

Owning A Greenhouse No Pipe Dream

Years ago, only the wealthy could afford a greenhouse in their backyard. Many of these older greenhouses (or as the English say, glass-houses) were constructed with glass supported with redwood, cypress or aluminum frames.

Glasshouses are very poorly insulated against heat loss. Heating is for most glasshouses can be very, very expensive in severely cold weather. Construction was costly and repair was often difficult.

Modern technology has forever changed greenhouse construction and engineering techniques for the better. PVC plastic pipe, inexpensive polyethylene film and treated pine lumber can be used to construct an inexpensive, energy efficient, 168-square-foot hobby greenhouse for less than \$200. Plastic greenhouses can be quickly and inexpensively repaired.

In addition, a greenhouse with a double layer of plastic that is inflated with air will be 50 percent to 60 percent more energy efficient than a

THE PLANT DOCTOR

C. BRUCE WILLIAMS
Extension Area
Turf Specialist



glass-constructed greenhouse.

In past years, I have built several hobby and commercial greenhouses. Here are some tips for those of you thinking of building a small hobby greenhouse:

- Choose a level, well-drained site. According to N.C. State University specialists, the north side of a deciduous tree will provide for adequate summer shade and winter sunlight. Place the location of the greenhouse near electrical and water access. Locating the greenhouse in a full-sun area is preferable to excessively

shaded areas. Full sun can be shielded with shade cloth in summer.

- Do not use any wood treated with creosote or pentachlorophenol. Use an environmentally approved and plant-safe wood preservative. Many wood preservative treatments can produce vapors that will harm plants.

- PVC pipe can be purchased in many diameters, lengths and grades. The schedule 80 PVC pipe has a thicker wall than the standard schedule 40 pipe and seems to be more durable than the thinner pipe.

- I prefer the one-inch diameter pipe for small hobby houses, but many folks successfully use the .75 inch pipe. Be sure to get pipe that is treated to be ultraviolet (UV) light resistant.

- Small hobby greenhouses are most economical when covered with 4 or 6 millimeter plastic film. A clear plastic film is best for growing transplants, seedlings or house plants in the winter. If propagation

of overwintering plants (like camelias or semi-tropicals) is the objective, milky or white plastic film is preferable. The white plastic film reduces the amount of heat and light entering and thus keeps the temperature more constant than clear film. Shade cloth or whitewash over clear plastic will do the same job.

- I prefer polypropylene landscape or nursery fabric over a sand base for a floor. In my opinion, pea gravel is heavy and difficult to walk and work on.

- Drs. T.E. Bilderback and M.D. Boyette have written a small pamphlet called *A Small Backyard Greenhouse for the Home Gardener* (NCSU Extension Bulletin AG-426). This is an excellent guide to building a small quonset-style hobby greenhouse. You can obtain this pamphlet from your local extension agent or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to me.

Send your gardening questions to *The Plant Doctor*, P.O. Box 109, Bolivia, N.C. 28422.

Former Miss Louisiana To Visit Local Pageant

Among the guests at the 1992 Miss Brunswick County Scholarship Pageant will be Linnea Fayard, Miss Louisiana 1990.

The local pageant, to be held Nov. 23 at 8 p.m. on the campus of the N.C. Baptist Assembly at Caswell Beach, will also feature guest appearances by Miss Brunswick County 1991, Lisa Dale Young of Long Beach, and Miss North Carolina 1991 Jennifer Vaden Smith.

Ms. Fayard, a resident of Shreveport, La., is a senior majoring in communications at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. She was valedictorian of her high school graduating class and has participated in the Miss America Program for the past five years, culminating in her coronation as Miss Louisiana in 1990. While competing in the 1991 Miss America Pageant, she was named semi-finalist and fourth runner-up to Miss America 1991.

Fayard is an active statewide spokesperson on behalf of abused children, as well as for the Easter Seals Foundation and Lion's Club. She recently has returned to LSU to complete her bachelor's degree utilizing more than \$10,000 in scholarships she earned through Miss America competition.

