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The Garden Shed

TRISHA WALKER
Hood River News

Sheila Heinemann submitted this photo of her garden shed, built by her husband in 2008. “I wanted it to be like a picture I saw in a magazine with entry railings in front,” she said. “However, the gable was modeled to match our house using rejected windows and other reclaimed material from the reconstruction of our house in 2004. Some parts were from the recycle center too.”

Inside, the shed holds “stinky fertilizers” in a compartment at the back, with a potting table, sink and water outlet.

“Don’t be misled by the outside. It is just a shed inside, with shelves and hangers containing gardening material,” she said. “My husband calls it the “Tea House of the August Moon.”

Do you have a garden shed or small room you'd like to see featured in a future edition of Home and Garden? Send photos and a brief description — 100 to 200 words — to Trisha Walker, twalker@hoodrivernews.com, subject line: Home and Garden.

Photo by Sheila Heinemann



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HOME

How to decorate with antiques and heirlooms



KATHERINE ROTH
Associated Press

In this age of minimalism and decluttering, the common response to an offer of a family heirloom or antique might be, “I don’t have space,” “it’s not my taste,” or simply “No thanks.” Well, “pull yourself out of that as fast as you can and start saying yes,” urges Susan Sully of Charleston, South Carolina, author of “Past Present: Living with Heirlooms and Antiques”

“What’s so bad about temporarily having too much stuff?” asks Sully. “The worst is saying no and having lost the precious tangible objects that tell the story of your family or a place you love.”

San Francisco decorator Ken Fulk, designer chairman of the New York Botanical Garden’s Antique Garden Furniture Fair, agrees: “No room is complete without something of age and provenance and character.”

And that show’s manager, antiques dealer Karen DiSaia, describes heirlooms and antiques as “the connective tissue of life, offering a feeling of depth and history.”

The trick to blending old and new in your home’s decor is careful curating — and keeping an open mind, says Sully.

Her book is packed with photos and descriptions of 20 homes around the country, from a converted fire station to farmhouses to elegant city dwellings. She offers tips on displaying odd collections, setting inviting tables, arranging tabletop compositions, and bringing together objects from different styles and periods.

“Start by dropping all your preconceptions about what goes with what. Just put things together and see what happens,” she advises.



Left, One of the rooms in an 1850’s Alabama farmhouse featured in the book “Past Present: Living With Heirlooms and Antiques,” by Susan Sully. (Susan Sully/The Monacelli Press via AP)

Above, undated photo provided by The Monacelli Press shows a photograph of one of the rooms in a house featured in the book “Past Present: Living With Heirlooms and Antiques,” by Susan Sully. (Susan Sully/The Monacelli Press via AP)

“Then rearrange them a few different ways and look at it all again. You might have two pairs of completely different chairs, but put them together and you might be surprised.”

Create what Sully calls an “anchor lineup” and then have fun curating the small stuff: “You don’t need a lot of things in each room — just a few great pieces that converse with each other. Start with an uncluttered, interesting foundation, with one or two interesting, eye-catching pieces in each room that are there to stay. Then you can start a rotating exhibit of vases and lamps and oddments.”

The book includes the dining room of a Federal Revival home in Birmingham, Alabama, where a wall lined with gilded, leather-bound books and two sleek contemporary glass vases adds a warm yet airy backdrop for a heavy, dark-stained English library table. It’s surrounded by light-colored Hepplewhite-style dining chairs beneath an ornate Italian chandelier.

The parlor area in an 1880 home in San Antonio, Texas, features high Victorian detail and white furniture juxtaposed with strong colors in a series of Josef Albers lithographs.

“I’ve always been interested in having at least one modern piece of furniture or contemporary painting in each room, so the house doesn’t look like a museum,” said the homeowner, banker and art collector Carl Groos.

Even for space-challenged apartment dwellers, antiques hold an important place. After downsizing from a large home to a much smaller condominium, Atlanta antique collectors Stephanie and Bill Reeves grouped together portraits that had been displayed throughout their house.

“We displayed the portraits as if they were in a bigger room,” Bill Reeves explains. “As a result, the space looks bigger.”

Sticking to a palette of taupe, gold and brown allowed them to bring together pieces from different continents and centuries in an elegant and understated way, they said.

And don’t treat heirlooms like stuffy museum pieces, Sully advises. Instead, “take what’s old and give it life again by actually using it. These are beautiful things with stories to tell and history to share.”

“If you mess it up, c’est la vie. But making heirlooms a part of your life adds depth and character, and makes every day more glamorous.”

