

# Friends of Tubbs Hill

Spring  
2004 Newsletter



## Tubbs Hill Burn

by Jennifer Johnson

As summer progresses and things get dry, the potential for fire on Tubbs is always present. On June 26 of last year, the fire department responded to a report of a grass fire on Tubbs and arrived to find an area of approximately 200'x 500' of steep grass and brush terrain involved in a rapidly moving fire. Over seventy-two people from five different agencies worked together to contain the fire and put it out. Fortunately, less than seven acres burned! I think that's

pretty impressive when you consider it's an area that is challenging to reach quickly. Over the last few years, our fire department has conducted prescribed burns on Tubbs Hill. This means they go in and burn excess fuel early in the season. Without this good fire management practice, a fire could gain speed and intensity and cause more damage and cover more ground. Thanks to prescribed burns, last summer's fire did very little damage.

Because summer is approaching, we wish to remind parents to make sure their kids are not smoking, starting bonfires, or setting off fireworks on the hill.

We trust that adults won't do these things either! Let's all do our part in protecting the hill, our community treasure.

By the way, they're pretty sure the cause of June's fire was some type of illegal firework used by kids.

## A Tribute To Art Manley

by Taryn Broadwater, Spokesman Review Staff Writer

They sang of the valleys and hills, forests and nature. Inside Coeur d'Alene's First Baptist Church, hundreds joined in singing Idaho's state song in honor of Art Manley.

Friends eulogizing Manley said the Coeur d'Alene native was a pioneer in his own right, leaving a lasting legacy in North Idaho. The tireless conservationist and former state legislator died January 26 at age 88.

Doug Eastwood described Manley as the "champion of acquiring and preserving open space" from downtown landmark Tubbs Hill to neighboring McEuen Field. The Coeur d'Alene Parks and Recreation Director said he often called on Manley when he had questions about Tubbs Hill. The two would walk the trails together.

Sometimes, Manley wasn't in the best mood as they would set out on a hike, Eastwood said. But with each step, he softened.

"I would see this kid start to come out of Art," Eastwood said. "He'd smile. He'd almost be reenergized."

Most everyone who remembered Manley during the memorial service touched on his passion for preserving Tubbs Hill. Pastor Jack Dowers said Tubbs Hill was "a prominent feature" in the photo album Manley began piecing together in the 1930's. He had pictures of the landmark in the summer, spring, winter and fall.

After Manley's service, friends gathered in the church fellowship hall to look at old pictures and newspaper clippings from his political career, and reminisce during an open-mike session.

Manley stood apart from other politicians during the 14 years he served as a legislator, said friend Mary Lou Reed.

"He didn't smoke," she said. "He didn't drink. He didn't trade votes. He didn't boast or bully. Art had friends on both sides of the aisle."

Manley formed the Kootenai Environmental Alliance in 1972, during a break from the seven terms he spent in office. The conservation group is still active.

Former KEA President George Brabb said if it wasn't for Manley's efforts to preserve Tubbs Hill, Brabb and his wife might not have retired to Coeur d'Alene.

The two honeymooned in Coeur d'Alene in 1949 and picnicked on Tubbs Hill. Nearly 40 years later, as the couple looked for a place to retire to, Brabb said, they recalled their honeymoon picnic. He was surprised that Tubbs Hill was untouched.

Pastor Kirk Weaver said he was delighted to arrive in Coeur d'Alene and find that the pictures in the Chamber of Commerce brochure were true-to-life.

"In this city, at least, all roads lead to the hill," Weaver said.

And, where Tubbs Hill is concerned, all fingers point to Art Manley.

*(Art Manley, a founding director of Tubbs Hill, Inc., passed away January 26, 2004. Everyone who knew Art was aware of his overwhelming passion for Tubbs Hill. Art spent the majority of his 88 years hiking the hill. This article is reprinted with permission from the Spokesman Review.)*

## Tubbs Hill Improvements

by Bill Greenwood

Over the last 12 years the Tubbs Hill Trail system has been studied three times, at a cost of over \$25,000. The City Council approved and adopted an updated Tubbs Hill Management Plan in 2000.

