



The High Prairian

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

Volume Five, Number Two

Circulation: 520 • Subscription Cost: FREE

June, 2005

NOTICES

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

Fire Commissioners meet the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Fire Hall.

High Prairie Community Council meets the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM. June: Bob Browning will check fire extinguishers. June and July meetings will be held at Taylor's church. The August meeting will be at Morning Song Acres.

High Prairie Historical Society meetings are held quarterly on the 4th Sunday of March, June, and September and the 1st Sunday of December beginning at 2:00 PM.

High Prairie Songsters 4th Monday at 7:30 PM at Morning Song Acres.

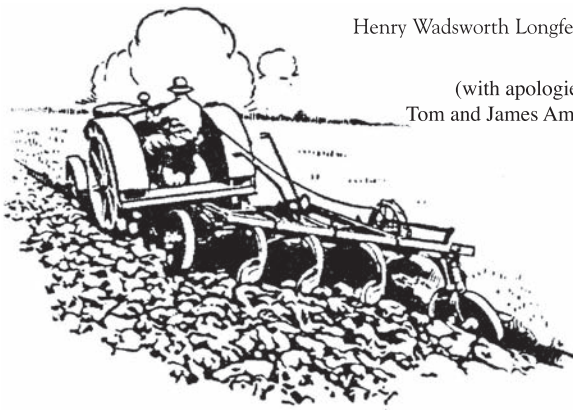
Lyle School Board meets the next to last Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the Boardroom, Lyle High School.

When requesting medical assistance or reporting a fire CALL 911

*As, when the air is serene in sultry solstice of summer,
Suddenly gathers a storm, and the deadly sling of the hailstones
Beats down the farmer's corn in the field and shatters his windows...*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

(with apologies to
Tom and James Amery)



SAFETY ALERT GET YOUR FIRE EXTINGUISHERS CHECKED

Lozetta Doll

Bob Browning, who is DOT certified for hydro-testing fire extinguishers, has agreed to come to our HPCC meeting on June 23, 2005. The meeting will be held at the Taylor historic church building at 7:00 PM. He will speak to the group about fire extinguisher maintenance. Bring your fire extinguishers!

Bob will test your fire extinguisher free of charge and will recommend any required service. Bob explains that fire extinguishers need to be hydro-tested every 12 years. If the date on your extinguisher is current, he will recharge it on-site for \$10.00. If your extinguisher needs to be hydro-tested, he will perform that service for you at his shop for \$17.50. He recommends a maintenance check every six years and he performs that service for \$10.00.

HIGH PRAIRIE BARBEQUE

Lozetta Doll

Approximately 70 people arrived at the Tom and Lozetta Doll residence on May 26 for the Fifth Annual High Prairie Barbeque. It was surely good to see so many people gather together to celebrate the season and to wind down after all the hard work of the rummage sale. We were honored to have two of the Klickitat County Commissioners in attendance: Ray Thayer and Joan Frey. Joan's husband Dan, Dana Peck, Director of Klickitat County's Economic Development Council, and with his son, John also attended.

The Commissioners spoke at length about County happenings, business prospects, and answered questions from the group.

Thanks to all who came, brought the wonderful food, and helped with the clean up.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I enjoy the *High Prairian* and wish to make the enclosed contribution of \$50.00 to your expenses. Keep up the good work.

Tom & Cassandra Baisden
Aloha, OR

Thanks for your kind thoughts and contribution.
—Editor

NEWSLETTER CIRCULATION EXPANDS!

Since we may be doubling our mailing list soon, we REALLY need help folding newsletters and preparing them for mailing. The community is growing rapidly so more hands are needed. If you enjoy reading this publication, then come join in the fun of a “folding party” just four times each year. Contact Doug Taylor at 365-3242 or highprairie@gorge.net for more information.



The High Prairian

P.O. Box 592 Lyle, WA 98635

Publisher	Klickitat County RDC
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: 520.

