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riends of Tubbs Hill * Spring 2014



Viva Carr, 6, explores a downed tree near the East Tubbs Hill Park entrance. She said her favorite thing about Tubbs Hill is “how much nature it has.”

The Treasures of Tubbs Hill

It would be odd if you are reading this and did not already know that Tubbs Hill is full of treasures.



Residents and guests alike continue to be enchanted by the majestic hill that borders Lake Coeur d’Alene. Ask anyone who has explored its many paths what they like most about the hill, and you might find it difficult to receive two identical answers.

Some prefer one of the many spectacular views of Lake Coeur d’Alene and the surrounding countryside, while others may have a favorite boulder, tree,

beach or flowering bush where they purposefully stop to rest and contemplate the beauty of nature while trekking the hill’s circumference or attempting to reach its peak.

Despite the variety of obvious treasures the hill provides, others remain hidden from view. To find them, you need only a smartphone and a sense of adventure.

Story Continues Page 5

Hungry goat herds help keep risk of fire low

There's been quite a spectacle for those fans of Tubbs Hill who have the constitution to walk up the hill and not just around it. A small horde of goats began eating through the undergrowth along the upper trail of the west side of the hill on May 16 and should continue to feast over the next few weeks.

More than 250 horned and/or floppy-eared goats have been brought out to clear out brush that could lead to a catastrophic wildfire.

The goats are contained to one-acre tracts by low-voltage electric fencing. Once the goats have sufficiently reduced shrubs from a tract, they will be moved. In about a three-week period, the goats will reduce brush from 22 acres on the west side of the hill.

The project is funded by a Federal Emergency Management Agency grant obtained by the Coeur d'Alene Fire Department.

LEFT—A number of goats are seen eating vegetation on Tubbs Hill. The city chose to use goats because it costs significantly less to use them as opposed to human laborers.



RIGHT—Local artist Jessica Bryant visited Sorensen Magnet School this past October to help students paint a mural depicting Tubbs Hill. Bryant instructed each class to paint a different layer of the mural adjacent to the playground:

- K—Sky gradient
- 1st Grade—Water gradient
- 2nd Grade— Tree Trunks & Rocks
- 3rd Grade— Native Plants
- 4th Grade— Distant Objects
- 5th Grade— Tree Needles
- 6th Grade— Shadowing



For the times, they are a changin’



Besides the hill’s current infestation of goats mentioned on the previous page, change can be found around and on the hill.

PICTURED LEFT—The hill’s northern neighbor, McEuen Park, has been transformed into a significant cultural and entertainment epicenter. Early signs indicate the hill could experience increased foot traffic with such an expansive amenity adjacent to its entrance. To celebrate its grand opening, the Tubbs Hill Foundation will have a booth set up at McEuen on Parks Day on July 12.

PICTURED BELOW—A Ponderosa pine takes root in a rock located just off the main trail on the south side of the hill. Will trees decide rocks work better than soil? Only time will tell.



LEFT – Tubbs Hill Director Mark Weadick lead a small group of about 25 people on a tour around Tubbs Hill during Coeur d’Alene’s annual “Unplug and Be Outside Week.” In the photo, Weadick tells his young audience how to tell the difference between a Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir cone.

Weadick was pleased to note that trees planted on the east side of the hill that are resistant to root rot have shown signs of improvement and growth.

Weadick also spotted the Ponderosa pine pictured above on the tour.

Tubbs Hill Presentation Available Interested in learning more about Tubbs Hill's geology, flora, history and usage? The Tubbs Hill Foundation has composed a 30-minute PowerPoint presentation highlighting the many virtues of the hill and the organization dedicated to its preservation. Contact George Ives at 667-7888 or George Saylor at 664-2787 for more information.

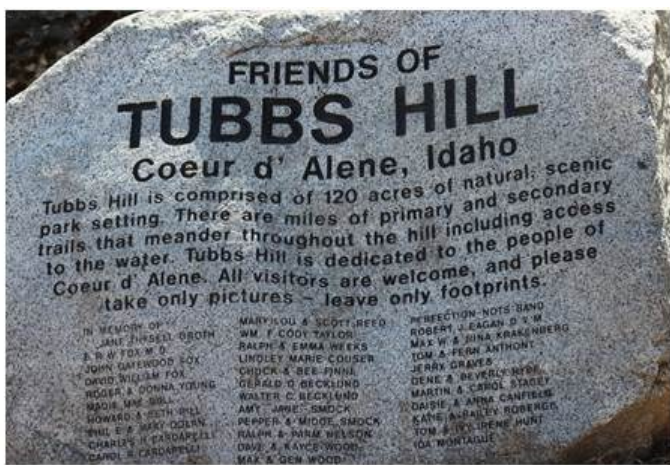
New Trail Expected Late Fall Parks Director and Superintendent Bill Underwood reported to the Tubbs Hill Board of Directors that a grant to provide funding for an accessible trail on the east side of Tubbs Hill had been re-approved after the original deadline had expired. Underwood said work should begin after September but before the snow.

