



The High Prairiean

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

Volume Eight, Number Three

Circulation: 1,225

Subscription Cost: FREE

September, 2008

NOTICES

September 23: The Klickitat County Board of Commissioners will be discussing a new amendment to the **Open Range Law for Klickitat County**. It is scheduled for at 1:30 p.m. in the Klickitat County Court House.

October 9: Special **Farm Preservation** meeting, at 7:00 p.m., Lyle High School.

October 21 and November 18: **American Farmland Trust County Study**, at 6:30 p.m., Centerville Grange.

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

Fire Commissioners meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

High Prairie Community Council meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Taylor's church, 876 Centerville Highway.

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

High Prairie Book Club meets the 4th Monday at 7:00 p.m. Contact Lozetta Doll for location and book recommendations, 365-0010.

High Prairie Needlers meet every Monday at 10:30 a.m. Contact Judi Strait: 365-5288 or Lozetta Doll: 365-0010.

When requesting medical assistance or reporting a fire CALL 911



New Date! New Date! New Date! New Date!

"Farmland Preservation Zone... Let's Talk!" Special Moderated Discussion

* Share your concerns * Ask questions * Get answers

Also: Where does High Prairie fit into the Big Picture?

What does the proposal really say?

What impact can we have on the outcome?

**NEW DATE: Thursday, October 9, 2008
at 7:00 p.m.**

Lyle High School Multipurpose Room

Sponsored by the High Prairie Community Council

SPECIAL MEETING ON OCTOBER 9: FARMLAND PRESERVATION ZONE

Gwen Berry

Unless you've been on safari in Africa for the last couple of months, you're probably all too aware of the proposed Farmland Preservation Zone and the reactions it has prompted up here on High Prairie. The proposal took the community by surprise and, like any plan that talks about potential development, it really pushed people's buttons.

continued on page 3

GET WELL WISHES

Dona Taylor

Icey Sheeran had an accident in Montana on her way home, broke her shoulder; needed surgery with broken ribs and many cuts and bruises. She is much improved now. She is one tough cookie.

Tom Doll had a three-way bypass at St. Vincent's hospital in Portland this August and is home and doing very well.

Arlen Aleckson has been battling a bad shoulder with bone spur and bursitis. We hope he continues to get better.

Martha Hamil continues with health problems that the doctors can not seem to get a handle on.

LETTERS



Thank you for letting us know what is happening in the neighborhood such as this fire in Swale Canyon. We have been watching the planes and helicopter flying water in but wasn't sure exactly where the fire was. Appreciate you keeping us informed.

Thanks,
James and Francine Lehman

Ed note: This relates to the Swale Canyon fire which the fire department worked on for several days and contained to the canyon and under 60 acres in size. See related story on page 5.



The High Prairian

P.O. Box 592 Lyle, WA 98635

Publisher	Klickitat County EDC
News Editors	Douglas & Dona Taylor
Layout/Typesetting	Cindy Henschell, Cascadia Graphics & Publishing

Serving the community of High Prairie, Klickitat County, Washington.

Published four times per year (or as often as needed).

Subscription cost: FREE. Circulation: 1,200.

News Desk: Douglas L. Taylor,
365-3242

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The High Prairian can also be viewed on the High Prairie web site: <http://www.highprairie.us>

Do you have a STORY to tell?

Or NEWS  of interest to denizens of
HIGH PRAIRIE?



How about a POEM, a RE
GARDEN

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING...
We had many more submissions to this edition than would fit! We'll hold some of them until next time. In the meantime, keep them coming.
— Ed.

THE HIGH PRAIRIAN



Contact Doug Taylor:
highprairie@gorge.net
or

365-3242

All the news that's print to fit.

With such a complex issue, and no forum for discussion, no effective and timely way to get questions answered, and no system for communicating accurate information to everyone, the community suffered. It was hard to know where the truth lay in all of it. Questions, speculations, opinions and rumors flourished. The reactions began to take on personal overtones, and there were some hard feelings. It felt like the community was being pulled apart.

My husband and I watched this develop with sinking hearts. We're fairly new here, and to us the community aspect of High Prairie is one of its greatest assets. We hated to see it caught up in such a negative conflict.

Over lunch one afternoon, we found out that Peg and Jeff McMullin were feeling the same way. Not only that, but Peg has more than 20 years' experience moderating public meetings. Would she be willing to moderate a meeting for High Prairie? She said yes. Here was a positive step we could take: we could provide that needed forum for discussion. So, under the Community Council's sponsorship, that's what we're doing.

Meeting Information: *We had hoped to hold the meeting on September 11, but because not all the key people could be there, we were asked to move it to a different date. After juggling several people's schedules we settled on **Thursday, October 9, at 7:00 p.m.***

The meeting will be held in the multipurpose room at the Lyle High School so there's plenty of room for everyone who wants to come and lots of parking. The school has a p.a. system, too, so everything can be heard clearly.