News Desk: Douglas L. Taylor,
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email: highprairie@gorge.net

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

GOODBYE PATRICKS!

Audrey Bentz

It was sad to see the U-Hauls head out on Oda Knight as Chris and Lorelei headed for Tacoma. Chris and Lorelei raised their two daughters here; Chris was Fire Chief for several years, and served as a Fire Commissioner. A farewell party was held at Morning Song Acres with so many reminiscing memories of past years. We wish them well in their new venture!

A HIGH PRAIRIE WELCOME

Sharon Aleckson

A High Prairie Welcome Basket was delivered to Rob and Madelon Taylor. The Taylor's have moved to High Prairie from Cornelius, Oregon. They are getting settled in their new home at 7 Budmore Road (just off Centerville Hwy.) Rob and Madelon look forward to meeting their neighbors and participating in the various activities that our community and The Gorge offer. Welcome Rob and Madelon!

KASSY CALL

Douglas and Dona Taylor

We noticed in the April 7, 2005 Goldendale *Sentinel* that Kassy Call, a student at the Goldendale High School, recently competed at a high school Track Meet. She participated in the Long Jump event and achieved a distance of 13' 7-1/4" to win a BLUE ribbon. CONGRATULATIONS, Kassy.

(Kassy and her folks live on Mott Road.)

EXTENSION OFFICE WEB SITE

Douglas L. Taylor

For you farmers and small land owners that would like answers to many everyday questions, below is a web site that you can go to and subscribe to their newsletter. You can also call their office for your questions. They have many items of interest to the rural landowner. Give it a try.

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/wasco/smallfarms/listings.html>

HIGH PRAIRIE COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Dona Taylor

Between April 18 and 24, community members cleaned up Oda Knight, High Prairie, Morris, Schilling, Hartland, High Prairie, Schilling, Struck, South Prairie, and Stacker Butte roads.

With the help of John J. Longfellow, County Coordinator of the Volunteer Litter Patrol Program, we coordinated volunteers to clean up litter from these roads. Longfellow says, "The Klickitat County Litter Patrol Program is designed to provide support for volunteer litter patrol on County roads, provide a low cost, safe means for volunteer groups to enhance the appearance of roads in their communities and to do so without encumbering either the local volunteers or the County with long term obligations." This program is possible through the cooperative effort of the citizens of Klickitat County, Klickitat County Solid Waste and Regional Disposal Company. The County provided us with litter bags, safety vests, helmets, signs, cones, and the right to dump our debris free of charge at the Dallesport Transfer station. It is a great program.

Community members participating were: James Amery, Sharon Aleckson, James Archuleta, Myrin and Audrey Bentz, Jack Bruckner, Mike and Terri Chabbert, Tom and Lozetta Doll, Bob and Bev Edwards, Cal and Sharon Edwards, Tom and Kathy Gentry, Fred Henschell, Ted and Myrt McKercher, Ron Momb, Jim Torango, Gary Turner, Mary Turner, and Doug and Dona Taylor, and many others who regularly pick up their roads during the year. Thanks to all of you.



Bob and Bev Edwards and Tom and Kathy Gentry on Schilling Road cleanup patrol.

