

## June Yard of the Month

By Kay Proctor

Dean and Florene Robinson of 425 Gale Street were selected by the Heppner Garden Club for the June Yard of the Month recognition.

After raising daughters Natalie and Jacklyn, the couple now shares their two-story home with three cats and one friendly Airedale named Bo. Florene was raised on a farm in the Adrian/Nyssa area and loves animals. Acceptance of Dean's marriage proposal included Dean's promise to include Florene's pet dairy cow, Ginger, in all their future plans. So, Ginger went to college with the newly married couple...Treasure Valley Community and Eastern Oregon colleges.

Their home was originally built in 1895 and survived the tragic 1903 flood. The south side of the home was built with square nails. The home was used as the parsonage for the Assembly of God Church when the Robinsons bought it in 1980, and the two remodeled and added on a few years ago. The original yard had three large but rotten locust trees, and the stumps are still used in the landscape.

After Dean retired as a teacher/coach/athletic director for Ione in 2009, his first retirement project was to replace their nondescript front fence. A long-time goal was to use black pine log rails and juniper posts. With input, encouragement and help from neighbor Sam Hornbeck, the fence was built the old-fashioned way; draw knives to strip bark from poles, tenon and mortise joints, and no nails. Curved poles were found to make an archway for the entry and to create the Robinson's brand on the gate. Dean hopes to enclose the entire yard with pole fencing someday.

The Robinsons mention that people often stop as they walk by their home and comment on the solidly-built fence. Neighbor Shirley Rugg noted that, when the gate is shut and the Robinson's brand is shown in reverse, it shows as her brand. Dean still pastures two horses in Ione, but gave up their long-time beef cow/calf herd not too long ago.

Florene's favorite plant is a forsythia shrub that honors Dean's sister and her brother. A charming, old-fashioned double washer tub doubles as a planter. Blackberries, gooseberries, strawberries, fruit and herbs from the back yard are put



Dean and Florene Robinson (inset) received Yard of the Month recognition for June from the Heppner Garden Club. -Contributed photo

to good use in her kitchen. Florene has "fun watching things grow." She acquired her love of gardening from her mother and has received starts from her including clumps of red hot poker plants that thrive in the front and back yards and attract hummingbirds. She laughs about another start from her mother called "naked lady," with the botanical name of Amaryllis Belladonna.

Bee-friendly plants do well and include sage/salvia, larkspur, roses, catmint and day lilies. Other plants include quince, irises, coral bells, mums, snapdragons, holly, bleeding heart, hosta and a tree peony. Every year, orange poppies flourish by their front porch around Memorial Day.

The "mountain part" of the back is Dean's favorite and includes a blue spruce and "quaking ass," also known as quaking aspen. He encourages others to garden and if something "dies, plant some more."

Dean's lawn mowing is often interrupted by his volunteer firefighting work. He recently retired from

fighting wild fires during summers, saying it is a "young man's job," but still substitute teaches and is employed by the county for quite a few years for Frank Anderson at the Arlington place before teaching in Ione in 1987.

Florene has worked in banking since 1981 and is the friendly voice answering phones at the Bank of Eastern Oregon. She has been a hospice volunteer and has served as treasurer of the senior center board for about 20 years.

How fortunate for Heppner that Florene accepted Dean's proposal and that Dean accepted Florene's pet cow, and that the Robinson family moved back here and made the community just that much better.

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

## Goldwings good for the community



Not only did the Goldwing Road Riders put on a great light parade for the community on Friday night and a bike show on Saturday afternoon, they also helped out the local Neighborhood Center with food and monetary donations. Altogether, \$186 dollars was donated, along with a great collection of food. They also spent money in local businesses. The best part is that they enjoyed our friendly community and will be coming back again sometime in the future. Pictured are Terry Huffman, Oregon District Director (L), and Dan Burgess (R) as they present monetary donations and food collected by the Goldwing riders to Janice Skaggs of the Neighborhood Center on Saturday, June 16. -Contributed photo

## Book sale planned for July 4

The Topic Club book sale will be held at the Ione Legion Hall on Tuesday, July 3, and Wednesday, July 4, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. This annual book sale benefits the Ione Library, which has been operated for more than 80 years by the women of Ione with every type of fundraising activity.

