



The High Prairian

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

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October, 2001

NOTICES

When requesting medical assistance or reporting a fire CALL 911

HIGH PRAIRIE HOEDOWN

October 13, 2:00 to 9:00 PM at Fire Hall

Fire Volunteers meet 1st and 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at Fire Hall.

Fire Commissioners meet 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM at Fire Hall.

High Prairie Neighborhood Association meets 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at various homes.

High Prairie Historical Society meets 1st Sunday of December at 1:30 PM at Taylor church (meetings held quarterly).

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

Oct 28 Remember to change your clocks back and change your smoke alarm batteries.

HIGH PRAIRIE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Be a part of your community! Be sure to come to the October meeting of the High Prairie Neighborhood Association at 7:00 PM at Taylor's church on Centerville Highway on October 25th, 2001. We, the community will vote on the projects to send to the county for funding.

At our special community Action Planning Meeting on September 12, 2001 over 20 individuals from High Prairie were present to contribute their ideas for long and short-term goals and action items for High Prairie. There were over 30 ideas presented. The Action Plan committee then took these ideas, formulated goals, categorized the ideas as action items under appropriate goals. The results will be presented at the September 27, 2001 HPNA meeting for further development by all community members attending the meeting. The goals and actions items will then be formatted for your vote at the October HPNA meeting. Please plan to attend. Your vote is important.

See page 3 for a list of the goals and action items.

Remember that this is your community. Become involved. Attend the October 25, 2001 High Prairie Neighbor Hood meeting and cast your vote!

You'll find in no park or city

A monument to a committee.

Victoria Pasternack

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Volunteers who so generously helped put in forms and finished concrete at the fire hall and cemetery need an extra pat on the back. The good Samaritans were Calvin Edwards, Bob Edwards, Tom Doll, Al Aleckson, Fred Henschell, Doug Hutchison, Martha Hamil and Jerry Free. The projects included laying a sidewalk at the fire hall and a pad for a storage building at the Lone Pine Cemetery. The



Doug Taylor

storage building is completed at the cemetery thanks to the persistence of Cal Edwards with help from Fred Henschell and Doug Taylor.

volunteers in addition to also taking their state required training courses, and their regular jobs.

One very important project is fund raising. The neighborhood ladies spend hours and hours planning, printing, calling, making, organizing, hauling, and doing. These ladies are what makes our neighborhood tick and when you see them you should give them a salute of gratitude. Without them, I am afraid many things would not be accomplished. I need to mention many of the guys helped on this event too. Thank you all.

We certainly appreciate the support of the community for their donation and helping hands. It is what makes High Prairie a great place to live.

One on-going project has been fitting fire trucks with new pumps, changing tanks and installing fittings. Those involved with refitting equipment were Al Alexson, Tom Amery, James Amery, Tim Darland, Cal Edwards, Phil Haner, Doug Hutchison, Chris Patrick, and Nayland Wilkins. Another project included burning debris at the Lone Pine Cemetery. These projects were undertaken by fire

WHAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF

Myrin and Audrey Bentz have graciously donated approximately one and a half acres to the community fire district. This property comes with a well, power and road frontage. There are great future plans for this site. The property is located on Struck Road with excellent access and exceptional potential.

HIGH PRAIRIE HOEDOWN

The High Prairie Neighborhood Association has scheduled a fall fiesta called the High Prairie Hoedown to be held at the Fire Hall on Centerville Highway on October 13 from 2 PM until 9 PM. Hayrides, pumpkin sales, dancing, bingo, cakewalks and those great Bentz bratwursts are among the attractions. For the younger set, we will have pumpkin painting, face painting, apple bobs, beanbag tosses, and piñatas. Please come and support your community and celebrate the harvest season with your family, neighbors, and visitors.

The High Prairian

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BUILDING SITE NEEDED!

The district fire department is looking for a High Prairie landowner that would generously donate a small portion of his/her land for our fire department on Schilling Rd. to house pumper truck. Donor can get a great tax write off for this donation. (Plus an added bonus: you and your neighbors' insurance would be discounted if within a 5-mile distance of fire station!) If interested in the above benefits and enjoying hero/heroine status in High Prairie, please contact one of the High Prairie Fire District Commissioners or fire district volunteers. The land should ideally be somewhat centrally located on Schilling Road and road frontage accessible.