2005 FIREHOUSE SALE

Sharon Aleckson

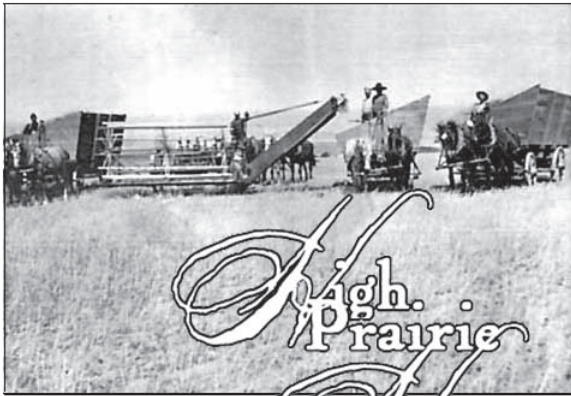


As chairperson of the 2005 Firehouse Sale, I would like to thank everyone who helped (in any way) with our 6th Annual High Prairie Firehouse Sale. There was a lot of planning and work involved to make this a successful community event. It was a BIG SUCCESS!!!! We took in more money this year than in the last three years. There are still bills to be paid and monies to be collected, so the official profit from the sale is not available at the time of the printing of this newsletter. Since there were still some nice, saleable items left over from the May sale, we decided to have tables set up in the Lyle Lions Club parking lot for the 13+ Mile Yard Sale Extravaganza to be held Saturday, June 11.

I am anticipating that the proceeds from both sales will make our profit something to really smile about. Come on down and check out our tables in Lyle on June 11. You just might find something else you cannot live without! Thanks again for all of your help.



Some of the Firehouse Sale volunteers: (l - r) Dona Taylor, Myrtie McKercher, Sharon Aleckson, Lozetta Doll, Tatiana Taylor, Audrey Bentz, and Martha Hamil.



Douglas Taylor

High.
Prairie
History

OLIN LAKE

Originally I think it started in the early 1980s as a dream that Ron and Irene Olin made into reality. Ron had an idea that he could build an immense water storage area to irrigate his alfalfa fields and maybe do a little fishing. Irrigated fields were never before attempted on sunny High Prairie. The drilled wells that were eventually established were only developed for domestic use and not for irrigation. For many years not even drilled wells were developed. The common thinking was that there was no water and deep wells were unusable and only made expensive postholes. Ron purchased an earth-scraper and a dozer with a blade and started the project that lasted many weeks. Building the reservoir was a monumental task which some folks had dreamt of, but never attempted.

The reservoir was up to 20 feet deep in places and consisted of several acres. It holds water year around. When removing the topsoil Ron discovered blue clay, which he distributed in the bottom of the pond packing it down to seal in the water. The dream turned to reality with the constructed dam began retaining the the snowmelt and the runoff from many neighboring fields. This changed the flora and fauna of the landscape. Fish were planted that grew to immense dimensions. Ducks and geese by the



dozens make use of the huge area. The more mature the lake gets the more variety of wildlife one sees.

Probably contributing to the desire to construct the lake was its ideal setting. Mt Adams in the background make for a breathtaking view. The task that Ron undertook adds immensely to the beauty of High Prairie and certainly adds value to the surrounding properties.

On visiting the project when the reservoir was being constructed, I found some unusual petrified wood that I still have in my possession. Petrified wood can be found on so many areas on High Prairie one would assume this area at one time was heavily forested.

The Olin's built a monument that is accessed by Hartland Road. It is always a surprise to come upon this lake with its breathtaking view, especially during the dry summer months in eastern Washington and surrounded by the rattlesnake

hills of High Prairie

This lake is indeed a wonderful addition to a perfect setting, with a dream that was acted upon and is enjoyed by all that gaze upon it.

The property has changed ownership a couple times. The new owners, Todd and Penni Meislahn, are building a large log cabin on the site. They have several

wonderful ideas for future development of the lakeside property.

CEMETERY CLEANUP

Douglas L. Taylor

Our annual cemetery cleanup was held on May 28. About equal numbers participated from the High Prairie Historical Society and the High Prairie Cemetery Association. It wasn't a large turnout considering that it was just before Memorial Day but a lot was accomplished by the few.

The grounds now have that freshly trimmed look. The weeds were pulled from around plantings, aisles were mowed and the building, trash barrels and picket fences have some new paint and a fresh, new look. The workers left with a sense of accomplishment.

ALL ABOARD THE THOMAS TRAIN!!!

Lozetta Doll

Twenty ambitious people volunteered to work June 29 when Thomas the Tank Engine™ and entourage come to Hood River. Day Out With Thomas™ will typically bring families with children between the ages of one and five years to the Mt. Hood Railroad. The event consists of six 30-minute rides from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM with a life-size replica of Thomas the Tank Engine™ in the lead.

