

# THE YELLOWSTONE NEWS



OCTOBER 22, 1997

NPS EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

NEXT DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 18

## Personnel News.....

### Welcome to Yellowstone:

Cody Waggener - Heavy Mobile

Equip. Mechanic

Lane Baker - Supv. Park

Ranger - Mammoth

Peter Webster - Supv. Park

Ranger - Old Faithful

Brenda Tupek- Admin.

Support Asst. - Personnel

### New Permanent:

Nathan Sawyer- Utility Systems

Operator - Grant

Jack Holmes - Utility Systems

Operator - Lake

John Fors - Utility Systems

Operator - Canyon

Jaren Whitman- Motor Vehicle

Operator

### New Terms:

Eric Compas - GIS

Brian Ertel - Biological Science

Tech. - Lake

Retiring: Jim Sweaney

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

*"Every man is a fool for at least five minutes every day; wisdom consists of not exceeding the limit." Elbert Hubbard*

## Area Recycling Efforts Continue

The Headwaters Cooperative Recycling Project involving Yellowstone National Park, and Montana counties of Park, Gallatin, Broadwater, Madison, Lewis & Clark, Jefferson, Powell, Butte-Silver Bow, and Granite has come to Gardiner. There are now two "binnies" in place at the green box site for the collection of aluminum and steel cans (mixed), and newspaper. The Cooperative has been operating in the other counties for about six weeks. More commodities are planned to be added by next summer.

The recycling center next to the new Fire Cache is taking aluminum cans, steel cans (separate from aluminum), all colors of glass, newspapers, magazines, and mixed paper (including envelopes). The recycling center is always open for deposits. Cardboard, including clean cereal and other heavy paper boxes, can be dropped off at the Supply Center during regular business hours. Be sure that all of the boxes are cleaned of any packing items. Packing pellets can also be dropped off at the Supply Center.

## Road Construction Continues

Road construction in Yellowstone is continuing on three roads this fall. The East Entrance project is winding down for the year. No pavement was installed this year, and the contractor is expecting to finish next summer. The road is open only from 6 to 10 a.m. and 6 to 10 p.m. for all travel. The road from Old Faithful is nearing completion. The main line road is paved, and the contractor is working on the pull-outs and the Fountain Freight Road. Work on the bridges continues, and the road is closed to public travel. Administrative travel can occur from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. each night. There are one lane sections, so caution is required. There will only be minor delays on this road next year and the project should be totally wrapped up by late spring or early summer.

The Northeast Entrance road contract was awarded in late September, and the contractor has begun work on clearing the new Warm Creek trailhead. He expects to do some work in the dry streams going into Soda Butte Creek this fall and will be hauling material from the Corwin Springs area to Frog Rock until at least early winter. The entire route from Tower Junction to the Northeast Entrance station will be upgraded with the majority of the construction taking place next summer. This project adds pullouts, redoes trailheads, and corrects drainage but will not widen the road. Road closures next summer will be allowed from midnight to 5 a.m.

More work is planned for next fall on three sections of road in the Lake/Fishing Bridge area. Reconstruction is planned from Fishing Bridge junction to Pelican Creek and around Arnica Creek, and an upgrade is scheduled in the Gull Point area.

# Viewpoint



The following is a new column, a forum where you can ask questions, offer suggestions, and express your opinions on issues that affect us in Yellowstone. The Yellowstone News reserves the right to evaluate letters for appropriateness and to edit for clarity and length. Please send submissions to Jan Laye, Editor, c/o Yellowstone News.

**Question:** I live in the interior and come to Mammoth on a regular basis to attend school functions with my children. Is there a way that the rates for government quarters can be lowered to make attending school functions and classes more affordable?

**YN:** Yes, a memo dated October 6, 1997, signed by the Superintendent, states that lower rates have been approved to charge employees the Daily Rental Rate for temporary use of government quarters in Mammoth while their children are attending classes or participating in Mammoth School functions or activities. Employees may make arrangements for available quarters through their division's seasonal housing coordinator or through the Administration Office. Utensils, linens, and maid service will not be provided, and the employee will be expected to leave the quarters in the same condition it was when they checked in. The Administration Office will handle all payments for use of the quarters. Any questions should be directed to the Administrative Office at 344-2039.

