



# The High Prairiean

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

Volume Six, Number Three

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September 2006

## NOTICES

**Fire Volunteers** meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall for equipment maintenance and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday for training.

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

**High Prairie Community Council** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Taylor's church.

**High Prairie Historical Society** meetings are 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 p.m. Next meeting is September 24 at the Amery residence.

**Lyle School Board** meets the next to last Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Boardroom, Lyle High School.

When requesting medical assistance or reporting a fire CALL 911

Remember to "fall back" and set your clocks back October 29<sup>th</sup>. It's also time to replace batteries in your smoke alarms.

## WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

A warm welcome to High Prairie to:

**Ann Stern and Paul Johnson** of Mott Road;  
**Edward and Linda Daughetee** of High Prairie Road;  
**Lloyd and Dixie Dull** of Rathrod Road.

## HIGH PRAIRIE PICNIC & PRODUCE EXCHANGE

Lozetta Doll

The summer of 2006 is fast coming to a close but there is still time for a picnic and produce exchange. This is an invitation to all area residents to come, socialize, eat, play games or just relax. The date is Sunday, September 17; the time is 1:00 p.m.; the place is the High Prairie picnic area on Struck Road. Please bring a dish to share with the group. There are many good cooks in the area as shown by the number of blue ribbons awarded at the Klickitat County Fair. The barbeque will be ready to grill any meat that you wish to bring. The coffee pot will be on but you may wish to bring the beverage of your choice. High Prairie Community Council will provide the plates, cups plasticware and napkins.

There will be some games, such as horseshoes and extreme bocce ball, organized for adults and children alike and, hopefully, some enjoyable, live music. We are holding a yellowjacket trapping contest (perhaps the first in the world since none are listed in the Guinness Book of World Records). Don't you want to be named the First Yellowjacket Trapper Champion in the world? Traps need to be placed around the picnic area on the evening of September 14. (Please see article entitled "Yellowjackets, Wasps, and Their ilk" in this *High Prairiean*.) Plus, the Champion Yellowjacket Trapper will receive a prize. There will also be a prize for the best (most imaginative) hat worn to the picnic.

If anyone has excess produce from their gardens, this would be a good opportunity to share with your neighbors. Put the date on your calendars!!



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor,

I owe an apology to the writer of the "In Memorium" column. I inadvertently gave some wrong information to Dona concerning the school that Edward Morris attended. Ed was a student at Hartland School on High Prairie, rather than Johnson school as I indicated.

I am deeply sorry for my mistake and extend my apology to Dona and Ed's wife, Denise.

Sincerely,  
 Roberta Childs



### The High Prairian

P.O. Box 592 Lyle, WA 98635

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The High Prairian can also be viewed on the High Prairie web site: [www.highprairie.us](http://www.highprairie.us)

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our sympathies to:

**Neil Shuster** on the passing of his father, Merle Shuster, of Eureka, Calif., on June 4.

**Lorna Dove** and **Doug Taylor** on the death of their Aunt Hazel Taylor, 94, of Goldendale, on August 1.

**Dona Taylor** on the death of youngest brother Donald Brown, 70, of Vancouver, Wash., on August 14. Donald was killed in a trucking accident.

## COMMUNITY TOGETHERNESS

Audrey Bentz

We are urged to drive less for several good reasons. So often we "go into town" for services that already exist here on High Prairie. For example, we have a local highly skilled beautician, many carpenters, metal workers, gardeners, etc. that are so much more convenient. And what a great way to develop a meaningful sense of community! If you are interested in listing your area of expertise, or wanting to know "what's available", or if you would be willing to work on a High Prairie membership directory contact one of the newsletter editors (or 365-3600).

## A HIGH PRAIRIE DIRECTORY?

For some time we have wished to have a local directory so as to better know our neighbors and their contact information. Also, residents here have an unbelievable resource of marketable services (photography to hair cuts to Klickitat Trail guide to car repair to just about everything else)!

If you would like to have your name and contact information in this directory, please return the following, and if you have any skill or that you would be willing to market in this area, please add this as well. Then email this to [krebacious@earthlink.net](mailto:krebacious@earthlink.net), or mail to Ondine at 224 Oda Knight Road, Lyle WA 98635, or bring to the High Prairie picnic on September 17.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Marketing skill (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

## ATTENTION: BOOK LOVERS!

Lozetta Doll

The High Prairie Book Exchange/Club is in its early formation stage. The group met for the first time at the home of Ann Stearns on August 28. The meetings will feature the host or hostess doing a review of the book of his or her choosing. Anyone can bring books they want to exchange and report on what book(s) they are reading now, recommend books, and talk about favorite authors and books.

The next three meetings will be hosted by: Lozetta Doll, 120 South Prairie Road (365-0010), September 25, 7:00 p.m.; Sharon Aleckson, 783 Centerville Highway (365-4429), October 23, 7:00 p.m.; and Linda Cox, 28 Adams View (365-0043), November 27, 7:00 p.m. Put these dates on your calendar and bring a book and a snack to share.



### BE AWARE

Sharon Aleckson

It hardly seems possible but, yes, it is time for school once again. Children along the bus routes will be waiting to be picked up for school or being delivered home after school. Watch for signs along the highways and roads that indicate that there is a school bus stop ahead. SLOW DOWN! USE CAUTION! We want our area children to have a safe and happy school year.

## THANK YOU HP FIREMEN & COMMUNITY

Bob Edwards

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to the High Prairie firemen for their quick response coming to my aid a few weeks ago. The firemen were awesome as they worked as a team to get me to the hospital quickly.

Also thank you to the HPCC for the fruit basket, and to all our friends and neighbors who have stopped by to make sure I was recovering and to see if we needed any help. It's great to live in a community where neighbors help neighbors.

## GARDEN BOUNTY AT PICNIC

Ondine Moore

Hood River has started a farmer's market called "Gorge Grown". It meets Thursdays from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. They have a concession booth that welcomes home grown produce for a 10% user's fee. If anyone is interested, please phone (509) 281-0444.

With all that is produced here on the High Prairie, it's a shame we can't exchange most of it right here. This is the time of year when many gardens are producing more than the household can handle. So let's start a "farmer's market food exchange" of our own at the Picnic on Sunday, September 17 at 1:00 p.m. on Struck Road.

Bring your bounty for sale-exchange-or give-away and be a part of the thankful pride that High Prairie has to share. Hope to see you all there!