Since the current Ione City Hall was built in the

1950s, the library has been located next door to city hall. The Topic Club has been responsible for the cost of the librarian, book leasing, book purchases and other supplies. A reading program is conducted each summer, plus other programs of interest to the community. These library supporters also were instrumental in forming the Ione

Library District during the September 2011 election, with a board of directors sworn in on January 3, 2012.

"It is exciting to have the Ione Library District in our community," says one Topic Club member. "We look forward to extended hours, services such as computers, high speed internet and WiFi, automation of the existing collection, ebooks and audio books, plus other expanded workshops and classes. With the Library District, we will be allowed to catch up to the other districts in our area in a variety of ways."

Anyone who would like to donate books can contact Betty Gray at bgray@co.morrow.or.us or 541-422-7335.

The 2012 art show will be in the Ione Legion Hall during those same hours. This is the art show's second year as a part of the 4th of July celebration. Anyone who would like to display any art can call Taranna Patton at 541-422-7317.

## BALLOON RIDE

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Wednesday might have noticed a red helicopter flying around. The copter was being used by Odyssey Productions Inc., a full-service film, video and multimedia production company from Portland that specializes in producing interpretive programs for museums, visitor centers, zoos and aquariums. Padberg said the company just got back from filming a documentary in Africa.

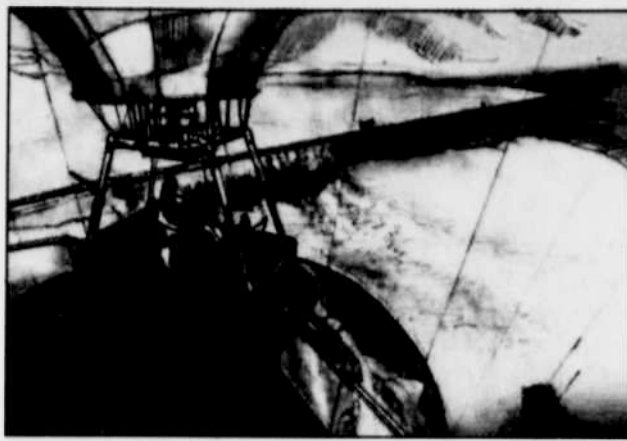
But to accomplish the balloon tour of Morrow County Padberg needed one more element.

"We wanted to show people doing things. How we live our lives here," he said. So he sat down at the phone and started calling people. When he finished, he had lined up more than 50 citizen volunteers for Wednesday who would do things on the ground while the helicopter filmed them.

"We started filming at the OHV (off highway vehicle) park in the mountains, where Gary Rea, Mark Rietmann, Sharon Winters and others were shown riding their OHVs on the trails, which would show the fun of using the park. We then flew over Penland Lake where, guess what? Ron Haguewood and others were fishing," Padberg said.

Padberg had originally lined up 50 people to do various activities last Tuesday, but when the weather turned bad, he had to reschedule everyone for the next day. "When the weather was just beautiful."

Did Padberg have new appreciation for Hollywood



An oversized basket hanging beneath what seems to be a hot air balloon is a portal for visitors to the SAGE Center to visualize an aerial overview of the region's key features and industries.

directors who do this all the time?

"It is kind of nerve wracking," said Padberg, who sat in the back seat of the helicopter for five hours watching the filming on a screen in front of him. He was always in contact with the cinematographer controlling the camera in the helicopter's front seat and, by radio, with people doing the activities on the ground.

"We had to have some of the people do things several times to get the right shot," he said, but he thinks the completed production will be quite a show. "I think people are really going to enjoy this," he said. Padberg said after the OHV and Penland Lake, they got a shot of Brian Thompson and his crew of cowboys moving cattle.

"Brian was going to move some cattle on Tuesday, but then when the weather turned bad he agreed to hold them there until the next day for the filming," said Padberg. "It made a nice shot."

The helicopter then

came down and filmed Willow Creek Lake—filming a large herd of elk on the way down—coming up over the rim of the dam and getting a nice shot of Heppner, which included shots of the court house.

Later the helicopter was filming some wheat fields, Padberg said, when, all of sudden, (it was actually planned, but will make a great shot) a spray plane came up right under the helicopter and the camera. John Boyer took his spray plane up and did several passes for the crew, simulating actual spraying but with water. Padberg says he thinks the shot is going to look great.

The helicopter uses a special 280-degree camera mounted on the front to get all the great shots, and he is looking forward to seeing them when editing is done.

