

Hughes wins first 2022 yard of the month A View from the Hill

By Kay Proctor

The first Yard of the Month honors for 2022 goes to Patricia Hughes at 280 S. Court Street.

The charming house has been home to Patricia since the fall of 2000 and she has continued to “add to or take away from,” putting her own personal touches to the established landscaping since then. A major project was new fencing on all four sides, done in stages, with the goal to deter deer visitors to the yard.

A necessary project was the removal of two large and shade providing Elm trees in the front yard that were, unfortunately, past their time. Those were quickly replaced with two other shade trees.

A large side yard patio is Patty’s favorite place outdoors that her son-in-law, Tom Gregg, added a lower part to, making the step down to the yard easier. Future plans are to replace some aged boards in the decking. A stamped concrete front walk was put in place a few years ago by Frank Jones.

A backyard kitchen garden is full of herbs, berries and vegetables including Jerusalem artichoke which has grown well for her. Sprinkler systems on a timer irrigate the garden and the grass lawn which includes bee friendly white clover, all thick and healthy. Pat does the mowing and weeding, but good naturedly shares that all the trimmings and yard debris are hauled off by Mark Schlichting for him to get rid of. Mark, nearby, chuckles, and emphasizes that Patricia does all the work.

A gentle slope continues from the back garden,



Above: Patricia Hughes with Mark Schlichting (left) at her Yard of the Month home and her cat, Munchkin. -Photos by Kay Proctor.

past the back covered patio, to the northeast side yard where fruit trees and a quince grow. Along the way are seedless grapes, raspberries and strawberries.

Other plantings include foxglove, garden phlox, iris, larkspur, forsythia, bleeding hearts, honeysuckle, roses, boxwood, hydrangea, peonies, poppies and hardy geranium. Planters around the yard are full of annuals including a red geranium that Patty has

wintered over.

Patricia grew up in eastern Oregon as part of the Hughes Ranch of Little Butter Creek. She retired this past April from her job at the Morrow County Assessor/Tax Department where she had worked since 1998 with part of her plans being to work more on her yard and garden.

Other plans for Patricia’s retirement are more time with the families of daughter, Amber Peck

Gregg, and son, Chris Peck, and her five grandchildren. Her family also includes mother, Gail Hughes, whose previous Heppner home received the Yard of the Month recognition in August 1999, and who gave Patricia her hydrangea and some peonies from that yard.

Yard of the Month is co-sponsored by the Heppner Volunteers, MCGG/Green Feed and Seed Store, and the City of Heppner.

By Doris Brosnan

The Community of Willow Creek Terrace might view as ironic that this sunny month of July began with the “National Stay Out of the Sun Day” on the third. The change in the weather is such a welcomed opportunity to get outside for some Vitamin D. Sitting outside in the evenings, enjoying the many blooming plants, is especially inviting.

And everyone was welcome to get comfortable on the front lawn for their small fireworks show on the 4th. Fried chicken is a favorite menu item whether eaten inside or on the patio, so that specially marked day on the calendar today could be enjoyed anywhere. Of course, advice on “Make Your Own Sundae Day” on the 8th will be to stay out of the sun for the ice cream social everyone is invited to. And everyone will be invited to try a virgin pina colada on that designated special day, the 10th.

While waiting to welcome a new resident, Alex Camarillo, later this month, residents will be enjoying some morning discussions, along with the morning exercises. A mystery right now is what might be expected chatter on the “Different Colored Eyes Day” on the 12th, but on the 17th, the anniversary of the opening day of Disneyland in 1955, memories might be plentiful. Baseball might take center stage on the 19th, the day of the MLB All-Star Game. And, appropriately, the very next day, on the 20th, the Hot Dog gets its day of celebration on the menu.

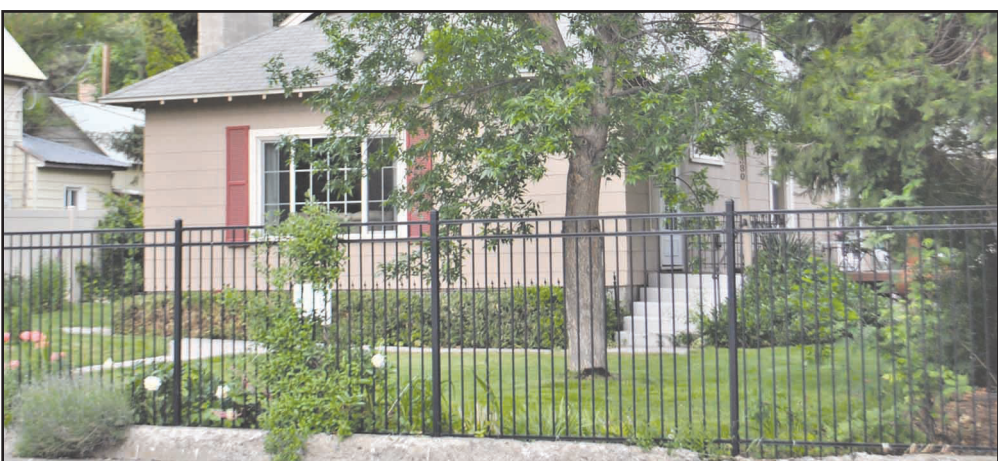
All the “Gorgeous Grandmas” at the Terrace will be honored on the 23rd.