## FAIR NEEDLERS ENTER FAIR

Martha M. Hamil

Well, maybe some aren't so fair and certainly none are maidens, but eight members of the Needlers entered their work in the Still Life Category at the Klickitat County Fair. One, Loretta Lindsey, also entered in the Livestock Category to win three Champion rosettes. Of the 38 individual items entered in Still Life, Needlers came home with: 1 no ribbon, 9 reds, and 29 blues. Additionally, Judy Strait was awarded two Judges Choice rosettes (French bread and an old fashioned apron) and a Reserve Lot Champion rosette (teddy bear). And, Katherine Baugh whose fuzzy purse was not "good enough to enter" (we convinced her otherwise) came home with a Top of Show in the Fiber Arts Department.

Other than those named above, Terry Chabbert, Patti McKern, Brigitte Free, Michelle Maurice, and I entered our work. All came home with one or more blue ribbons. Next year we hope to have even more Needlers and High Prairians participate in the Fair. Most entries listed Goldendalers; they seem to have a monopoly on the County Fair. Can High Prairie let that stand? Almost anything you do has a class and, if not, all Departments and Lots have an Other Class. More about the Fair will come in future issues of the *High Prairian*.

## GET WELL

Get well wishes go to:

**Bob Edwards** of Meadow Lark Lane, who is recovering from broken ribs and a punctured lung from a fall off of a ladder.

**Ben Blouin** of Oda Knight Road is recovering from gall bladder surgery.

A speedy recovery to you both!

## JULY HPCC SPEAKER MARTI KANTOLA

Lozetta Doll

Marti Kantola, Director of Six Rivers Community Mediation Services, spoke at the July meeting of the High Prairie Community Council. Many local residents were in attendance to learn what the mediation service offers.

She explained that Six Rivers Community Mediation is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) community dispute resolution program serving the residents, businesses and agencies of Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Wheeler, Gilliam and Klickitat Counties. Some of the types of cases the mediation service handles are between neighbors, consumers and merchants and disputes involving housing. The service, supported by charitable foundations, regional, local and community governments and organizations, is free to area residents.

The mediation service's motto is "We know it is not going to be easy. We are here to listen, help you decide on the 'right' thing to do and help make it work for you!"

Six Rivers Community Mediation Service keeps two offices. Their office in The Dalles is located at 1113 Kelly Avenue and Ms. Kantola is there on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Their office in Hood River is at 1102 12th Street and Ms. Kantola is there on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. They will schedule mediations to start anytime from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., seven days a week.

The best way to reach Ms. Kantola is to call toll free: (888) 628-4101. If no one is available, they ask that a message be left.

## THE HIGH PRAIRIE PROJECT

Cal Edwards

In August Klickitat Counties Glen Chipman and Mid Columbia's Economic Development Districts Executive Director Lee Curtis with Thayne Cockrum came to High Prairie. They met with us to help finalize the Grant Application and made plans on how to proceed with the project if and after it is approved. Thayne has agreed to be the Grant Administrator of the project.

Myrin Bentz, President of the High Prairie Community Council and Fred Henschell, Chair of the High Prairie Fire Commissioners, gave our guests a tour of the project property.

The final application will be presented to our County Commissioners at a Public Hearing on September 5 at 2 p.m. All High Prairie people are encouraged to attend to show your support for the new Fire House and Community Center. The Hearing is in the Commissioners Chambers at the Courthouse (205 South Columbus in Goldendale).

If the Commissioners approve the application, it will then be sent to the State for final approval.



Posing at the site of the Community Center and Fire House (l-r): Myrin Bentz, Glen Chipman, Thayne Cockrum, Lee Curtis, Fred Henschell, and Max (front).



## THROUGH THE EYE OF THE NEEDLERS

Martha M. Hamil, Correspondent

The Needlers during their weekly Monday meetings discuss many things. Helpful hints and pointers crop up regularly. We would like to share those with the community. This quarter's column will cover diverse topics.

- Peaches or other stone fruit galore and no time to process them? Freeze them whole without washing or peeling. Once frozen, store in a plastic bag in the freezer. When needed, take what you need; the peel slips off easily and the flavor is as close to fresh as you can get and even better than the imports. Leaving them whole with the skin intact protects them from freezer burn and retains the fresh flavor.

- Lettuce, parsley, cilantro, etc. turning slimy after a few days? To keep them fresh for four weeks or better, soak in 1 tablespoon of bleach per gallon of water for 20 minutes, drain, and then soak in plain water for 20 minutes. Drain again and spin dry. Store in plastic bags in the refrigerator until needed. Even after six weeks, only a few lettuce leaves will be unusable. Parsley and cilantro won't keep quite as long. This also works for other produce and the bleach water eliminates bacteria, viruses, molds, and pesticides.

- Tired of dry roast chicken and turkey breast? Roast with the breast side down; all those juices that normally end up in the pan permeate the breast meat. If you want a nicely browned breast, turn it breast side up for the last 20 minutes or so. Brining overnight also increases the moistness of poultry and pork. Use a solution made with 3/4-cup salt to 1 gallon of water. Soak whole chickens for 8 to 24 hours, whole turkeys for 24 to 48 hours, chicken parts and pork roasts for 8 to 12 hours, and pork chops for two hours. Drain, rinse, and pat dry before cooking. For very flavorful birds, make a paste of softened butter, chopped basil, minced tarragon, and garlic. Loosen skin on breast, thighs, and legs with your fingers. Rub paste there. This procedure flavors the meat, not just the skin.

- Appalled at the price for the best balsamic vinegar (\$50–\$100 for less than a half cup)? You can come close to the flavor by reducing more inexpensive varieties. Mix 1 pint good quality balsamic vinegar (commercial grade), 1 tablespoon honey, 1 bay leaf, and 4 whole cloves or 1 rosemary branch or several small sprigs of thyme. (For veggies, use cloves; for meat and poultry, use rosemary; for fish, use thyme.) Bring to a low boil and maintain a steady simmer to

reduce slowly. **WATCH CLOSELY** after reaching half volume. To use as a glaze, reduce to a third the original volume. To use as a condiment, an elixir to drizzle over veggies, or for dipping, reduce to a quarter the original volume. Refrigerate in a sealed container. To use, spoon into a heatproof measuring cup and heat it slowly in a pan of hot water. Now, you have magic.

- Recipes not cooked in the time the recipe specified? On High Prairie, expect things to take longer, sometimes quite a bit longer, even up to twice as long depending on the dish.

- Fresh flowers drooping too quickly? Mix 1/2 lemon-lime soda with 1/2 water. Burn dahlia ends. Remove all foliage that will be underwater.

