



The High Prairiean

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

Volume Two, Number Two

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June, 2002

NOTICES

**2nd Annual Hoedown and Hay Ride on
October 5th at the Fire Hall.**

Fire Volunteers meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Fire Hall.

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

High Prairie Neighborhood Association meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. June, July, August and September will be at the Taylor Church.

High Prairie Historical Society meets quarterly the 3rd Sunday in March, June, and September and the 1st Sunday in December beginning at 2:00 PM. The next meeting will be June 23 at the home of Cal and Sharon Edwards.

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

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

THANK YOU

A thank you to all who so generously contributed to the District 14 Firehouse Sale. Your generosity is much appreciated. The proceeds that are collected stay in the community funding the Fire District and High Prairie neighborhood activities. These funds hopefully can be earmarked for our new community building.

Your personal involvement to help setup, cleanup, haul, bake, and distribute, even for a short time, helped relieve the pressure of those who spent days working on projects. It was greatly valued.

MY VIEW FROM THE PRAIRIE HOME HEALTH SERVICES

Icey Sheeran

Hello, again, to y'all on the Prairie. Some of our neighbors have requested that I write an article about the line of work I am in, as it is a service many folks have found helpful to them. For the past seven years, I have been working in the field of Home Health Services as an RN, both in the "field" as a clinical nurse and in a supervisory role. After 31 years of nursing experience (and I *do* mean experience!) the past seven have been the most rewarding working in Home Health. Why? Well, Home Health takes place in a client's home; on his or her own turf. We are able to "get real," in regard to assisting folks in healing and maximizing their ability to function in their own surroundings. Let me tell you— it is a whole lot different than in the hospital! Any person working in the Home Health field has to have a good measure of common sense. I have dubbed us the "McGivers" of the healthcare professionals.

OK, so what exactly is Home Health? Of course, "home health" is the oldest profession around (contrary to popular belief). Very simply, it means providing healthcare services in a patient's home. From the first people on earth till present day "home" is where the healing is, as well as the heart! Truly, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes and the like have been a recent addition when you take a good look at history. Let's bring it down to the here and now. A number of years ago, about the time Medicare came on the scene, Home Health Services came to be here in the USA. Home Health Services are comprised of professional nurses, physical, occupational and

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I would be pleased if you would place me on your subscription list:

My dad (Ronald M. Beattie) forwarded your December 2001 copy to me and I enjoyed it very much. He and his sister (Roberta Child of White Salmon) still own 3 quarter sections near Tom Amery. Dad and Roberta were born on High Prairie and have a lot of stories of those early days of farming--going to the one-room school (in the 1920s and 1930s— Dad was the only graduate in his high school class), rounding up stray cattle with his brother, Willard Beattie, rushing home from U. of W. during mid-semester to bring in the wheat harvest, helping out neighbors during fires...

So, it is nice to read your publication and see there are still wonderful folks on High Prairie like Tom Amery... still farming and still being a good neighbor.

Regards,
Ralph Beattie

Thanks for sending "The High Prairian". I especially enjoy your High Prairie History page. I figure that there hasn't been a living relative on High Prairie since 1910 when my Aunt Lettie's husband, Charlie Berry, died and she moved to Ellensburg (and then Tacoma). That's 92 years ago! However,

The High Prairian

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my grandfather, James Riley Putman, lived in Goldendale until his death in 1933 and Lettie moved back to Goldendale and lived there until she died in 1967, age 91.

Spring is here in central California. Our daffodils look great and the wildflowers are just starting to bloom. Also my hay fever is starting to act up!

Jim Putman

Editor

I want to thank you for the wonderful paper that you put out. I really enjoy reading about the upcoming events and the other information that you put into it. We have a new mailing address:

We still own our property in Lyle and hope plan to locate there within the next 5 years.

Thank you again,
Susan Rogers

BIRDHOUSES

Lozetta Doll

Myrin Bentz, Arlen Aleckson and Tom Doll made 25 bluebird houses as a donation to the Firehouse Sale. The birdhouses will be sold unpainted unless someone wants to volunteer their painting services. Myrin's noteworthy comment was "We don't want to make these houses too perfect or they will only attract German bluebirds!" As the picture indicates, they enjoyed the day.

If enough of us put up birdhouses, High Prairie may one day be a bluebird haven to rival Bickleton as "Bluebird Capital of the World!"