The wishful recycler

JENSI SMITH
Program Assistant, Tri-County
Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program

I am a recovering ‘Wishful Recycler.’ As new staff at Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling Program, I have been on a crash course about the ins and outs of recycling. There are many things that I didn’t know.

Wishful Recycling involves throwing items into the blue bin with the hope that they’re recyclable. A mentor taught me we need to be mindful of becoming a throwaway society. That resonated. I ramped up my rinsing, flattening and recycling. The more the better, right? I was being a good caretaker of my home, my wallet and my earth.

I now know that some of my habits might not be so helpful. When the yearly flier from my county’s solid waste hauler arrived, I didn’t really read it. If I had, I would have realized there were items that were being placed in the recycling that were not accepted at our curbside service. I had been tossing in plastic “clamshell” containers, “gable top” (milk/juice cartons), and shelf-stable “aseptic” containers (soymilk, broth, soup boxes), food-soiled pizza boxes and plastic bags. With best intentions, our blue recycling bin had “wishfully” become contaminated with “trash”. I have learned that putting non-recyclable items in my curbside bin

was actually damaging the recycling process. I was contaminating the items that can be recycled, while costing the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) more to discard the trash.

There is a big shift happening from heavier bulky packaging (glass and tin) to lighter plastics and flexible pouches. This understandably lends to confusion about what’s recyclable. I have learned that when in doubt, find out.

And if you’re not sure, throw it out. Let us help you “find out”.

I think most people recycle because they want to save money and help conserve limited resources. If they are like me, most recyclers feel good when they do their part. If they realize they may not have been doing it correctly, they will work

to change their habits to improve the system for everyone. I covet my recovery from “Wishful Recycler”. Information is key!

Send any questions to Tri-County Hazardous Waste & Recycling Program 2705 East Second Street The Dalles, OR 97058 541-506-2636 www.tricountyrecycle.com



FOOD



WEEKNIGHT FRIENDLY MEALS

Bruschetta three ways for a satisfying picnic main dish

SARA MOULTON
Associated Press

There are few dishes more elemental and satisfying than bruschetta. A mainstay at many Italian restaurants, it's an appetizer comprising slices of grilled bread adorned with any number of toppings.

Having recently come to the conclusion that there was no good reason why this simple and tasty concoction should be limited to an appetizer or side dish, I have here chosen to cast bruschetta as the star of a summer picnic.

As noted, bruschetta is simple to make. But you need to work with high-quality ingredients if you want it to turn out beautifully. Start with a loaf of fresh and crusty rustic bread. Then brush each slice of bread with your very best extra-virgin olive oil before it heads for the grill. When the bread comes off the grill, and while it's still hot, rub one side of each slice with a cut clove of garlic. Then top it off with a light sprinkling of sea salt. By the way, this

technique works just as well using a grill pan in the kitchen as it does with a grill outdoors. This recipe spells out three different toppings, all vaguely Mediterranean: a white bean salad with fresh fennel thickened with mashed beans so that the filling sticks to the bread; smoked salmon rillettes — finely-chopped salmon flavored with capers, lemon and fresh herbs and bound with sour cream; and a chopped Greek salad. Each topping yields roughly two cups which should be ample to top four large slices of grilled bread.

No one's going to wonder where the sandwiches are when bruschetta is on the picnic menu.

SALMON RILLETTES

Start to finish: 25 minutes
Servings: 4
8 ounces smoked salmon, finely chopped
¼ cup sour cream or Greek yogurt
2 tablespoons minced shallot
2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh chives, tarragon or dill or a mix
2 tablespoons well drained capers, chopped
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
black pepper to taste
In a bowl combine all the ingredients and stir gently until just combined. Chill until ready to serve.

Nutrition information per serving:
214 calories; 61 calories from fat; 7 g fat (2 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 89 mg cholesterol; 195 mg sodium; 3 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 1 g sugar; 36 g protein.

WHITE BEAN SALAD

Start to finish: 25 minutes
Servings: 4
1/3 cup minced red onion
One 15 ½-ounce can white beans
1/3 cup finely diced fresh fennel or celery
1 teaspoon minced garlic
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh oregano
½ teaspoon hot pepper flakes (optional)
Kosher salt
In a bowl of ice and water, soak the onion for 15 minutes, drain and pat dry
Drain and rinse the white beans and pat them dry. In a medium bowl, mash the beans using a potato masher, leaving about half in large pieces and the rest mashed. Add the onion, fennel, garlic, olive oil, lemon juice, oregano, hot pepper flakes, and salt to taste and stir well. Chill until ready to serve.
Nutrition information per serving:
99 calories; 67 calories from fat; 7 g fat (1 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 73 mg sodium; 25 g carbohydrate; 5 g fiber; 1 g sugar; 8 g protein.



