

Happy Holidays!



# The High Prairian

"All the news that's print to fit."

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## NOTICES

**Fire Volunteers** meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Fire Hall.

**Fire Commissioners** meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at Fire Hall.

**High Prairie Neighborhood Association** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. Because of the holidays, the next meeting will be December 4 at Taylor's church.

**High Prairie Historical Society** is held quarterly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of March, June, and September and the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of December beginning at 2:00 PM. The upcoming meeting will be December 7, starting at 2:00 PM with Christmas carol singing at the church and the meeting to follow at the Taylor home.

**Lyle School Board** meets the next to last Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Boardroom.

**When requesting medical assistance or reporting a fire CALL 911**



## HIGH PRAIRIE HOLIDAY PARTY

Audrey Bentz

Be sure to save Friday, December 19 for our annual Christmas celebration at Morning Song Acres, (Myrin and Audrey Bentz) at 6 Oda Knight Road. You might want to bring a little snack. There will be Christmas carols, conversation with neighbors and new folks, special story/songs for the children by Icey, wassail, egg nog, good food, and whatever music/poetry/drama you might want to contribute! Come anytime between 7 and 10 PM.

## OLIN'S DONATE PROPERTY FOR FIRE STATION

Doug Taylor

Ron and Irene Olin, former residents High Prairie have graciously donated one acre and a historic house to our community. The land will eventually see a fire station established to meet the "eight" rating of the east side of the district. This contribution has fulfilled a long entertained dream of the Fire Commissioners to procure land in this area to meet the need of the district.

The Olin's moved from the Prairie to the Vancouver area where Ron returned to the building trade. Their most recent move has been to the Tri-cities area where they have again expanded their construction business. You may find them on the web at [www.rcolinhomes.com](http://www.rcolinhomes.com).

The Olin's farmed and raised livestock on the west side of the prairie. Ron and Irene were involved with their children in 4-H, church and other activities for many years while living here.

## WELCOME TO NEW NEIGHBORS

Paul & Sherilyn Holman

Mark Ferrell

Tony & Michelle Hamling



Let It Snow!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS: APPOINTMENTS FOR HIGH PRAIRIANS

Doug Taylor

Cal Edwards has been appointed Water Commissioner for Klickitat Conservancy Board by Klickitat County Commissioners Joan Frey, Ray Thayer and Donald Struck. This is a five-year appointment.

Fred Henschell has been appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Maryhill Museum.



### WATER RIGHT TRANSFER INFORMATION

Cal Edwards

*The following information is from a Water Conservancy Board brochure which is available in its entirety at the Water Conservancy Board Office at 228 West Main in Goldendale.*

**What is the Klickitat County Water Conservancy Board?** The Klickitat Water Conservancy Board is a separate unit of local government created by the Washington Legislature and Klickitat County. It is not part of county government. Its primary purpose is to process applications for change/transfer of water rights within Klickitat County. The Water Conservancy Board can process applications for a change/transfer for existing water rights, only. It can not process applications for new water rights.

Decisions of the Water Conservancy Board are subject to review and approval by the Washington Department of Ecology. The decision to file an application for change/transfer of water right with the Water Conservancy Board rather than directly with Ecology is solely at the discretion of the applicant.

The Water Conservancy Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Klickitat County Courthouse, Room 101. The Board members are Richard Beightol, Brooks Heard, J.P. Enderby, Robert Andrews, and Cal Edwards.

***What are the four tests considered when making a decision on your application for water right change/transfer?***

1. Is the water right that is subject of the application for change/transfer valid? One of the Water Conservancy Board's primary duties is to determine the extent and validity of the water right, as demonstrated by extent to which it has been put to beneficial use.

### (SOME OF) THE NEWS CREW



(l - r) Lozetta Doll, Doug Taylor, Dona Taylor and Sharon Aleckson folding *The High Prairian*.