This is the first year so it will be an adventure. HPCC will be paid \$600.00 for the day's work. Our volunteers will be working as official greeters, as assistant to Sir Topham Hatt, Superintendent of the Railroad, applying temporary tattoos, monitoring the video viewing station, gift store assistant, handing out fishing poles, helping families on and off the platform, and generally helping out throughout the site. If anyone else would like to volunteer, you may call Lozetta Doll at 365-0010.

HIGH PRAIRIE SONGSTERS

Audrey Bentz

If you enjoy singing (and maybe being a little silly), come join our "High Prairie Songsters"! We meet monthly at Morning Song Acres (Bentz's), 6 Oda Knight Road, generally the 4th Monday at 7:30 PM. If interested, please call or email Audrey so we can remind you of our rehearsal time: 365-3600 or amsong@gorge.net. And if anyone would like special music for an event, we might be available too!

GET WELL

Dona Taylor

Some of our High Prairie neighbors have been "under the weather" since our last *High Prairian* was printed and we want to send them GET WELL WISHES. Evelyn Neth and Bata Momb are both recovering from surgery. Gladys Sheeran, Donette Sexton had short stays in the hospital. Arlen Aleckson, Bev Edwards and Icey Sheeran are recuperating from various illnesses also. Your High Prairie friends wish you all the best.

PORTABLE POTTY

Dona Taylor

Earlier this year our High Prairie Community Council acquired a used "port-a-potty" from Bishop Sanitation. It will be made available for use at different community functions throughout the year. However, it was apparent that transporting it would become a problem because of its weight and cumbersome size.

Coming to our rescue was one of our community's talented craftsman, Cal Edwards, who renovated an old trailer donated by Dale and Mildred Anderson with car fenders donated by Bob Fraley. He crafted these into a useful carrier for the port-a-potty.

Cal built a new deck on the trailer, made sturdy portable steps, husky hand rails, fastened the fenders on, put metal stabilizers on the front, and painted it. He then secured the port-a-potty on to the trailer. WOW!

Now we have a functional traveling portable toilet and so far has been used at four different functions so far this year. Thank you!



CAN YOU HELP US FIND..

(a) several bird houses that were set to be painted, but got misplaced somehow, somewhere...

(b) the person who gave us an "IOU" for \$20 for plants at the yard sale. We want to finalize the net profit, and this would help us do so.

Call Sharon Aleckson at 365-4429.



SOME TIPS FOR GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR GREENHOUSE

Suzy Krieg, CSU Master Gardener

When you want to garden where there is a short growing season, lots of wind, and chilly nights, a greenhouse, whether temporary or permanent is the answer. Also, starting your own plants saves money and allows you to choose from a much wider selection of seed and more varieties than are ever offered as started plants.

The ideal location for a greenhouse is out in the open. Provide light shade in the summer so it doesn't get too hot. A frost-proof water spigot inside and a hot spring to keep it warm in the winter would also be nice. A thermometer is a necessity and Mylar film (space blankets) on the shaded and north sides will keep your plants growing straight up.

Pests will come in, so be prepared. Slugs can be lured to a drunken death in shallow containers of beer— any brand will do. Also shingles or whatever thin items you lay flat on the ground will have the pesky critters hiding underneath in the daytime when you can gather them up for relocation or execution. Any stray ladybugs, praying mantis or mantis egg cases you can relocate to inside your greenhouse will help provide predators.

According to recently published information, airborne aphids that look down onto metallic silver surfaces see a reflection of the sky, and do not land. Scraps of silver Mylar film strategically located between and under plants and pots will fool them into looking for “greener pastures”.

Enjoy your greenhouse little more!

DID YOU SEE OUR LATEST ACQUISITION AT OUR FIREHOUSE SALE?