The first part of the meeting will allow everyone to express their concerns and questions about the proposal. Then we'll have a sense of what needs to be addressed and what questions still need answers. We'll get as many answers as we can at the meeting.

New information being presented may clear up some of the questions. We'll be able to ask other questions directly. Some questions — particularly technical or legal ones — may need to be taken to appropriate experts for answers and the results shared at a later time.

At the meeting's close, we'll take a look at what the next steps might be.

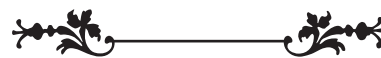
This forum will provide the community with the means to get more complete information about

the proposal and a better understanding of the issues surrounding it. We hope these will translate into less tension. Then too, the knowledge gained may be important for another reason. There are opportunities coming up for public input about this proposal. Whatever your take on the issue, your words will have the greatest effect if you come across as calm, prepared, and knowledgeable. By providing facts and dispelling rumors, this meeting will help you do that.

Looking down the road, we're hopeful that a successful meeting might provide a precedent for dealing with challenging issues in the future. It would be of immense value for our community to know we have an effective means of examining complex issues and addressing our concerns when emotions are running high. It's guaranteed we won't all agree, but we can come to a better understanding.

Please come. Let's talk!

Gwen Berry and Jake Jakabosky, Peg Caliendo McMullin and Jeff McMullin



HPCC TREASURER'S REPORT

Dona Taylor

Thank goodness not all the gold is in California; a small sum of it is found in our coffers of High Prairie Community Council.

We have been able to provide money for Fire District 14 fire equipment, finish the inside of the fire hall, help fire victims, 4-Her's, and donate to Lyle Lions Club Christmas baskets. We have paid our yearly expenses and still had money to purchase "like new" kitchen equipment for our new community center.

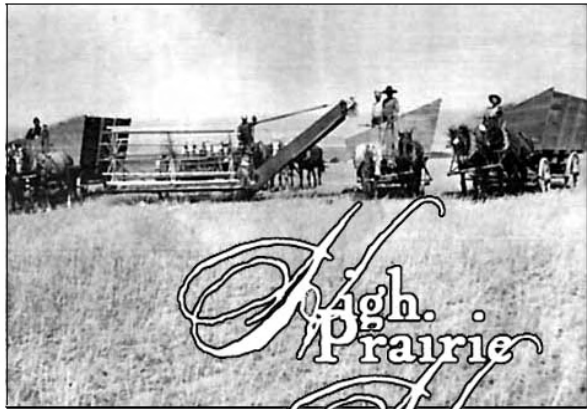
Thanks to nine annual fire house sales, your generous donations and help, a harvest festival and hoedown, pop cans and 13-mile Sale we have raised this gold.

The new kitchen equipment was paid in advance before receiving reimbursement from our Klickitat County Economic Development grant.

Below is listed money well spent in the last nine years, in the following categories:

4-H donation, \$200; Sunshine fund, \$150; required Government fees, \$621.33; Fire victims help, \$500; Christmas food baskets, approx. \$1,100; Fire District #14 equipment \$16,982.15 (of which \$8,155.77 has been spent).

On hand: Building fund, \$3,830.00; Schilling Road Project, \$160.01; cash on hand \$9,720.26.



Douglas Taylor

FUN REUNION

I find it so amazing to have a story almost thrown in one's lap that has been there all along and not realizing what an interesting item it could become. In this story I hope that I can relay just a little of the amazement I found.

The Edwin and Nellie Sauter family was a very typical family of the area back in the days when one had to be self-sufficient and diverse in order to survive. And survive and prosper they did, all the while giving back to their community.

My wife and I had the good fortune to receive an invitation to the Sauter family reunion, which they held over the Labor Day weekend. Other special guests were Jack Byran, Don and Darla Brashers, Jerry and Racine Bertchi, Tom and Joyce and daughter Bev. The picnic was held on the original Sauter property just west of the Lyle area rest stop.

Edwin and Nellie Sauter moved to Lyle around 1917 or 1918 and established The Rockview Farm which was accessed by a very narrow road connecting to Highway 14, north over the bluff to an area called Balch. This road would have been impossible to navigate with a truck. The present highway which now cuts through the property was not built until many years later.

The Sauter family also established a commercial salmon business as well as one of the largest chicken laying facilities in the state at the time. I presume most of their supplies were transported by boat, considering the large amount of feed required to feed a hundred thousand laying hens.

While using many boats for fishing, the Sauter family built several themselves.

The children of Erwin and Nellie were boys: Erwin, Frank, Ted and Dick and two girls: Mary and

Nellie. The family was very patriotic with many of them serving their country in the military.

