

Business Notes

Skidmore joins Mtn View Motors

After 30 years of driving log trucks, longtime Vernonia resident Fred Skidmore is doing something he's wanted to do since he was a child — he's become a car salesman.

Heeding the admonition that, if you have a lemon, you should make lemonade, Skidmore is using a forced hiatus from truck driving to build a new career. He can't drive truck right now because of a broken leg.

In the meantime, he remembered the excitement instilled in him as a child by an uncle who was a car salesman. So, he stopped in to see Ken Waite, sales manager at Mtn. View Motors in St. Helens.

Skidmore has known Waite since 1982, when he bought a car from what was then Jordan Motors. "I was impressed with the country atmosphere," Skidmore said, "There was no pressure." A year later he traded it in and bought another car from the company. Now, Skidmore



Fred Skidmore

wants to continue the good treatment he received.

"I had a good time driving truck," Skidmore said, "mostly for Holce [Logging Co.], the best employer a person could have." He has hired Kurt Donaku, of Knappa, to drive his Skidmore & Son log truck.

Skidmore moved to Vernonia in 1959 and is well-known for his community involvement. He and his wife, Diana, have raised their family — Stephen, Roger, Mindy and Molly — in Vernonia.

If you want to get hold of Skidmore during the day, call him in St. Helens at 397-1061, after hours, he may be reached at 429-7855.

Custom molding intrigues Ron Welch

Ron Welch, well-known Vernonia carpenter and builder, has launched a sub-career as a manufacturer of custom molding.

With a unique machine in his home workshop, an accumulation of special knives and a supply of wood, his Cornerstone Custom Molding business has an unlimited repertoire.

Although old-style molding is no longer being produced, Welch can make it to order. If you have cherished, but damaged, picture frames or furniture, he can repair them.

Presently in his eighth year as a foreman at Oregon Steel Mill, Welch does these jobs in his spare time. But, after spending forty-plus years in the carpentering business and eight years as a fulltime school maintenance man, he is looking forward to the satisfaction of providing custom moldings and woodwork on a full time basis in the future.

You will find Cornerstone Custom Molding in the *The INDEPENDENT* Professional Directory, or call 429-9602.

Application time for rural strategies and development grants

The Northwest Oregon Economic Alliance (NOEA) is seeking applications for approximately \$200,000 in Regional Strategies funds and \$325,000 in Rural Investment lottery funds for projects located in Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook Counties.

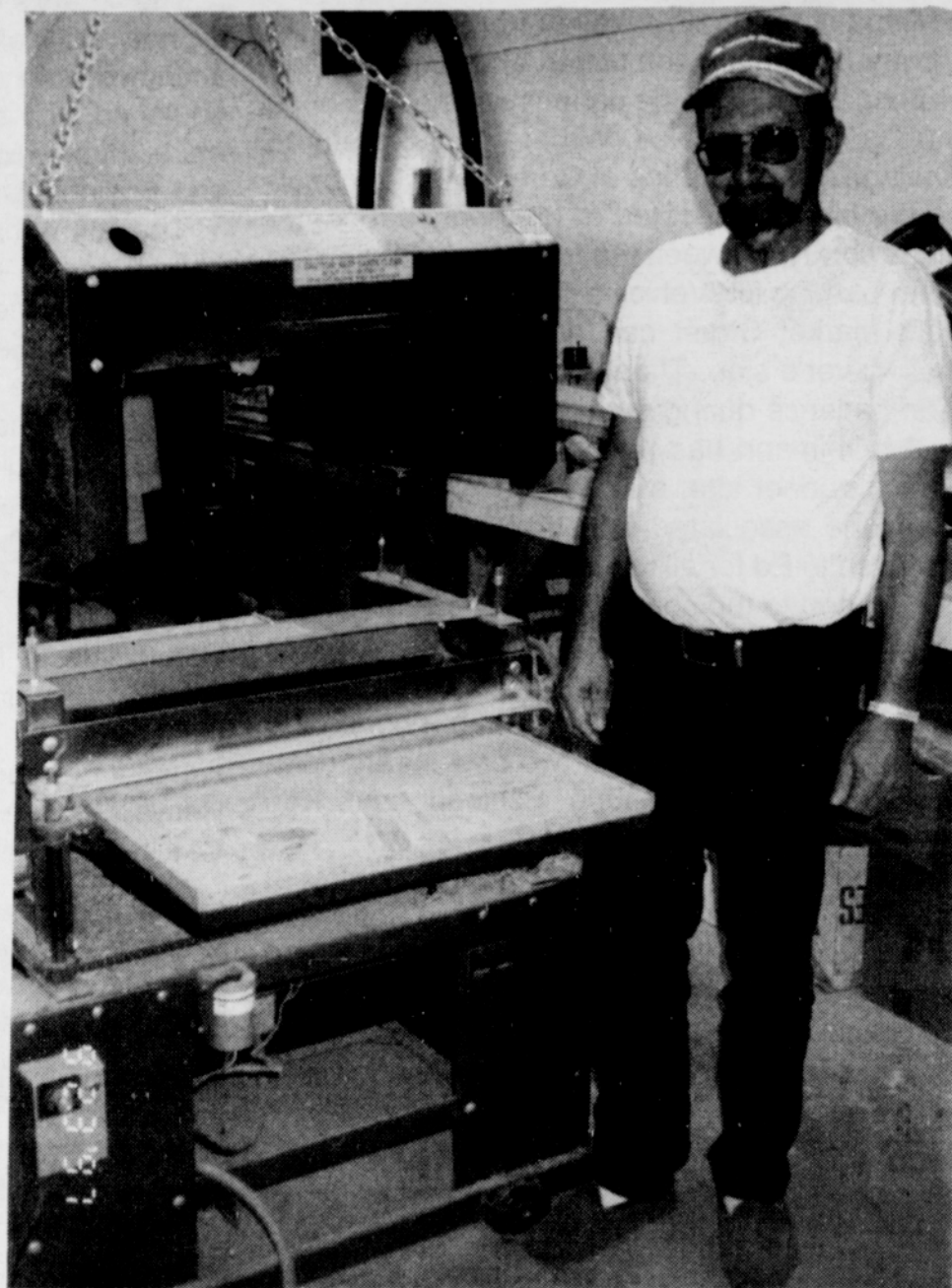
Regional Strategies funds are for projects that create, lead to or retain family-wage jobs in three industries—environmental services, forest products and Tourism—within the next twelve months.