- Can't sew a straight seam? Align 6" to 8" of blue painter's tape with the seam width. Even I can get a reasonably straight seam doing that.

- Potatoes taste peculiar? Did you store them in the refrigerator? Don't! The cold converts the starches to sugars giving potatoes an off-flavor.

- Flavorless pears? Sauté slices about 1/2 inch thick in butter, sugar, and lime juice until they begin to brown. For four pears, use 1/2 stick butter, 1/4-cup sugar, 1/2-cup lime or lemon juice. Works for peaches also but use lemon juice. Add ground cinnamon, nutmeg, or cloves, if desired. Delicious as a sauce for other desserts, pancakes or waffles or just add some whipped topping.

- Tomato plants look blighted? Rip them out and rotate your crops. If you're really curious, take the whole plant to the Extension Office in Goldendale. They will identify your problem and provide technical advice.

- Cheddar cheese molded? Salvage is possible if trimming a quarter to half inch of each side is possible. Taste. With the slightest taste of mold trim more. These molds are not necessarily the benign molds that give the divine taste to blue cheeses. **THROW IT OUT IF IN DOUBT.** To keep mold on cheddars and other hard cheeses at bay longer, wrap the cut cheese in a cloth dampened with vinegar. Then wrap tightly with a non-permeable material—plastic wrap, foil, oilcloth, or oiled silk. Or, construct a bag of oiled silk with a non-metal zipper if ambition grabs you. Pioneers prevented mold on hard cheeses by surrounding the chunk with at least four inches of ashes and storing in a cool place—it apparently

works. Soft, semi-soft and other types of cheese require other techniques to prevent mold. **THROW IT OUT IF IN DOUBT!**

The Needlers hope these hints will be helpful and useful. We expect to have this column in each issue of the *High Prairian*. Correspondents will vary as we rotate amongst ourselves. The Needlers meet on Mondays, except holidays, at member's home. On one Monday per month our output is devoted to charity. Most members do needlework such as knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, cross-stitch, quilting and the like. However, some members (actually one— me) do not have such skills, but we contribute in other ways to further the charitable goals. We start about 10:30 a.m., work on projects for 2- to 2-1/2 hours and then eat our sack lunches. The Needlers have moments of hilarity and moments of seriousness. Mainly, camaraderie rules. And helpfulness is our watchword. If you are interested, call Judy Strait (365-5288) or Lozetta Doll (365-0010).

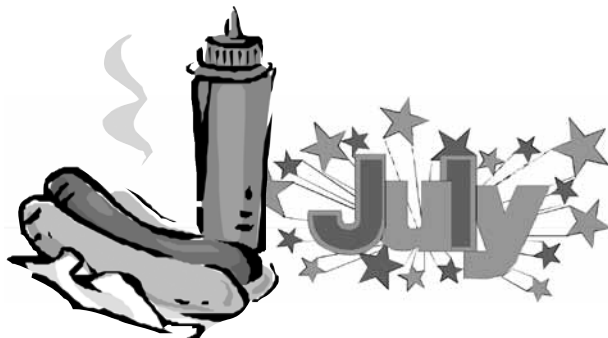
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## THE 4TH OF JULY PICNIC!

Audrey Bentz

Thanks to the guys who helped assemble and erect the canopy – purchased by High Prairie Community Council – on our community property on Struck Road. Our first official use was on the 4th of July, where the Dolls provided a turkey, James Archuleta grilled meat that some brought, and the Haner boys helped crank homemade ice cream. Fun and good food was enjoyed by young and old. Music was provided by The High Prairie Songsters and they led all in a patriotic song to celebrate the holiday. Many new people came and were brought into the community spirit! And we all enjoyed meeting old friends as well.

We look forward to the next event on September 17!



## CANOPY ERECTED

Dona Taylor

High Prairie Fire District # 14 and Community Center Property on Struck Road is 'sporting' a new face-lift. Earl Kemp, Tom Doll, and Arlen Aleckson volunteered their Equipment and Expertise in leveling the ground. This prepared the site for erecting the large HPCC canopy.

The canopy was purchased in April and was first used at our 7th Annual Firehouse Sale. Mike Chabbert, Canopy Chairman, along with Ted McKercher, took his pickup and trailer to the Oregon Valley Green House Co. in Hubbard, Oregon to pick up the frame and fittings. The tarp was shipped later.

When the site was leveled by Earl Kemp, a volunteer canopy erecting crew consisting of Tom Doll, Rob Taylor, Fred Henschell, Myrin Bentz, Ted McKercher, Doug Taylor, Earl Kemp and Arlen Aleckson went to work putting it in place. They got rained out the first day, so most returned at a later date to finish the job. The site was later graveled, and leveled by Tom Doll.

They say "farm wives traditionally take food to the men in the fields at Harvest time". Carrying on this practice were local wives, Cheri DeHart, Lozetta Doll, Sharon Aleckson, Dona Taylor and Audrey Bentz who took a picnic lunch and beverages to the hard working crew.

A community potluck and barbeque picnic was held on July 4th and another is scheduled for September 17th at 1:00 p.m. which will be the last one of the season.

Come one and all and enjoy singing, eating and a visit with your neighbors.

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## CALL 911!

Audrey Bentz

High Prairie is blessed with very capable and dedicated First Responders for any emergency situation. But many of us are reluctant to call for help, thinking we call only if our life is hanging by a thread, so to speak. So, although none of us want to take advantage of these volunteer responders, they do want us to use their expertise if we are in need of medical assistance.

We are most grateful to these men and women who have made themselves available for training and responding. They help make High Prairie a great place to live!

## KLICKITAT COUNTY FAIR ENTRIES

Martha M. Hamil & Dona Taylor

Several High Prairians other than Needlers entered the County Fair. We are so proud of their accomplishments. They include:

- **Neatha (Sid) Slate III** entered a mobile metal milkstand made of recycled materials. His entry gleaned a Blue Ribbon, A Judge's Choice rosette, a Lot Champion rosette, and the Top Re-Use-It award offered by Roosevelt Landfill. Way to go, Sid!

- Honorary High Prairian, **Joan Frey** won a Blue, Outstanding Entry award, and the Hand Quilting award. Show it off at the picnic, Joan; it's great.

- Young **Shelby McKern** won a Red Ribbon for her brownies. Congratulations, Shelby.

### 4-H and FFA Fair Exhibitors

Local youth who were participants in this years 2006 Klickitat County Fair are:

#### FFA Exhibitors:

- **Kathy Call**, 17, won a Grand Champion ribbon on dam and daughter goat, Reserve Grand market goat, and was Senior FFA Grand Champion Goat Showman.

