Social Events ✦ Women's News

Thailand Businesswoman Is Former Oregonian

By GAY PAULEY
UPI Women's Editor

Bangkok, Thailand – (UPI) – In the United States, the success of businesswoman Maxine North would be considered amazing. Here in a country where a businesswoman is a rare breed, the beautiful widow of a screen writer rates as a phenomenon.

Gay Pauley

Mrs. Robert Guilford North, born 42 years ago in Salem, Ore., is chairman of the board, managing director or partner in four firms involved in everything from making the fizz for soft drinks to investment counseling.

In addition, she is one of the founders of the Bangkok Stock Exchange, which began operation last July.

The first of the companies, Pure Gas, Ltd., of which she is managing director, was founded while her husband was alive. Twentieth Century Fox 12 years ago had sent him to Thailand to check authenticity of background for a World War II story it planned to film.

Remark Made

Mrs. North said several friends were talking one evening when one of them, a soft drink bottler, remarked "If somebody had $200,000 to invest, there's a wonderful business opportunity here."

It would be in producing carbon dioxide, the gas which bottlers used to give soft drinks their fizz. At the time, it was being imported from Germany and, said Mrs. North, "costing the southeast Asia bottlers a fortune."

"We didn't have that kind of money," she said, "but I asked Bob if he minded my investigating . . ."

It ended up with the Thai government lending her funds to buy the necessary equipment.

Husband Dies

Mrs. North was widowed eight years ago when polio suddenly struck her husband — "In a matter of days he was gone," she said. His widow and his mother, now 78 and still living with Mrs. North, returned with his body to the States. Said Mrs. North, "I thought we'd never go back; I was bitter . . ."

But when she heard the business was floundering she agreed to return with the promise to the stockholders that "I'd spend a year to get the thing back on its feet."

"Well, here I still am," she laughed. Today, that firm continues production of liquid carbon dioxide for southeast Asia consumption and also has gone into the dry ice business.

A second company was organized in 1956 — "No one had thought of bottling pure water for drinking," she said. "That used in the hotels and restaurants was so strongly chlorinated you could hardly drink it . . ."

Drilled Well

Now, she said, an artesian well drilled by the firm of which she also is managing director supplies water, bottled by U.S. methods, to restaurants, hotels and homes especially of the foreign aid and diplomatic corps here.

The third project is Rak-Fairbarns-North, Ltd., a three-way partnership organized at first to serve as management consultants but now in investment counseling and serving as the import arm for the other firms.

Dr. Rak Panyarachun, a Thai, is associated with her in all the firms including the newest — Thai Celadon Company, Ltd.

This company, less than three years old, has revived the production of a pottery which originated in northern China more than 2,000 years ago. She is it board chairman.

"Well, what's the next industry you're planning to explore?" I asked, figuring she'd say she now had her hands full.

Hydroponics Planned

"Hydroponics," she answered instantly. "It's the science of growing vegetables or other plants in a water solution filled with minerals. They're already doing this in Florida . . . producing as many as five crops a year.

"Here in southeast Asia, think what that would mean when you consider our population explosion."

Had Bangkok's woman tycoon become a millionaire many times over? "Heaven, no," she said. "I take enough out of the companies to feed and clothe me and keep the house and servants. The rest goes into expansion.

"In an under - developed part of the world, it is a never-ending necessity to put the profits back into operation . . . I believe money should work to give people employment."

Mrs. North, a five feet, seven inch brunette with a model's face and figure, was graduated with a degree in business administration from the University of Oregon. She worked for Columbia Pictures in Hollywood before she and her husband moved here.

College Students Vacation To End

Most students home for the holidays will be returning to school early this week. The list includes Jeremy Randolph and David Lowry, of the University of Santa Clara, Santa Clara, Calif., the Misses Susan Reavis and Ann Haviland, of the College of Holy Names, Oakland, Calif., Thomas Hersant, St. Mary's college, Moravia, Calif., Miss Mary Pat Naumes, Dominican College for Women, San Rafael, Calif., and Gregory Wright, University of San Francisco.

Applegate Valley Residents Travel

Applegate Valley – Among those of the valley who made pre-Christmas visits to other areas are Mrs. Armin Richter, who visited friends at La Jolla and South Pasadena, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Maddox Sr., and daughter Dianne who visited relatives in Eugene. There they were guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Smith, and of their son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Maddox.