**The High Prairian**  
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News Desk: Douglas L. Taylor,  
**365-3242**  
email: [highprairie@gorge.net](mailto:highprairie@gorge.net)  
web: <http://www.highprairie.us>

2. Would the proposed water right change/transfer, if approved, impair and existing water right?
3. Would the proposed water right change/transfer, if approved, change the body of water from which the water is withdrawn. (This test applies to ground water only.)
4. Is the proposed change/transfer in the public interest? (This test applies to ground water only.)

## THANKS

Scott and Ellena Wimp

Ellena and I would like to give our thanks to all of our wonderful, very fast responding emergency volunteers. We are all in good hands around here! We would also like to extend our thanks to all of our friendly neighbors who sent cards of concern.

We wish everyone a wonderful holiday season.



## SENIOR BIRDS & BEES

A Poem by Tom Doll



*Mama told me that when I was three  
She'd explain to me about the birds and bees.*

*But when I was three, I fell out of a tree.  
Forget about the birds and bees, she told me.*

*When I reached the age of six, my Daddy picked up a stick  
To teach me about the birds and to forget about the bees.*

*I traveled the world to and fro,  
Seeing many a bird of color, kind and song, but never a  
bee did I see.*

*Then one day as I sat by the sea,  
Lo a double-breasted warbler came walking toward me,  
That is when I found the bee.*

*A nest made from a log brought four earthlings,  
To see what life would be, without the birds and bees.*

*Traveling the seven seas until I reached one hundred three,  
Looking for answers about the life of the birds and the bees,  
For now, I finally found peace, though wishing I were still  
age three.*

## IT'S A SMALL, SMALL WORLD

Sharon Aleckson

Arlen and I moved to High Prairie in 2001. A year later John and Linda Cox moved in about 1/4 mile west of us. After our dog Butchie had made several friendly visits to their new home, I decided it was time for Arlen and I to introduce ourselves to our new neighbors. We enjoyed our frequent visits with them and learned that they attended the same church in White Salmon as we did.

In June of this year my dad, Ed Lemire, came to visit. He was in the process of moving from San Francisco where he had lived for many years to St. George, Utah. He wanted to see our new home and the area. He was impressed by the hospitality and friendliness of our High Prairie neighbors.

The Sunday before he left we attended mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church in White Salmon. Afterwards, at the customary coffee and doughnut social, I introduced him to John and Linda Cox. Linda commented that John's mother was a "Lemire" from the Duluth, Minnesota area. She asked my Dad about his ancestry and discovered similarities between my Dad's family and John's. Later that day Linda called to say she had some interesting information and asked if she could come over and show us what she had found. By the time Linda got to our house Dad's niece, Teresa, had arrived for a visit. Linda showed us John's genealogy book. In looking through this book, we were surprised to discover that John and I are third cousins! Our great grandfathers were brothers! We all jumped in the car and drove over to tell John about this unbelievable discovery. A joyful celebration followed with a bottle of champagne, lots of hugs, tears, and many unanswered questions about family ties. At this time it was decided that we would have a Lemire family reunion sometime before school started.

In September a Lemire family reunion was held in Hillsboro. John, Linda, and John's mother met many new relatives. When I told the story of how John and I discovered that we were cousins everyone was amazed and thrilled. If my Dad had not come for a visit and been introduced to the Coxes our relationship most probably would never have come to light. Indeed, it IS a small, small world when two strangers move to the same rural community, near each other and discover that they are cousins.



Douglas Taylor

Discovery

## OLD HOUSE ON THE PRAIRIE

I have been trying to find out when the house donated by the Olin's on Schilling road was built and find that there is no record of it being built or when property was transferred to J. H. Wood—an absentee owner of many years. We have a mystery.

County records show four parcels with four separate owners in 1884 to 1887 or later, but a 1913 map shows James H. Wood as owner of all four parcels. I can only find him as an absentee owner living in The Dalles, Oregon. We lost track of him for a bit in The Dalles around 1910. He may of retired or he could even possibly have moved.