HOME HEALTH SERVICES

from page 1

speech therapists, medical social workers and home health aides. These people are able to treat patients in their own homes when they have health-problems that require skilled care for a limited time. The patient's physician must specifically order all home health services and is kept informed of the patient's progress and condition on an ongoing basis.

For example: Mr. X suffered a stroke and was hospitalized for a few days. He had problems following treatment with partial paralysis on his right (dominant) side, some swallowing difficulty and had to take several medications that were new to him. His wife is able to assist him to a chair and the bathroom using a walker and her help, but he needs some therapy to get back to being self-sufficient. The doctor feels that Mr. X is safe going home, since he has family to help. Mr. X is considered temporarily "home bound" as it is difficult for him to be taken out of his home on a routine basis for the next few weeks. Here we have a perfect candidate for Home Health Services. The patient is considered "home bound" temporarily; he has a need for skilled professional services. Mr. X's physician orders a Home Health RN to come and visit him twice a week to instruct in new medications, assess his vital signs and overall condition, draw blood for testing, and answer questions about his condition. A physical therapist is ordered to help with strengthening and mobility and visits two or three times a week. A speech therapist comes to evaluate and teach him how to strengthen his swallowing muscles. The occupational therapist visits the home a couple times to evaluate the need for equipment to improve safety in regard to bathing, dressing and becoming independent in activities of daily living. Since Mr. X is over 65 and has Medicare coverage, his Home Health services are 100% paid by Medicare insurance.

Most insurance companies cover Home Health services as well, for patients who are not covered by Medicare: Medicaid, Blue Cross, various HMO's, etc. They all stipulate that there is a need for professional services, on an intermittent basis, and that it is not reasonable for the patient to be taken out of the home for these services at the time. A physician must order the services as well.

The Home Health staff comes to the home for intermittent visits. They do not stay for "shifts" in the home, as do caregivers through the Department of Social and Human Services or Senior Services.

The Home Health RN's also assist with complicated wound care, ostomy care and tube feeding teaching, instruction in home IV infusion, diabetic teaching and much more. It truly is a diversified and exciting field to work in as well as a wonderful service for the community. We care for a wide variety of patients, from premature infants, children in body casts, and young adults with post-operative wound infections, to older folks after hip fractures or joint replacements.

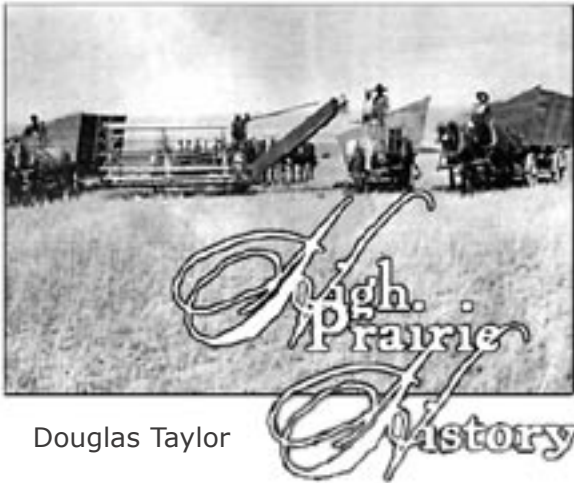
There are two Home Health agencies serving the High Prairie area. They are both excellent, with seasoned professional staff. I have worked with the folks from both agencies and would have any one of them see me in my home if I needed Home Health. Visiting Health Services through Mid-Columbia Medical Center is the agency that I am presently working for. Klickitat Valley Home Health is the agency out of Klickitat Valley Hospital that also cares for folks out our way. As I said, both agencies have wonderful, caring staff and it is a personal choice as to which one clients prefer to use.

If any of you have questions about Home Health services, please feel free to call me and I would be glad to find the answer for you. My home number is 365-2582 and during the weekdays you can easily reach me at the VHS office, toll-free: 888-388-7280. The number for the gals at Klickitat Valley Home Health is 509-773-4022 (the KVH hospital number, ask for the Home Health Dept).

IN MEMORIAM: DONNA PARRISH compiled by Dona Taylor

Former High Prairie resident Donna Parrish passed away March 28, 2002 at her home in Underwood, WA. Donna and her husband Carl came to High Prairie in the mid 1950's and farmed over 2000 acres. Their original home is where the Roger Dickinson's now reside.

Our sincerest condolences to her family.



