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Lights and Shadows from the Dishman Hills, January, 2000

OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND

Things continue to develop concerning County land purchases for the new Sprague Couplet on the north side of the Natural Area. Proposition I-695, a reduction of State funds for road building, will not effect the completion of this new freeway. As land is bought for the right-of-way, there is an opportunity to add addition acreage between the Natural Area and the roadway to the north that is part of the Dishman Hills Ecology Zone. The County has already obtained the rocky land in the Vista Mobile Home Park and adjacent lands, and County Engineering has told us that it makes sense to offer this land for inclusion into the Natural Area. Also, the County and Association are working together to obtain the portions of land just west of Sargent Road. Some of this area could also be used to expand the Camp Caro facility.

All of this land was nominated for the Conservation Futures Program that is run by County Parks to save Spokane's natural areas, but did not rate very high on a list of very impressive land purchase opportunities, if for no other reason, not having willing sellers. But the situation is changing rapidly as land owners are "making way" for the new road.

The Association strongly feels that a buffer zone between the new roadway and the present Natural Area is critical in preserving the ecology on the north side. With roads come more than additional pollution of auto exhaust and noise, there inevitably follows development and increasing land values. Now is our opportunity to save and stabilized this slice of rocky land that probably won't be obtainable in several years.

CHECK THE BACK

On the reverse side of this newsletter there is some information for you. If you donated any funds in 1999 to the Association there will be a summary of your donation activity for the year. Our computer is getting smart enough to provide this information, and we want to make sure that you generous people have a easy time when it comes to tax calculations.

If the reverse side is blank, it means that we have no info for 99 and we encourage you to catch up in 00 with contributions that will allow us to save more land. No donation is too small, and please keep up-to-date on your dues to cover newsletter printing and mailing .

If you get a "special notice" on the back it means that we have not heard from you in the last three years or have not been successful in contacting you, and will be taking you off the mailing list if we do not hear from you real soon.

While 1999 was a sad year with the loss of Tom Rogers, it was a bumper year for donations totalling about \$28,000, \$15,000 of which was the Tom Rogers memorial fund. Quite a tribute.

NEW ADDRESS FOR ASSOCIATION

Please note that there is a change of address for the Association. The corporate address had been Tom Rogers residence for many years, but with Tom's passing we thought it best to change things at the beginning of the new year. The new address is listed below in the donation box and is the residence of Michael Hamilton, Association president, whose phone number is 509-747-8147 and E-mail address mhamilton@icehouse.net. With a little luck, maybe the Association will also have its own website by the end of the year, and we can start the new century with up to date communications.

ORGANIZATION NEWS

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to saving nature areas in the Spokane region for public enjoyment and education. Call Michael Hamilton, 747-8147, if you have any questions. We have a monthly meeting the 3rd Tuesday at Opportunity Elementary School, S. 1109 Wilbur, at 7 PM.

Thank you for the generous support during the last year, The following are our December donors that have consented to be listed: James Bertis, Erick Calkins, Alan Carlson, Rita Cencich, Jeff Danner, DorisDistad, G. Fergin, Walter Fernau, George Girvin, Nicolin Gray, Ken Gudgel, Harry Hendron, LeRoy Hock, Karol Kaye, Joyce Kelly, Glen Kivett, Camille Kovarik, Gail Lambert, Mary Lentz, Maxine Leszykowski, Helen lininger, Madonna Luers, Jacquelin Mallereau, Ian Napier, John O'Brien, William Pillsbury, Francis Potter, Janet Reynolds, Donald Roberts, Jane Rogers, Luella Rowberg, Lois Smith, Jan Strobeck, Patricia Sweeney, John Tuft, Dwight Vance, Mary Waters, Barney Wilson, Laurence Wright, and David Zack. Thank you one and all!

Please use this form when sending **CONTRIBUTIONS** or **DUES**

All contributions are tax deductible

SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO: DHNAA

3415 S. Lincoln Dr.
Spokane, WA 99203

NEW ADDRESS

Your Name: _____

Please put your account no. 15142 on your check

\$ _____ MEMORIAL FOR _____
\$ _____ LAND PURCHASE FUND
\$ _____ ANNUAL DUES due in January (\$10 regular, \$5 student or living lightly, \$2 to cover bulletin expenses)

New ? Renewal ? Don't list me as donor

Please tell us if this newsletter is unwanted or if there is an address mistake