After serving her time in the military, one of the girls, Nellie, married Kenneth Sorensen ("Pat", to many of us) who had been raised on High Prairie. Kenneth and Nellie have both now passed on to their reward. They raised five children. Several of them still live in the Lyle area. Young Kenneth's wife Brenda is now serving as our County Auditor and Ken serves as a Lyle District #4 Fire Commissioner.

The call to serve has been a virtue of the family. The first Mr. Sauter served on the Lyle School Board for many years as did his son, Ted. One of Ted and Georgia's younger sons was elected to the position of Klickitat County Commissioner and is now serving in that capacity. Leroy and daughter Nissa both are members of the Lyle Fire Department.

They are a very intelligent, hard working family with various choices of occupation and all are doing well in their chosen fields.

We have had the great pleasure of knowing many of the Sauter children and grandchildren.

We went to school with Dick, and I served on the school board with Ted and played on the Lyle town basketball team with him. We also have attended many community functions with Nellie. Nellie was always helpful and kind, as are so many of the other family members.

SKY SHOW REPORT

Audrey Bentz

Did you see the Perseid meteor shower last month? Or did you notice that Mars was amazing on August 27? Have you enjoyed the bright Milky Way on a moonless night, or the recent display of northern lights? If not, you are missing one of the best shows on High Prairie.

City dwellers can't begin to see the phenomenal sky show that has been available to us on High Prairie. Which brings up an old issue: We are also beginning to lose it with all the light pollution during the night time. There are some towns in the US that are requiring "lids" over night lights (just illuminating downward) because light focusing on the sky is of benefit to no one (and adds to our PUD bill!) Other effective night lighting can be the "low pressure sodium" (non-glare yellow) or motion sensor types. The glaring overhead lighting does reduce the visibility of stars and planets, and the Milky Way could soon be a "remember when". Let's keep High Prairie "earth and sky friendly"!

SWALE CANYON FIRE

Doug Hutchison

Fire Chief, Klickitat County Fire District #14, High Prairie

We initially received the call at 0346 hours on Saturday August 9th. Fire District #5-Centerville had been paged originally due to the fact the fire was visible from their side. On arrival, Chief Brotherton contacted dispatch to have us paged.

The fire was located on the west aspect of the canyon, over halfway down. Due to the location and darkness we could not immediately gain access or a good size-up. Our crews were sent home for a couple hours to wait until light and come back.

As we gained light we scouted the houses in the area for access and protection needs. We also began to try to figure out a way into the fire. The fire was located near an old road that came in from the end of High Prairie Road in the bottom of the canyon.

DNR (Department of Natural Resources wildland firefighting support) was also on scene by this time and a unified command structure was established between them and us, and we started formulating a plan. With Chief Brotherton from Centerville acting as a lookout from the east side, John Paul Anderson from DNR and I began a rather treacherous and arduous journey down the "road" to the bottom to begin sizing up the fire. DNR had already requested a helicopter for first thing in the morning.

After a lot of stopping to roll large rocks out of the way, John Paul and I finally made it to a turnaround below the fire that had been spotted by Chief Brotherton. We then began the steep climb to the fire on foot. When we finally arrived at the fire it was about an acre in size, mostly creeping in the oak leaf litter but getting into some of the old down pine and snags. We called for additional crews to be shuttled down in a 4-wheel drive SUV since fire engines would likely not make it and be of little use since they would have to park so far away. We

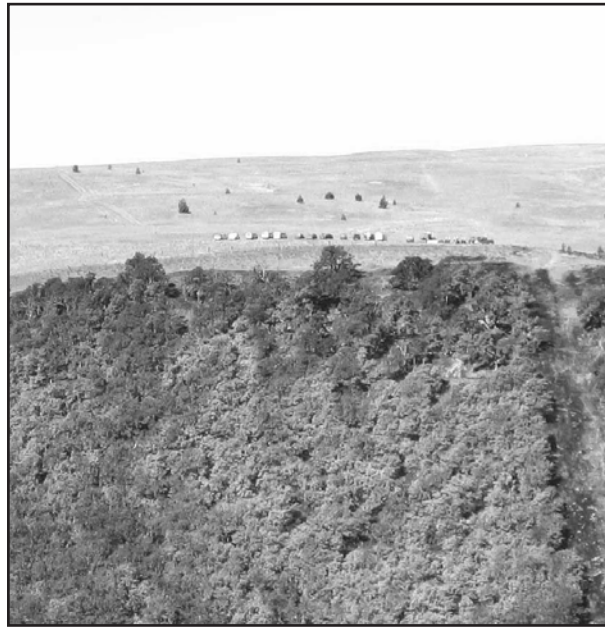
each then began putting in some scratch lines as we could; me on the south, him on the north.

