

# Gardener Issues Lament Over Misses, Failures

By Patricia McCormack  
United Press International  
Homefront, U.S.A.—UPI—  
Drop the trowels, you valiant home gardeners. By ache of back and sweat of head you have earned a place in the royal order of the green thumb.



Patricia McCormack  
gardeners' jeans. Rejoice over your successes down to earth. Then join me in a mid-summer's lament over the near misses, the backfires and the failures.

Successes on our little third of an acre include weeds the likes never seen—at least not since last summer this time. But even the dandelions, though the season's supposed to be over, are bigger and better than they were last year.

**Bugs Winning**  
Another mixed blessing, brown leaves before autumn, comes from heightened bug activity. The insects have munched at such a rate that at least half the leaves supposed to be green are brown. Chalk up one for the bugs. The only catastrophe with a half-penny ending stems from a birch broken by last winter's ice storms. The

noble tree, tall and obviously much too proud, failed to flex when the ice made it horse-shoe shape.

The failure to bend with the elements broke the tree midpoint. The tree surgeon—sumoned at once—gave it up for dead. He placed no stock in a branch sticking out below the break. The thickness of the branch sticking out offered a slim hope.

At the risk of being impounded for practicing tree surgery without a license, this home gardener sawed off the broken part and sealed the stump from air and bugs with an empty Economy-size fruit juice can. All the sap in the roots then had just one place to flow.

The branch sprouted and sprung and spurted in every direction. It now supports half the greenery the unbroken tree once supported. It now also supports a bird-feeding station.

But for every success and half-success, there are the failures to add muscle to a gardener's mid-summer lament.

The saddest tale on our home front concerns the fierce miracle growing rose hedges.

Much contemplation preceded the rainy day last spring when holes were dug and the things rooted along a border needing a fence. A farmer of some experi-

ence tried to wave down the yen to plant the things. Said he did once and the things took over the big pen they were supposed to border. It took earth-moving equipment to knock the fierce rose hedge out of pit's way.

Thoughts of such a size, the fierce thorned and fast growing roses were planted. That was two months ago. You should see them now—provided you can find them among the weeds. They are finer than the finest Irish lace.

The worst tale concerns what happened when old green thumb here juiced up some aged evergreens with a miracle brew of chemicals guaranteed to send new life surging through the half-brown and very limp branches.

In two days, the evergreens turned brown—all over. It would be unfair, of course, and cause for expulsion from the order of the green thumb. But I'm tempted to spray the things with green paint, add a plastic coat of clear all-weather spray and call it a season.

## Announce Dance

Derby - A square dance will be conducted by the Derby Hoedowners Square Dance club Friday, August 10 in the Community hall. Dancing will begin at 8:30 p.m., and potluck refreshments will be served. Edwin Cavin will call the squares and all interested square dancers are invited. This will be the last session for the group until October, officers announce.

# Women's News Social Events



New York - Secretary-coordinator of the proposed National Cultural center is Jarold A. Kieffer, shown here at his desk. Mr. Kieffer believes that culture is uniting factions up and down the land and says plans for the new center are going well. Three halls will be built in Washington, D. C., a 2,750 seat symphony hall, a 1,200 seat theater and a 2,500 seat auditorium to make up the center. (UPI)

# Woman Is Responsible for Space Age Developments

By JOAN SWEENEY

Los Angeles - (UPI) - Laurel van der wal Roennau decided several years ago that she wanted to work on a new "frontier" — and concluded that in the 20th century, this meant the field of aeronautics and astronautics.

As a result, she is the only woman airport commissioner in the United States and her work in bioastronautics helped prepare the way for manned space flights.

The soft-spoken Mrs. Roennau says, "I am impatient with people who do not make full use of all their capabilities."

In addition, former occupations ranged from deputy sheriff, showgirl, art instructor, aircraft mechanic, model, railroad switch tower operator and gambling casino skill. Impatient

Her impatience with waste in any form led to project MIA, the mouse-in-space project which was the first experiment with taking animals above an altitude of 100 miles. These 1958 flights were the forerunners of America's manned space effort.

Mrs. Roennau conceived project MIA when she learned that rocket experiments were using ballast for payloads. This meant that when the rockets were tested, they carried weights in place of nuclear warheads. She reasoned that this space might just as well be used to provide data for manned flights. Thus was born the hitchhiking or piggy-back concept in which experiments are put aboard the nose cone of a missile being tested for an entirely different purpose.