- **Kelly Call**, 16, won a Grand Champion ribbon on market goat and was Reserve Champion for Senior Goat Showmanship.

#### 4-H Exhibitors:

- **Karrie Call**, 12, won a Blue Ribbon for her market goat and showmanship.

- **Shelby McKern**, 12, won a Blue Ribbon for her Buff Orpington chicken.

- **Tatiana Taylor**, exhibited at the 2006 Mid-Columbia Junior Livestock and Jackpot show at Tygh Valley, June 15–18. She showed a steer and a swine, winning Beef Grand Champion Junior Showman and Reserve Grand Champion on Market Steer, Blue on Market Hog and Showmanship, 8th place in Livestock Judging.

At the Klickitat County Fair, Tatiana won a Reserve Grand Champion Junior ribbon in Beef Showmanship and on her record book, a Blue Ribbon on Market Steer, 4-H Demonstration and Poster.

We are very proud of our High Prairie youth and Congratulations to all.



## SECURITY LIGHTING

Audrey Bentz

A typical response to the subject of lighting is “this is my property, and I have the freedom to do whatever I want”. Others respond, “But the sky belongs to everyone!” Ahhh— there is a happy resolution to this!

Many are concerned about having night lights for security (even though some studies show that “the more light, the more crime”). But assuming that it is necessary to have all night lighting for safety, lighting up the sky, as opposed to lighting surface areas, does not increase safety. Lighting up the sky only increases your electric bill. And it increases the alienation of neighbors who moved here to enjoy the meteors, the Northern Lights, the Milky Way and the unbelievable night sky that is becoming a diminishing pleasure these days.

Many urban areas are now considering the limitation of light pollution — even the Lyle Community Council reportedly has that on its agenda! The solutions are simple and inexpensive!

The “dusk to dawn security light” was designed when energy was cheap, some using over 200 watts of power. Much of the light goes upwards or sideways where it does no good, even often blinding the homeowner.

### Good Security Lights, a.k.a. “Ambient Lighting”:

A well shielded, low pressure sodium fixture gives well-controlled light, energy efficiency, no glare and provides excellent visibility.

A similar full cut-off high pressure sodium or metal halide fixture, or the new low-wattage compact fluorescent PL lamps delivers no uplight and no glare.

The infrared sensor spotlights that respond to local motion are the most effective for security!

Or, if one does not want to replace their standard security light, it is possible to simply install a “cap” over it, so that the light is diffused to the desired area, in contrast to the sky and the neighbor's yard!

Meanwhile, enjoy the likelihood of fall meteors and the Aurora Borealis — a treat that urban dwellers can only dream about. And when neighbors move in, share this information, so that we can indeed keep High Prairie a very special place to live!

For more information, check [www.darksky.org](http://www.darksky.org).



## LOW YELLOWJACKETS AND HIGH BIRDS ON HIGH PRAIRIE

Martha M. Hamil

Other folks on High Prairie report bears and cougars. I'm lucky. My encounters have been with packrats, birds, mice, and yellowjackets. To me, yellowjackets trump cougars any day, especially as I'm allergic to them.

Thursday started slowly. After arising about 0530 and making coffee, I fed Michael. Then, sitting at my counter drinking black coffee, the realization dawned that I had left the water in the garden on all night. Conscientiously, I trekked up the hill with Michael to move the water onto the raspberries and currants.

Out of the corner of my eye, I saw Michael begin to paw at the ground about three feet downhill from the garden gate. Because he often digs for moles, voles, and the like, I blithely entered the garden. As I'm bent over to unfasten the soaker hoses, a yellowjacket buzzes me. Suddenly, a multitude thrums the air around me. Michael's vole hole is a yellowjacket nest and they blame me.

Slamming the gate, I trucked toward the house and safety. By now, yellowjackets have somehow managed to get under my robe and under my pajamas and are now stinging. Stripping while one is running is a feat but I managed it. I did get through the door with slippers still on my feet. The robe and the top posed no problems to remove while fleeing but I cannot figure how I got out of the bottoms without removing the slippers. For the rest of the day, I tried to relax and nurse my badly swollen arm and plan for no adventures the next day. High Prairie's creatures did not respect that plan. So, on to the next encounter.

Friday started even more slowly. As local temperatures may exceed 100 today, birds should be perched in the shade somewhere and near water preferably. But no, feathers flutter as they swoop and sweep about. Even the insects are torpid so birds have little reason to fly except for perhaps one. They want me!

When one is sitting in the glider and reading, a bird landing on one's head is somewhat disconcerting. Shades of "The Birds" come to mind. I jumped up and spoke sharply to the bird. It flew away but came back a half-hour later. Was it searching for nesting material and my hair looked suitable? Was

it just friendly? Did it want a mother? Only the bird knows. Bird books do say that Say's phoebes are friendly birds. An owl, a red-tailed hawk, or a pileated woodpecker would have been a knotty problem. No adventures tomorrow!

## TICK REMOVAL

Francine Lehman, A School Nurse

I had a pediatrician tell me what she believes is the best way to remove a tick. This is great, because it works in those places where it's sometimes difficult to get to with tweezers: between toes, in the middle of a head full of dark hair, etc. Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and swab it for a few seconds (15 to 20), the tick will come out on it's own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away. This technique has worked every time I've used it and it's much less traumatic for the patient and easier for me. Unless someone is allergic to soap, I can't see that this would be damaging in any way.

## WILDLIFE ON HIGH PRAIRIE

Dona Taylor

On the morning of July 23, Andy Anderson's son, Richard, of Parkdale, was driving west on Centerville Highway when he saw a large black bear, heading north. Richard was about a quarter of a mile from his Dad's residence.

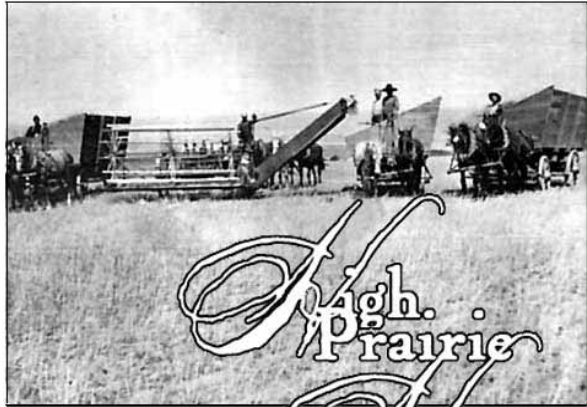
A week later on August 1, again in early morning, Andy Anderson discovered two dead animals about 100 feet from his house. One was his lamb and the other was a deer with a large gash on its stomach. The game department investigated and concluded a cougar had made the kill.