Mr. and Mrs. John Henderson left Saturday to spend the New Year holiday with friends in Arcata, Calif.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave Winningham spent Christmas with relatives in Oregon City.

Guests Here

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Rasmussen, 184 Clover lane, and Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Varner, 6240 Table Rock road, are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wasson and children, McMinnville, Ore.

First Lady Heads List

Chicago – (UPI) – America's First Lady, a pair of princesses and seven actresses were the "ten best coiffured" women of 1962, according to a poll by the Helene Curtis Guild of Professional Beauticians.

The guild said the year's 10 winners were selected by 20,000 professional hair stylists. They were Mrs. John F. Kennedy; her sister, Princess Lee Radziwill; Princess Grace of Monaco, the former Grace Kelly; and entertainers Olivia de Havilland, Arlene Francis, Doris Day, Shirley Booth, Arlene Dahl, Mitzi Gaynor and Polly Bergen.

This marked the third time Mrs. Kennedy was named among the best tressed women of the world. She was on the "ten best coiffured" list in 1959 and again in 1961.

Selections were based on the appropriateness of a hairdo to a woman's looks, personality and way of life.

Students Hear Campus Pair; Senior Visits

Miss Teresa Six and Bruce Niedermeyer, representatives from the campus of the University of Oregon for the Greater Oregon organization recently entertained about 20 Medford High school students at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack E. Six, 2510 Lyman avenue.

Purpose of the organization is to inform high school seniors of the advantages in attending the university and the two campus representatives spoke to the group concerning the school.

Both Miss Six and young Niedermeyer are freshmen at the university, and both attended Medford High school. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Niedermeyer, 1014 Old Stage road, Medford, and is president both of his dormitory and his pledge class for the Sigma Phi Eosilon fraternity.

The Niedermeyers' daughter, Miss Nancy Niedermeyer, a senior at the university, also is visiting her parents through the holidays. She is a Sigma Kappa sorority member and is president of her chapter.

Chapter Notes Meeting Change

Because the regular meeting date falls on New Year's day, Chapter BE of the PEO sisterhood will meet on Wednesday, January 2. The meeting will be at the home of Mrs. David Chirgwin, 2577 Stewart avenue, at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Allan F. Perry will assist the hostesses and Mrs. Eleanor Hamilton will have charge of the program, "Just for Fun."

Portlanders Visit In Applegate Valley

Applegate Valley – Miss Sharon Wilson, Portland, spent the holidays here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Wilson.

Also here from Portland were Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McKee and four children, who were guests of Mrs. McKee's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Maddox, Sterling road. The McKees were also guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd McKee, South Stage road, Medford.

Lacks Entertain Holiday Visitors

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Lack, 2132 Harrison avenue, over the holidays have been Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Heinbach, their two children Mary Helen and Roger, from Grand View, Idaho, and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hansberger and daughter Lora Michele, and Eydde Lynne Heinbach, Garberville, Calif. The latter is a granddaughter of the Lacks.

Other visitors were Jack Christenson and his companion, Peter Pearl, Seattle, Wash.

Guests Depart After Visit

Mr. and Mrs. Allan F. Perry, 2668 Military road, Medford, had as their guests last week, their daughter, Miss Janet Perry, their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Perry, and Mrs. Perry's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hare and daughter, Allison, all of Portland, and Mr. Robin Wilkinson, Seattle, Wash. All departed for their homes the end of the week.

Samuel Collins Gold Hill Visitor

Gold Hill – Mr. and Mrs. Dale S. Collins had as their guest over the Christmas holiday their son, Samuel Collins, Garden Grove, Calif.

The Ten Best Coiffured Women in 1962 were announced in Chicago December 29 by the Helene Curtis Guild of Professional Beautificians. Elected from a slate of internationally famous women are (left, top to bottom,) Mrs. John F. Kennedy; Miss Olivia de Havilland, actress; Miss Doris Day, comedienne; Miss Polly Bergen, entertainer; Princess Lee Radziwill, socialite; Miss Arlene Dahl, screen star-journalist; Miss Shirley Booth, actress, Miss Mitzi Gaynor, dancer-actress; Princess Grace of Monaco; Miss Arlene Francis, actress and television personality. (UPI photo)

Calendar

Calendar notices and news for the society section of The Mail Tribune must be submitted in writing and deadline for the Sunday edition is 1 p.m. Friday. Deadline for the weekly calendar is 9 a.m. of the day of publication and for week day news is 5 p.m. the day before publication.