When the first crew arrived we pulled back to the road bed at the bottom of the fire and they began putting in a hand line on the south side as this

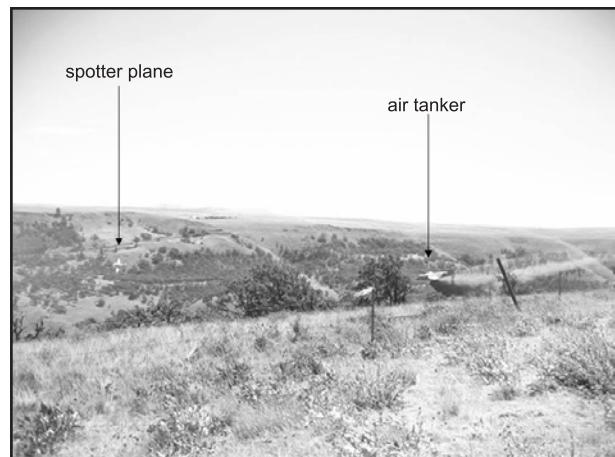
was the most active. I remained below acting as a lookout and taking care of the spot fires being ignited on the road by rolling material.

By about 0930 the winds were already getting squirrely and the fire activity was picking up. Any hot material that rolled onto the road immediately ignited the grass causing concern. Around this time, Chief Brotherton reported the fire had moved over a small ridge and was being pushed south towards our escape route. With our escape route being

sketchy at best, and insufficient resources to hold the fire, we disengaged and using John Paul's pickup and my Blazer retreated to the top/safe area. While DNR requested additional resources including a second helicopter and air tankers, we set up structure



Staging area at the rim of the canyon. Photo: Fred Henschell



Air tanker dropping fire retardant. Photo: Fred Henschell

protection at the three closest residences. Two of the three had little if any defensible space, but since we had time, we were able to put in a dozer line around one and a hand line around the other. This would allow us to burn out around the structures if/when the need arose. Other than that we stood by awaiting additional DNR resources.

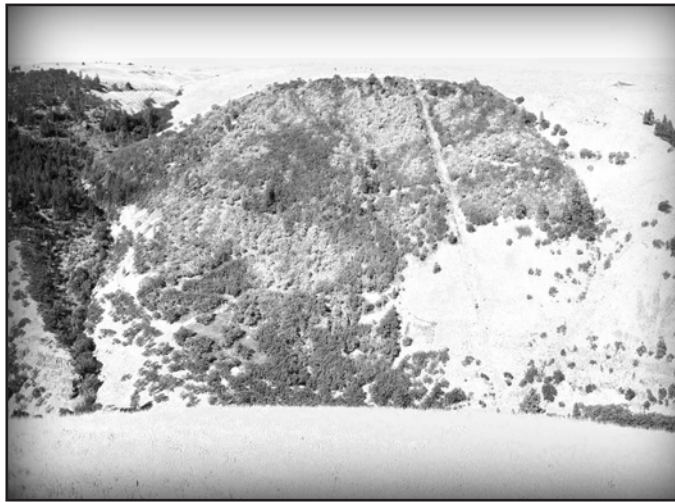
Soon the first helicopter arrived and went to work. After a lot of bucket work, and ten loads of retardant, DNR crews began cutting a hand line across the top to hold it in the canyon. This work continued throughout the day, and I finally released our forces at approximately 1600 hours.

The following morning, at 0630 hours, I met with the incoming Type 3 Incident Management team in Goldendale. They would be taking over the fire from the local DNR folks. Again we formed a unified command, with Steve Riepe from DNR and I as the Incident Commanders. We came up with a basic plan that would require a water shuttle so our tender and Centerville's tender were hired for the fire. When I went back out that morning, I spent a

couple of hours scouting a route from Schilling Road into the top of the fire. Once we had one picked out we flagged it and started to get set up. The plan was for our tender to handle the off-road haul to the drop tanks. Centerville hauled water from our fill site on Struck Road to the staging area (our property on Schilling) where they would fill us and repeat. This went on for four days, total. Phil Haner, Fred Henschell, James Amery, Tim Darland, and Jake Jakabosky all stepped up and took shifts on the tender. I was also there every day.

In the end the fire was contained at 52.4 acres. No structures were lost or directly threatened, though the potential was large. Lyle Fire was right there beside us on the first day to protect homes and structures, while Centerville and Wahkiacus

provided lookouts and patrols on the east side. Had we not had the big west winds on that first day, the fire would no doubt have come out of the canyon as well as consumed much more of the canyon itself. Ultimately we were prepared pretty well for this fire, and we got lucky that much of our prep wasn't necessary.



Final extent of fire. Photo: Fred Henschell

MORE FIRE...



As seen from the Prairie: Mount Adams obscured by smoke plume from nearby Cold Springs Fire. Photo: Bev Edwards.