Five days later, on August 6, in the afternoon Neil Shuster, his daughter and son in law saw a large black bear about a quarter mile up Hartland Road. The bear was headed south toward Centerville Highway.

Have you seen any of these critters lately?







Douglas Taylor

High Prairie  
History

## SUMMERTIME ON THE PRAIRIE

The long days of summer are upon us, with accompanying hot days and generally cool nights. As the evening settles in I notice a parade of turkeys walking through the yard, with a stop at the water trough for a drink of cool water before continuing up the hill to their roosting area. During the day the deer have generally been lying partially concealed in the tall grass in the shade, under the surrounding oak trees. They get up, stretch, start browsing and cautiously start their evening journey to the water trough or fish pond for a fill of water as dusk starts to settle in.

As dusk turns to darkness one hears the howl of the coyote, thus creating a reaction and accompanying howl from Julia, the farm border collie and protector. Listening carefully one may also hear the hoot of the great horned owl as they start their evening prowl. Later as the farm has started to settle for the night another burst of barking from Julia envelopes the quiet evening.

Taking the flashlight and beaming the surrounding area, one may see the many eyes of deer coming also for their turn at the water hole, or maybe a striped skunk or raccoon checking in to see if the chickens have been properly locked in the safety of their house for the evening. The night and barnyard is generally alive with the activities of the carnivores, like the coyote, fox, horned owl, raccoon and skunk all looking for a tidbit before searching the surrounding areas for a meal from the wild.

The coyotes have found the cat population quite tasty with several cats contributing to the main course. Raccoons find chicken a delicacy, they take more than one generally in a night's hunt if not

protected from said pilferage.

One of the requirements in the evening is closing the chicken house door before retiring. One morning last spring I noticed evidence of an intrusion in the chicken house by the remains of one chicken lying dead in the yard. Looking into the chicken house I noticed four laying hens missing but no evidence of them being eaten there. Finding this mystifying, I was about to give up on this puzzle, when I walked behind the chicken house and looking upon the roof seeing the remains of several chickens there. Inspecting further I determined the raccoons had climbed up a tree, got on the roof, pried up the metal roofing along one side of the roof and entered. Thus bringing out their ill gotten gains the same route and finishing their breakfast on the roof.

The question here is: do you know what kind of chicken lays the longest? The answer: a dead one.

Observing the serenity during the day one would never suspect the activities going on at night. Even unscrupulous humans have been known to pilfer fuel from farm machinery of late, with the gas prices skyrocketing. With no more than they siphon, they probably could ask for and receive for free enough to get to a filling station.

As night turns to day, with the rising of the sun, quietness returns to the countryside, excepting for the highway traffic with local workers going to their destinations for another days production.

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## HARTLAND CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Doug Taylor

The Hartland Cemetery Association also known as The Lone Pine was being used in early 1880, with several burials listed in the Cemetery records. The first quit claim deed was recorded by the grantors N. B. Brooks, his wife Rosa A. Brooks and Josie Hinnell on the 12th day of April 1901.

We find another quit claim deed again on July 16th 1937 to the Hartland Cemetery Association by Catherine Hiebenthal, a widow, of Dodge County Nebraska. It was filed and recorded at the request of J. W. Powell on November 9, 1937.

The By Laws of Hartland Cemetery Association as subscribed to in 1901.

**Section I** The name of this incorporation shall be, Hartland Cemetery Association.

**Section 11** The officers shall be three Directors who shall have the business management of the

association, and a two thirds may decide question that shall arise. The term of office shall be six years and in case of a vacancy by death or otherwise, the directors shall order a meeting to fill such vacancy.

**Section III** The secretary shall act as secretary of all the meetings of the association or directors, when present, and attend to correspondence, and audit accounts.

**Section IV** The Treasurer shall be selected from the Board of Directors and shall keep account of finances, and pay all bills and orders allowed by the Directors.

**Section V** To meet necessary expenses incurred in the conducting of the cemetery, such sums shall be charged for burial plats as the Association and Directors shall prescribe.

**Section VI** The voting members shall include all those who subscribed to the articles of incorporation or who shall own plats for burial purposes,

Signed by D.E Brooks,  
D.W. Rothrock, P.S.  
Plummer Committee.

The first Directors after the Corporation was formed in 1901 were H. Stacker, E. G. Copeland R. Struthers elected Directors and Wm. Bridgefarmer as Secretary with 40 Local subscribers. The Membership of the Hartland Cemetery

Association is made up of all persons who have subscribed or purchased burial lots or gravesites in the Lone Pine Cemetery. There are no dues, the work of maintaining the cemetery grounds; handling of its business affairs is done entirely on a voluntary basis.

The articles in section two have been amended to have five Directors. Any three of which shall constitute a quorum. Having been duly Elected they include: Douglas L. Taylor 365-3242 (Chairman) Cal Edwards (Vice- Chairman) 365-3563 Lorna Dove (Secretary) 365-3246 Roberta Childs (Treasurer) Nada McMurrin.

Someone once said, "If you wish to learn a community, first visit its cemetery." This is true as you walk among the gravesites of many early pioneers of this region — farmers, cattlemen, workers, children, etc. buried in oldest sections of the cemetery.

Many residents, youths and very young adults were buried here before the Cemetery was officially

established. Listed below are a few of the prior 1900 Cemetery burials, Brown Infants died 1883, Warner infant twins died 1883, Anna Harms age 25 years died 1887 James Hinnell age 39 years died 1899, Columbia Huff age 42 died 1890 and Jason S. Clark 78 years died 1897. Presently the records are available at the Douglas & Dona Taylor residence.

Many persons who have family members buried in the Hartland Cemetery wish in various ways to improve the appearance of the individual graves or lots we encourage this, and allow them to choose their individual methods. The general consensus of past members is that the over all condition of the Cemetery remains in a native state. However there are some general policies, which we would like to have followed, as indicated in the following paragraphs--

Cemetery requirements are that all future graves be lined. (Liners may be purchased from the Association. We also rent greens and lowering device.) Any curbs

on plots are to be placed just INSIDE of lines as set by corner stakes, the stakes marking the outer boundary of lots. If stakes are missing and can not be found, contact one of the Cemetery officers listed below. Care of your lot or grave is your responsibility, and we ask that you keep it neat and clean.