Monday

7:30 p.m. – MOLB New Year's party, VFW hall, 42 North Front st.

8:30 p.m. – Square Dance, Country Square Dance hall, 1 mile west of Talent junction on Colver rd.

Families Give Holiday Dinners In Applegate

Applegate Valley – Among those entertaining with large family Christmas dinners were Mr. and Mrs. Rex Davis. Relatives here for the holiday were their daughter, Miss Zoe Anne Hawkins, student at Prairie Bible Institute, Alberta, Canada; Mrs. Davis' brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Duval, and daughter Beverly, San Diego; a brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Clem Palmer, Portland; and a niece, Miss Joyce Hawkins, student nurse from Portland. Others coming for the occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Farnsworth, Reno, Nev., and Mr. and Mrs. Lester Stevens, Portland.

Others having family dinners were Mr. and Mrs. Lance Offenbacher, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fossen, Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Offenbacher, and Mr. and Mrs. Chester McDonough. Mrs. McDonough also entertained with a Christmas eve party.

Mr. and Mrs. James Scott, Santa Susanna, Calif., spent the holiday period here with their son, Robert Scott, and Mr. Scott's mother, Mrs. Lora Scott.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ferraro of Arcata, Calif., were guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Henderson. Mr. and Mrs. Elvis Offenbacher were here to spend the holiday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leon Offenbacher.

Byron Palmer, senior in social science at Southern Oregon college, spent the vacation period with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Armin Richter.

Mrs. Gene Gilpen and son Kevin of Denver spent a few weeks prior to Christmas here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Linus Snyder.

Couples Spend Holidays Away

Gold Hill – Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Jones, Gold Hill and their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Nealy, and daughter, Miss Betty Jo Nealy, Grants Pass, were guests during Christmas week at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Wendal Jones and family at Sisters, Ore., and Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Morrison and their family at Wenatchee, Wash. Mrs. Morrison is a daughter of the Jones and Wendal Jones is their son.

Student Visits With Parents

Douglas Robertson, a freshman student at University of Oregon, is home for the holiday season with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Robertson, 1955 Gregory road, Medford.

Other guests at the Robertson home last week were their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Grant McCormack, Portland, who have returned home.

Brooklyn Garden Publishes Handbook on House Plants

Brooklyn, N.Y. — To the gardener in cooler sections of the country whose outdoor activities are ended by the advent of winter or to the gardener anywhere who is seeking new fields of horticultural endeavor, the growing of house plants presents a friendly challenge.

House plants may range in size from a single, small African violet to a tree the height of a man; from a cactus that thrives in a hot, dry room to a tropical rain forest plant that needs a glass case to maintain a humidity of 90 degrees; from plants that "grow under all conditions," to plants best left to experts with carefully trained "green thumbs."

Somewhere in this range is a house plant for everyone, and 15 experts tell how to grow them in a new richly illustrated "Handbook on House Plants," just published by the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn. The book is a 96-page publication, printed on high-quality book paper, and contains 166 half-tones and 10 line drawings. The articles are simple enough to be understood by the beginner, yet complete enough to satisfy the skilled grower.

The handbook begins at the beginning—with an article by Rudy J. Favretti, of the plant science department of the University of Connecticut, on "Basic Principles of Growing House Plants." Noting that there are five main factors to consider in selecting plants—their needs for light, temperature, soil water and humidity—he urges that plants be chosen to fit the normal home environment rather than to attempt to change the environment to fit the plant.

He says attempts to grow cyclamen in the present day living room would be futile because the temperature is too high. Light, he continues, can be extremely important; the growth of a poinsettia, for example, can be influenced by the light from a television set.

Plant Portraits

Perhaps of greatest appeal to the expert as well as the beginner is a section called "100 House Plant Portraits." Here, arranged primarily on the basis of their light requirements, are pictures of plants and "thumb nail" descriptions of their characteristics and needs. For the beginner this will be a dictionary for identification of the plants he does not know. The portraits begin with those in which minimum maintenance is required and are recommended "for growing in the most difficult situations or by those whose green thumb talents are underdeveloped." They end with several special categories of plants for unusual situations, such as plants for seasonal bloom or plants requiring strong light.