This management plan was created by a community committee and designed to guide the management actions regarding the hill for the subsequent 10 years.

The plan's stated goal is, "To provide the public with safe opportunities for use while retaining the natural setting . . . management activities to be implemented which enhance, protect, and maintain the diversity of natural resources of Tubbs Hill."

The latest study generated a large amount of public interest. Due to the public's passion for the hill, City Council opted to create a Tubbs Hill Trail subcommittee. The committee consisted of eight members. This committee met for six months, analyzed available data, walked and assessed needed trail improvements, and presented those

findings to the Parks and Recreation Commission and City Council.

After approval from City Council, CDF Landscaping performed the trail mitigations in the fall of 2002 on the southern half of the main loop trail. A few of the highlights of Phase One improvements included the removal of the boardwalk near the 10th Street entrance, definition of the Corbin Beach Trail, the replacement of deteriorating retaining walls and creating a softer grade to the 10<sup>th</sup> Street trailhead. The committee reconvened in 2003 and began Phase Two of trail improvements.

The highlights of this phase include the replacement of retaining walls near the swinging bridge, amendments to the swinging bridge and surrounding trail and the realignment of the trail to minimize erosion near the old logging skid trail.

The community has been very supportive of our efforts to maintain the integrity of Tubbs Hill.

## Thank You!

Thank you to the following generous advertisers who paid for the printing of the Tubbs Hill brochures and maps: Quicksilver Studios, Action Printers, Specialty Tree Services, Dockside Restaurant, Lakeshore Realty, Johannes & Co. Jewelers, Tubbs Hill Foundation, Personal Training Center, Runge Furniture, Baragar Bed and Breakfast, First Bank, CDF Landscape, Robert Singletary.

## 2004 Tubbs Hill Board of Directors

Teresa Runge, President, 765-1739; Mark Weadick, VP, 765-5628; Evalyn Adams, Treasurer, 765-5535; Bill Greenwood, Staff/Secretary; Doug Eastwood, Staff; Mark Wallace, Legal Council; Ron Edinger, Council Liason; Chuck Hosak; Ken Roberge; Nils Rosdahl; Bob Eagan; Pam Masters; Brian Stevens.

## President Teresa Runge

by Laura Umthun

Her passion becomes evident as soon as she starts talking about one of the loves in her life—Tubbs Hill.

As the newly elected volunteer president of the Tubbs Hills, Inc., Teresa Runge's goals seem simple enough.

Her first goal is to increase community awareness that Tubbs Hill is available for public use.

"You do not have to be a hiker to enjoy the abundance of tranquil, breathtaking scenery and viewpoints," Runge says.

"Tubbs Hill is dedicated to the citizens of Coeur d'Alene. I encourage everyone to use and enjoy its magnificent splendor."

Her second goal is to increase support for the non-profit foundation whose mission provides for the preservation of the aesthetic qualities of Tubbs Hill.

"All contributions are gratefully accepted," Runge says with a warm smile. Donations are tax-deductible as permitted by federal law for non-profit foundations.



Teresa Runge and daughters.

Donations to the foundation can be made by mailing checks to Tubbs Hill, Inc., P.O. Box 3061, Coeur d'Alene, ID, 83816-3061.

## For Those Whose Steps Come After Ours . . .

17 April 2004

Dear Tubbs Hill Foundation:

When we were walking around Tubbs Hill last weekend, we enjoyed the vistas and recalled the contribution of those before us who helped preserve this little piece of space for posterity. Hope this small check can help maintain the wonder for those whose steps come after ours; sorry that we could not add a couple of extra zeroes. However, if we can be of help in the future hands-on volunteer efforts, please let us know.

George & Juli Ives