Lots or graves may be covered with white or red rock, gravel or other suitable material placed over heavy black plastic sheeting. There is no water to maintain lawns, however, low shrubs, perennials, and bulbs, can be planted and watered periodically. We ask that no glass containers be left on graves, as they freeze and break and create a safety hazard. Thank you for always securing the entrance gate when you leave.

As members of the Hartland Cemetery Association you are urged to take an active part in its care. You may become a member by purchasing a burial site or by contributing to the overall up keep of the Cemetery. This is a community cemetery for local use.

The board of directors wishes to thank you for your cooperation.

You may find considerable information of burials, obituaries and etc. at the below web site

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~westklic/index.html>



Lone Pine Cemetery ca. 1900

## YELLOWJACKETS, WASPS, AND THEIR ILK

Martha M. (Streaker) Hamil

Hearing several people refer to yellowjacket nests under the eaves or the porch and having always believed that yellowjackets nested only in the ground or occasionally in rotten logs or stumps, I googled<sup>1</sup> them. Thousands of articles appeared, as expected, but this summary gleans the information from those that entomologists wrote, particularly about the Western U.S. As a scientist, I am most interested in how we might communicate more effectively. But, as one who has a healthy respect for yellowjackets and their relatives, avoiding stings assumes great importance after my recent yellowjacket encounter and my known allergies. Actually, one expert described that “respect” as a primal, atavistic fear.

Of the about 2,500 species of wasps in North America, only about 50 species can sting at all. Only a few out of the 50 can inject venom with that stinger. That venom causes the intense pain, itching, and swelling. Although very rare, in extreme cases, breathing problems, hives, and other allergic response result. These are immediate medical emergencies as death can be imminent. A highly allergic person must be in an emergency room immediately, generally less than 20 to 30 minutes. On High Prairie, that means you start there immediately after being stung if you have had a previous allergic reaction such as hives or red streaks radiating away from the sting site accompanied by abnormal swelling. And, if you have ever had such a reaction, consult with your physician soon! They can prescribe a sting kit, generally an Epipen™ or Ana-Guard™, which can allow you the time needed to get to the emergency room. Do Not Hesitate. Call 911 immediately.

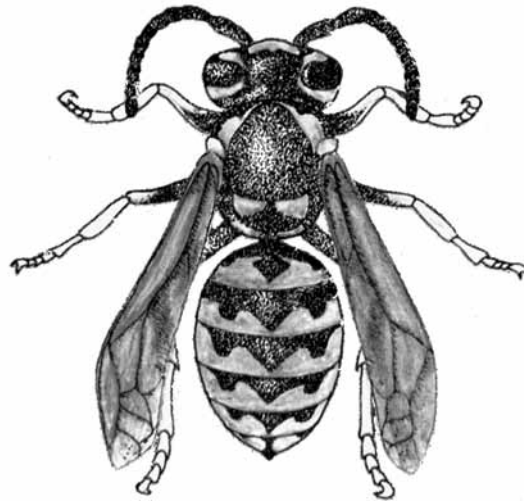
The molecular composition of bee venom differs from that of the social wasps. So, an allergic reaction to the sting of one does not mean that you will have one to the other. My own allergic reaction was to a so-called Guinea wasp, a very small wasp of the deep South. Subsequent stings from other wasp species either caused no allergic reaction or a minor one. I

carry an Epipen™.

Bites are a different story. You may know that a bite occurred, but it's no more than a momentary sensation; the insect is sampling you to see if you are edible.

Distinguishing among the various social wasps is not always straightforward. Also, bees, another social insect in the Order Hymenoptera, can only sting but once as they have a barbed stinger. Upon stinging, the bee dies. Although their color may be similar to yellowjackets and sandhills hornets, they are hairy with a shorter, fatter body.

On High Prairie, our biggest problem is with the social wasps. Even though some of the solitary wasps such as mud daubers can sting, you almost have to force them to do so (I tried it once when I was about 7 or 8. I had to squeeze it into my forearm.).



Western Yellowjacket (*Paravespula* sp.)

Social wasps, on the other hand, respond to perceived threats quickly and effectively. Our social wasps on the Prairie are paper wasps (*Polistes* sp.), yellowjackets (*Paravespula* sp. aka *Vespula* spp.), and hornets (*Dolichovespula* sp.). Our native paper wasps (*Polistes aurifer*) are reddish brown to golden brown and build open umbrella-shaped nests out of the weather such as under eaves. One can see the cells in the nest from underneath. A recent invader, the European paper wasp (*Polistes dominulus*), looks almost identical to the yellowjackets. Their nests are very like our native paper wasp nests. Compared to yellowjackets and hornets, paper wasps are relatively unaggressive and attack only when their nest is actively disturbed or the individual is threatened.

Yellowjackets and hornets, though, can be very aggressive and they can sting viciously over and over. Multiple stings can also become a medial emergency because your body is inundated with so much venom at once. Both yellowjackets and hornets build globular nests that are completely enclosed except for a single entrance hole. Mainly, yellowjackets build their nests underground whereas hornets hang them from convenient structures or trees. Our native yellowjacket, the Western yellowjacket (*Paravespula*

<sup>1</sup>2006 dictionaries list “to google” as a transitive verb.

*pennsylvanica*), builds nests exclusively below ground. But, yellowjackets don't always observe the rules, particularly the German yellowjacket (*P. germanica*). The German yellowjackets also like to build nests in house walls, is larger, and is more aggressive than the Western yellowjacket. Moreover, sandhills hornets (*Dolichospula arenaria*) and yellowjackets look very similar with the former being slightly larger. The baldfaced hornet (*V. maculata*) is black with a white face. We removed a baldfaced hornet nest from the proposed firehall/community center building site while ridding the property of debris.

So, if the social wasp is black with a white face, it is a baldfaced hornet. If it is golden or reddish brown with subdued tannish markings, it is our native paper wasp. A yellow and black, non-hairy one is a European paper wasp, a yellowjacket, or a sandhills hornet.