The old house had newspaper on the walls three layers thick. The outside layer was dated in the summer of 1911 and printed in Finnish. Assuming the third layer was put on the walls quite a while after than the house was built, one can assume it was built around 1900, more or less.

James Wood was born in 1860. He married Louise Michelbach of The Dalles at the Trinity Episcopal Church in Portland, Oregon on July 18, 1901. Mr. Wood was a partner in the Wood Butcher shop of The Dalles with his brothers John and Thomas. The earliest account of their butcher shop is 1894 in a city listing of a well-established shops of that time. We find the shop in two locations in The Dalles. I found that on May 29 1894 The Dalles was hit by a flood and several businesses were flooded. One of those was the Wood Bros. Meat Market. Many businesses were submerged from Union St. to the corner of Second.

James Wood was 41 years of age and Louise was 27 when they were married in 1901. She had been

orphaned at the age of eight. To this union was born two children Stanford of The Dalles and Howard W. of Corvallis, Oregon.

In 1905 the Wood Bros. Meat Market was still listed as a business in The Dalles directory. Their business was listed on the tax rolls of 1905 as valued at \$2,770. James Wood was listed at \$1,700 and his brother Thomas was listed separately at \$1,500. These compared to others listed anywhere from \$5 to a few hundred dollars. I noticed one other listing of \$11,360, which one can assume were among the very wealthy in the Wasco County area.

Some time in the late 1800s or early 1900s James Wood bought land on High Prairie. This farm consisted of 1,120 acres on the east side of the prairie. This farm was rented to various individuals over the years.

In the book of Wasco Co. deaths I found a listing for a "James H. Woods" on January 22, 1946. James Wood was buried in the IOOF cemetery in The Dalles, Oregon. I also found some information about his wife, Louise. I found that a "J. H. Wood age 41 married Louisa Michelbach in 1901" at an Episcopal church in Portland. She was 27. Louise M. Wood died June 3, 1971 and is buried beside her husband.



Main tombstone of the Wood family  
IOOF cemetery The Dalles, OR.

Much of the preceding information was provided by Joanne Ward, librarian at The Dalles Discovery Center. Without her gracious help to assist in the search, much of the information would not of been recovered.

My Dad, along with his brother Bob, rented the farm in the early 1930's and Dad continued to rent it after he was married and for awhile after I was born. The folks then moved to Amboy, Washington for a while. Carl Stump then operated the farm. The folks sold their property in Amboy to Carl and purchased machinery and livestock from him. Once again they were farming on the prairie. My sister Lorna and I lived in the house until I was 14 years old. I enjoyed the open space, views and many happy memories. The folks raised mostly wheat and barley and cut some wheat hay for the cattle and horses. Dad also

had beef cattle and hogs, finishing several each year. After purchasing Dad's folks' home place on Centerville Highway in 1948, my folks continued to farm the Woods' place for several years.

We had no electricity or running water and our toilet was the outdoor variety. The main source of heat was from the wood stoves. When mother canned fruit in the summer the kitchen could get mighty hot. Electricity came to High Prairie in 1948 and the folks had their new home wired for electricity before moving. Finally, my Dad retired from farming the Wood property and Ernie Struck took it over and eventually purchased it in 1973.

I know the Wood family was living in The Dalles in the 1940's. I have a copy of a deed in which Mr. Wood deeded 1,120 acres of this farm on High Prairie to his wife Louise for \$10.00 in 1943, "Subject to my retaining during my life the right to the possession, control and income from said property." I recall visiting their residence in The Dalles when a youngster.

The Olins purchased over 700 acres of the original acreage that was tillable, with the pastureland going to various owners. Part of the pastureland that I knew so well was plowed and seeded to crops. Today much of this is in alfalfa.