Douglas Taylor

FIRST POST OFFICE ESTABLISHED ON HIGH PRAIRIE

During the early 1880's there was a large general migration of home seekers in western Klickitat County. The new comers had to find homes farther back from the Columbia River. Localities in the vicinity of Lyle were: the heights above Lyle, Panakanic, Timbered Valley, Missouri Flat (now known as Appleton), Wrights Landing (near the present site of Klickitat), and Hartland on High Prairie.

Hartland was established as HIGHLAND on October 20, 1880. Chester Parshall renamed WILDCAT, on April 11, 1881. Renamed HARTLAND on July 20, 1881. The following Post Masters are listed after Mr. Parshall, founder. David K. Clark, June 6, 1890; Roena A. Clark (Mrs. David K. Clark), November 16, 1899; John W. Boston, January 3, 1902; William H. Butts, April 24, 1909; William Bridgefarmer, March 27, 1912; Albert E. Majors, December 6, 1916; Mrs. Emma E. Kelleher (*nee* Huff, Mrs. Andrew P. Kelleher), June 14, 1919; Miss Birdie Ann Taylor, February 7, 1921; John A. Taylor, September 1, 1923; discontinued April 15, 1930. Thereafter mail was delivered from Lyle three times per week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) until 1970's when the Postal Service started daily delivery.

This office changed locations with nearly every change in postmasters. Mr. Parshall, who had so much difficulty in deciding upon a name for his Post Office, conducted it in his farm home, located on the Lyle to Goldendale road which leads east

through Hartland and Centerville (Sec. 24, T3N, R13E). This road is now called the Centerville Highway. The Clarks were known to have operated a store about a mile NW of Parshalls (SE Sec. 14), with the post office therein. Mr. Boston took it to his farm home situated about 2 miles farther northwest (SW Sec. 11), but Mr. Butts brought it back to the site, which present-day maps show as Hartland (Sec. 14). Bridgefarmer's home was a short distance west (Sec. 23), as was Major's. Mrs. Kelleher had the aid of many patrons in erecting a small post office building beside her farm home (Sec. 12). The John Taylor's moved this building to their home (Sec. 23) where it is still standing. All sites are about 10 to 12 miles NE of Lyle.

Note: Birdie Taylor was a daughter of John and Nellie Taylor and an aunt to this reporter. She had contacted the dreaded Infantile Paralysis as a youth and wore braces all her life. But this never stopped her from being a very industrious farm wife. Birdie met her future husband Roy Allie whose residence was South of Hartland on top of the Columbia Hills. They married and their first child was born in November of 1923.

John Taylor lost his wife Nellie to cancer in 1934 and the following year he passed away after losing an arm in a buzz saw accident while cutting wood.

HIGH PRAIRIE FIREHOUSE SALE

By Sharon Aleckson

High Prairie Neighborhood Association's Third Annual Firehouse Sale was a very successful community event. Assuming that all the bills have been turned in, the net proceeds from the sale are \$3,534.10.

A special "Thank You" is extended to the committee that planned and organized the sale, the people who donated materials, time and talents, and to the Lyle High School students who helped.

This sale becomes more popular each year. The word is out that at the HPNA's Firehouse Sale there is great food, (Myrin's bratwurst, along with home-baked pies, cinnamon rolls and other goodies), great people (our High Prairie friends and neighbors who help at this event), and unbelievable treasures to be discovered. So... start planning for next year's sale. Clean out that garage, closet, attic, or other storage area and SAVE... SAVE... SAVE.



“HEY ... THAT’S NOT A DOG!”

Icey Sheeran

On May 4th, a sunny Saturday morning, I “slept in” for an hour later than usual. Still groggy at 6 AM, I dragged myself into the kitchen (one eye opened) to make an attempt at brewing coffee. It was a trade-off, either make the coffee, or take our newly adopted Jack Russell terrier for his morning “constitution”. Nayland (semi-awake husband) said he would do the dog honors. Finally able to focus my eyes, and open both, I glanced out the kitchen window and noticed a big dog lying beyond the back deck— about 25 feet away. It was just laying there back to me, in the tall grass watching a herd of deer that were grazing at the bottom of the hill. “You better wait to take Sparky out because there is a big dog out back,” I told Nayland.