CHOPPED GREEK SALAD

Start to finish: 20 minutes
Servings: 4
1 cup coarsely chopped cherry tomatoes
1/2 cup ¼-inch dice seedless cucumber
½ cup finely cubed or crumbled feta
1/3 cup coarsely chopped pitted Kalamata olives
¼ cup chopped pepperoncini
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons shredded fresh basil
Kosher salt and black pepper to taste
In a medium bowl, combine all ingredients and stir gently until just combined. Chill until ready to serve.
Nutrition information per serving:
175 calories; 139 calories from fat; 15 g fat (4 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 17 mg cholesterol; 691 mg sodium; 6 g carbohydrate; 1 g fiber; 2 g sugar; 4 g protein.



Summer spin on a grilled cheese

KATIE WORKMAN
Associated Press

Several weeks ago when we rolled out the grill for the first time of the season, there was much joy. What to grill first? Ribs? Burgers? Pizza? So many choices.


This is the sandwich that triumphed: A marriage of a summer BLT and an actually grilled-grilled-cheese sandwich. The buttery crunch of the bread, the juicy tomatoes, the melty cheese, the crisp bacon and lettuce — these two sandwiches were meant to find each other and become one. You can use iceberg lettuce if you want more of a crunch, and you can experiment with various types of cheese and bacon or pancetta. User your imagination, and this recipe will make this the summer of grilled cheese.

THE ULTIMATE GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICH

Start to finish: 20 minutes
Servings: 4
8 slices sourdough bread
4 teaspoons unsalted butter, softened
1 1/3 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese (or choose your favorite cheese)
2 tablespoons mayonnaise
8 strips cooked bacon or pancetta
8 large pieces romaine lettuce or iceberg for more crunch
3 plum tomatoes, sliced
Kosher or coarse salt and freshly ground pepper to taste

Preheat the grill to medium low.
Butter one side of each of the pieces of bread. Evenly divide the cheese between 4 slices of the bread, on the un-buttered sides. Place all of the bread, buttered side down, on the grill and cover the grill. Grill the bread until the bottom is lightly marked with grill marks and the cheese is melted. You may need to remove the plain pieces of bread first, and move the cheese covered pieces to the top grill rack and cover the grill for a couple of extra minutes, so that the cheese melts but the bottoms of the bread slices don't burn.
Spread the mayonnaise evenly over the unbuttered sides of the 4 pieces of plain toast. On the melted cheese slices, layer the bacon, lettuce and tomatoes, and season with salt and pepper. Place the mayonnaise spread slices mayo-side down on the sandwiches, slice, and eat warm.
Nutrition information per serving: 1042 calories; 270 calories from fat; 30 g fat (13 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 54 mg cholesterol; 2169 mg sodium; 150 g carbohydrate; 8 g fiber; 15 g sugar; 43 g protein.

Katie Workman has written two cookbooks focused on easy, family-friendly cooking.




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HOME

M E R G I N G H O M E S ?

Clean the slate with new paint

MARK GIBSON
The Dalles Chronicle

Creating a clean slate can be an important start for couples merging their separate spaces into one home, and fresh paint is a good way to begin, say design experts.

Few projects have the visual impact of new paint, and a couple can select new colors together and share in this simple makeover, said Erin Salisbury, who runs the paint department at Sawyers True Value in The Dalles.

The first step is to clean the walls, she said. Windex and a rag is all you need, or if the walls are stained TSP Tri-sodium Phosphate cleaner will remove stains and oils.

Once the walls are clean, surfaces you don't want painted, like baseboards and trim, need to be taped off. "Pretty much anything you don't want paint on," she added.

When those tasks are accomplished, drop clothes should be laid down on the floor to catch drips and spills. "Some people use shower liners from the dollar store," she said. Any plastic will work, it just needs to protect the flooring, she explained.

Painting a room requires two kinds of paint. The first to be applied is an interior primer. "That will give you adhesion, so the new paint will stick," she said. If you are painting a light colored or white wall, you may not need the primer, she added. Instead, you can use a Tri-sodium Phosphate cleaner to remove the oils and create a surface the paint will adhere to.

"If you are painting light over dark, then you definitely need a primer," she noted.

New primer is then applied with a roller. A nine-inch roller is typically a good choice, one with a 3/8-inch nap if the wall is pretty smooth. Nap is a measurement of how deep the roller is, and controls how much paint the roller distributes with each pass.

