

## MAYOR'S CORNER

With the current heat wave, and more months of potentially hot dry weather, I need to ask Town residents to voluntarily restrict watering hours. Please do not leave your sprinklers on overnight or on during the hot part of the day. Thanks in advance for your cooperation. We have not had to limit watering hours for several years and hope we do not need to this year.

Our good news for the month is that Shady Cove has agreed to work with us to train a local person to be our waste water system operator. We had been unsuccessful in our attempt to hire a person with all the required certification. Shady Cove Council approved their Public Works superintendent to operate our system and train a local Butte Falls person. The process will take nearly two years. We will reimburse Shady Cove for their actual expenses. We have hired Tom Hayes as our Public Works Operator Trainee. He has started his training which includes a self study course for the water system and waste water system. Gary Shipley will continue to assist us with the water system until Tom obtains his Operator I certification, estimated to be about six months.

The Oregon DEQ performed a compliance check in late July. We are in the process of applying for a block grant to do a waste water system facility plan. This plan will identify needed improvements and a long range system plan. Operation of our system is a major task and requires full time concentration for the operation and maintenance. In the past we have expected one employee to take care of all the town public works duties. This cannot continue.

I have had several out-of-town residents of our community-at-large discuss their thoughts about membership to the Town Council. We are fortunate to have many loyal citizens who

volunteer and/or contribute financially to make Butte Falls a better place. We truly appreciate everyone who considers Butte Falls "Home" even though they may live outside the cattle guards. We have allowed membership to these persons on our Planning Commission and our Water Commission. Membership to the Town Council is restricted to residents within the Town limits. Some persons have suggested the charter be changed to allow nonresident to be on the Council. This, in my opinion, should not occur. The Town Council is the decision making body of our local government. Both the Planning and Water Commissions are advisory bodies making recommendations to the Council for final approval. The Council makes final decisions on taxes for the residents and on water and sewer rates. I strongly feel that only residents should be making these decisions which affect their pocketbooks. If you have thoughts on this subject, feel free to drop a note off at City Hall, or call Lori and leave a message with her for the Council.

As I have mentioned recently, we have three council positions, the treasurer, recorder and mayor positions up for election in November. If you are interested in any of these positions, contact Lori's at City Hall as soon as possible. The paperwork has to be submitted soon. After much thought, I have decided not to run for reelection as mayor. I have a dedication and loyalty to the Town, but have decided to ask someone else to take a turn in the role of mayor. The mayor position is sometimes close to a full-time job of a city administrator. The council position and mayor receive no salary. Only the treasurer and recorder are elected and paid employees. Please consider supporting your community by serving in one of these roles. Thanks in advance!

*Sara Beck, Mayor*

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Twice in the past year she has traveled to the University of Minnesota to attend a meeting with medical experts who are working on a project called Community Health Intersection (CHI). This group plans to provide medical education and services to rural communities. Joyce hopes to be able to integrate this program into the Butte Falls Community Technology Resource center, through telemedicine.

Although Joyce loves to focus locally, her abilities have drawn attention from all over the State and she is receiving an increasing number of requests to work with larger organizations in the Rogue Valley as well as the Portland area. She attends nearly 300 meetings in a year, and has established friendships with several Oregon politicians, including State Representative, Judy Uherbelau, and Jackson Count Commissioner Ric Holt.

In the early 90's, Joyce published her first children's book, *Grandpa, I Can Still Hear You*. "I want to leave books on this earth that will touch people's lives", as she speaks of her desire to continue writing. She recently wrote *Wilma's Attic*, another children's book. One of her delights is to be involved with children's writing workshops. Poetry and children are a natural combination for her. She can bring out the creativity in any child.

When talking with Joyce, she is modest about all of her achievements and insists that her family comes first. In 1989, she married Ron Hailicka, whom she describes as her inspiration and supporter. Although they both had grown children, they decided to start a 'new' family. Ayn-Marie and Allison are now the "true" focus of her life. Their personal enrichment is priority for Joyce. She makes her home incredibly "alive" with whimsical artwork, sentimental poetry and soothing music.

Despite the largeness of her projects, she has a special eye for details; a little bow, a spray of perfume, a tender note, a gentle touch, a special gift. And to those of you that have been personally touched by Joyce, you know what I mean.

By Dianne Gorman