Coffee carafe held in mid air, I looked closer at that dog’s head. It was strange, very large, really round and the ears were different— lower set and ... “Ummmm, you know what, that’s not a dog... that’s a Cougar!” Nayland walked into the kitchen and said loudly “A Cougar?” The animal heard his voice and turned to look our way. Folks, I was awe-struck— totally spellbound. The face was absolutely, positively beautiful. The sun was fully up, shining directly into the window and so the animal probably could not see us, due to the reflection. The Cougar’s face and neck were a bright blend of so many browns and cream hues.

It was unafraid, very relaxed and obviously not on a hunting expedition. To think that we used to pay big bucks to see cats like that at the San Diego Wild Animal Park!

We watched it for awhile from the French doors. I even whipped out the binoculars to see it really close up. With those things you could practically count the number of whiskers and nose hair at 25 feet! Go for the gusto, I always say. Anyway, we wanted to get some great photos of this back yard wildlife and, alas, my personal photographer found himself without a camera in the house! Not a one, mind you. Can you believe it? He had put all of his camera equipment into the truck the night before in preparation for photographing the Prom (The Dalles High) Saturday night. Oh brother, talk about frustrating... boy howdy. His saying has always been, “If it isn’t photographed, it never happened.”

Soooooo... after watching awhile, Nayland decided to sneak out the front door and try to get a camera. As he was putting his shoes on, I was still getting an eye full of cat when I spotted movement near its head. A Mom-Cougar with cubs? Uh, nope... ANOTHER Cougar! They were both curled up together, just like big domestic cats. One had been sleeping with its head down. OK, so this is really a big deal and we have to get a picture, right? Well, no such luck, Sherlock. The minute Nayland went out the front door, they got up and walked away into the trees.

They looked, to my untrained eye, adolescent-sized— not cubs, but not full-grown. Perhaps they were littermates, recently expelled from the den when Mom had replacements this spring. I went on-line and got a lot of information about the Cougar. Adult females will nurture and teach their cubs until the babies are at least two or three years old. Then they kick them out when they have another litter. It is apparently very unusual to see two Cougars together.

So that’s our Cougar story for Prairie friends and neighbors. No photos to show off, but the sight of those awesome animals will forever be etched in our memories.

more cougars, page 6

MORE COUGAR SIGHTINGS

PaulGrim

Well, I just had an amazing encounter on my property just up from Dillacourt Canyon. I jog out the backside of the property on an old logging road to connect with Hartland road. I was jogging home on a couple of days ago and my dog spooked a cougar that was hiding in the bushes alongside the trail only about 20 feet ahead! It leapt out, looked at us, and then galloped off into the canyon. I was soooooo beautiful— about the size of a big German Shepherd, very reddish tint to it's coat (auburn I guess) and it had an amazing tail that must've been 6 feet long. Naturally I was pretty nervous because of all the attacks I've heard about they usually occur when somebody is jogging. I snagged a metal fencepost and walked backward the rest of the way home...



MOUNTAIN LIONS AND YOU

Douglas Taylor

As several sightings of cougars or Mountain Lions have been seen lately in our neighborhood, on at least two occasions two cougars were together. Warn your children as you would of rattlesnakes. Watch where you walk and be aware of ticks also.

The below advice has been taken from the Idaho fish and game site:

<http://www2.state.id.us/fishgame/info/programsinfo/wildlfe&you/lions/meetlion.htm>

What do you do if there is a mountain lion on your property?

More are likely to be seen as lions follow deer or simply move to unoccupied habitat adjacent to or overlapping with urban areas or agricultural land. A new housing development on the edge of winter range is a near-perfect setting for these problems.



IF YOU MEET A MOUNTAIN LION

If you encounter a mountain lion on your property, or in the outdoors, information from several western states suggests the following ways to deal with the situation.

Do not approach a mountain lion. Most lions will try to avoid a confrontation so give them an escape route. A loud voice, banging pans together, or a single shot fired in the air will usually convince a mountain lion to run.

Do not run from a mountain lion. Running may stimulate its instinct to chase. Instead, stand and face the animal. Try to make eye contact. If you have small children with you, pick them up or gather them near you so they don't panic and run. Try to do this without bending over or turning away from the mountain lion.

Do all you can to appear large and aggressive. Raise your arms, open your jacket, throw rocks or other objects but avoid crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak in a firm, loud voice.

Fight back if attacked. When attacking, lions target the head or neck, so try to remain standing and face the attacking animal. Use rocks, sticks, jackets, garden tools, camping gear or anything else available to fend off the attack.