Many paint departments – hers is no exception – provide convenient kits that contain everything you need, Salisbury added. The kit will contain tape, drop clothes, a brush, paint tray and roller.

Once primer has been applied, and dried, it's time for the actual paint.

"Once primed, you have five to seven days to add the paint," warned Salisbury.

Primer will dry in as little as an hour, and color than then be applied.

Choosing what color you want may well be the hardest part of the job.

"Most of the time, people have an idea of the color they want," said Salisbury. "I recommend they take a sample home. Color changes with the lighting, and other colors in the room."

If you are painting a kitchen, bathroom or kids bedroom, Salisbury recommends a higher sheen paint, semi-gloss or satin, rather than a flat paint, which is harder to clean. Paints

vary in sheen from flat to eggshell to satin to semi-gloss to high gloss. The higher the sheen, the easier the paint is to clean.

The person selling paint should be able to estimate the amount of paint you will need, said Salisbury. "You can measure the space, but even a rough estimate or description of the room is usually enough." She said a gallon of paint will cover about 400 square feet.



New paint is just one way to clean the slate as a couple merge their household into one.

For couples setting up a new home together, it's a challenge: how to merge two sets of stuff and two decorating styles into one space they both can love, as Melissa Rayworth of the Associated Press reports below:

"Emotions get really high when it comes to your belongings if the person you're choosing to spend the rest of your life with doesn't love what you love," says stylist Marianne Canada, host of the "HGTV Crafternoon" web series.

In our increasingly design-savvy world, many people come to coupledodom with a clear idea of how their home should look. Even when couples try to accommodate conflicting tastes, they run into the space issue.

"Most of us just don't have room for two full households together," Canada says. "You have to make some choices." Here, Canada and two other interior designers — California-based Betsy Burnham and Florida-based Laura Burleson — offer advice on mixing, matching and peacefully negotiating a merger of two homes.

CLAIM YOUR FAVORITES

Each person probably has a few treasured pieces of furniture or art that they can't imagine living without. Burnham suggests that partners agree to each keep perhaps three or four of these pieces in their shared home. If one partner truly dislikes one of the other's absolute favorites, consider changing the piece a little through painting or reupholstering. Burleson cites one couple who disagreed over a set of cane-backed dining chairs. The solution: lacquering the chairs in a dramatic shade of charcoal gray that matched a modern, concrete and brass dining table.

"It takes repurposing things like that for people to look at them in a new way," Burleson says. "It's such a great exercise as a first compromise. And we all know marriage is based on compromise." Burham agrees, and says this creative approach can work with almost any

piece of furniture: For example, "if she's always had a floral chair she likes to read in," says Burnham, keep it but recover it in a more neutral fabric that both partners agree on.

GO WITH THE CONTRAST

Once those favorite pieces are chosen, Burnham suggests creating a clean slate by painting the walls a crisp white or a white shade with just a hint of color. Then look at all the remaining furniture against this new backdrop as though you were shopping.

Rather than trying to group items that are similar, experiment with pairing those that contrast. All three designers say contrast can be the best part of decor. In fact, couples merging two households "have such a leg up, design-wise," says Burleson, because they can creatively mix and layer a wide range of decor into one stylish space.

"There are no two styles that can't be combined to some degree," says Canada. And doing so can result in decor "that feels more collected and intentional."

TRY NEW LOCATIONS

As you assess your remaining furniture and accessories, consider placing things in rooms where they've never been.

"You don't have to make that big leather recliner work in your traditional living room," Canada says, even if that's where it's always been. What about using it in your bedroom for late-night reading?

Small dressers can serve as end tables or sideboards, while end tables can be used as bedside tables. Living room seating can make a guest room cozier, while a small kitchen table can add extra dining space to a family room.

Burleson finds that older clients marrying for the second time tend to be more open to embracing new locations for favorite things.

"There's this element of, 'It's just stuff,'" she says.

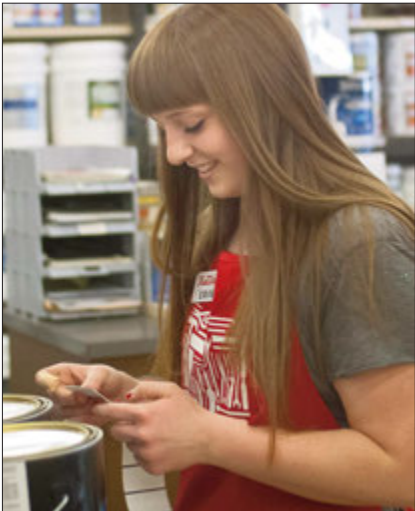
SHOP TOGETHER

Buying a few new pieces can tie together a couple's shared decor and help both partners feel at home. "Maybe they go shopping," Burnham says, "and they find some great vintage rugs that neither one of them knew they loved."