The present owner, Ron and Irene Olin, have donated the house and one acre to the local fire district. It would be interesting to renovate the house and use it as a historical building for the community.

The old house if it could talk, could tell many interesting stories of times gone by. There were few deer back then, but the Canada geese came in to the wheat fields by the hundreds. Coyotes were always a part of life, coming in to take a chicken or two and giving the lambs a bad time.



## OUR FIRST CHRISTMAS

Reprinted from *Sketches of Early High Prairie*  
by Nelia Binford Fleming

Our Christmas amidst the deep snow was a merry one. No gifts could be bought, for no one could get to town. But Mother was an ingenious soul. She made rag dolls for each of us girls. These dolls were a work of art, having real hair from an old hair switch, and clothes made from odds and ends that only a mother could find. Their dresses were made from an old blue window blind. For my brother, Mother made a little wall pocket of a scrap of red felt, shaped like a fancy boot, and tucked down inside was a wonderful fifty cent piece. Revvie was delighted with his gift, but there was not a ghost of a place for him to spend his money! I had become a young lady of seven, just before Christmas, and I treasured that doll the most of any toy I ever had. She was my constant companion for years. I sewed for her and talked things over with her, and she and I took long walks over the hills and in the woods, when the weather became good. When her face became dirty, I simply covered it with a piece of clean white cloth.



- 2 quarts apple cider or juice
- 1 small can frozen lemonade concentrate
- 1 small can frozen orange juice concentrate
- 1 #2 can pineapple juice
- 1 quart water
- ½ cup honey (or sugar)
- 1 stick cinnamon
- 12 whole cloves

Boil 15 minutes and take out spices. Serve hot.

## HIGH PRAIRIE HOME & GARDEN

### POINSETTIAS

Judi Strait, Master Gardener



Poinsettias, the Christmas plants, bring so much color into our lives during the holiday season. They no longer come in just red, but in a variety of white, pink, variegated and so much more. To maintain their bright look as long as possible, keep them in a sunny window and keep soil moist but not wet. Don't let water stand in the saucer under the pot. They may keep their color until Easter.

When the leaves fall in late winter or early spring, cut the stems back to two buds, reduce watering to a minimum and don't fertilize. Store in a cool place until late spring. When all danger of frost is past, set your plants outside in the sun.

Poinsettias are natives of Mexico and Central America. (I have seen them growing two stories high.) They will bloom again only when they experience long nights. To get blooms again for next Christmas, move them into a closet each night for 14 hours, beginning in October. Feed them with a high nitrogen fertilizer every two weeks. Be sure to remember to move them into the light each morning for a maximum of 10 hours. Continue doing this for ten weeks and you should have poinsettia blossoms for Christmas.

### WORM SALAD RECIPE

Lozetta Doll

In this last September's issue of the High Prairian, Audrey Bentz submitted an article about the Tomato Hornworms and she and Myrin's eradication technique of pulverizing them in a blender and pouring the resulting mash over the tomato plants. With that in mind, at the September High Prairie Historical Society meeting, Fred and Cindy Henschell brought a "worm salad!" It was a delightfully original concoction of lime Jello with bits of green chili and tomato, served in a blender, covered with a frothy whipped topping and gummy worms hanging around the edges. Everyone enjoyed a good laugh, and the salad!

## AUDREY'S HELPFUL HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Audrey Bentz

What's worse than "ring around the collar"?

It's RING AROUND THE TOILET!



Not a savory subject, of course, but something all High Prairians seem to share in common! Thanks to the abundance of calcium in our water, the most predictable comment by residents who have been here for a few months is "How do you get rid of that ugly stain in the toilet?"

