Fairgrounds. Application deadline for tryouts is Friday, September 23, at 11 a.m.

Those interested in applying may pick up an application at their high school or call 541-676-9474 for information. The Morrow County Fair Office address is P.O. Box 464, Heppner, OR 97836.

Marriage Licenses

The following marriage licenses have been issued from the Morrow County Clerk's Office in Heppner:

August 24: Jered Lee Wicklund, 29, Heppner, and Giselle Lee Schoonover, 31, Heppner.

August 30: Mark Steven Creeden, 45, Irrigon, and Debra Jane Herman, 50, Irrigon.

G-T deadline changed for Labor Day


The Heppner Gazette-Times will be closed for Labor Day on Monday, Sept. 5. Due to the closure, the deadline for news articles and advertisements will be Friday, Sept. 2 at 5 p.m. The Gazette will reopen with normal hours on Tuesday, Sept. 6. Have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend!

Boardman private graduates from basic training

Army Pvt. Nathan T. Hancock has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission, history, tradition and core values, physical fitness, and received instruction and practice in basic combat skills, military weapons, chemical warfare and bayonet training, drill and ceremony, marching, rifle marksmanship, armed and unarmed combat, map reading, field tactics, military courtesy, military justice system, basic first aid, foot marches, and field training exercises.

The private is the son of Bill and Pam Hancock of Willowfork Drive, Boardman, and a 1997 graduate of Riverside High School.



Real Estate

By DAVID SYKES
REALTOR

TAX FREE GIFT FOR DOWN PAYMENT

An often overlooked source for the dollars to make a down payment on a new home is tax-free gifts from wealthy relatives.

Let's say a young couple's parents (grandparents, etc.) have built up a sizable estate during their lifetime and upon their deaths fully intend to leave a substantial inheritance to the couple. With careful planning, the parents or grandparents could give the couple part of the money now and, at the same time, possibly reduce overall estate taxes that may be due when they die.

Under current law, any individual can give a gift equal to \$11,000 every year without paying any gift taxes. A married couple together can claim an annual gift tax exclusion totaling \$22,000 a year. Any attorney, financial planner or related professional who specializes in estate planning and taxes can provide details about how to set up a gifting program that can benefit the beneficiaries as well as the recipients.

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