

Centerville Students Reach Lofty Heights

By Lori K. Froehlich

The town of Centerville is proud of its school.

As a small kindergarten through eighth-grade school, teachers not only have a chance to work closely with their students, but also can watch them mature. Some of the staff has taught together for more than 20 years.

Klickitat PUD helped the school with its 85-year-old tradition and rite of passage for the eighth-grade graduates before they transition to Goldendale High School.

Each year, the graduates get their names and their graduation year displayed on the 35-foot chimney of the school's furnace. The furnace is still used to heat the school, which was built in 1918. The school is rumored to have had the biggest gym in the county for a number of years.

Although some names have been painted over by newer generations, the year "25" is still plainly displayed.

During an end-of-school picnic and celebration, Jeff Fields, seventh- and eighth-grade teacher and mentor for 23 years, was full of praise for his community and students.

"I really appreciate the PUD's involvement," he said as KPUD Serviceman Tim Garrigus started to ascend in the bucket to affix the new names. Jeff said it's evident that the community wants this school and cares about its children's education. The



KPUD Serviceman Tim Garrigus places the names of Centerville's eighth-grade graduates on the school's chimney.

community never has trouble passing a school levy and pays one of the highest school tax

rates in the county.

Join KPUD in congratulating Lexi, Shawn,

Mitch, Kailyn, Dakota, Sam, Britni, Rickie and Kenney on their graduation. ■



Above, Centerville eighth-grade graduates for 2010 had their names added to the school's chimney as part of an annual tradition.

Left, students take a few more rides down the school slide before summer vacation begins during a school picnic.

KPUD Serviceman Likes the Variety of His Job

After Bob Fitzsimmon's recent promotion to Klickitat PUD line superintendent, Tim Garrigus filled the open position for serviceman.

Tim is based at the Goldendale warehouse and covers territory from High Prairie and Klickitat to the east end of the county. As a serviceman, Tim's job duties are a wide array of tasks that sometimes can bring him to your neighborhood.

He can be spotted painting the ground red for underground electrical lines, or the first to be sent out on a reported power outage. Tim often can fix small outages, such as replacing a fuse in a transformer, without calling in a line crew.

Power connects and disconnects are a daily occurrence. When consumers move in or out, Tim is the one who turns the meters on and off.



Tim Garrigus

As serviceman, Tim is also part of the collection process with the billing department, which entails disconnecting electricity for nonpayment, an unfortunate necessity in some cases. Tim also can be spotted in a bucket truck doing inspections and

repairs for street lights that flicker or go out. Occasionally, he is called out to do line work with the crew when they are short-handed.

Tim and his wife, Lauri, moved to Goldendale nine years ago from North Bend, where Tim worked for Tanner Electric Cooperative as an apprentice and a journeyman lineman for six years. Tim has worked for KPUD the past nine years as a journeyman lineman on the Goldendale crew.

"I was ready for a change when it presented itself," he says.

Look for Tim in your travels across the county, and be sure to help us congratulate him on his new position.