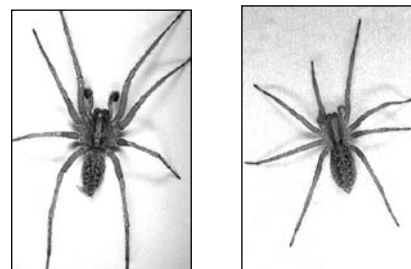
In my interviewing residents on this exciting issue (well it beats politics anyway), I've found that the most common sorta' solution is the "grainy" (not hard) pumice stone. Others say "Zhout" works. Some: CLR possibly. So what do you use? What I'm looking for is a good biodegradable product that needs no elbow grease and works automatically as I nestle myself in a chair with a good book.

The good news about our water here is that we should all have great teeth with all that calcium!

## THE HOBO

Lozetta Doll

An unwelcome "guest" may be heading your way! A neighbor of Arlen and Sharon Aleckson recently warned them that he found some hobo spiders in his shop. A few days later, while working in their garage, Sharon found a hobo spider. So they are moving into this area. The hobo is a moderately large brown spider with hairy legs and eye-like projections at the end of two front antennas. For a wonderful picture and much helpful information about this spider, log on to [www.hobospider.org](http://www.hobospider.org). It would behoove us to learn all we can so we can take steps to protect ourselves. In some instances, a hobo spider bite may not heal for two or three years!



(l) male, (r) female (photo: Darwin K. Vest)

## FIRE DISTRICT 14

### DNR ISSUES BURNING RULES

The Washington state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has released this year's rules for non-agricultural debris burning.

The following are the rules DNR said must be followed in order to burn without a permit:

- No debris piles that exceed 10 feet by 10 feet.
- Burning only of natural unprocessed vegetation and tree trimmings.
- No fires within 50 feet of any structure or 500 feet from forest slash.
- No burning when local state air pollution control authorities announce an "air pollution episode."
- No smoke that could become a nuisance to people in the area.
- Have someone in attendance at all times.
- Don't burn more than one pile at a time.
- No burning when wind is swaying trees or extending flags; burn only in light winds.
- Keep a shovel and hose or five gallons of water nearby.
- Before leaving the burn site be sure that the fire is completely extinguished.
- Call 1-800-323-BURN before planning to light a fire, and follow instructions given for the area where burning will take place .
- Notify fire district of burning so they do not have to investigate fire.

Anyone planning agricultural burning will need to call the Washington state Department of Ecology, according to DNR. For Central Washington call (509) 575-2490 and for Eastern Washington call (509) 329- 3400, or visit Ecology's website, at [www.ecy.wa.gov](http://www.ecy.wa.gov).



### 911 REFLECTIVE ADDRESS SIGNS



Time is the Fire Department's enemy. As emergency responders for both fire and medical emergency's, we want to be able to locate you as soon as possible.

Fortunately, our area has an Enhanced 9-1-1 system which gives us your address when you call 911. Unfortunately, we can have trouble locating you when your address is not marked, especially in the dark.

One solution that helps us locate you quickly is for you to have reflective address or road signs. Your fire departments sells and can install these for you. Call Cal Edwards at 365-3563 for more information.

### NEW AND IMPROVED WATER SOURCE



Watering up at District #14's 14,000-gallon tank on Struck Road. One of the community's accomplishments.

## YOUR HOUSE — KEEP IT OR LOSE IT?

Joy Olson, Department of Natural Resources

Where can you enjoy thirteen colors of tawny on the rolling hills and fields? Where do you enjoy coming to a complete stop in the middle of the road for something as slow as a flock of 14 wild turkeys poking along? Where do scrub oaks become picturesque and mystically beautiful? Where do bald hillsides show off the shapely contours of Mother Nature? You who live here know of whence I speak. It is your home area. This summer it was my work area. It is here that I fell in love for the second time in my life, this time with High Prairie.

My work for the DNR, which was to write a pre-suppression fire plan for High Prairie, took me into all the crooks and canyons, nooks and niches, knolls and vales. You probably saw my little red pickup as I drove around assessing the water resources, the fuel loads, the topography, the access roads for fire and the defensible space around your houses. The more I worked, the more prepared I wanted you all to be in case of a forest or range fire. Each new grove of oaks I discovered spurred my protective instincts for the beauty and wildness of High Prairie. With this in mind, I will share my findings with you.