In addition to academic studies, Fayard recently traveled to California to audition for several television projects and will be seen on the syndicated television show *Star Search*.

Miss Brunswick County 1992 will serve as goodwill ambassador for Brunswick County and will be a contestant in the 1992 Miss North Carolina Scholarship Pageant.



FAYARD

'Steel Magnolias' To Open Nov. 29 For Two Weekends

Tickets are on sale now for the Brunswick Little Theater fall production of *Steel Magnolias*, which opens Nov. 29 in Southport.

The play will be staged Nov. 29 and 30 and again Dec. 6 and 7 at Centennial Center on Lord Street. Curtain time for all shows is 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$7 each, with discounts for groups of 10 or more available by contacting Edie Shupe, 919-278-3492. Tickets can be purchased in Shallotte at Brunswick Business Service and in Southport at the Southport/Oak Island Chamber of Commerce, Klein Paints and The Sweet Treat Ice Cream Shoppe.

"*Steel Magnolias*," said publicist Lori Bates, "is a wonderfully funny and sad drama that centers around the lives of six southern women."

The cast is comprised of local actresses cast as follows: Barbara Russell as Clairee, a grand dame; Stuart Callari as Ouiser, a wealthy, acerbic but lovable eccentric; Gloria Yount as Truvy, a beauty shop owner; Juli Newton as Shelby, the prettiest girl in town; Jean Hrdlicka as M'Lyn, Shelby's socially prominent carer woman mother; and Gina Carlson as Anelle, Truvy's assistant.

Volunteers are still being accepted to help with props, sets, costumes, lighting, ticket sales, publicity and concessions. Prospective volunteers should contact Bob Hrdlicka, 919-278-4212.

The production is partially funded by the Brunswick County Arts Council through a Grassroots grant from the North Carolina Arts Council.



STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

Dolls For Christmas

Lucy Schaefer, a member of the Oak Island Extension Homemakers Club, examines one of the dolls dressed by homemakers across Brunswick County. The dolls will be distributed to children at Christmas by the Volunteer & Information Center. Toys suitable for boys, as well as more dolls, are needed before the holidays arrive.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Sergeant Midkiff Receives Medal

Marine Staff Sergeant Eugene Midkiff recently received the Navy Achievement Medal.

He is the son of Margaret F. Holmes of Route 3, Shallotte.

Midkiff was cited for superior performance of duty while serving as officer in charge of communications/navigation shop, Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 224, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, Fleet Marine Force, Pacific, in support of Operation Desert Storm.

He is currently assigned as avionics technician for Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 224, based at Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point.

Finishes Training

Private Second Class Elizabeth (Paula) Gore has graduated from advanced individual training at Fort Eustis, Va.

Pvt. Gore trained in aircraft armament and missile system repair. She was in the top 2 percent of her

class and made the honor role. She also received the Army Achievement Medal.

Now on a two-year tour of Germany stationed near Ansbach, she is the daughter of Trudy Freeman of Shallotte and the late John C. Gore.

Completes Basic

Pvt. Terrance L. Tobler has completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo.

Students received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, courtesy, military justice, history and first aid.

Tobler is a 1991 graduate of South Brunswick High School, Boiling Spring Lakes.



TOBLER

Southeastern Allergy Associates, P.A.
Donald M. MacQueen, M.D.
Patricia S. Gerber, M.D.

Allergy and Asthma
Pediatric Rheumatology

announces the opening
of their newest office
Wednesdays 9 am to 5 pm
South Brunswick Islands
Medical Park

Office hours by appointment (919)579-1929



Quality Built
Manufactured
Homes

1/2 Acre Lots For
Sale or Lease
Low Down
Payment-Low
Monthly Payment

Only At...