This includes accessories and art-work: Canada suggests buying one powerful piece of art to be a focal point in your newly shared space.

Couples may want to ask a friend or hire a designer to suggest specific new pieces that will tie their collective belongings together effectively.

And if they really can't reach agreement, Canada says, "There's no shame in selling your furniture and going out together and buying new pieces as a couple."



ON THE COVER

Erin Salisbury, who runs the paint department at Sawyers True Value in The Dalles, stands next to a rack of color cards. She recommends customers take the sample cards home when selecting new paint, as color will vary according to the lighting and other colors in a room. Mark B. Gibson photo

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HOME



Top tips for selecting exterior paint colors

ASHLEY NEFF
Owner/designer, Neff Designs

Whether you are repainting for your existing house, just giving it a facelift or your building a new home and starting from scratch these tips will help!

- Consider your neighborhood. Paint to coordinate with your neighborhood. You don't want to clone nor stick out like a sore thumb! You want to complement your neighbors.
- Think of interior/exterior flow.
- Unfortunately, many people don't even consider what is going on inside when selecting exterior paint colors. To avoid your family and friends from feeling a sense of shock as they enter your home. Create a cohesive feel inside and out by having a color that carries from outside to the inside of your home.
- Select 2-3 colors. These can be varying hues of the same color or complimentary colors such as a sage green house with a red door to create interest and curb appeal.
- Do NOT accentuate unpleasant features of your home. ie. gutters, downspouts, garage doors. Since the focal point on the house should be the front door. That a place to select a bold accent color to draw attention.
- Paint samples on your house before finalizing. It is crazy how much colors, lighten up and/or intensify. Purchasing a couple pint samples is worth every penny! Painting the exterior of your home is a significant investment and can be one of the largest "bangs for your buck" possible if you select the right colors.



Before, at left and after

Garage sale sign violations could mean fines

The sun is out, the air is fresh and residents want to clean their garages. Every year, the Code Enforcement Department of the Hood River Police Department receives numerous complaints concerning yard and garage sale signs being posted on utility poles, sign poles and trees. Marty Morgan, code enforcement officer, reminds the public of the following:

- Municipal Code 18.02.120, Prohibited Signs, paragraphs two and three:
2. Portable Signs: Portable or bench signs, excluding sandwich boards located on private property, are prohibited.
 3. Pole and Tree Signs: Signs placed

on, painted on, or affixed to any utility pole or tree are prohibited. (This applies to yard, garage and other sale signs

"Not only are they an eye sore and create unwanted litter by being out long after the sale has ended, but residents could be fined for displaying these signs on utility and sign poles and trees," Morgan said.

Failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall constitute a violation and will be subject to the penalty and abatement proceeding in the Severability — Penalties section (Chapter 17.10) of this title. In addition to any costs, assessments or restitution the court may impose, the fine shall not be less than \$250 per violation plus \$2.50 per day in which the person is found in violation, and shall not exceed \$1,000 per violation plus \$10 per day in which the person is found in violation.

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OREGON'S TOP 10
MODERN CABINET DEALERS

GARDEN



G - WHIZ KIDS (G FOR GREEN) Westside girls conceive, deliver school garden

KIRBY NEUMANN-REA
Hood River News

Over by the Westside Elementary bike rack you can find another earth-friendly activity: the volunteer greenhouse garden designed, created and nurtured by a group of dedicated fifth graders.

They call themselves Mrs. G's Garden Group,
"We just kind of thought of it," classmate Allie Doss said, and then designed it, after seeing "plant a garden" suggested as a way to save the planet in one of their reading group books.
"It's a great group of girls. They took the whole thing on, drew it up on a whiteboard, used their math, and then went out and talked to people," said Anne Gehrig, aka Mrs. G.
"They asked, 'could we do this?' and I said, 'something like this was done a few years ago and we had to take it out, but you can always ask.'" Principal Bill Newton gave them the green-thumb light.
"We were just flipping through one of our reading group books and we saw this idea, and we started talking to people," Allie said. The graduated design is inspired by a focal point of the school: the library "story steps."
"Mainly we did it for fun," Allie said. Her fellow gardeners are Ambree Alviston, Casey Beaman, Clara Parkinson, Abby Tomlinson, and Sierra Valentine. But the girls stress that they look on it as an all-school, community-wide project.
"We tried to get the whole class involved. Most everyone helped plant some things,"

