

Feathers

from the Duster

By The Over-time Editor

AS HAS OFTEN been said, it is the thought that deserves a primary credit in good works even if that for doing the job goes elsewhere. So it was with the Concrete Volunteer Firemen who planned to erect the town Christmas tree last week end as their annual gesture of good will to all.

As it happened, the beautiful blue spruce in Roy Stidham's yard at Van Horn was offered, due to the fact that it had overgrown its location. The problem was removing it without falling it across a fence or into the house. Puget Power's line crew volunteered to lift it bodily after cutting the trunk. They did so, loading it safely on Rusty Solomon's truck. They followed it to town and as long as they had the equipment at hand they set it up in front of City Hall. Again, equipment being handy they dropped the strands of colored lights from tip to bottom branches.

The firemen did manage to replace the burned out lights. Long before their planned weekend task the job was all done and the town has one of the most symmetrical and beautiful trees in years.

Chief Floyd Gardner bows to the blessings of know-how and the modern age of machinery and is happy to report that some of his crew got to watch their work being done. As for Puget's crew—they said it was a lot of fun and they were happy to be of service in a non-routine project.

As for the local department, you fellows sure have given us a darn fine tree.

A WHOLE NEW field of gifts for "people who have everything" has been opened up in the past few years due to the apparent decay of the human race. We speak of the demand for that long-row of bottles and tubes for the bathroom by which you create the image of being in good repair. Lotions to make your whiskers stand up, your hair lay down, your teeth stay in or (if your own) stay young looking and sexy. Creams to smooth wrinkles, make skin glow, turn tan, white or transparent. Stuff to curl hair, straighten hair, glue it in unnatural forms. Sticks to give eyes that glamorous artificial look. Liquids to keep you from smelling like a person, or to make you smell like a stable, ocean, pine forest, mint julep, Indian bazaar, oriental joss house, floral green house, or buy by the ounce enchantment, desire, seduction or enslavement of every member of the opposite sex who gets within sniffing distance.

Even if you don't feel that you need renovation a gift of such potion is seldom accepted as a subtle hint, but more as a compliment to your fastidious nature. By any other name they would probably smell as sweet—but what a lift to the spirit to know that someone cares enough to want to make you pleasant to be near.

Births

WENDI DANNETTE HURN

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Hurn are announcing the adoption of a baby daughter, Wendi Dannette, born Nov. 29 at Virginia Mason Hospital, Seattle. The little miss weighed 7 lbs., 12 oz., and measured 20 inches at birth. She joins a five-year-old sister, Shelley Lannette.



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SPARKS - FRYMAN WEDDING AT ROCKPORT



Marge Sparks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Del Sparks of Rockport, was united in marriage to Wayne Fryman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Inman of Hamilton, on November 29 at the Rockport Baptist Church. The Rev. Fred Dellinger performed the ceremony.

The bride wore a white sleeveless satin dress with white accessories.

Forty-two attended the reception at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Curly Moore. Cake was served by Mrs. Bea Moore, coffee, Mrs. Evelyn Burns. Miss Shirley Sparks was at the punch table. Gifts were opened by Miss Rita Burns and Miss Kathy Sparks.

The young people are making their home at the Wiesenburger apartments in Hamilton.

Christmas Window Painting Contest

Young people of Concrete will turn out Saturday morning to "paint" the town in Christmas colors.

All age groups, first through 12th grades, are eligible to enter the annual window painting contest sponsored by the Cascade Juniors. Cash prizes of \$5 each will go to the 1-6 grade division, and 7-12 grade group.

All wishing to take part in decorating windows of downtown business houses may gather this coming Saturday morning, Dec. 14, at 10 a.m. at the Concrete Herald office. Tempera paints will be furnished by the women's club which also is contacting local businesses to sign up those which want their windows painted with holiday pictures.

Dick Riehl's arts and craft classes at the high school will try their skill at window painting during their class periods tomorrow and Friday.

Pot Luck Dinner To Honor Skagit Rangers

Upper Skagit residents will bid farewell to personnel of the Marblemount Ranger Station at a community potluck this coming Saturday, Dec. 14, in the Marblemount Community Clubhouse. The public is invited to join the "good-bye" affair at 7 p.m. Sponsor is the Marblemount Civic Club.

RECEIVES LETTER

Allan Hurn, a junior at Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill., has received a major letter for participation in varsity football during the 1968 fall sports season.

Virgil Andrew Stricken Sunday

Virgil Frank Andrew died at his home here of a heart attack early last Sunday morning after all attempts of fire and police officers failed to revive him.

Police Chief Bill Hiatt and Fred Bianchini of the fire department responded to the emergency call at 2:20 a.m. and applied artificial resuscitation in addition to the inhalator without results.

Andrew had been in failing health for some time following his retirement in 1964. The family moved to Concrete from Marblemount this fall.

He was born Sept. 29, 1909, in Silver Lake, Wash. and lived in Wenatchee before coming to the Skagit Valley in 1961. He was a mechanic by trade.

