

White Dogwood Trees Planted in City Park at Gold Hill

By MARY KELL
Mail Tribune Correspondent
GOLD HILL — White dogwood trees planted recently in the Gold Hill City Park have a historic background.

Twenty trees, 14 white and 6 pink dogwood, were shipped here in October from North Carolina by Mrs. Meta Pelton Simon, Oakland, Calif. as a gift to the Gold Hill Park. She feels her search for suitable dogwood trees for the local park has ended in success. She selected them while in the east.

In a letter to Donald Morrow, Gold Hill, Mrs. Simon related

the story connected with the white dogwood trees. Dogwood is the state flower of North Carolina.

She said the white dogwood trees are from the "Ashland" estate in North Carolina.

Ashland, erected in 1740, receives its name from a grove of Ash trees that once formed part of the plant arrangement on the surrounding grounds.

Home of Judge
Built by Samuel Henderson, Ashland was once the home of Judge Richard Henderson (1735-1785), who founded Boonesboro, Ky. and Nashville, Tenn. A lawyer, Army colonel, and chief justice, Henderson was author of the Cumberland Pact and Governor of the Transylvania Territory.

Ashland was acquired by the White family from a former North Carolina Governor, A.M. Scales, in 1900. The old estate is now occupied by Lt. Col. Henry E. White, retired Vance County lawyer.

Mrs. Simon hopes that a suitable plaque will be placed in the park for the white dogwoods.

The trees were planted by Leslie Cook, a long time Gold Hill resident.

Among Previous Gifts
Among previous gifts to the park landscaping by Mrs. Simon have been rose bushes, scotchbloom, and a weeping willow tree. Mrs. Simon is interested in Gold Hill, having spent considerable time at Pelton Orchards in Sams Valley.

H. D. Force, postmaster, said he had visualized a park at the location as he looked out of the windows of the old Gold Hill Post Office.

Several years of effort on the part of various civic minded individuals was necessary to secure and develop the property for a city park.

The site, which extends from Fifth Street to Fourth Street between Second Avenue and the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks, has undergone many changes since efforts were first started about the mid 1950s to do something about the weed patch and old scrap iron that had disfigured the area for so many years.

Development Started
After negotiations were completed with railroad company officials to use the land, the Gold Hill Lions Club started development of the park as a club project. It involved considerable expenditures by the Lions Club, and individual cash donations by interested people.

Equipment and man - hours were donated when preliminary ground work was being done.

Donald Morrow, Force, and Delos Walker donated their time to dig ditches for the irrigation system pipelines throughout the park. Ideal Cement Company at Gold Hill furnished men and equipment for hauling and leveling fill dirt, which was also donated by the cement company. H. S. Deuel, owner of Del Rio Orchards, seeded the lawn.

The Lions Club turned the park over to the City of Gold Hill after ground work was completed. The city has maintained it and paid the annual rent to the railroad for the park site property since March, 1958.

People Express Interest
During this period many people have expressed an interest in helping to make the park more beautiful.

A row of 20 to 30 evergreen trees are along the edge of the park adjacent to the railroad tracks. These were gifts to the park several years ago by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Boye and Arnold Boye, Gold Hill.

The bright foliage of a Sumack tree adds color during the early autumn. This tree was a gift from Mrs. Ferd Jones, Gold Hill.

Members of the Gold Hill Garden Club have as a project each year that of purchasing and planting flowers in the planter at the base of the flag pole.

Bricks for the planter and drinking fountain in the park were provided by the Lions Club, and George Tilley, Gold Hill, donated his masonry skill to do the job.

American Flag Presented
After the flag pole was put up several years ago, the Albert Beman family, former Gold Hill residents, presented an American Flag to the park. This was replaced recently by a 50 star American Flag purchased by the city, as a result of action by council members and Mayor Richard Straus.

Driver Injured in Central Point Crash
CENTRAL POINT — One driver was injured and a second was cited for failure to yield right-of-way as the result of an auto accident at Second and Manzanita Streets Wednesday.

Harold Eugene McGrath, 18, of 107 Windsor Way, was treated at Rogue Valley Hospital for minor injuries. Police cited the driver of the other car, Jimmie Duane Machacek, 18, of P. O. box 281, Gibbon Road. Both cars were extensively damaged.



CHECKING TREE — Donald Morrow, left, Delos Walker, center, and H. D. Force are shown admiring one of 14 white dogwood trees planted in the west end of the Gold Hill City Park. The park has been developed over a period of years mostly from donated labor. (Bob Routh Photo)

Picnic tables and benches were given to the park by the Lions Club. During the summer tourists from all parts of the United States use the tables.

Since the park was completed, the Lions Club members have lighted a large tree to spark the Christmas season each year. A spokesman for the club said he hopes some of the trees given by the Boyes will be large enough to use for decorations this year. A large Santa and two pair of reindeer were a gift for the park by Olaf Loken, Jerry Jeroloman, and Charles Rodgers, Gold Hill.

Bench Is Presented
A large bench, which had been used many years in the Southern Pacific passenger depot in Medford, was presented to the city for the park by the company about two years ago.

Among events that have taken place in the park since it was turned over to the city was the dedication ceremony for the new Gold Hill Post Office.

Another event was a 30-minute program presented in the park when the "Sea - to - Winnemucca" caravan stopped in Gold Hill en route from Crescent City, Calif. to Winnemucca, Nev.

The Lions Club annual picnic for wives and children of members is held in the park each year, and a large crowd of children take part in the Easter Egg Hunt each spring.

One end of the park is held in reserve for youngsters to play, and for this reason the new trees were planted at the west end.

Course in Detecting Check Passers Ends

The last of three sessions on detecting bad check passers for merchants and bank personnel was concluded here Thursday night with an overall attendance of 200 persons, according to the Jackson County Sheriff's office.

Klamath Falls police agencies held similar sessions last year and noticed a marked decline in bad check cases for approximately two months, it was reported.

James A. Benbrook, special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Portland, told the business people to get enough information from each check-

cashier so they can get their money from him.

"Take plenty of time to verify the check. Time is something a check artist can't afford," the FBI man advised.

Business people should be particularly wary of checks made out for much more than the purchase. Identifying information to be written on the check should include the number of the driver's license, and if possible, the license number of the car.

Social security cards are easily falsified and are not considered good identification, the FBI man said. Discharge papers are often falsified, also, he added.

He recommended, among other things, that the check cashier's home or alleged place of business be called and that a reference be checked.

Paul Bettio, undersheriff, outlined proper procedure when a

check is presented and pointed out things which will warn a clerk that a bad check is being passed.

Claire Alderson, of the Oregon Crime Bureau, told how he checks signatures. A cramped style of writing or a decided slant may indicate an attempted forgery, he warned.

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SIGN TELLS FEELINGS
DALLAS (UPI)—A sign was posted on the door of County Clerk Glynn Byrd's office Friday. It said:
"Due to the disgrace that has fallen on Dallas this office is not in a position to do any work today. This office is closed out of respect."

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TOPS IN TASTE