Don't forget your 2014 annual membership.

Mission Statement *Tubbs Hill, Inc. is a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation of Tubbs Hill City Park as a unique and natural lakeshore forest typical of North Idaho while providing for compatible public use. We act as advocates for the park; advise the city administration on issues pertaining to the park; and support volunteer efforts, fund raising, community relations, and other tasks as needed to achieve this goal.*



Friend of Tubbs Hill Picture of the Issue—NIC Music Instructor Terry Jones submitted this wintry look of Tubbs Hill. He said he likes to hike the hill at least once a week. Submit your favorite Tubbs photo to friendsoftubbshill@tubbshill.org.



Tubbs Hill is comprised of 120 acres of publicly owned land, and has an abundance of tranquil, breathtaking scenery and hiking trails. Tubbs Hill is dedicated to the citizens of Coeur d'Alene and everyone is encouraged to use and enjoy its magnificent splendor.

Complete the form below if you would like to join the Tubbs Hill Foundation or engrave a name or company logo on one of the hill's entrance monuments. Company logos cannot exceed 4"x4".

Detach form below and mail with check or money order to: **Tubbs Hill, Inc., PO Box 3061, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83816-3061.**

THANK YOU for your generous support. Your contribution to the Tubbs Hill Foundation is tax-deductible as permitted by federal law for nonprofit foundations.

For more info please contact the City Parks Department at 208-769-2252.

Tubbs Hill Foundation Annual Membership & Engraving Application

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State ____ Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

ENGRAVING OPTIONS

The monuments are located at the Third Street and East Tubbs Hill Park entrances. Designate location preference here:

Third Street Entrance _____ East Tubbs Hill Park _____ Corporate Rock _____

Line engravings cannot exceed 22 letters. Spaces count as one letter. Please note IN MEMORY OF inscriptions may require two lines. Please print the name as you would like it to appear on the monument below:

Option	Cost	Check Here to Order
Individual Membership	\$15	
Family Membership	\$25	
Engraving (see below)	\$150/line of 22	
Company logo	\$500	
TOTAL:		\$

Treasures from Page 1

Geocaching has turned the world into a giant game of hide and seek via GPS technology. Since May 2000, geocachers have been able to hide weatherproof vessels of various sizes around the world and log their exact global position. Such coordinates are posted to the Internet (or smartphone app), which allows other geocachers to search for the object.

More than 2.3 million geocaches have been hidden around the world, in urban and rural areas alike. They are everywhere. If you know where to look, you can even find geocaches in heavily populated areas like Central Park in New York City. Tubbs Hill is no exception.

There are rules, of course, and the Geocachers' Creed lists the most important: the land must be respected and environmental impact minimized. Geocachers are encouraged to pick up any trash they come across in their searches. Geocaches may not be buried in the ground, and it is bad form to place them near schools or government buildings.

Secrecy is paramount when geocaching. In the eyes of a geocacher, there are two types of people: geocachers and muggles, a word borrowed from J.K. Rowling's popular Harry Potter franchise. In this case, muggles are people who are unaware of the existence of geocaches or geocaching in general. Geocachers should not be spotted



Viva Carr holds a geocache she found on Tubbs Hill.

or observed by muggles when searching for caches, so stealthy hunting is a must.

What's treasure without booty? Larger geocaches often contain small trinkets and toys available for trade, which delights the younger geocachers. Certain items can be designated as a "trackable;" these are assigned a unique number so their travel history can be reviewed over the Internet.

All geocaches contain a log, so that anyone who finds the

cache can commemorate their find by signing and dating it. A pen or pencil is a must when geocaching.

Some geocaches provide wonderful learning opportunities. For instance, the geocache "Fort Sherman" provides walking coordinates for a historical and geological tour of Coeur d'Alene, while "A Math Review" requires the searcher to answer a variety of algebra and geometry questions to ascertain the coordinates for the cache.

The next time you visit Tubbs, try finding a new treasure.

What do you think about the newsletter? Want it online?

Geoff Carr has taken over for Evalyn Adams in producing our biannual newsletter. Thank you Evalyn for all your hard work and guidance.

Please complete a brief survey to help provide your feedback on the future of the newsletter. Complete the survey at <http://svy.mk/1k3GNsm>

Hats & Visors Available

Tubbs Hill hats and visors are available for purchase. Hats cost \$12, visors \$7. Call Barbara Fillmore at 666-6050.



Our Sincere Thanks To Our Recent Contributors

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New Members Welcome

Please join us for our monthly meeting held the second Thursday of each month at 8 a.m. at the Iron Horse Restaurant, downtown Coeur d'Alene.

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