If the yellow and black 'wasp' is nesting in an open, umbrella-shaped nest, it's a European paper wasp. If the nest is hanging from

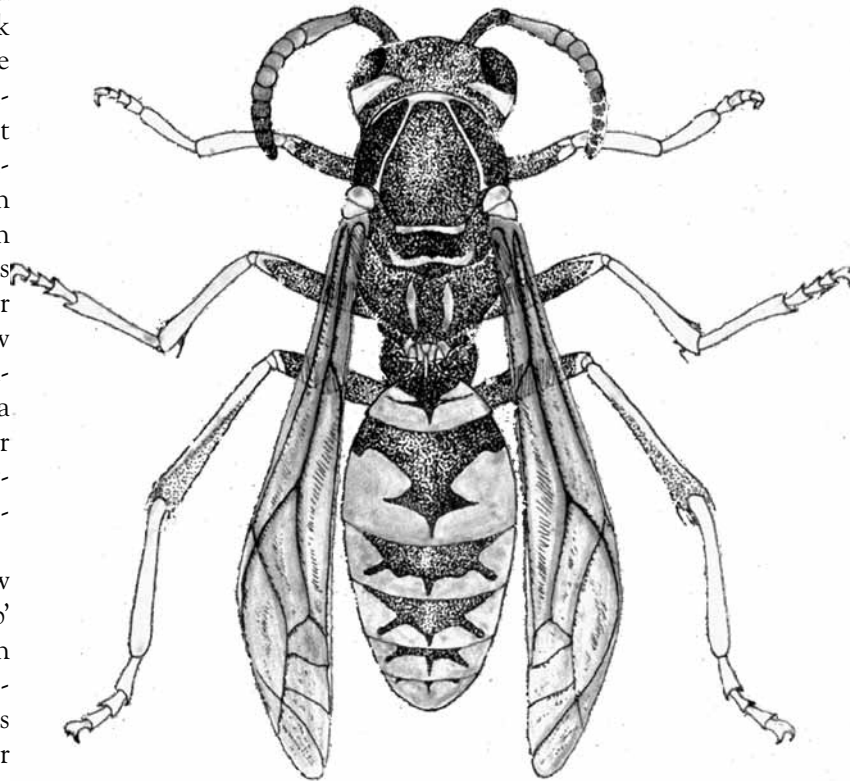
something and is a globular, enclosed structure, it is a sandhills hornet. If the nest is within your house walls, it's a German yellowjacket. Finally, if the nest is underground, it is our native Western yellowjacket (native).

When you are stung, the culprit is a would-have-been female. Nature has modified their ovipositor, the egg-laying mechanism, into a stinger so they are not fertile. Only the queen in the colony lays eggs and none of the eggs develop into males or potentially fertile females until late summer. Meanwhile, the stinging ones feed the queen, the developing larvae, and defend the nest. The adults only feed on nectar or other sweet solutions. The workers feed the developing larvae, however, on protein. So, until later in the

summer, they are attracted by both meat and sweet liquids. The larvae also excrete a sweet liquid that the adults relish so mostly foraging adults go for protein. Late in the summer, the queen begins laying eggs that become males and fertile females. Once they become adults, the males and fertile females depart the nest and the rest of the colony dies including the old queen. The males also die after the mating process leaving only fertilized females to overwinter. These next year's queens hide in crevices and live off their fat reserves. Once spring arrives they search out a likely nest site and build the initial nest. After constructing 30 to 50

cells into which she deposits eggs and then feeds the developing larvae until they are adults. These workers then take over the chores of expanding the nest, feeding the larvae, and defending the nest; the queen retires to strictly lay eggs.

These habits form the basis of the folktales that killing the first social wasp that you see in the spring means social wasps will not trouble you the rest of the



Paper Wasp (*Polistes* sp.)

year. True, but unrealistic, for if only a few queens survive, a single yellowjacket or hornet nest can contain up to 15,000 individuals. In New Zealand, where the government paid a bounty on each queen destroyed and over 99% were, the yellowjacket population remained close to normal. Nevertheless, it's still prudent to do so.

Meanwhile, us humans are caught in a dilemma; their stinging habits render them totally undesirable but their benefits to farmers and gardeners is tremendous because they prey upon and eliminate vast numbers of pest insects as food for their larvae. Most entomologists recommend controlling them only if absolutely necessary (I've reached that point). So we

need to encourage them to nest in sites remote from humans and to look for food away from our houses.

The best way to prevent nasty stings is to avoid them. On the Prairie, that becomes impossible, so it's prudent to remove food sources near your home. This means pet foods, drinks, garbage, and compost. Once they discover food, yellowjackets and hornets will haunt the area long after the food is gone.

Once food sources have been removed, several other things help:

- don't wear scents of any kind;
- don't wear bright colors especially flowery prints, bright yellow, light blue, orange, bright red, black, or wool (bee keepers and pest control experts wear white or light tan suits for a reason);
- avoid shiny buckles, earrings, and other jewelry;
- wear a hat, long pants, and long sleeves
- don't let children or others throw things or direct a water spray at the nest.

Whatever you do, if one is near or lands on you, never swing or strike at it or run from it. Remain calm (easier said than done) and stationary momentarily, the slowly wave at it and slowly move away. Do not run — the social wasp's cruising speed is about 13 miles per hour; their pursuit speed is closer to 20. If you can run four-minute miles, you'll still not be fast enough to escape. And, never ever, strike, swing, or crush one against your body. They release a chemical "alarm pheromone" that provokes nearby guard wasps into a frenzied attack. The guard wasps sting anything and everything that gets between them and the alarm signal. Bees also release a similar pheromone.

Setting lure traps also helps reduce the population somewhat. Some commercial traps provide a pheromone-like attractant (DO NOT GET IT ON YOU); some let you provide the bait. Frozen apple juice concentrate is one of the best baits for these types of traps particularly when combined with canned cat food or smelly fish. Some homemade traps use a protein source suspended above a water tub. Adding detergent to the water to reduce the surface tension makes it much more effective. Others construct a baited trap that social wasps can enter but cannot leave. Also, traps need to be placed at least two days before an outdoor event to be most effective; you want them already gone when the event happens. (Enter our yellowjacket-trapping contest at the picnic on September 17 to see how well yours performs.)

If you are unfortunate enough to get stung, several products help relieve the pain and itching. Some are commercial such as the Sting Kill™. An old,

but tried standby, is applying a poultice of meat tenderizer. Topical pain relievers such as benzocaine ointment also help relieve the pain. A new product called Therapik™ supposedly stops the pain in less than a minute by supplying sufficient heat to destroy the venom. I have acquired one but have not had occasion to use it. No product reduces the need to call 911 if you are highly allergic.

It's prudent to destroy social wasp nests near your home, outbuildings, and gardens, but getting rid of the nests and thus the inhabitants is very hazardous. Do it only after it gets dark. If using a flashlight, either cover the lens with red cellophane or don't shine the beam directly into the nest. Sudden light can agitate social wasps. Spray and/or dust the entrance hole with the appropriate insecticide. For a non-toxic control, pour a large quantity of a soapy water solution into the entrance hole of underground nests. A glass bowl may also be placed over the entrance hole of an underground yellowjacket nest. Just be sure that it's sealed around the bottom and that it's well after dark. Otherwise, a bunch of mad yellowjackets will be awaiting you the next day.