The house plant grower who gains confidence from his success with snake plants or crassulas, "which grow under almost any conditions" can move on to orchids or bulbs for indoor winter blooms.

Article on Orchids

"Actually," says Thomas Powell in an article on orchids in the home, "if you can grow African violets you can grow orchids." He suggests that cypripedium or "lady slipper" orchid is a fine choice for beginners, and lists three other genera—laelias, oncidiums and epidendrums—that are especially well suited to home growing.

Probably not for apartment dwellers but rich in information for all gardeners is the article on "Bulbs for Indoor Winter Bloom," which the author, Elsie Ford Catlin, describes as "one of my most rewarding hobbies." The potted bulbs must be given 4 to 10 weeks for root growth outdoors in a pit or coldframe, the author says, before they are brought indoors. The article ends with a flowering schedule for forced bulbs.

Garden Pests

Unfortunately, indoor gardening does not eliminate garden pests so Ruth Marie Peters has contributed an article on "House Plant Pests," how to prevent them, and what to do if they appear.

The handbook also contains articles on unusual house plants, gloxinias, cacti, selecting gift plants, growing house plants in a city apartment and potted trees for modern interiors.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden handbooks are published as a public service. Copies are available at one dollar from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn 25, N.Y.

In Gold Hill

Gold Hill – Coming from Canada to spend Christmas in Gold Hill was William R. Force, who was a guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Force and family.

LUXURIOUS—Cotton suede, smart as can be in a "spare look" town coat with cardigan styling and natural waistline seaming. Other fashion details: giant hip pockets and side slits for easy walking. The March & Mendl coat comes in otter, green, or black.

FOR THE YOUNGSTERS

Hot luncheon meat buns provide a quick, economical party dish for youngsters. Cut a 12-ounce can of luncheon meat into one-quarter cubes. Mix well with one tablespoon of pickle relish, two tablespoons of sliced stuffed olives, one-half cup of diced American cheese, one-quarter teaspoon each of ground ginger and powdered mustard and three tablespoons of mayonnaise. Divide among nine split hamburger or frankfurter buns. Wrap each in foil and heat over grill or in a preheated 350-degree oven 15 to 20 minutes.

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Fashion War Is Ended In Italy

Rome – (UPI) – An Italian fashion civil war ended here when the victorious city of Florence offered an honorable peace to a vanquished Rome.

Florence and Rome have been battling for the title of Italy's fashion capital ever since Italian high fashion made its debut on the international scene in 1951.

The Florence fashion center tonight announced four more Roman couturiers would trek north to join the January Florentine presentation of collections for international buyers and the press. The schedule for the Pitti Palace showings was changed to make room for the new arrivals.

This gave Florence an overwhelming majority of 25 high fashion houses and left Rome with a handful of designers, most of whom concentrate on private clients.

Peace came as unexpectedly as any of the battle communiques of recent years. And it left the Italian foreign trade institute with half-page newspaper advertisements that became obsolete the day they appeared.

Today's advertisements invited fashion experts to Italian shows to be held: "In Rome from Jan. 13 to 18 and in Florence from Jan. 19 to 25."

The announcement from Florence practically obliterated the Roman part of the Italian collections. It left an estimated total of three fashion houses to fill up the six day program.

But the news should please some busy fashion experts who have been pleading with the Italians for years to present their collections in one place.

The January previews of fashions for next spring and summer should find Florence crowned as Italy's official style capital. That is, unless Italian fashion designers have more surprises up their sleeves.

Family Visitors Return to Homes

Gold Hill – Among those leaving the Rogue valley after spending the Christmas holiday with relatives in Medford were Mr. and Mrs. Adian Cox, Mrs. Mary Cox, all Boise, Idaho, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenard Harper and daughters, Virginia, Patricia, and Suzie, all of Eugene.

While in Medford they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Steinmetz, 837 Swing lane, and Mr. and Mrs. O. T. Davis, 121 Ashland street. Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Steinmetz are sisters of Mr. Cox and Mrs. Harper. Mrs. Mary Cox is mother of the four.

Mr. and Mrs. Davis and daughter, Patricia, a first grader at Roosevelt school in Medford, are newcomers from El Paso, Texas.