ACKNOWLEDGING COMMUNITY SERVICE: THE DICKINSON FAMILY

Douglas Taylor

Roger Dickinson and his wife Cindy moved to High Prairie around 1986. Aaron was just a baby when they moved here from Seattle. They were very busy with their moving, setting up housekeeping and getting their business going, not as of yet thinking of being involved in local community affairs.

One hot summer day a grass fire was reported and seeing how fast fire can travel, the devastation it can do with a wind in open country, Roger responded. One of the locals set before him a bucket full of water with some burlap grain sacks in it. Roger thought to himself "what in the world is this, something to mop my brow." Well this was what the locals used, before we acquired fire trucks and had very little available water. In the summer most combine operators always had with them water, a bucket and their sacks for storing the grain. Wet burlap sacks were used for beating down the flames and they were quite effective in putting out grass fires.

We attempted to control larger field fires by someone using a tractor with a plow or disks to create a fire trail around the perimeter. This did not work on some timbered hillsides.

Seeing the local support and the potential devastation fire can cause, Roger decided to avail himself to the community. Roger joined the local fire department volunteers and Cindy volunteered with the High Prairie boosters and the medical aid of the fire department.

Roger eventually became Chief of our fire department and Cindy was head of the Medical Department. The Dickinson families were all involved with community service and did much to advance our department. They were instrumental in getting our first community newspaper published. Roger's mother, Paula, became our fire district secretary and did much to keep our books in order

Cindy and Roger helped acquire grants to obtain and equip our first aid car. They worked to pick up and service vehicles for fire use and upgraded our radio system from CBs to fire service radios



and pagers. They have now semi-retired from the everyday involvement in district affairs, but you can still see them helping in many ways.

The community owes the Dickinson family gratitude for service they so unselfishly contributed community and to the fire department. Thanks, Roger and Cindy..

HIGH PRAIRIE HOME CHOSEN FOR SPECIAL PILOT PROGRAM

High Prairie Home has been chosen by the Department of Veterans affairs to participate in a pilot program to provide veterans with alternatives for those unable to live alone. The home is owned and operated by Cindy Dickinson. In the past, the only funding available was for nursing home care. **High Prairie Home** has gone through a screening process and has been chosen to represent the Columbia Gorge in this program. There are also some assisted living programs that have been approved. If you know of a veteran needing services please contact Joyce Kania, VA Medical Center, Vancouver Division, 503-220-8262 ext. 33601.

High Prairie Home is a small facility licensed to serve four adults located on Centerville Highway. The seniors enjoy living in a country environment. Visitors are always welcome and encouraged to help with activities. For further information you may contact Cindy at 365-3647.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LYLE SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNOUNCES HIGH PRAIRIE GRADUATES

Cal Edwards

High School

Ryan Johnson

Chris Locke

Chad Myers

Lynn Patrick Dewalt (Columbia High,
WS)

Eighth Grade

Adam Ekman

Willee Mell

Craig Turner

Rachelle Rappe

Congratulations to these students on a job well done and good luck in the future.

MORE GRADUATIONS

Cindy and Fred Henschell are pleased to announce the graduation of their oldest daughter, Heidi, on May 31 from Western University of Medicine as a Doctor of Osteopathy. She will begin her internship in Family Medicine at Sutter Hospital, Sacramento with a residency at Sutter Hospital, Davis.

You seldom get what you go after unless you know in advance what you want.

—Maurice Switzer

BIRTHS

Congratulations to Chris and Lorelei Patrick on the arrival of grandson Isiah Dewalt born 10:50 PM May 28 to Drew and Lynn Dewalt, the new arrival was 20 inches long and

LYME DISEASE

Lyme disease was named in 1977 when arthritis was observed in a cluster of children in and around Lyme, Connecticut. Other clinical symptoms and environmental conditions suggested that this was an infectious disease probably transmitted by an arthropod. Further investigation revealed that Lyme disease is caused by the bacterium, *Borrelia burgdorferi*. These bacteria are transmitted to humans by the bite of infected deer ticks and cause more than 16,000 infections in the United States each year.

On the Pacific Coast, the bacteria are transmitted to humans by the western black-legged tick (*Ixodes pacificus*). Ixodes ticks are much smaller than common dog and cattle ticks. In their larval and nymphal stages, they are no bigger than a pinhead. Ticks feed by inserting their mouths into the skin of a host and slowly take in blood. Ixodes ticks are most likely to transmit infection after feeding for two or more days.