FIRE DISTRICT 14 REFLECTIVE ADDRESS and ROAD SIGNS AVAILABLE

Address sign: \$25 installed
Road signs are custom made and prices
vary

Contact Fred Henschell
365-5283

FEELING LEFT OUT OF HIGH PRAIRIE HAPPENINGS?

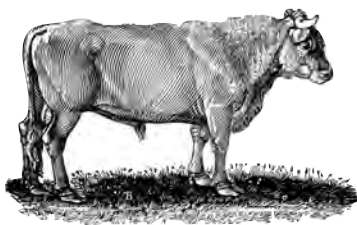
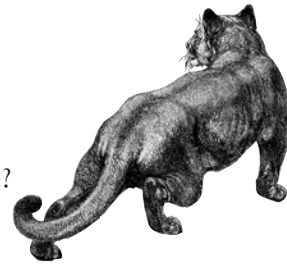
Want to hear about the excess veggies



offered by one neighbor

and the free scrap wood offered by another?

Want to find out about the cougar spotted at your end of High Prairie?



Want to know who is missing the cow
that just walked up your
driveway?

Invitations to events. . . meeting notifications. . . the latest
on the Fire House/Community Center. . . information on
community issues. . . and much more. . .

Put yourself on our e-mail notification list. Send an e-mail to highprairie@gorge.net and say that you want to know what's going on. The list is not used for advertising or any purpose other than to keep High Prairie neighbors informed.

DID YOU KNOW HIGH PRAIRIE HAS ITS OWN WEBSITE?

Gwen Berry

Located at <http://www.highprairie.us/>, our website was developed by Cindy Henschell. She's maintained it by herself for a long time, but now it looks like she's going to be getting some help. We're also looking at making a few additions. One of our first projects is to add some space for current events. We think it can be a very useful tool in keeping everyone informed. Pretty soon you'll be able to look online to get meeting dates and find out who's missing that cow!

In order to do this, we need a couple of things. We're wondering if someone out in High Prairieland has a Windows PC or laptop that a) we could come and use at your place when there's website updating to be done; b) you'd be willing to loan us either on a short-term or long-term basis; or c) you're not sure what to do with because you've upgraded, and you'd consider donating to our cause. Unfortunately, the

system requirements for the software specify a fairly up-to-date computer, so the old boat anchor we've had in the garage for a few years won't work. If you want to see if your computer will work, the specs are at <http://www.adobe.com/products/contribute/systemreqs/#section-1>.

The other thing we need is a copy of Adobe's software called 'Contribute'. This software is especially designed to enable us non-webmaster types to place new information on a website, without screwing up the website itself. We're looking into various ways to purchase it and keep the cost down. Donations are happily accepted. Or maybe you have an old copy of 'Contribute' lying around. If so, we might be able to use the old boat anchor after all.

And last, if you think it'd be fun to be part of this project, come join the party. Call Gwen at 365-0025.

FAIR 2008

Terry Chabbert



Klickitat County Fair has come and gone. What a fun and busy week, from entries in Still Life to the Goat Barn.

High Prairie did well (of course). Paul Strait received a blue and Top of Show ribbons with his wooden toys, some run by battery, some by hand (it's a genuine craftsman's work of art). Way to go Paul! Judy Strait received blues for her needlework; Martha Hamil got blue, red and white and a Lot Champion ribbon for her peach jam (yum). Michelle Maurice received red ribbons for her sheep fleece entries. Loretta Lindsey received blue ribbons for her knitting and crocheting, plus a rosette for Outstanding Exhibit on her crocheted afghan plus all the ribbons she received or showing her goats. Way to go Loretta! Terry Chabbert didn't do too bad either, she received red, white and blues for her various entries. Among those she received were a Top of Show rosette for a crocheted vest, Reserved Lot Champion ribbon for her alpaca fiber entry and a 2nd Place rosette in the re-use-it entry for her Dream Catcher.

Tatiana Taylor received blue showing and fitting in beef division, red for her steer, blue for her poster and Judges Choice in the youth crafts, blue for judging livestock and was also picked to go to State on judging. Way to go Tatiana!

I want to thank and congratulate the young adults in 4-H. You all put in time and hard work for all that you do. I don't know all of you but I am proud of you. I helped out in the goat barn for Loretta and got to know some really nice 4-H kids. WAY TO GO DeAnna Riggs, Mike Murphy, Rachelle Kelly, Rachel and Rebekah Howell, and Kary Osterhoff!

I also want to thank all of you behind-the-scenes people. Without you the fair wouldn't be. Among you are Patti and Shelby McKern, Judy Strait, Loretta Lindsey and her whole family. Also want to thank the families of all who entered.