He was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Aerie 512 of Centralia, and Good Neighbors of Centralia.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; three stepsons, Jerry Heinz of Bellingham, Stephen Sepos of Concrete, and Herman Naumann of Centralia; two stepdaughters, Rosalie Sepos of Concrete and Arlene Littlefield of Anacortes; a brother, Henry Andrew of Forks, Wash.; his mother, Edith Andrew of Centralia; and eight grandchildren.

Services will be held today, Wednesday, at 1:30 p.m. from the Lemley Chapel in Sedro-Woolley. The Rev. Kenneth Green of Lyman Assembly of God church will officiate and the Eagles will conduct graveside services at the Lyman cemetery.

FOR SPORTS NEWS—SEE PAGE NINE

Marblemount Ranger Station Closed; Baker River Takes Over

In the first change stemming from the creation of the North Cascade National Park the Forest Service announced today

that, effective immediately, the Skagit and Baker River Ranger Districts of the Mt. Baker National Forest are being consolidated. The headquarters for the new district will be at the Baker River Station at Birdsview.

William C. Knechtel will be the District Ranger in charge of the consolidated districts. The decision to close the Marblemount Ranger Station was made when the Skagit district, formerly the largest district in the nation, was cut by the park and wilderness area acquisitions to about 100,000 acres. The new Baker River district will contain slightly more than 350,000 acres with the consolidation.

PARK SERVICE CHANGE

While the Park Service has expressed a desire to move into the station, details of the transfer have been stalled by the lack of permissive guidelines for interagency exchanges. The action is something new, as this is the first National Park to have the unique situation of transfer of established facilities. Also the Park Service has never owned an installation outside of the boundaries of a park.

The procedure is now being worked out in Washington, D. C. as to how to charge off the Forest Service ownership and credit it to the new agency and stay within regulations set for both departments.

The Federal Housing Agency handles all Park Service housing services and rentals, while the Forest Service handles its own. General Services Agency may be brought into the deal as the intermediary.

PHASE OUT IN SIX MONTHS

It is anticipated that the Marblemount Station will be phased out over the next six months, (Continued on page 2)

Christmas Concert Of Band On Dec. 19th

The 20th annual winter concert of the Concrete High School band will be presented next Thursday, Dec. 19, in the high school gymnasium at 8 p.m. with Durwood Sobek, instructor, directing.

This year's pre-Christmas program will be played by the concert band only.

Opening selection will be the march, "Peacemaker," by King; followed by "Song of Jupiter," by Handel-Anderson; the overture, "Thendora," by Whitney; pop selection, "Around the World," by Young-Reed.

Other numbers will be a samba, "Copa Cabana," by Walters; the folk tune, "Cripple Creek," arranged by Ployhar; a cornet duet, "Holy City," played by Kevin Kelly and Paul Hicks accompanied by Karen Johnson.

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," arrangement by Walter, and a Merry Christmas medley by Frangkiser will conclude the holiday program.

Halverson Gets Bear Creek Timber Sale

Sale of 750,000 board feet of timber to Leonard Halverson of Sedro-Woolley was reported among the 20 parcels of state-owned timber sold late last month. The Bear Creek Bridge sale brought \$38,340.

Altogether, the state sold 59.1 million board feet of timber at more than \$3.3 million.

Town Council Ponders Purchase Of Police Car; Budget Problems Of Operating Water System

Decisions, the bane of the executive, occupied the minds of the town council at their December session last Tuesday at City Hall. And with true executive concept of the weight of the problems they decided to delve deeper into each before the final "yes" or "no." Problem No. 1, lease or buy a new police car—or repair the old. Problem No. 2—buy the water system or let nature take its course.

Bids were received on leasing of a completely equipped police car from both Nelson Chevrolet and Berglund Motors. The low bid was \$100 a month from Berglund, and the other \$114 a month from Nelson for comparable equipment. Nelson offered \$975 for the old car, Berglund, \$700. Both leases would run two years will full maintenance and tires, the town paying only operating costs.

After discussion with a stand-off on whether to lease or repair the old car, the question of buying was broached. Monthly cost on a three-year contract was estimated to be about the same figure as leasing, with the

ultimate ownership a big factor as police cars here seemed to serve a good five or six years.

It was finally decided to hold the lease bids and also ask for bids on a time-contract purchase plan for the same cars. The bids will be opened at the January meeting.

WATER SYSTEM

More details of the proposal by Lone Star on selling their water system were studied. The proposal offered only 50% of water rights on the spring, but would grant the town the Lake Shannon emergency lines. The company asks to retain easement rights to install lines of their own if needed in the future.

The council felt that while the price was reasonable the restriction of water rights might cause a problem if the town expands in future years. Another problem of major importance was the need for equipment to operate the system and the necessity of having a substantial cash reserve or borrowing source for unexpected emergency repair. This would seem to require (Continued on page 6)