Individuals who live or work in residential areas surrounded by tick-infested woods or overgrown brush are at risk of getting Lyme disease. Persons



who work or play in their yard, participate in recreational activities away from home such as hiking, camping, fishing and hunting, or engage in outdoor occupations, such as landscaping, brush clearing, forestry, and wildlife and parks management in endemic areas may also be at risk of getting Lyme disease.

It is important to remember that prevention measures can be effective in reducing your exposure to infected ticks, and most patients can be successfully treated with antibiotic therapy when diagnosed in the early stages of Lyme disease.

THE NIGHT SKY

By Paul Grim

The sky is the ultimate art gallery just above us.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Have you ever heard of Light Pollution? Maybe not. But it is a growing threat to the nighttime environment. Components of light pollution include:

1. *Glare, blinding us and harming visibility.* Glare is never good. Poorly-designed or poorly installed lighting can cause a great deal of glare that can severely hamper the vision of pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers, creating a hazard rather than increasing safety. Glare occurs when you can see light directly from the fixture (or bulb).
2. *Light Trespass, someone's outdoor lights offending us, "trespassing" on our land.* Personally as an astronomy buff, I'm very concerned by all the light shining on my once dark hill and marring the images in my telescope.
3. *Energy waste, costing us over One Billion Dollars a year in the U.S.A. alone.* This issue seems particularly acute after last years energy crisis and with the pollution and salmon issues created by generating electricity.
4. *Sky glow, which is destroying mankind's view of the universe.* Two thirds of the people in the United States can no longer see the Milky Way. A large fraction of poor lighting shines directly upwards, creating the adverse sky glow above that washes out our view of the dark night sky, taking away an important natural resource. In addition to the cost savings, less sky glow will allow future generations to enjoy the beauty of the stars, and children will be inspired to learn and perhaps to enter fields of science. Also, adults will have the awe inspiring view which is a wonderful aid in keeping our earthly problems in perspective.

On High Prairie in particular we have much to gain from reducing sky glow. The last couple of years our night sky has been incredible including; the eleven year peak of the northern lights, the Leonid and

Perseid meteor showers, comets like Halle Bop, the International Space Station, and amazing planetary formations such as those that occurred a couple of weeks ago. If you don't believe in the sky glow problem then compare the view in the northern sky to the view in the southern sky where the urban glow from The Dalles washes out the southern constellations.

How do we prevent light pollution? Education. Awareness of this problem is growing. A dozen states have lighting regulations requiring shielded street lighting. Many neighborhoods have covenants that require smart lighting, and cities and counties have zoning regulations such as those in Kennewick, WA and Bend, OR. There's even a "dark sky preserve" in Michigan!

There's simply no good reason for using old fashioned inefficient lighting. Most of the light pollution on High Prairie comes from "security" lights. These lights illuminate other people's property from great distances, shining in homes even when curtains are drawn.

When installing new lighting or replacing your old lighting ask yourself these questions:

- * What am I lighting for?
- * Do I need to light?
- * How much light do I need?
- * Where do I point the light?
- * When should I light?

Always remember that lighting should benefit people. Controlled, effective, efficient lighting at your home or business will enhance the surroundings and give a sense of safety and security. People don't appreciate poorly-installed, overly-bright lighting.

- * Check your site at night before installing lighting and note the existing light levels. If the area has low levels of lighting, then modest levels of light will work well for you and will fit more hospitably in the neighborhood.
- * Try to keep the lighting uniform and reduce glare as much as possible. Lights that make bright "hot spots" and ones that have glare make it

hard to see well for passing drivers - especially for older people. Use "full cutoff" light fixtures with shields or lenses that direct the light where it's needed.

- * Consider using lights that turn on by motion detection. Not only will you reap big savings in operating costs, but you will have a far more effective security light due to its "instant-on" characteristics. Note that these lights can also be turned on manually. These light fixtures are not expensive, and they use very little energy.
- * Use energy efficient light sources. Light sources vary greatly in their efficiency. Consider especially the use of low pressure sodium lamps; they are the most efficient of all, and they are also strongly preferred by astronomers as the light output by LPS is essentially all one color and can be filtered out quite well. LPS is excellent for street lighting, parking lots, security lighting, and other applications where color rendering is not critical.
- * Consider pulling the shades or closing the curtains at night to keep bright interior lighting where it belongs.
- * Buy a high quality, more expensive light fixture. A mercury vapor lamp may be cheaper initially, but it's life time usage cost is very high.