See you all next year. Come one, Come all, to the Klickitat County Fair and enter, enter, enter.

PAPER OR PLASTIC? HOW DO I ANSWER?

Audrey Bentz

According to the Wall Street Journal, the US uses 100 billion plastic shopping bags annually at a cost of \$4 billion.

Plastic bags don't biodegrade; they photo degrade over about 1,000 years, breaking down into small toxic bits, eventually entering the food web.

Because plastic bags have little value to recyclers, they are often shipped to third-world countries and cheaply incinerated under lax environmental laws, adding toxins to the air. (Imagine a shipload of plastic bags being sent to Africa — is this ridiculous or what?)

Plastic bags require 40% less energy to produce than paper, but they are often made from non-renewable crude oil sources.

Hundreds of sea turtles, whales and other marine animals die each year from eating discarded plastic bags mistaken for food.

(Now, just when you thought you had the answer...)

Paper bag production generates 70% more air pollution and 50 times more water pollution than plastic bags.

The US uses 10 billion paper grocery bags, requiring 14 million trees to be cut down (all which are BADLY needed to absorb CO₂, a process needed to prevent global warming).

It should take only one month to decompose a paper bag, but in our landfills, the lack of heat, light and moisture means they last for hundreds of years.

THE BEST CHOICE: Bring your own re-usable cloth bag — most stores are selling sturdy ones for just 99 cents.



Steve and Cheri DeHart's Boer kids. Photo: Cheri DeHart.

CRP: CONSTANT ROAD PAVING? CABIN ROOF PROTECTION? CUTE RAPPING PENGUINS?

Gwen Berry

Has anyone besides me been ignorant about what is meant by 'CRP land?' Well, here's what I found out. CRP stands for the Conservation Reserve Program. It was created by Congress as part of a larger farm bill called the Food Security Act of 1985. The program is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA), with technical and support services provided by the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and other organizations. The original purpose of the program was dual – both to help farmers and to conserve land by giving farmers incentives to stop farming areas that were at high risk of erosion loss. Planting cover crops and trees, for example, would protect the soil and lessen the impact of erosion on water resources. It would also provide habitat for wildlife. Since then, the program's purpose has been expanded to include a wide range of conservation goals.

This is how it works: The government pays rent to the farmer for at-risk land that he takes out of production and manages for conservation, and it will also pay part of the cost of establishing those conservation practices. To take part in the program, the farmer must prepare a competitive bid (with technical help from the NRCS) in which he offers his acres at the rental rate he's willing to accept, up to a maximum rate determined for each local region. Bids received are evaluated on the rental rate offered, soil and cropping information, and the amounts and types of environmental benefits present. Bids with the highest environmental benefits for the rental rate are given priority.

Once a bid is accepted, the farmer signs a 10 to 15 year contract with the government that spells out the rental rate, the responsibilities of each party, and the consequences for breaking the contract. If a farmer decides to take acreage out of the CRP

program before his contract has ended, he has to pay back all the money he's received in rent, plus interest (the percentage varies from year to year), plus what's called Liquidated Damages. (This is a legal term for a provision in a contract that sets an agreed-upon amount to be paid if the contract is broken.) The CRP contract specifies that the Liquidated Damages are 25% of one year's rental for each acre.

There are tax consequences of being in the CRP program, and of taking your acreage back out. For example, in Washington state the property tax rate for CRP acreage is much lower and the farmer isn't required to pay business taxes on the rental income, although the IRS makes the farmer pay self-employment tax on it. However, if before ten years are up the acreage is put to a use other than open space land, timber land, or agricultural land (which would also mean removal from CRP), the property tax rate on those acres not only goes back up to the higher rate, but the farmer must pay the difference between the tax he paid and what he would have owed at the higher rate for the past seven years, plus interest, plus a 20% penalty. All in all, taking acreage out of CRP early can be an expensive proposition.

Like many government programs, the CRP suffers at times from bureaucracy, inefficiency and abuses of the system; and the program and its effects are complex and controversial. While criticism can be leveled at the program from many directions, it has brought about some very real successes. As one example, various regions with large enrollments of land in the CRP have documented large increases in bird populations, including some threatened species. For another, the NRCS estimates that on non-Federal land in the lower 48 states soil erosion decreased by 43% from 1982 to 2003 — from 3.07 billion tons to 1.75 billion tons of soil lost. Now that's a lot of dirt!

More on the Internet:

For a good overview of the program and some of its pros and cons, go to:

http://www.texasep.org/html/lnd/lnd_2agr_serabate.html

Here are some different pros and cons from a different point of view:

http://www.agweb.com/get_article.aspx?pageid=124043&src=gennews

For a summary of CRP provisions in the 2008 Farm Bill, look at:

http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/2008fbcrpsummary.pdf

For details on the soil erosion figures above, see:

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/TECHNICAL/NRI/2003/nri03eros-mrb.html>

An online brochure explaining the details of the Washington Open Space Taxation Act:

http://dor.wa.gov/Docs/Pubs/Prop_Tax/OpenSpace.pdf

HELPFUL HINTS

Bev Edwards

Peel a banana from the bottom and you won't have to pick the little "stringy things" off of it. That's how the primates do it.