IN MEMORIAM:

Merlin Anderson passed July 10, 2001. He and his wife Mildred have been area residents since 1978.

Edward Lane was also area resident since 1986 and passed away Aug. 29 in Vancouver. His wife Grace passed away April 6, 2001.

Bill Haines passed away Sept. 2, 2001. He has lived here since 1987.

Our sincerest condolences to their families.

DEER HERDS DIMINISHING

There have been reports of as many as 27 head of deer been found lying dead. Some were found even near their source of water. These do not include road kill, which totals many more. Apparently these deer died of natural causes. A parasitic infestation is suspected. There was concern that disease might be transmitted to livestock. The Washington State biologists are investigating. Local veterinarian said there is no word yet of any contagious disease infecting domestic stock.

COMMUNITY GOALS AND ACTION ITEMS

GOAL: Further improve fire and disaster response capabilities.

Action Items:

- Obtain "8" rating
- Support needs and goals of Fire District #14
- Recruit more volunteer fire personnel
- Improve 911 system
- Improved emergency response equipment
- Emergency water source

GOAL: Further develop and improve community resources, including communication, services, and facilities.

Action Items:

- Signs welcoming and naming High Prairie a rural community
- Warning signs/no littering/liter control
- Farmer's Market
- Build a community center
- Increase youth program
- Gas station/fuel source
- Five year growth plan
- Brochure for residents, new and old timers, of available services and our volunteer system
- Publish our own newspaper
- Recycle drop off center
- Athletic field and play ground

GOAL: Collaborate with federal, state and local agencies to increase and improve services in order to achieve our community goals.

Action Items:

- Representatives from H.P. on County Economic Development Council
- Improvements/clean up cemetery
- Brush chipping/debris drop off center
- Deer population control/fish and game enforcement/hunting
- Building standards specific to driveways for emergency equipment access
- Adopt more private roads
- Fog lines and guard rails on Centerville Hwy
- Improve more roads, i.e. the bus route

July 17, 2001: DISTRICT PREPAREDNESS SAVES HOMES

Fire starting west of Northslope road and south of Centerville Highway, with winds gusting at 30 miles per hour and very dry conditions; High Prairie Fire Department was able keep fire to a minimum and contained within a few hours. With assistance from our neighboring districts Centerville and Lyle and the State Department of Natural Resources.

The Department of Natural Resources was quick to respond and hit it with every available resource. They had two air tankers with two spotter planes along with two helicopters dropping from the air. They brought in many firefighters with ground support equipment, including a bulldozer. They were able to contain fire with only a 23-acre loss.

There was several homes and outbuildings threatened by the fire. Homeowners helped by getting their sprinklers working. The firefighters with the aid of residents succeeded in stopping the fire, just short of buildings in some cases. With the crews' excellent training and updated equipment, thanks to county grants and local support, they were able to do an outstanding job.

The Sheriff's Department was on the scene for traffic control and investigation. On the minus

side, we had three local residents taken to hospital with smoke inhalation, stress or for chest pains caused by the smoke or fire. My observation that the quickness of first strike by department crews and prompt reporting by observers kept the fire from becoming a major disaster.

We our very proud of our men and women volunteers with their dedication to community. We are so pleased with the quick response and support of everyone. All in all this was a great showing of interaction of all agencies and districts.

We feel the public awareness of fire danger has helped keep fires to a minimum. Keep up the good work. This year has been one of the driest for quite some time, and the potential of a major catastrophe remains.



Do you use wood heat? **REMEMBER**— clean and check chimneys before starting to use them again this fall.

LOCAL LADIES HONORED

Several of the local ladies were honored by the local firefighters for their support of food and refreshments. Each received a plague donated by the fire volunteers. These honorees included Icey Sheeran, Martha Hamil, Dona Taylor, Sharon Alexson, Sharon Edwards, Ruthie Woods, Audrey Bentz and Greer Haner.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There is still need to get equipment in good mechanical condition to achieve our insurance "eight" rating. Minor work still needed on the fire hall to complete it. By keeping our priorities in order and continued community support, we shall have and maintain one of the better small fire districts in Klickitat County. We have come a long way, with much yet to be accomplished.