A list of manufactures of efficient lighting and lighting shields follows:

Abolite: 10000 Alliance Road; Cincinnati, OH 45242 (513-793-8875)

Genlyte: P.O. Box 129; Union, NJ 07083 (908-964-7000)

General Electric: Hendersonville, NC 28739 (800-626-2000)

Guth Lighting: 2615 Washington Blvd.; St. Louis, MO 63103 (314-533-3200)

Hadco: P.O. Box 128; Littlestown, PA 17340 (717-359-7131)

Hubbell Lighting: 2000 Electric Way; Christiansburg, VA 24073 (703-382-6111)

Kim Lighting: P.O. Box 1275; City of Industry, CA 91749 (818-968-5666)

Luminaire technologies, Inc.: 212 West Main St.; Gibsonville, NC 27249 (910-449-6310)

Check the website: www.nightsky.org (go to the "resources" link and then follow the links for vendors of modern light fixtures)

Light Pollution is one environmental problem with a "win win" solution. Everybody gains through the improved night sky, the improved security, and the reduced cost.

STARS

*Alone in the night
On a dark hill
With pines around me
Spicy and still,*

*And a heaven full of stars
Over my head,
White and topaz
And misty red;*

*Myriads with beating
Hearts of fire
That aeons
Cannot vex or tire;*

*Up the dome of heaven
Like a great hill,
I watch them marching
Stately and still,*

*And I know that I
Am honored to be
Witness
Of so much majesty.*

—Sara Teasdale



FIRE DISTRICT FORMATION

Douglas L. Taylor

In the summer of 1983 a call came in for a grass fire at a local residence. As was the custom, all local residents were notified by telephone or noticed the smoke and if they were available they came with their gunnysacks and shovels. Shortly after all were assembled Lyle and Centerville Departments responded each with a truck and crew helping to make short work of the fire.

After the fire was controlled Tom Amery and I discussed starting a fire district; we were the last area in Klickitat County without a protection district. We discussed forming a district with neighbors and found almost unanimous acceptance.

We took the matter up with the County Auditors office and asked them how to form a district. They were unsure but willing to find information for us. We then had to appear before County Commissioners Claussen, Spaulding and Holly. They informed us that we would need to include all lands that were not presently included in fire districts and have approval with voters in this district. They appointed John Roberts, Tom Amery and Douglas Taylor as Fire Commissioners to be voted on if the district was approved.

The voters overwhelmingly approved of forming Fire District 14 and three Commissioners were elected. The district encompasses 52 square miles of which some is very rugged country.

Upon taking office, the Commissioners elected Douglas Taylor Chairman, Tom Amery Vice Chairman and Legislative Adviser and John Roberts Secretary. Rick Eiesland was appointed Fire Chief.

In 1984 and shortly thereafter the Commissioners were busy acquiring used vehicles, We obtained a jeep from Rural 7, (which is still in use,) another jeep and tender from Centerville District. Also received a pickup from Wishram District all at little or no cost.

Goldendale Rural 7 offered us a single vehicle building if we would remove it from Maryhill. Volunteers jacked up, hauled and placed the building on property we had leased by local volunteers. Our present station is located at this site. When we started to build our

present building, the Maryhill building was moved to the property of Ramona Searles and Mary Orcutt's where it is still used by the District.

The District applied for their first grant from the State Department of Natural Resources with which we used to acquire a Chevrolet pumper from the City of Goldendale for \$2,000. We later sold this vehicle for \$4,500 to a collector. We also received other property from the state and other districts such as turnouts, fire tools, tires, office furniture and etc.

In 1986 the State of Washington certified Steven Johnson and Douglas Taylor through Fire Service Training as Firefighter First Responders. Several others through the years have also served as either first responders or Emergency Medical Technicians including Roger and Cindy Dickinson, Chris and Lorelei Patrick, Icy Sheeran. Cal Edwards is presently our First Responder with Doug Hutchinson and wife Laurie as Paramedics.

The High Prairie Booster Club put on many fund raising projects which enabled us to purchase many items. They were able to supply us with our first air packs and some protective clothing. Though the years the community has been very supportive of the volunteer fire fighters. Many citizens have volunteered their time, others though donations of time, materials or equipment, or all the above.