The main element of the pre-suppression fire plan is “defensible space.” What is it? Do you have it? How can you create it? These are important questions because it is defensible space that will help your house withstand a forest or range fire. Defensible space means clearing 30-100’ of non-combustible space around your home that fire cannot penetrate. The more you have, the better the chance that a fire will burn AROUND your home instead of THROUGH it. If an oncoming fire meets a wide, green lawn, gravel or scraped dirt, it will die down. If it meets dry grass that has been



Joy Olson of Washington State Department of Resources mapping roads and water sources on High Prairie this summer. When this project is completed it will be of tremendous benefit to our district.

gone over with a weed eater, it will turn into a creeping fire that can be put out with a garden hose. If it meets a yard or forest of thinned trees that do not touch each other and have all their lower limbs pruned up as high as possible, it will burn with much lower intensity, change from a crown fire to a ground fire and become much easier for firefighters to combat. If no trees touch your dwelling or

hang over your roof, your home might be spared.

If the wind blows embers toward your house from this oncoming fire, and they land on your metal, composition, or tile roof, you are safe. But if your roof has pine needles on it, or in the gutters, or if it is made of cedar shakes, any embers that land on it can very easily start another fire right on your roof. If this oncoming fire or ember meets with juniper landscaping shrubs in your yard, no amount of defensible space will save you. Junipers burn with great intensity due to their highly volatile oil content. Pines are also very high in volatile oils. Defensible space also means having an adequate water source, outdoor spigots, sprinklers and ladders available to firefighters, a turnaround large enough for a fire engine and a driveway that looks inviting to a fire crew. Combustibles, such as firewood, lumber piles, or debris piles should not be stored near your house. These types of concentrated combustibles will hold and ignite an ember, whereas on a clean vertical wall, it will just slide off.

The location of your house has a lot to do with its defensibility. Is your house perched on the edge or the top of a hill? That’s an extremely vulnerable location. Fires run uphill rapidly and intensely. Rather than moving your house, create a good firebreak on the downhill side of your house. If your deck hangs over the hill, enclose the underside to protect sparks from blowing in.



The last component of defensible space has to do with making your house easy to locate. This is a big problem in rural areas. Use a good reflective house number that can be seen even at night. This will buy those crucial life- and home-saving minutes for the local firefighters to find your home.

Not all defensible space needs to be the sterile picture I have painted. Here are some alternatives that are less than ideal but blend with the natural surroundings and . . . don't use water.

1. Instead of completely clearing 30-100' around your house, prune bushes low, thin and separate trees, limb trees way, way up, and cut limbs overhanging your roof. Make that 50-150' to make up for the lack of cleared space. The farther the better.
2. If you're one who can't stand to cut anything around your house, you might consider the second-best option. Separate your visible scenic wild land from the unseen wild land with a firebreak. The width of this firebreak depends on the height of the fuels available to the fire. Therefore, a tree-lined firebreak needs to be wider than one bordered by grasses. The general rule is 1 ½ times the height of the fuel. You can bend this rule by thinning and cutting along your firebreak. Old logging roads, new roads, or even trails if well-used, make good firebreaks out there where they won't spoil your close wildlife habitat, or your close view of the scenic chaos of brush. These firebreaks must be maintained to remain clear of grass and brush every year.
3. Another alternative to protect your house from the threat of close fuels, those woodlands you so love around your living space, is to build a 12-18" gravel path around your foundation or out at the edge of your yard and keep it free of weeds all summer. This natural-looking firebreak could be incorporated into your natural landscaping along with boulders and small ponds.
4. Weed eaters are the greatest tool of lawn-haters or water conservationists. Weed eat the dry grass as far from your home as possible. This will remove most of the fire's fuel and give a fire more of a chance to go out by itself before it gets to your house. Combine this with a little gravel path around the house foundation or at the edge of your yard and

you can rest easy that your house can stand alone in the face of a fire.