said Sierra, who is in charge of the worm bin kept in the classroom. It's all part of the division of labor. Abby is in charge of the watering group.
"Literally the whole town has helped," one gardener said.
Everyone in the class had a hand in helping plant the pots with tomatoes, strawberries, broccoli, four-o'clocks, lettuce, and squash, but that came well after the girls reached out to Tum-A-Lum, which donated lumber, and to Rosauers, which provided cookies for a fundraising bake sale that raised \$300. The PTO gave them a grant as well.
The girls also approached Hood River Valley High School woodshop teacher Nita Bozarth and recruited junior Jose Diaz to build planter boxes as part of his Extended Application project at Hood River Valley High School.
Parent Pete Valentine built the greenhouse structure based on the group's design. "We all designed it," Sierra said. "We wanted something different or unique," she said, adding that the idea started much larger, as a walk-in greenhouse, but they scaled it back. "And it's perfect," Allie said.
Parent Blake Tomlinson led the planting party, providing tools and potting soil, and the plants are flourishing.
"We're going to give some of it to the cafeteria because they sometimes don't have very fresh vegetables," Allie said. "And we're thinking of going to farmers market sometimes and selling our fruit."
"Mrs. Gehrig was really, really helpful. We also want to say thank you to Tumalum, and Mrs. Gehrig's mom."
Gehrig said the group plans to introduce the garden to fourth-graders to pick up as a legacy project next year.
"I'd love to see this kind of excitement again next year," said "Mrs. G".



GARDEN GROUP: Westside fifth graders and their "story steps" greenhouse garden: Allie Doss, left, Ambree Alviston, Clara Parkinson, Abby Tomlinson, Sierra Valentine (in back), and Casey Beaman.

At LEFT, SIERRA Valentine holds the worm bin used to nourish the garden.

Photos by Kirby Neumann-Rea

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ADVENTURE

From flames and fungi

KEITH RIDLER
Associated Press

That means mushroom hunters are checking maps outlining last year's many Northwest wildfires before heading into forests this month searching for the easily identifiable and woodsy-tasting morels.

“It’s going to be a good season for finding morel mushrooms, there’s no doubt about that,” said Brian Harris, spokesman for the Payette National Forest in Idaho. The spongey-looking delicacies have defied commercial cultivation and can retail for \$20 a pound. “They’ve got a kind of cult following,” Boise Co-op North End produce manager Tommy West said. “When they do come into season they usually move pretty good.” Nearly a million acres of U.S. Forest Service land burned last year in Idaho, Oregon and Washington, the National Interagency Fire Center said. Maps of specific wildfire perimeters are available online at the Forest Service’s InciWeb. On the Payette National Forest, harvesters who want the mushrooms for personal use can gather up to 5 gallons a day without a permit. A 21-day commercial permit from



the U.S Forest Service allowing more than 5 gallons costs \$200. While the tastiness of morels is well understood, the difficulty of studying them in the wild makes them something of a mystery and pinpointing where they might appear difficult. Mushroom spores by the millions can spread over an area. The spores germinate and create delicate underground growths

that look like spider webs. The growths eventually include nutrient storage areas. Experts say these formations, called sclerotia, can exist for years, but the fruiting bodies desired by mushroom pickers only appear when conditions are right, and that might not be for decades. “After a moderate fire moves through an area these ‘ready to go’ sclerotia form fruiting bodies referred to as post-fire morels,”

said Merlin White, a Boise State University assistant professor, in an email to The Associated Press. “Post-fire morels commonly start fruiting a few weeks after a fire and continue to fruit for about two years before seemingly disappearing from the landscape.” Prime picking areas can be hard to identify even with a good understanding of morel reproduction. Some scouting could pay off, especially if a small flower called the western white trillium is spotted, an early indicator morels might pop up, Harris said. “It’s kind of a telltale sign,” Harris said. Last year the Payette National Forest had one of Idaho’s largest wildfires when the Tepee Springs fire burned 150 square miles. Getting away from roads and hiking into the forest is a good strategy to find more mushrooms, Harris said. Also, don’t procrastinate. “If you wait too long and the commercial pickers move through the area before you get there, you’re not going to find any,” Harris said. Another problem mushroom hunters sometimes confront is getting caught up in the thrill of the hunt, resulting in the need for searches by local authorities. ““You can get so absorbed in what you’re doing that you can lose track of where you’re at, lose track of time, and the next thing, you can look up and go, ‘OK, where’s the car?’” Intermountain Region Forester Nora Rasure said.