The Commissioners appointed Rick Eisland as first Chief. Followed by John Roberts, Andy Anderson, Roger Dickinson and presently Christopher Patrick. Besides the original three Commissioners we have had Steve Johnson, Chris Patrick and Fred Henschell. Chris Patrick, Fred Henschell and Douglas Taylor are the present Commissioners.

In 1991 we received from DNR a surplus military 8 x 8 located in California We worked with Rural 7 to have both ours and theirs delivered. The local volunteers installed a 1,000 gal tank donated by Carl Parrish, spending many hours painting and outfitting the truck for firefighting use.

During Roger Dickinson's tenure as chief, he and his family wrote up many grants for the District. We

received \$16,000 for our first medical aid car. Cindy as a first responder requested and received \$1,500 from the Skyline Foundation of White Salmon and \$200 from the Mid Columbia Health Foundation for supplies for the medical aid vehicle.

We have a Ford pumper acquired through the DNR newly painted and mechanically refurbished with 500-gallon pump. Our tender acquired through DNR program has a 4,500 gallon capacity with 400 gallon per minute pumping capacity. Several of the volunteer firemen have refurbished this truck and several others by changing tanks, installing pumps and working on mechanical needs. This work in itself would amount to several thousands of dollars if hired. We have a GMC tractor to move our three 5,000 gallon trailers that are placed strategically throughout the District. We also have two small brush trucks: a Jeep and a Dodge pickup. Also we have a military all-wheel drive 750-gallon multipurpose tank. In 1999 we received two fire pumper trucks from Lyle Fire Department for a very reasonable price. One truck was put in service and the other was to be used for parts.

In 2000, Chris Patrick and Doug Hutchinson applied for and received grants from the County for a total of \$38,000 for updated safety equipment, pagers, paint jobs, and self-contained breathing equipment. Through the annual Firehouse Sale and other fundraisers involving many volunteer hours, the High Prairie Neighborhood Association (HPNA) donated several thousand dollars to update the firehall and equipment.

In 2001 the District applied for and received \$10,000 from the County to develop a water supply. Martha Hamil, President of HPNA formulated this grant. The grant funds were used to place a 14,000-gallon tank and install a 500-gallon per minute pump in the tank to supply water to fire equipment. The water supply is located on property donated to the District by Myrin and Audry Bentz. This property came with well, 1 HP pump installed, electricity, and road frontage with a total value of more than \$35,000.

For 2002 we received \$19,000 from the County grant fund for equipment repair, new tires and pump repair. This request was agreed upon by the board and finalized by Chairman Henschell. Also \$4,500 was received for fencing and other upgrades on the water storage property. We were fortunate this year that

most of what was requested was granted by the County. These grants have helped the District tremendously. The alternatives are to run a levy or do nothing.

District 14 has also applied for and received a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) for \$230,000 with a 90/10 match for a new all-purpose 4-wheel drive vehicle with 750-gallon water capacity. It has been ordered according to District specifications researched by Doug Hutchison. This truck should be delivered by mid-summer 2002 and should finalize the State requirements to get our "8" insurance rating for a large portion of the District. We will be capable of responding to local emergencies with more striking power and state-of-the-art equipment. This truck along with other equipment should put us in a very supportive position with our neighbor districts.

Our District Secretaries over the years were John Roberts, Steve Johnson, Paula Dickinson, Reatha Crock, Paula Lynch and our present Secretary Cindy Henschell. We have had Cindy Dickinson, Dona Taylor and Martha Hamil filling in for short periods. We owe much of our success to these very capable people.

Some of our first firefighters were Robert Schilling, Carl Parrish, Steve Rolfe, Steve Johnson, Merlin Anderson, John Mott, Ramona Searle, Mary Orcutt, John Roberts, Tom Amery, Ted Struck, Tad Blouin and Douglas Taylor.

Our present fire fighters are Al Aleckson, Tom Amery, James Amery, Myrin Bentz, Tim Darland, Cal Edwards, Laurie Gerber, Phil Haner, Bruce Harris, Richard Harris, Fred Henschell, Doug Hutchison, Ramona Searle, Nayland Wilkins

Our District when formed consisted of probably not more than 35 families. At the present time we have over 120 families, plus another 200 absentee owners.

As always, we need more trained volunteers who want to help protect their community property and lives. We presently have a great group and have had many dedicated people in the past, but there is always a need for one more body willing to take the challenge.

We have come a long ways since we used the gunnysacks and our running abilities.

The *High Prairian*
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