High Prairians are to be commended on their defensible space awareness. Here are the results of my survey:

140 GREEN (Buildings have adequate defensible space to stand alone.) (39%)

92 YELLOW (Buildings need quick defensible space preparation at the time of a fire or engine support.) (25%)

132 RED (Buildings have no defensible space.) (36%)

Another important aspect of the pre-suppression fire plan is the hazards in High Prairie, of which firefighters and residents alike must be aware. The canyons of Swale, Dillacourt, Knight, Wide Sky and Wheeler will be extremely dangerous with fire in them. Entrapment is a distinct possibility. There are many dead end roads that could also trap residents and firefighters. If the tire fence on Schilling Road caught fire, it would be a health hazard and a firefighter's nightmare.

On a more positive note, the Fire Department is to be commended for the development of the excellent water source on Struck Road and for the many, many improvements in equipment and personnel. Your Neighborhood Association is also commended for its community commitment, fire department assistance and down-home friendliness.

Hopefully you will be ready when fire comes to High Prairie. Because it WILL come, again and again. As Smokey Bear says, "Only you." Only through your preparedness and carefulness will your home and your beautiful areas be safe from fire.



Washington State Department of Resources crew staying busy refreshing paint on signs while in our area in case of a fire call summer of 2003. These crews are always a welcome sight in fire season.

## RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY SERVICE: FRED AND CINDY HENCHELL

Lozetta Doll

From their living room Fred and Cindy Henschell enjoy an expansive view of High Prairie, not that they have lots of time right now to sit in contemplative silence and marvel at the beauty of nature. Since moving here in 1996, they both have been actively involved in community service while keeping up with work, family and friends.

Fred grew up in Oakland, California and graduated with a degree in Forestry from the University of California at Berkeley. He then joined the U.S. Army for a ten-year stint during which he fought in two combat tours in Vietnam. He was a Rifle Company Commander and Military Advisor. He left the Army with the rank of Major, his awards including Senior Parachutist Wings, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Silver Star, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal and Purple Heart. He is proud to be a veteran and proud of our Armed Services. After leaving the Army he worked in the forest industry in the California redwoods for 18 years and as a Project Planner for the U. S. Forest Service in the Wind River area for 12 years before retiring in 2000.

Cindy was also born and raised in Oakland but moved to Arcata where she earned her Forestry degree from Humboldt State University. She has been working for the U.S. Forest Service for 31 years, first in the California redwoods, then in the Wind River area, and presently in Trout Lake. In her present assignment she works as a Team Leader in Project Planning and Land Management for the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Cindy plans to join Fred in retirement in about 3-1/2 years at which time she may have time to resume playing the flute and reading more books.

Fred and Cindy met at a Forest Genetics meeting and married six months later after a whirlwind courtship. Married for 29 years, they have three daughters. One of their daughters is a lawyer working as a county counsel, another is a doctor specializing in family practice, and a third is a commercial pilot and flight instructor. They are understandably proud of their daughters' accomplishments. They have one grandson, one



granddaughter, and one on the way. Their family is rounded out with a sleek black and white border collie mix named Max, four friendly cats and one quirky one, and four pet geese.

A life-altering experience for Fred and Cindy happened four years ago when Cindy was hit broadside by a woman driving a 3/4 ton International pickup without brakes. Cindy hovered near death for days

and was unaware of her surroundings for a week. She was in isolated ICU for a month, in the trauma unit for a month and in a rehabilitation center for another month. She is still undergoing physical therapy. An account of this event cannot be adequately recited in this short article but suffice it to say that Fred and Cindy are grateful for each day of their life together.