This story has been corrected to clarify that prices are for Payette National Forest and to correct that Merlin White is an assistant professor.

A passenger plane that just took off. Airfares have been dropping for more than a year, but airlines are taking steps to push prices higher by 2017. (AP Photo/David Zalubowski, File)

Enjoy lower airfares while you still can

DAVID KOENIG
Associated Press

(AP) — Enjoy lower airfares while you can. Airlines are taking steps to push prices higher by next year. Fares have been dropping for more than a year. Taking inflation into account, the average round trip within the U.S. in late 2015 was the lowest since 2010.

Ticket prices have fallen even further this year, according to the airlines. Not only is flying from Dallas to Denver cheap, but popular international vacation destinations like Europe are more affordable. Fliers can thank the steep plunge in oil prices since mid-2014. As they saved billions

of dollars on jet fuel, both domestic and international carriers added supply — seats — faster than travel demand was growing. The major airlines have announced steps to rein in the oversupply, but such changes can’t happen overnight, so fares will remain affordable for the peak travel season. One downside: Be prepared to spend a few more hours of your vacation standing in an airport security line. The number of airline passengers this summer is expected to rise 4 percent over last year’s record level. That, along with fewer Transportation Security Administration screeners, is expected to create long lines. American Airlines and United Airlines say they each plan to spend about \$4 million on contractors who will help TSA by handling some of the non-screening duties at airport checkpoints, like running bins and managing the lines. Stories about horrific lines might be an opportunity for last-minute deals, according to Pauline Frommer, editorial director of the travel guide company Frommer’s. “If American Airlines is going to spend \$4 million of its own money, obviously the airlines are nervous about not being able to sell last-minute seats,” she said. “I wonder if this rash of bad publicity won’t make getting



a last-minute booking more affordable.” Signing up for fare alerts from the airlines and price-tracking websites can help consumers spot those deals, many of which lapse quickly. Last week the price-tracking website airfarewatchdog.com spotted \$688 round trips on British Airways and American leaving New York on July 6 and returning July 17. George Hobica, the site’s founder, said \$1,200 would be more typical for peak season. The sale was gone after one day. If you don’t have kids in school, the easiest way to save money would be delaying a big trip until at least mid-August. “After that, we see fares drop off a cliff,” Hobica said. Within the U.S., the cost of an average round trip fell about 8 percent last year, according to government figures. In March, the average fare per mile was down 5.6 percent from March 2015, according to the industry trade group Airlines for America. Fares have fallen faster on international routes than on domestic ones, largely because the foreign airlines added of a glut of flights. Faced with fuel costs that have gone back up since February, investors are now pressuring airlines to reverse the decline in fares by growing more slowly. Delta Air Lines said this month it will cut its planned growth more sharply as this

year goes along. By the fourth quarter, Delta expects its passenger-carrying capacity will be 2.5 percent higher than late 2015. That would be down from 5.4 percent growth in the first quarter. United Airlines squeezed its planned 2016 growth by 0.5 percentage points, and American will slash its planned international growth this year to 2.5 percent from the original 6 percent. Those moves won’t make a dent in the number of seats available this summer, but they could gain traction — and boost fares — by next summer. Meanwhile, some airports have seen security lines stretch to more than one hour. With the blessing of Congress, TSA is hurriedly adding nearly 800 screeners and encouraging travelers to sign up for expedited-screening programs to make things go faster. It is unclear how much any of that will help when summer crowds show up. At big airports, travelers might save time by going through a checkpoint farther from their gate, said Keith Nowak of Travelocity.com. At Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, Terminals A and C, where many domestic flights depart, can be crowded on weekday mornings, he said, and it could be quicker to go through security at another terminal and take the airport tram to your gate.



Concert and book signing at Mosier School

Jim and Shirley O’Brien of Tucson, Ariz., are presenting a Cherry Harvest Concert and book signing on Sunday, June 12 at 3 p.m. at the Mosier Community School. The community is invited to this free event. Desserts will be gratefully accepted but not required. Please RSVP by June 6 to Caroline O’Brien Homer at 541-296-2967 or homercc6@charter.net. The venue is handicapped accessible. The O’Briens, retired University of Arizona professors, have sung in English and German, accompanying themselves on their Roland digital accordions, performing in Leavenworth, Junction City, Sisters and Joseph. You’ll hear jazz, mariachi, Latin, country western, swing, rock and roll, polkas, waltzes and schottisches. Jim’s autobiography, “Somewhere the Train Goes: A Life Journey,” describes his early years growing up in the 1940s and ‘50s, later teaching in Mosier. There will book sales, signed, with proceeds going to the Mosier School.

