

## Centerville Students Reach for the Sky

Klickitat PUD helps school continue its tradition



Right, PUD Serviceman Tim Garrigus adds the names of Centerville eighth graders to the school's chimney. Above, the finished product.

By Lori Froehlich

The town of Centerville is proud of its school. In this small kindergarten through eighth-grade school, teachers have a chance to work closely with their students, as well as the opportunity to watch them mature. Some of the staff have taught together for more than 20 years.

Klickitat PUD was able to help the school with the tradition and rite of passage for its eighth-grade graduates before they transition to Goldendale High School.

Each year, graduates' names and their graduation year are 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, and was rumored to have the biggest gym in the county for a number of years. Although some names have been painted over by newer generations, the year "25" still is plainly displayed.

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

"I really appreciate the PUD's involvement," he said, as Serviceman Tim Garrigus ascended in the bucket.

Please join Klickitat PUD in congratulating Zach Berkshire, Daniel Bischoff, Josh Brokaw, Michaela Browning, Cheyanne Dove, Hanna Hoffman, Wyatt Mercer, Willow O'Connor, and RJ Whitman on their graduation. ■