Take your bananas apart when you get home from the store. If you leave them connected at the stem, they ripen faster.

Store your opened chunks of cheese in aluminum foil. It will stay fresh much longer and not mold.

Peppers with 3 bumps on the bottom are sweeter and better for eating. Peppers with 4 bumps on the bottom are firmer and better for cooking.

Add a teaspoon of water when frying ground beef. It will help pull the grease away from the meat while cooking.

To really make scrambled eggs or omelets rich add a couple of spoonfuls of sour cream, cream cheese, or heavy cream in and then beat them up.

For a cool brownie treat, make brownies as directed. Melt Andes mints in double broiler and pour over warm brownies. Let set for a wonderful minty frosting.

Add garlic immediately to a recipe if you want a light taste of garlic and at the end of the recipe if you want a stronger taste of garlic.

Leftover snickers bars from Halloween make a delicious dessert. Simply chop them up with the food chopper. Peel, core and slice a few apples. Place them in a baking dish and sprinkle the chopped candy bars over the apples. Bake at 350 for 15 minutes!!! Serve alone or with vanilla ice cream.

SPELLING

Fred Henschell, Official *High Prairian* Proofreader

Eye halve a spelling checquer
It came with my pea sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.
Eye strike a key and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am wrong oar write
It shows me strait a weigh.
As soon as a mist ache is maid
It nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever wrong.
Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect awl the weigh
My checquer tolled me sew.

DEER FAWNS AND WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND ONE

*To reduce the risks of a predator locating her fawn, a doe seeks seclusion just prior to birth, trying to be less conspicuous by avoiding other deer. For the first few weeks of the fawn's life, the doe keeps the fawn hidden except for suckling bouts. The doe may also feed and bed a considerable distance from the fawn's bed site. This way, even if a predator detects the doe, the fawn may still have a chance of avoiding detection.

When not nursing, the fawn curls up in a bed site and remains motionless, its white spots blending in well with the sun flecked ground. Fawns lose their spots at 90 to 120 days of age, when they begin growing their winter coats.

Every year, wildlife departments and wildlife rehabilitators receive calls about "orphaned" fawns. Callers are told that in the spring it is a perfectly natural occurrence to come across a fawn that is seemingly by itself in the woods. The fawn is probably not alone; its mother is nearby, aware, and attentive.

The advice to anyone encountering a fawn lying quietly alone in the woods is to leave it alone. Mother will be nearby and will be taking care of it once you move away.

If you have handled the fawn, rub an old towel in the grass and wipe the fawn to remove human scent. Using gloves, return the fawn to where it was found. Fawns can often be returned to their mothers if taken back to where they were found within eight hours.

If a fawn appears cold, weak, thin, or injured, and its mother does not return in approximately eight hours, it may be orphaned. In such a case, you can call a local rehabilitator (look under "Animal" or "Wildlife" in your phone directory) or your local WDFW Regional Office for the name and phone number of a rehabilitator in your area.*

If you encounter a fawn whose mother has been hit by a vehicle and died, never ever under any circumstances take a fawn to your home and tame it. You are doing the fawn more harm than good. As stated above...call your Department of Wildlife and they will take care of the animal in a proper way.

Recently an obviously tame doe was found wandering on Schilling Road and was rescued by the Department of Wildlife and taken to a ranch where other deer had been relocated. Hopefully she will readjust and enjoy her new home where she will have plenty of food and water.

* From Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife website.

SOPHOMORE BOYS AND—

Ted McKercher

Sophomore boys are a breed of their own. They've made it through the freshman year, know a little more what high school is about and think they know how far they can extend the patience of their parents, teachers and administrators.

I can't say every tenth grade boy is the same as I was but I'll bet they were and possibly still are close.

Between my freshman and sophomore years I "worked" my mom to let me have a car. I would be 16 in the fall (I was held back in 2nd grade, another story) and could be licensed then.

Part of my strategic argument was that I could chauffeur Mom into town when needed since she had never learned to drive. I'm sure chauffeuring was not my main interest.

Some time before school started she gave in. Probably because she was tired of my pleading and not necessarily enamored with the new found taxi-less freedom.

Of course I wasn't satisfied with having a car—I had to DRIVE IT! My best friend had his license so he could be the accompanying driver to my permit until my 16th birthday rolled around (or so I convinced Mom).