"That camera shoots in four times HD (high definition)" he added.

After filming a section of farm land showing all the differently-colored crops, Padberg said they went over the Oregon Trail and got some footage of actual ruts. They went on over the Three Mile Canyon dairy, the poplar-tree plantation and shots of the Port of Morrow and the industries there.

One interesting shot was of several fishermen, including Don Russell and Ron McGinnis, hooking a six-foot sturgeon on the Columbia River. Padberg said the fishermen were excited because they had been fishing most of the day trying to get a fish for the filming, then finally did.

"They had a little trouble lifting that big sturgeon up in the air, though, for the camera," Padberg said, laughing.

Other shots of interest were one looking right down the stack of the Boardman coal-fired plant, some windfarm shots, and jet boats on the river where families with 15 people had gathered.

"Those people riding jet skies in the river was some dedication," Padberg said, noting how cold the water is this time of the year.

If you happened to be on the ground and waved to the helicopter last Wednesday, you may be immortalized in the Morrow County story for quite some time.

"We had lots of participation from people, and we really appreciated it," said Padberg of the 50 or more who volunteered to help. "I think it is going to make a really nice presentation."

## Filming the simulated balloon ride

Project manager for the Port of Morrow Sage Center is Mark Patton, and he provided the Gazette with the following information about the simulated balloon ride filming helicopter, and its Morrow County itinerary last Wednesday.

"Steven Winslow, Carl Davis, and Adam Heiser will be installing the Wescam system and Red One MX camera on the Eurocopter AS350b at Applebee Aviation and we will film aerials up and down the Columbia River Corridor and throughout Morrow County beginning at 7:15 a.m. on Tuesday (Wednesday). Steve Heiser, Sarah Chamness, and Max Rudolph will be on the ground in Morrow County to coordinate ground/water-based activities and meals."

Following is the itinerary of the helicopter work last Wednesday.

- Helicopter Itinerary  
Depart Applebee Aviation/Buxton, OR - 7:15 a.m.  
Fuel Truck at Boardman Airport - 8:45 a.m.  
1. Touchdown at Boardman Airport/Refuel/Load Mary - 8:45 a.m.  
2. Threemile Canyon Farms - 9:15 a.m.  
3. Powerplant - 9:30 a.m.  
4. Wells Springs - 9:45 a.m.  
5. Windfarm - 10 a.m.  
6. Ione - 10:15 a.m.  
7. Refuel at Lexington Airport - 10:40 a.m.  
8. Wall Creek/OHV/Liftoff - 11:15 a.m.  
9. Cattle/Elk - 11:40 a.m.  
10. Lake Penland - 12 p.m.  
11. Blue Mtns. and Transition to Farmland - 12:15 p.m.  
12. Willow Creek Reservoir/Heppner - 12:30 p.m.  
13. Farmland/Cropduster - 12:45 p.m.  
14. Poplar Farm - 1 p.m.  
15. Touchdown at Port of Morrow/Unload Mary - 1:20 p.m.  
16. Columbia River/Marina/Touchdown Sequence - 1:30 p.m. (Odyssey Coordinates) - Jet Boat, Barge/Tug, Jet Skis, Etc.  
17. Lunch/Recap - 2 p.m.  
18. Refuel at Port of Morrow/Return to Buxton - 2:30 p.m.

## Art and craft show planned

Artists with photography, textiles, water color, oil, acrylic, pen, pencil, ink, metallurgy, ceramics and alternative media are welcome to submit their work to the 2012 art show during the Ione Red, White and Blues celebration.

Monday, July 2, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., the American Legion doors will be open to the large portion of the hall for artists to set up their art.

Doors will be open for

viewing Tuesday, July 3, and Wednesday, July 4, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The Legion Hall will be open 6-8 p.m. July 5 for artists to pick up their work.

Artists are encouraged to be on hand intermittently to answer questions regarding their artwork. "For sale" signs are not allowed on artwork; however, artists may leave business cards so patrons can follow up later.

The Legion Hall will

also host a craft show during the Fourth of July celebration. Doors will open to the small section of the hall at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday for crafters to set up tables. Cost per table is \$10; crafters may sell their wares.

Doors will be open to craft show patrons July 3 and 4 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Interested parties can call Taranna Patton at 541-422-7317 with questions regarding art and craft show.

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