

Business Notes

Farmwoman's Nursery, a growing endeavor, readies for opening

Lorna Poetter loves gardening and during the many years she has worked in the high-stress field of 9-1-1 emergency dispatching, she has nurtured that love. Then, when she decided she would like to start her own nursery, she put more on her already busy schedule by going to school.

First, she took the Oregon Master Gardener course offered by Oregon State University through the county Extension Service. She was so pleased with the knowledge gained, that she continued her education by registering in a two year course on Horticulture and Landscape Design, at Portland Community College, that will lead to an Associate's degree. Along the way, she also completed requirements to become a licensed pesticide applicator.

"I really want more knowledge," Poetter said, "and I love going back to school."

While working toward fulfill-

ing her dream, Poetter started growing trees and shrubs at the family home on Keasey Road. Now she has an interesting selection of healthy landscape trees - Russian olive, little leaf linden, paper bark maple, golden chain, European white birch and apple - ready, or nearly ready, to sell. In addition, she is growing rosa rugosa, spirea, lilacs, red twig dogwood and yellow forsythia.

Poetter is expanding her knowledge of the nursery business but, in order to provide the best service possible at Farmwoman's Nursery, she also wants to know what residents of this area are looking for in a nursery. For that reason, she has put a flyer in this issue of *The INDEPENDENT*, with questions that she hopes will elicit that information. It's a good opportunity for area folks to help her tailor her products and services to their own needs and desires.



Lorna Poetter and some of the nursery stock she is growing at Farmwoman's Nursery.



Rick Hobart and Digby on their way to pick up a client.

Electrician apprenticeships open

The electrical workers union, NECA/IBEW, has announced openings for two different types of apprenticeships. One program, that can lead to a journeyman position in wiring residences, small apartment buildings, public, commercial, hospital and industrial buildings, plus sound, data transmission, fiber optics and more, is a five-year apprenticeship.

The second program, requiring four years, will result in work that includes preparation and layout from blueprints, plus installation and repair of low energy systems.

Applicants must be at 18

years of age, be a high school graduate with a 2.0 GPA, or a GED with a score of 255 points. High school or GED transcripts will be required at the time of application. Both positions require 8,000 hours of on the job training, plus eight to ten terms of school. Classes will be taught at the Electrical Training Center. There are also costs involved.

Applications will not be accepted until January 8, 2001, but some information needed may require several weeks to obtain. For more information, call 503-262-9991, extension 228

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Nehalem Valley Carriage provides non-rapid transit

A delightful new service is now available in Vernonia — and a lot of people are taking advantage of it. Rick Hobart's Nehalem Valley Carriage provides classic, horse-drawn transportation straight out of the turn of the century, the 19th century, that is.

Formally attired, Hobart and his horse, Digby (who doesn't mind cars, dogs or flashbulbs),

add a special touch to weddings, anniversaries and other occasions. They can deliver a bride to the church for her wedding, take a couple for a romantic ride, or bring an honoree to a birthday or other celebration.

No special occasion planned? You can still enjoy the ride. If they aren't booked

for a special event, Hobart and Digby can be found most Saturday afternoons near the Vernonia City Hall. From there they will take passengers on a leisurely trip around Lake Vernonia or Anderson Park, or another destination.

To make arrangements for this "Special Transportation for Special People," call Hobart in Mist at 503 755-2310.

Walk to benefit Humane Society

A "Walk for the Animals" will be held Saturday, September 16, as a benefit for the Columbia Humane Society.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. at Lewis & Clark School in St. Helens. The two-mile walk will begin at 10:00 a.m. at McCormick Park.

All pets walking must be leashed, but a pet is not required for the walk. Pledge forms may be obtained at Columbia Humane Society, 2084 Oregon Street, St. Helens, or by calling 503-397-0510.

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