Marty's Homes, Inc.
At Country Meadows

Rt. 904, Longwood
Marty Foushee
Sales Manager
919-287-4618

BEACH COUNTRY LANDSCAPING

Lawn and Condo Maintenance
Planting and Design • Top Soil • Marl
Lot Clearing • Sodding
BioGuard Chemicals & Pool Maintenance
Hwy. 179 Cornerstone Plaza, Ocean Isle
Office 579-5290, Home 754-5085, Joe Cox/Owner

LABOD CHIROPRACTIC CENTER

HARBOR SQUARE • LITTLE RIVER, SC • (803)249-9787
(In the shopping complex across from Hardees on Hwy. 17)



DR. ROBIN LABOD

Do You Have BACK PAIN?

\$35 FIRST VISIT
(\$150 Value)

Initial visit includes:

- Consultation
- Examination
- Screening X-rays (if necessary)
- Follow-up report

Bring this coupon to Labod Chiropractic Center. Offer good thru 11-13-91. Litigated cases excluded.

"Gentle & Effective Spinal Care"

Answers to your Questions about Farsightedness

Q. What is farsightedness?
A. Farsightedness, technically called hyperopia, is a vision condition in which distant objects are usually seen clearly, but close objects are not brought into proper focus.

Q. Why does farsightedness occur?
A. If the length of the eyeball is too short, the crystalline lens of the eye cannot bring near objects into a sharp and clearly focused image. Some theorists believe that farsightedness is hereditary while others believe that it may result from environmental factors.

Q. How does farsightedness affect vision?
A. The farsighted persons unconsciously exerts extra effort to maintain clear distance vision and even greater effort to see clearly at close range. This extra effort can cause fatigue, tension, and discomfort. If the eye is too short or the image too close, blurred vision occurs.

Q. How common is farsightedness?
A. Many individuals have some degree of farsightedness. This condition is only a problem if it significantly affects a person's ability to see. It is estimated that over half of all people who wear glasses are wearing them because of a focusing problem due to farsightedness or presbyopia.

Q. What are some signs of farsightedness?
A. Common symptoms of farsightedness include difficulty in concentrating and maintaining a clear focus on near objects; eye strain; general tension; fatigue and/or headaches after close work; aching or burning eyes; poor reading ability; holding material away from the eyes; and irritability or nervousness after sustained concentration.

Q. How is farsightedness detected?
A. Farsightedness can be effectively diagnosed during a complete optometric examination. It should be noted that the common vision screening, often done in schools, is generally ineffective in detecting farsighted individuals. This occurs because these individuals can usually identify the letters on an eye chart with little difficulty.

Q. How is farsightedness treated?
A. In mild cases, your eyes may be able to compensate adequately without the need for corrective lenses. In more severe cases, your optometrist may recommend glasses, contact lenses, or in some instances, vision therapy to correct the problem.

Q. How will farsightedness affect my lifestyle?
A. If glasses or contact lenses are prescribed, it may take a few days to adjust to them. After that, farsightedness will probably not affect your lifestyle at all.



In the interest of better vision from the office of:

**Brunswick Vision Care
Chris Moshoures, O.D.**

Pine St., Shallotte, 754-2020
Salt Marsh Sq., Calabash, 579-4020

When You Just Have To Get Away...
Great escape packages to the Caribbean, Bahamas and Mexico

Wilmington to Paris \$358 Round Trip
Jan. 7-Feb. 29

Ski packages to the West & Europe

BRUNSWICK TRAVEL INC.
FULL SERVICE TRAVEL AGENCY
ABSOLUTELY NO FEE

150 Holden Beach Rd., Shallotte, NC 28459 • 754-7484, 1-800-852-2736

Are You in the Dark??? You could be if you don't prepare now!
Get ready for those cold winter evenings!!!

PICK-A-WICK™
WICKS & ACCESSORIES FOR KEROSENE HEATERS

Use Pick-A-Wick™ Replacement Wicks for your Kerosene Heaters - Your Family's Comfort is Worth It!

OCEAN ISLE SUPPLY CO.
OPEN: 7:00-5:30 Mon.-Sat.-579-0575
Hwy. 179, between Ocean Isle & Sunset Beach