Discussing cousins will surely be interesting on the 24th, but it is also designated “Tell Old Jokes Day,” so laughter and groans could dominate. “Parents Day” on the 25th will probably elicit a wide variety of memories and comments. Bugs Bunny will turn 82 years old on the 27th, another entertaining topic to discuss.

What might lunch look like on the 29th, “Mad Hatter’s Day,” as residents remember the tea party scene in Alice in Wonderland on the movie’s 71st anniversary? At least one item on the menu on the 30th is now known, for that is “Cheesecake Day.” It also happens to be “Father-in-Laws Day,” another enticing topic for morning discussion.

Birthdays might be a common topic around the dining room on the 13th because that will be Dick Turrell’s 75th birthday. Everyone always looks forward to birthday celebrations and will wish Dick many more to come, while they enjoy the menu he has chosen for his special lunch with family and friends.

New employees Dakota Bond and Nellie Blakley have joined the community on the hill in time to get in on these and future celebrations. And Administrator Sammara says, “We are always welcoming new applicants. If you want to make a difference and enjoy serving your community, there are a variety of tasks and shifts available.” Information is available on the Terrace website and by calling 541-676-0004. Residents view new employees as new “family” and look forward to getting to know all staff members better and better.



Hughes yard and flowers earn her the Yard of the Month honors..



Boardman, Irrigon continue summer concert series

Music in the Parks free summer concert series will continue this year at Boardman and Irrigon Marina Parks through August 1.

Brady Goss performs on July 11 in Boardman. Goss was described from an early age as piano phenom. Today he is recognized as an electrifying entertainer. Those who have witnessed his live shows are awed by his formidable keyboard speed and soulful vocals, loaded with passion that keep fans of all ages wanting more.

Brass Fire heats the summer evening up on July 18 in Irrigon. Brass Fire’s large ensemble includes saxophones, trumpets, trombone, piano, bass, guitar and drums. The entire band provide vocal renderings. Be prepared for music made popular by a large variety of artists from Chicago to Earth Wind and Fire or Elvis to Santana. Brass Fire spans a musical range from the Big Band era music through blues, soul and on to the rock music of the 70s and 80s.

On July 25, Eric Ode comes to Boardman. Ode (pronounced Oh-dee) is a

national award-winning children’s singer/songwriter, a widely published author and poet and a thoroughly engaging entertainer. His upbeat, high-participation programs are bubbling over with fun, interactive music and include stories, skits, poetry, props and puppets.

Cruise Control ends the concert season on August 1 in Irrigon. Cruise Control is a 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s cover band that plays Rock, Pop and Country Rock music. Together with their unique blend of voices, they play everything from hard drivin’ rock and roll to softer melodies.

The concerts are free to the public and begin at 7 p.m. on Monday nights. Visitors are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets. The series is funded by the Morrow County Unified Recreation District and Portland General Electric and sponsored by the North Morrow Community Foundation. In the event of inclement weather, Boardman performances will be held at the SAGE Center and Irrigon performances will be held at the Irrigon Senior Center.

COUNTY ALLOCATES FUNDS

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tion in the county, said he agreed. “I don’t disagree,” he told Russell, but said the first thing is to get the residents affected clean water to drink. “I think shifting these folks from the water they have been drinking to clean fresh water does speak to the health care portion of it. Certainly, we have an emergency, and we need to get them good clean fresh water is paramount.”

Doherty said he also agreed there needs to be filtration systems put into all the home’s wells to take out the nitrates and get the amount down to a safe lev-

el. “We need 1,500 homes with 1,500 filters in them. We have to bridge this (present problem of contaminated water,” adding that the \$100,000 was just contingency funds to get the fresh water out to people and hire a media company to get the word out to people about the problem, and the county’s efforts so help with it.

Gray also echoed the current efforts are only temporary fixes. “In the short term yes, it is about getting the resident’s water. I don’t plan on doing that forever,” said Gray who

has been at the distribution stations personally handing out water when there was a shortage of volunteers. “My next step is putting a filter in everybody’s home.” He said later he would be meeting with health authority people on exactly what kind of nitrate filters should be used.


Gray also pointed out that by the county putting up the \$100,000 it would “show the businesses (who are stepping up with funding) we are willing to put money into the pot to get this fixed,” he emphasized.

Church schedules VBS

Heppner Christian Church will host Vacation Bible School July 11-14 for children who are three years of age through 6th grade. Everyone in the community is invited to participate from 9:30 to noon Monday through Thursday. Friday, July 15 will be a free family pool day from 10 a.m. to noon, with a free lunch provided.

Children interested in attending VBS should pre-register at <https://heppner-christian-church.my-cokesburyvbs.com>.

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