ADVENTURE



Middle Deschutes offers anglers hungry trout and solitude

MARK MORICAL
Bend Bulletin

CROOKED RIVER RANCH, ORE. (AP) — The salmonfly hatch on the Lower Deschutes is on, and anglers from throughout Oregon and across the Northwest are flocking to Mecca Flat near Warm Springs for a chance at landing wild rainbow trout.

The banks there are crowded in mid-to-late May, but elsewhere on the river anglers can find a salmonfly hatch with more solitude and closer to most of Central Oregon's population.

The Middle Deschutes, from Bend to Lake Billy Chinook, has a salmonfly hatch of its own, which means the 60-mile trip from Bend to Warm Springs is not necessary to find trout that feed hungrily on big flies. "Well, this time of year we've got a pretty strong salmonfly hatch down in there," Dave Merrick, manager at Fly & Field Outfitters in Bend, says of the Middle Deschutes. "It usually kind of runs its course before things happen on the lower river. However, with the hatch happening early on the lower river now, those two (hatches) tend to coincide now. There's salmonflies from Benham Falls all the way to the mouth of the river right now."

While access can be challenging in the many steep canyon areas of the Middle Deschutes, anglers can take advantage of several well-known and easy-to-find access points. Those include Sawyer Park in northwest Bend, Tumalo State Park, Cline Falls State Park near Redmond, and Lower Bridge Road near Terrebonne. Crooked River Ranch is also a popular area to fish on the Middle Deschutes, though access there can be difficult.

With such a variety of waters to fish in Central Oregon, places like the Middle Deschutes often get overlooked. According to Merrick, now is the time to head to the Deschutes River just north of Bend.

"It's usually best right now," Merrick says. "When our water temperatures get warm in mid-July, it tends to get a little bit tougher.

As soon as the water flows drop (April 15 each year), it kind of makes the access and getting around on the river a whole lot easier, and the fishing a whole lot better." Spring and summer flows dip to 100 cubic feet per second or less on the Middle Deschutes when water from the river is diverted to canals for irrigation in mid-April. Most of the fish in the river are rainbow trout, but angling opportunities also exist for brown trout and whitefish. While the average fish is about 6- to 12-inches long, some brown trout can grow to 18 or 20 inches in the Middle Deschutes.

I made the 30-mile trip to Crooked River Ranch armed with a few salmonfly patterns and ready for a steep descent into the rugged canyon. After a rocky, dusty hike, I reached the river and noticed many 3-inch-long, gray-and-orange salmonflies clinging to the bushes and grasses near the bank of the gently flowing Deschutes.

Salmonfly nymphs spend three to four years in the river, according to www.west-fly-fishing.com. When the water temperature warms in the spring, the nymphs migrate along the river bottom to shore. Eventually they crawl out of the river onto rocks, trees or plants, where they metamorphose into adult flies and grow a set of wings. The bugs often land on the surface of the water to lay their eggs.

Hungry native redband trout feed on the salmonflies, which usually appear in mid-May on the Deschutes River north of Maupin and move upstream all the way to Round Butte Dam through mid-June. Historically, the salmonfly hatch would reach its peak near Mecca Flat about Memorial Day weekend or later. But in the past few

years, the hatch has come a week or two earlier. Now, the hatch on the Lower Deschutes overlaps with the earlier hatch on the Middle Deschutes.

The ongoing project at Round Butte Dam to reintroduce salmon and steelhead into the Upper Deschutes Basin has warmed water in the Lower Deschutes enough to hasten the hatch, according to fish biologists for Portland General Electric.

The salmonfly hatch on the Middle Deschutes does not produce as many bugs as the hatch on the Lower Deschutes, but anglers can still find loads of success on the river from Bend to Lake Billy Chinook. "It's not as prolific and not as numerous; however, it can still be a real productive hatch," Merrick says. "It's always been a place that doesn't see as much pressure because it doesn't have a lot of easy access. You've got to be willing to walk and to hike down into the canyon in a lot of places to access it. With the limited points of access, that's one of the things that limits the number of people who get down in there."

After tying a salmonfly pattern matching the bugs around me to my line, I cast out from the bank and waited. I spotted only one other fisherman, far downstream. I worked my way upstream and by noon I had landed two decent-sized rainbows. I missed two others that went for the fly, but all in all, it was a fine day on the Middle Deschutes. I might have found more success at Mecca Flat, but I had more river to myself — and more gas in the tank.



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