If you are thinking of a way to serve your community we need additional firefighters and medical responders.



FANTASTIC FIREHOUSE SALE

Our High Prairie Neighborhood Association made money for the Community at the annual Firehouse Sale in June. The net income was similar to last year's. Although sales were slower for goods, the great food made up for them. So, many thanks to our stalwart workers and the great people of the neighborhood who donated goods. And let's give a big hand to Fire District 14 for the use of the Firehouse. Extending the sale for four days kept the workers from exhaustion. Let's all pull together next year to make it even better.

2002 FIREHOUSE SALE

We are already starting to plan the 2002 Firehouse Sale. It's time to begin looking around for items to donate. Because HPNA now has 501c(3) (non-profit organization) status from the IRS, all donations are tax deductible. If you have old farm equipment, old cars or trucks, or other antiques, please let us know well ahead of time. That way we can arrange wider publicity and perhaps even have an auction. People will come a long way for such items. Please help the High Prairie Neighborhood Association raise money to benefit the community.

MONROE NAMED TO EWU DEAN'S LIST

Area resident, Monique Monroe has been named to the Dean' list at Eastern Washington University for the 2001 spring quarter. Monique is a 1997 graduate of Lyle High School and is currently a senior at EWU, majoring in Government with a focus on preparation for law school.

She is the daughter of Mike and Ruth Ann Woods of High Prairie.

To qualify for the Dean's list, a student must have completed a minimum of 12 graded credits with grade point average of 3.5 or above.

ICEY SHEERAN'S DAUGHTER EXCELS

Lauren Raupach, daughter of Icey Sheeran, graduated from high school this spring as Valediction of her class with over a 4.0 grade point average earning her a Phi Beta Kappa award. She is currently a Private 1st Class in the Army National Guard and recently finished Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, Virginia where she is a Unit Supply Specialist.

Lauren also started her freshman year at the University of Kentucky in Lexington.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

To all those that have so generously donated their time, expertise, materials and equipment for the benefit of the community, we salute you. The list of names is certainly to long to list individually. You know who you are and be assured that the community would not be as well served without you. Your volunteerism has made our lives just a little more enjoyable, safer and interesting. Thanks.



Don't ask of your friends what you yourself can do.
—Quintus Ennius

CLEANUP DAY



Nayland Wilkins

On the second Saturday in August, a baker's dozen of High Prairie folks gathered to clean the newly donated property site off of Struck Road. With much sweat, grunting, and a loader, we gathered one huge trailer load, a small trailer load, and a pickup load of junk, debris, and recycle stuff. And, while transporting it to the Dallesport transfer station, your fire-sensitive neighbors spotted a fire along the Klickitat and called it in.

POP CANS

We will have a deposit box set up at Doug Taylor's residence to receive pop cans that we can recycle. The proceeds will be donated to the fund for community projects. Please presort cans as to Safeway, Wal-Mart, Pepsi and so forth. Sorting makes it easier to just fill the big bags and just take them to distributor instead of poking them in machine one by one. For further information, call Doug at 365-3242.

ROAD WORK APPRECIATED

Area residents would like to give a big THANK YOU, to the county commissioners Donald Struck, Joan Frey, Ray Thayer; County road engineer Jim Miller and the County road crew for the new oiled roads on Rowland, Struck, portions of Hartland and Schilling roads. This is a welcomed improvement for residents of High Prairie.

High Prairie HOEDOWN



& Hay Ride

Saturday, OCTOBER 13, 2001 2:00 – 9:00 PM

High Prairie Fire Hall  704 Centerville Highway

From Lyle: seven (7) miles North on Centerville Highway

an inexpensive, fun day for the whole family


ACTIVITIES:

DANCE (\$3 per person)  HAY RIDES  (\$1 kids/\$2 adults)  FACE & PUMPKIN 

PAINTING  APPLE  BOB (25¢)  PIÑATAS  BEAN BAG TOSS (25¢)  BINGO

(3 games for \$1)  CAKE WALK  FOOD BOOTH featuring MYRIN'S BRATWURST with

SAUERKRAUT  *Great* BAKED GOODS  *Hot* BUTTERED POP CORN

 CIDER & other BEVERAGES

SPONSORED BY: **HIGH PRAIRIE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**