That worked for a while but Charlie wasn't always around so my next pitch included driving in the neighborhood within a half mile radius of home. After all I did need to practice.

In that half mile loop I had to stop and "burn rubber" occasionally.

What fun! Mr. Jones the nearby school custodian put a stop to those "burn outs" (at least in the school parking lot). Geez he was scary looking when angry.

My car was a '40 Chrysler Royal 4-door sedan. The rear door handles were shaved as was the deck lid and nose. It had a "Sportsman" muffler which was little more than a pregnant looking bulge in the exhaust pipe. At the end of the tail pipe was more muffling via a "racket buster". It didn't take me long to remove that—aw sweet music to a 15 year old. Oh yeah, music was an AM radio with an eight foot antenna.

Consider this being 1954 — with little FM, no tapes, C.D.'s, XM, Sirius, amplifiers or "bump bump" there were few options but when Bill Haley and the Comets were rockin' so were the occupants of that fender skirted, mohair interior, fake ivory dash paneled Mopar.

One day I was attempting to "lay rubber" but my green machine wouldn't get it done. Several tries later I discovered the emergency brake had been on all the time. That's when I became acquainted with my local

repair shop and the cost of replacing a clutch.

Good tires were easy to come by if you had the bucks. I didn't. I repaired broken tires with "boots" (ask Grandpa what "boots" are) and drove my car as fast as it would go to test the repair. A legitimate test in this sophomore mind. That year in school my Chrysler Royal was witness to many adventures.

Including breaking my neighbor's garage door, crashing the freshman party and being chased by Bart the high school principle and escaping by driving across the baseball field to get to the nearest road with riders hanging on riding the running boards. Or maybe I could tell you about the time Charlie and I "picked up" a couple of girls on one of Mom's trips to town while Mom was in the back seat.

Speaking of girls—Charlie and I thought it would be neat if we invited Anita's slumber party to go for a ride in the country. They were game so off we went joyfully until I backed into a 4 foot deep ditch only to be pulled out by 2 intoxicated old guys (probably in their 20's). They were probably attracted by those 8 girls in their jammies.

I could tell you about the time I couldn't hold it and p**d my pants in that old car but I won't.

Ah, sophomore boys!



FALL BIRD COUNT PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

The Klickitat County fall bird migration count will be held on Sunday, September 20. The County count is one of the most robust in the Northwest in coverage, participants and number of years surveyed. 140 species are usually counted each fall. Jake Jakabosky will be the High Prairie/Klickitat Valley Sector Leader. Due to the size of this sector, Jake is seeking birders interested in assisting with the count. For more information please contact him at 365-0025.



HEARTFELT THANKS to the PHANTOM MOWER

Doug Taylor

Dona and I were noticing the Lone Pine Cemetery was looking pretty neglected earlier this summer. The weeds were "eye-high". I intended to run up there with the mower but got sidetracked. A few days later I went by and it had been mowed! It looks great.

Rumor has it that we have Jim Koch to thank, so...

THANK YOU, JIM!

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AMERICAN FARMLAND TRUST WANTS YOUR OPINION!

Gwen Berry

Klickitat County has hired the American Farmland Trust to conduct a study of the many options and tools for preserving farmland in this county, including the Farmland Preservation Zone proposal put forward by Jake Anderson. The study includes creation of a written report and a series of public meetings, with a final report to the County by the end of December. This is our opportunity to learn about the options and have input into the process.

From an advance notice sent out by Don Stuart of the American Farmland Trust:

"In the months ahead, we will be seeking citizen input in developing a local plan to identify ways Klickitat County and its citizens can assure that productive and affordable lands will remain available for local agriculture in the years to come."

"To this end, a series of public meetings are planned, throughout the County, for October and November 2008, at which members and leaders in the agriculture industry, interested community groups, and other citizens who care about the future of agriculture will be invited to offer ideas, concerns, suggestions and support."

"In anticipation, AFT will research possible solutions from other communities across the country and will make available written resources to help members of the community have a productive discussion about potential concerns, issues and solutions."

"We expect to have 6 meetings held in Eastern, Central, and Western Klickitat County. They will be evening meetings, from 6:30 p.m to 8:30 p.m and will be open to everyone."

Here are the meeting dates and probable locations:

Centerville Grange: Oct. 21 & Nov. 18

White Salmon Grange: Oct. 22 & Nov. 19

Alder Creek Grange (Bickleton): Oct. 23 & Nov. 20

American Farmland Trust is a non-profit organization formed in 1980 by a group of farmers and conservationists concerned about the rapid loss of the nation's farmland to development. From their website: "As the nation's leading advocate for farm and ranch land conservation, the organization works with communities and individuals to protect the best land, plan for agriculture and keep the land healthy." To learn more about their programs or to access their catalog of information about farmland protection and stewardship, go to www.farmland.org.