Nests of social wasps in your walls (probably the German yellowjacket) present a much more difficult problem. The nest and the individuals need to be totally eliminated for the safety of you and your family. Homeowners often get badly stung or sustain serious injuries from falls off a ladder. It's best to call a professional pest control expert for this operation. After, and only after, the insects are dead, caulk everything you can find to caulk and seal every hole that you can spot.

Nature takes care of native social wasps in late September or early October. The invaders' nests don't reach peak size until October and early November. Thus, they are still very active long after our native paper wasps and yellow jackets are dead.

Remember to look at your drink before taking a swallow when outdoors. Stings in and on the mouth are extremely painful. Here's hoping social wasps and you can avoid close encounters of the stinging kind.

P.S. The dead, trapped yellowjackets make great compost. Their bodies contain lots of nitrogen, among other things. Put them to use. MMH

*Lest you think yellowjackets and wasps have no redeeming qualities, consider that they provide a useful service by feeding on the larvae of many common agricultural pests and flies. The next time you wonder why there were no hornworms in your tomatoes this year, thank a yellowjacket!*

—Editor

## A UNIQUE BRUSH RIG

Fred Henchel

It's old and red which might make you think it belongs to the fire department. This rig belongs to Paul Strait; It's a 1910 Brush Runabout. Brush automobiles were built in Detroit Michigan from 1907 until 1911. In 1912 the company was bought by Maxwell which was later bought by Chrysler. Paul's car is

powered by a one cylinder, ten horse-power, water-cooled, gas engine and can reach a speed of about 20 mph. It has two forward gears and reverse. Final drive to the rear wheels is by twin

chains. The transition from buggies and wagons to the automobile is very apparent. Besides wooden spoke wheels, the chassis, frame and axels are made of hardwood. One unique feature was coil springs. The car weighs about 1,200 pounds and has a 74-inch wheel base. Because these cars were small and light weight they did well on early-day, primitive roads. New they cost about \$500 and were known as "Everyman's Car".

In 1909, two Brush cars completed The Glidden Tour, a 2,636 mile journey that started in Detroit, went as far west as Denver Colorado and finished in Kansas City, Missouri. This tour was an endurance run to test and prove the reliability of early automobiles. The Brush cars averaged about 175 miles a day over mostly un-paved roads and trails, and completed the trip in 15 days. They were the "little cars" on the tour that no one thought would stand up. A Brush also successfully climbed Pike's Peak during the same era. An early Brush sales pitch was "a squirrel can climb a tree better than an elephant". In 1912, two men and a dog made the first crossing of Australia by motor vehicle in a 1910, single cylinder Brush; a trip

of approximately 2,600 miles which was completed in 28 days.

During the Brush Runabout Company's brief existence approximately 20,000 vehicles were produced; at least 200 exist today.

Paul Strait acquired this car in 1993. It was fairly complete but in pieces. It had been stored in a Willamette Valley barn for many years. It took over a year to restore the car to running condition. Paul completely disassembled the car and restored or rebuild each piece. Missing parts were machined to original specs. The leather upholstery is original, and Paul remembers spending many hours applying gallons of neats-foot oil to bring it back. After

restoration the car has been entered in many antique car shows and parades. Last June, Paul took the car, Grand-daughter Molly and Great-

grand kids Elaine, Katie, Anika, Addy and Caleb to the annual Community Days Parade in Goldendale Washington where I was able to capture some photos.

Paul has owned many unique vehicles over the years. Other cars included a 1917 Model T pickup that was a \$9 investment and a 1915 Buick. It's hard to imagine Paul and Gladys cruising around on a big Harley V-twin motorcycle, but he has pictures to prove it. During WWII rationing, the motorcycle only needed two tires and got good mileage. The motorcycle is long gone, but Paul is still enjoys zipping around the prairie on his modern "Quad-runner".



## MEET TOM AND LOZETTA DOLL!

Audrey Bentz

Living at the top of South Prairie Road, the “Doll House” is maybe the first High Prairie structure to have an elevator! Tom and Lozetta moved here in 2000, renovated the house, built what neighbors often call “Tom’s True



Value” – a large metal building with an impressive carpentry shop with an impressive inventory of hardware, lumber and other building materials. But it also provides an annual location for a May/June barbeque for High Prairie – usually attended by at least 40 residents, plus Klickitat County Sheriff and Commissioners with spouses!

Tom was born in Minnesota into a family of ten, then lived in Montana during high school and college. He paid his way through college in a carpenter apprenticeship program, spent eight years in military reserves, got degrees in industrial education and public administration, the latter at Portland State University. He married Lozetta in 1959 and spent 29 years as a teacher and administrator, retiring in 1976. Then Tom started general contracting busi-

ness (Trico Construction) with an emphasis on additions, kitchens and finish carpentry, retiring at the turn of the century.

Lozetta was born in Silverton, Oregon, also in a large family, and reared in Oregon and South Dakota. She started

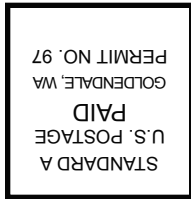
working for attorneys right out of high school in Silverton, OR, then moved to Portland, married; raised four children and worked part-time as a legal secretary. She returned to the work force in 1982 as a judicial assistant in the U. S. Bankruptcy Court from which she retired in 2001 after nearly 20 years.

Lozetta, now an expert hiker, has probably covering more High Prairie territory than any other local here! She is active in our local book club, Monday morning Craft group, Secretary of HPCC for several years, and on editorial staff of the newsletter. And I guess she is a model wife, in that she goes fishing with Tom!

Tom, along with fishing, has done phenomenal carpentry and fix-up projects for many neighbors, along with the finest finish work in their renovated home.



# POSTAL PATRON



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

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## SUNSET KALEIDOSCOPE

Tom Doll

The evening tide of fading light closes each day with the vespers of silence and color.

The sun's rays shining through a dusty seasonal sky shifts the evening tide of colors into a sunset aurora borealis signifying nothing but the first painter of creation, an evening of color which all can enjoy.

The perennials of color at sunset against the fleecy rolls of cloud, silhouetting the mountains heralds an evening of striking beauty.

On and on, monument by monument, the constant uninterrupted changes before our eyes are seen so frequently, as the photogenic sunsets transform the sky into the shadows of night.

Illumination of the day is now overshadowed by the twilight of the night. The ceiling lights of studded diamonds, like navigation points, guide us throughout the High Prairie night.