Audrey Bentz

Thanks to the skill and hard work of High Prairie's Arlen Aleckson, assisted by Earl Kemp, we are so proud to have a first class grill available for community events! If you're thinking of borrowing it, don't expect to put it in the back of your SUV! This extra large grill, which can be used for both charcoal and propane, can be moved only with a front loading hydraulic system on a tractor. The bratwurst tasted better than ever, with this “state of the art” construction which features genuine barbeque flavor, and evenly controlled heat. There's none like it!



Arlen Aleckson and Earl Kemp fabricating the new High Prairie community grill.

DUMPSTERS

Douglas L. Taylor

Our thanks to community for your enthusiastic cooperation. Thanks also to Rebanco for the donation of containers and hauling. Everyone made the cleanup a success by bringing only eligible garbage for disposal. It was good to see containers only level full since garbage piled too high would not be picked up by drivers. Rebanco has employed some very fine people that cooperated with the community to the fullest. We will publish a list of non-eligible refuse before the next clean up day. This list includes paints, appliances, chemicals and heavy metals.

RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY SERVICE GREG AND LESLIE HAYRYNEN

Lozetta Doll

Driving up to Greg and Leslie Hayrynen's home overlooking scenic High Prairie countryside, it's quite apparent that their lives revolve around horses and equestrian duties. They board horses and their pastures and stables are presently at capacity.

Greg was born in Astoria, Oregon, attended school in Aberdeen, Washington, along with two years at Grays Harbor College in Grays Harbor, Washington. Following his formal education, he worked with his uncle in the retail grocery business in Portland for a number of years. He has been with Mt. Hood Beverage Company in The Dalles for fourteen years where he is a sales representative.

Leslie was born in Walla Walla, Washington and reared in Milton-Freewater, Oregon. She attended Walla Walla Community College where she majored in Business Administration and Computer Programming. She worked in Milton-Freewater and Hermiston before moving to The Dalles where she and Greg met and married.

They bought their property in High Prairie in 1995 and moved here on July 4, 1997. They leveled ground for their horse arena in 2000. Leslie became a certified farrier after attending courses at Walla Walla Community College. She attends clinics every year to keep up on changes in her trade. She has regular customers in Goldendale, Rufus, The Dalles, Hood River, White Salmon, Bingen and Lyle, is booked out eight weeks in advance, and is not presently accepting new customers. Their horse boarding and Leslie's horseshoeing business are advertised



by word of mouth only which attests to the high quality of each. Another unadvertised part of their business is the selling of "output" at \$10 for a pickup load and is very much in demand by area gardeners!

Understandably, Greg and Leslie have had many interesting experiences working with horses. Leslie tells about the time

a horse reared up behind her and came down with the gelding's jaw banging onto the top of Leslie's head and a front hoof ending up in each of Leslie's jacket pockets!

Leslie became a firefighter two years ago and became a certified Emergency Medical Technician a year ago. As with the other firefighters in the area, being a Fire District 14 volunteer requires a real commitment of time and work. She enjoys being a help to the community and working with the other dedicated volunteers.

Greg and Leslie share their home with two Heeler mix dogs, "Sophie" and "Gina", and a Chihuahua, "Baby Dog." Four of the horses munching hay at their place belong to them. They are quarter horses, aging from ten years to three years, and they ride all but the youngest which is yet to be broken, a task Leslie is not anticipating with a great deal of delight!

The Hayrynens keep busy with "two full time jobs apiece." When they do take a vacation it is usually horse trail riding with two area riding clubs. As Greg says, there is not much incentive to leave High Prairie as it is so beautiful, the people are so great, and all of their interests are centered right here.



HANER APPOINTED AS FIRE COMMISSIONER

Fred Henschell

Phillip Haner has been appointed to fill the Fire District 14 Commissioner position vacated by Chris Patrick. Chris resigned because he moved from the area to a new job in Tacoma.

The temporary appointment will last until the end of 2005 at which time the position will be filled by the November election. Haner plans to file as a candidate for election.

Phil has been a very active member of the High Prairie Fire Department since moving here in 1997.



The High Prairian
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