On the evening of December 24 a dinner and gift opening party was held at the Steinmetz home. Guests other than the out of town visitors and Davis family were Mr. and Mrs. Milton Steinmetz and son, Harry Leigh of Gold Hill, and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Brannon, Medford.

On December 25 a dinner was given for the family at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

Son Here

Matthew Rode, son of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Rode, 2242 Buena Vista drive, Medford, is visiting through the holiday season with his parents. He is here from Corvallis where he is an NROTC scholarship student at Oregon State university.

RAG AN HEIRLOOM—An attractive coverlet is an important part of Early American bedroom decor. This one, made from Bemis cotton feed and flour bags stamped with a quilt design, is easy to assemble and finish. The design and colors are copied from a family heirloom quilt.

Bag Quilts Replacing Quilt Bags

In grandmother's day, every household had a quilt bag, but today many homes have bag quilts instead.

Be it bag, box or whatever, grandmother's "quilt bag" was a special treasure chest containing any bits of fabric left from sewing projects that were big enough for quilt squares.

Eventually, when there was sufficient quanitty and variety of color, grandmother would carefully plan and patiently "piece a quilt," then call in the neighbors for a quilting bee.

As surely as nightfall you could count the family's wardrobe from the quilt covering someone's bed. Remnants from Aunt Sally's new blue calico, grandfather's pin-striped shirt, granmother's green-checked gingham, and various other apparel were painstakingly put together in "Grandmother's Flower Garden" quilt design."

Granddaughters and great-granddaughters, less inclined toward the time - consuming job of cutting fabric into small pieces and putting them together in a quilt design, are discovering "Grandmother's Flower Garden" printed on cotton bags.

Use Printed Bags

A major producer of cotton containers for flour and feed is now making bags printed in a six-color block design, ready to put together and quilt. The design and colors, according to the National Cotton council, are coppies from a family heirloom quilt. After quilting, the bags give the appearance of being hand pieced, just as grandmother's coverleets were made.

Using from six to nine of these printed feed or flour sacks, today's housewives can make a lovely quilt by following directions in a free booklet enclosed in each quilt-printed bag.

"Grand mother's Flower Garden" design is authentically Early American, and makes an attractive bedspread when it's used with a white muslin dust ruffle. The turquoise border printed on the bags can be emphasized by binding the quilt edges with matching bias tape.

Machines Quilt

To make the quilt, use cotton batting for filling material and plain white cotton bags or white muslin for the quilt lining. Rather than the old-fashioned quilting bee of grandmother's days, many seamstresses call on only their sewing machines for quilting assistance. Machine quilting is much easier and quicker than the hand-quilting method, and gives a nice appearance when completed.

Other interesting quilts can be made easily with patchwork - printed cotton bags. A colorful patchwork design is printed on some feed and flour bags, so they may be sewn together and quilted in the manner as quilt-print bags.

In lieu of quilt-print bags, seamstresses who like a sewing project they can pick up at leisure would enjoy piecing their own bag quilts. Any scrape of colorful cotton bag fabric can be worked into an interesting quilt — perhaps copying an heirloom design.

Quilted bag fabrics also make attractive chair covers, cafe curtains and valances to match, or dressing table skirts.

Practice Slated For Bethel 69; Installation Set

Queen-elect Denna Taylor, Bethel 69, International Order of Jobs Daughters, has announced a practice for installation to be held on the bethel's regular meeting night, Thursday, January 3, at 7:30 p.m. All girls who have robes checked out to them are requesied to bring them to the Medford Masonic temple the evening of the practice.

The public installation ceremony will be held Saturday, January 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the temple.

The bethel recently held a Christmas party. Escorted and introduced were Mrs. Carl Elhart, past grand guardian; Mrs. John North, grand fourth messenger; Wallace Eri, past associate guardian.

The bethel honored retiring Queen Camille Eri with an "aloha" addendum during which Miss Cheryl Bramhall presented an Hawaiian number. Miss Eri was given her Jobina doll.

Refreshments were served by Kathy Hearrell, Marsha Manning, Karen Shoop and Bette Meyers, assisted by their mothers.

To Return

Thomas Emmens, son of Col. and Mrs. Robert G. Emmens, 1511 East Main street, will return to Medford from Sacramento and Squaw Valley, Calif., en route to Eugena where he is a junior student. He spent the Christmas holidays here before continuing south.

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