In project MIA, the heartbeats of the mice were measured and telemetered back to earth. The animals traveled at speeds of more than 15,000 miles an hour and reached record altitudes of 1,400 miles. Boundless Energy

Mrs. Roennau's energy seems boundless. She earned her way through the University of California by working as a railroad switch tower operator. For three years, her hours were from mid-

night to 8 a.m., seven days a week. While attending college she also worked as a photographic and fashion model; and for a few months she appeared occasionally as a show girl in several San Francisco productions. But she still managed to graduate with honors in mechanical engineering with an option in aeronautics.

Later she won a fellowship to the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden. Despite her space research, her work as a Los Angeles airport commission, and many public speaking engagements, Mrs. Roennau finds time for hobbies ranging from cooking

and sewing to skiing and skin diving. She also is an avid baseball fan. She and her husband, who works on space engines at North American Aviation, enjoy music and have a large record collection.

**Began Career**  
She began her space career in missile propulsion and was the head of the bioastronautics division of Space Technology laboratories until she temporarily retired to await the birth of her first child — or children. The doctor says her firstborn may be twins.

In an interview Mrs. Roennau said, she feels her major contribution to space science has been her vocal cords. "I'm a loud mouth," she laughed. "I tell people what I think. I attempt to spread the gospel and convince some of our voting citizens of what we ought to be doing in the space field."

She believes Americans do not sufficiently appreciate the Russian challenge. "Americans must wake up to the fact that we have very real competition and they must be willing to make the sacrifices necessary to see that we win this competition," she said.

## Weather May Change Party

The weather will dictate where Medford Sojourners will meet this week.

The club has scheduled the annual garden party for Thursday, August 9, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Eden, 211 Genesee street. Since the weather has changed, it is announced that if the day is fair, the party will be at the Edens; if it is raining, it will be held at Girls Community club.

The event is set for 12:30 p.m. and dessert will be served.

## Nieces Arrive For Stay Here

Kay and Christie May, Boyes Hot Springs, Calif., are guests for the week of their aunt, Mrs. Oscar Gysin, and Mr. Gysin, route 3, box 198, Medford. They will be joined this week end by their mother, Mrs. Stephen Rusel and Mr. Rustelka, who will remain for a time. They have planned a trip to Crater lake and other valley points.

Mrs. Rustelka, a sister of Mrs. Gysin, is a former valley resident and this will be Mr. Rustelka's first trip to southern Oregon.

## Return

Central Point - Mr. and Mrs. Bruce L. Norris, 3593 Hanley road, have recently returned from a trip up the coast of Washington. They fished at Bremerton and made a visit to the World's Fair. They were accompanied by their daughters, Carol and Bette Jo.

## Portland Orchestra To Audition

Portland-Musical auditions for the Portland Symphony orchestra's 1962-63 season will be held by Symphony conductor Maestro Jacques Singer from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, August 8, through Friday, August 10.

Instrumentalists interested in playing with the orchestra may make appointments to be heard by contacting the Portland Symphony Society, Park Building, (Portland), CA 8-1353. This will be the last series of try-outs before the start of the season's rehearsals.

Maestro Singer, who has led symphony orchestras throughout North and South America since 1938, arrived in Portland last week to start plans for his first season with the Portland orchestra. Previous to coming to Portland, he concluded a five-year contract as music director and conductor of the Corpus Christi, Texas Symphony with a concert tour of the Caribbean which was widely acclaimed in each of the five cities in which he appeared. Singer was selected by the Portland Symphony after it had screened 100 inquiries, and held 12 auditions of interested conductors.

The 1962-63 Portland Symphony season begins October 15. Guest artists scheduled to appear during the season include Vladimir Ashkenazy, Shirley Verrett-Carter, Benny Goodman, and Claudio Arrau. Auditions for positions in the Symphony orchestra will be held in Room E, on the second floor of the Portland Civic Auditorium, 1520 SW Third Avenue.

## Eugene Theater To End Season

Eugene - The final curtain will fall on the University of Oregon's Carnival Theater Saturday night, Aug. 11, as the first summer season of this new theater comes to an end.

Productions scheduled for the week are "Monique" on Thursday, Aug. 9, "Donnybrook" on Friday, August 10, and "Little Mary Sunshine" on Saturday night. The final matinee performance of "The Emperor's New Clothes" will be given Thursday, August 9 at 1:30 p.m. (PST).

Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. (PST) and are held in the outdoor amphitheater adjacent to the University Theater. In case of bad weather, productions are given indoors.

## Square Dancers Schedule Picnic

A potluck picnic has been scheduled for members of the Buckles and Bows Square Dance group and is to be held at 7 p.m., Saturday, August 11 at the Jackson Hot Springs. Square dancing will begin at 8:30 p.m., and guest callers and square dancers interested are invited to attend both the picnic and the dance session. Members interested in receiving "square duck" badges for dancing in the pool, should take swim suits.

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