Rural Investment funds are for projects that improve the economy of rural communities.

For a copy of either application, call Mary McArthur at 503-228-5565, or write to NOEA, 4336 SW Condor Ave., Portland 97201.

Applications are due Nov. 17, 1997.

SELL UNWANTED ITEMS in the classifieds. Call 429-9410 to place your ad.



Ron Welch

NFIP covers certain mud slides

At the request of the Oregon Department of Geology, Rep. Elizabeth Furse asked the Congressional Research Service [CRS] to clarify coverage of mudslide damage under the National Flood Insurance Program [NFIP]. In a memo provided to Furse, CRS concluded that damages from mudslides of the type experienced by Oregonians in the past two years are covered by the federal program.

"In Oregon we have firsthand experience with just how devastating flood-triggered mudslide damage can be," said Rep. Furse. "By clearing up the confusion about what damages the National Flood Insurance Program covers, it is my hope that Oregonians will be better prepared for future catastrophes."

Oregonians have been hard hit by floods and devastating mudslides in recent years. While many Oregonians had failed to protect themselves with federal flood insurance, the coverage for even those who did participate in the NFIP was often questionable. This confusion prompted the Oregon Department of Geology to

seek Furse's assistance.

"The uncertainty about coverage of mudslide damage under the NFIP was problematic during the severe storms of 1996 and 1997," said Donald Hull, State Geologist and Director of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. "We are pleased that Rep. Furse was able to provide this clarification so that Oregonians with federal flood insurance will be eligible for relief for damages caused by mudslides."

The NFIP is operated by the Federal Insurance Administration. The purpose of the NFIP is to limit the growth of federal flood control and disaster relief expenditures through reasonably priced, federally-backed flood insurance.

Forestland estate planning class

An Estate Planning Workshop for Family Forestlands will be held Saturday, October 11, 1997, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Vancouver (Wash.) Campus of Washington State University.

With the tremendous appreciation in land and stumpage values in the past decade, families owning forestlands face potentially enormous estate tax liability. Carefully stewarded forest resources may have to be unnecessarily liquidated to pay estate taxes when families don't have a prudent estate plan.

The afternoon workshop will present information for forestland owners and forest consultants interested in developing estate plans that can help re-

duce estate taxes. Topics include: forest management plans and your estate, introduction to estate planning, estate valuation issues for forestlands, estate planning tools, and conservation easements. Questions and discussion are encouraged.

The workshop is sponsored by the Pacific Forest Trust, WSU Cooperative Extension, and WSU, Vancouver Campus. The registration fee of \$15 per person or \$25 per couple includes refreshments and notebook. Class size is limited so pre-registration is required. For more information and registration, contact Ole T. Helgeson by phone 509-427-9427, or e-mail helgerso@wsu.edu



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Fall cleaning time is a good time to consider trading for a new vacuum cleaner. If you don't need a new vacuum cleaner, it's also a good time to have your machine serviced.

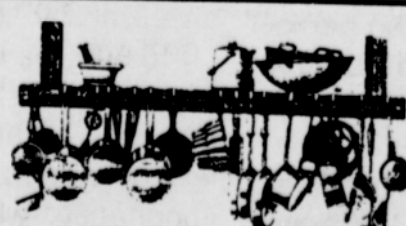
Owner Rilla Hedger has over 20 years of experience in sales and service at her 19th Avenue store.

If you are interested in a new machine, she offers trade-in allowances. If your budget is limited, she offers a wide selection of used, rebuilt machines, or she can advise you if your old machine is repairable.

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