## Notable News....

The Personnel Office is going to develop a "Bulletin Board" on cc:Mail to use as a forum for disbursing current information to supervisors. We would like supervisors and/or employees to contemplate what kind of information you would like to hear about...current: Leave policy, TSP, Yellowstone vacancy announcements, Term appointments. The subject matter would be determined by you and what you really want to know about in the Personnel area. Please send your suggestions to your respective Personnel Specialist (Vanessa: Interp., Protection, Admin., Concess., Supt., and Maribeth: Maintenance, YCR,) either by cc:Mail, phone, or in person.

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Don't forget—November 1, is the deadline for converting computers over to Microsoft WORD.

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Find out more about the newly established "Peer Award"...You can nominate any employee for this award. Check out the possible awards in Gail Menard's Office.

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Editor's note...The Yellowstone News is taking on a new format and look. Bear with me while I learn the capabilities and fun (?) having *Microsoft Word* can offer. Any suggestions are appreciated. The Yellowstone News will be cc:mailed in *Word* beginning with this issue. Hard copies will still be distributed, but after November 1, the number distributed in hard copy will be drastically reduced. It's just our part in saving the ancient forests.....

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Gail Menard has announced that the Administration Division is now accepting nominations for an annual "Customer Service Award." This \$500 award will be presented to the administration division employee who consistently delivered the best customer support during the previous fiscal year. According to Gail, "The Administration Division recognizes that while other division's customers are primarily comprised of our visitors and the taxpaying public, our division's customers are often the park's employees. Every employee in our division has customer service embedded in his/her performance plan. The Customer Service Award was designed to reward exceptional service that Administration employees provide to other divisions." Any employee wishing to nominate an Administration Division employee should send a brief note to Don Striker that identifies the name of the employee and a brief explanation of why the service provided was exceptional. The deadline for nominations is October 31, 1997. Nominations can be sent via cc:Mail or interoffice mail.

# Community Events

**\* Vet Visit:** Veterinarian, Dr. Jim Murray, will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, October 31, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. No appointment necessary. Housecalls available upon request. Next visit: November 14.

## **\* The Gardiner Community Library to Sponsor Bazaar**

The Annual Craft Bazaar sponsored by the Gardiner Community Library will be held on November 4, 1997, at the Gardiner School Multi-Purpose Room starting at 5 p.m. Food will be served and there will be plenty of craft booths to check out. See you there!

## **\*Federal Employee Association to Sponsor Ice Cream Event**

An Ice Cream Constitution Party will be sponsored by the Yellowstone Federal Employees Association on Thursday, November 20, 1997, 3 p.m., at the Mammoth Canteen Gym. All members are welcome. There will be diverse flavors of ice cream, chocolate syrup, bananas, butterscotch syrup, whipped cream, and other delicious, nutritious, good for your soul sweet stuff. At this meeting the membership will vote on the final constitution. The draft constitution for YFEA was distributed several weeks ago and needs to be ratified. Comments and /or suggestions need to be mailed to Judy Jensen, YFEA President, by October 27. So come and vote on YOUR YFEA constitution.....Let your voice be heard....and eat ice cream!!!!

# Classified Ads

**FOR SALE:** Whirlpool portable dishwasher, with almond/black exterior, and chopping block top. Attaches to your faucet. In good condition and does a really good job. \$125. Call 344-7408.

**FOR SALE:** 1985 Toyota SR5 -4 Runner, power windows, cruise, 4- wheel drive, dependable, and good on gas. \$3,800 OBO. Call 848-7493, leave a message.

**FOR SALE:** 1981 Chevy ¾ T Suburban, 4- wheel drive with Warn hubs, 4 new mud/snow tires (cost \$650). 4-speed manual transmission, 100K miles, built-in tool chest, HD trailer hitch, body rough, mechanically good, 2 owners. "A real beast in the mud and snow." \$1500. Call John 344-2203 (days) and 344-7408 (eves).

**THE YELLOWSTONE NEWS** is a monthly newsletter for NPS employees published by the Public Affairs Office. To submit articles, ads, or notice of events contact Jan Laye in the Superintendent's Office at 344-2003.