Fred is an active volunteer for Maryhill Museum where he serves on the Board of Trustees. He is Chairman of the District 14 Fire Commissioners and is a volunteer firefighter. Fred has been very involved in the fire department, working on grants and various projects. His efforts include work on the fire hall, the district's water supply, and future community center site.

Cindy has volunteered as Secretary to Fire District 14 since moving here. Besides teaching digital photography at evening classes at The Dalles Community College and for the Hood River Community Adult Education Program, she also has a graphic design business. Cindy maintains an exciting web page, [www.highprairie.us](http://www.highprairie.us), into which she has put many items of community interest. She puts in many hours on each issue of our quarterly *High Prairiean* and her skills contribute to the success and professionalism of our community's newsletter. Fred and Cindy are also involved with the High Prairie Historical Society and the local cemetery association.

The Henschells have both been a tremendous asset to the High Prairie community and we are grateful to call them friend and neighbor.

< Emily Darland, age 4 >



Merry Christmas



< Kayla Wimhttp://www.jacquelaw-

By:  
Kayla Wimhttp://www.jacquelaw-

# Happy Holidays!



2003  
Riley Haner 5yr.



^ Tatiana Taylor, age 8

< Riley Haner, age 5

The High Prairie  
P.O. Box 592  
Lyle, WA 98635



## MARYHILL MUSEUM

Fred Henschell

Doug Taylor, our friendly editor, twisted my arm to write about Maryhill Museum. Yes, I spend a lot of time there as a volunteer, and I serve on the Board of Trustees.

Maryhill is a private, non-profit trust established by Sam Hill in 1923. It is not a state park. Presently the trust includes the museum, approximately 6,000 acres of ranchlands, the historic "Loops Road", the Stonehenge Memorial, and several smaller buildings. Construction of the museum building started in 1914. Originally it was intended to be a residence for Sam Hill. Because of both personal and financial problems, the building was not completed for many years, and during the 1920's, the purpose changed from residence to museum. The museum was dedicated in 1927, by Queen Marie of Romania, who also contributed a massive collection of paintings, objects and furniture. Sam Hill died in 1931. Work continued to finish the building and install the exhibits: the museum finally opened in 1940. Another interesting fact is that even though Sam Hill was an attorney, it took until 1946 to settle his estate!

Now days, the museum is open daily from March 15th to November 15th. There is always a lot to do and see. Featured attractions include a large collection of European and American paintings, sculpture and drawings by Auguste Rodin, an extensive Native American collection, and a unique collection of post WWII women's fashions from France displayed using tiny mannequins known as "Theatre de la Mode." Special exhibits are planned every year and change during the season. The museum also sponsors a

number of educational activities designed for families with children. Visitors come from "far and wide." Annually there are approximately three hundred thousand visitors. The park like grounds and gardens are a big attraction. Besides fantastic views of the gorge, an outdoor sculpture display is featured ever year.

Volunteering at Maryhill has been a lot of fun and personally rewarding. I have done all kinds of things including working on the building and grounds, setting up exhibits, hauling art, teaching kids, killing snakes, cleaning out springs, fixed fences, chased cows and removing graffiti from Stonehenge. I've been on the board of trustees since 2002. The trustees are the governing authority for the museum and responsible for setting policies and guiding the museum into the future.

These are challenging times. Annual visitor numbers are effected by things like terrorism, SARS and gas prices. Private, non profit organizations also depend on contributors from individual and corporate sponsors; so poor economic conditions can cause major limitations. In the last 3 years, a major building renovation project has been accomplished. Improvements include new rest rooms, plumbing, heating, air conditioning, elevator replacement, painting, carpets. Hopefully the museum will continue to grow and flourish. Attitudes and values about art vary, but one thing for sure is that the museum does a lot for our local economy. Sam Hill would be proud. Maryhill Museum makes this part of Klickitat County special to the rest of the world. PS. – we can always use a few more volunteers!