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## Livestock and Our Rural Character

Alexandra Castro has grown up around farm animals on her third generation family farm on the crest of Hollywood Hill, and she got her own cow at age 11. As part of her involvement with the Wranglers 4-H Club, she has participated in the raising and preparing of her Angus/Limousin heifer, Midnight, who is now 1 1/2 years old.

In her first year, Mz Castro and Midnight have made quite an impression on the judges at numerous fairs around the region. At the Silvana Community Fair, the Stanwood Fair and the Evergreen State Fair, they consistently won first place in fitting and showing, even getting Alexandra a Gold and Silver belt buckle for Championship Fitting and Showing as a novice at the Evergreen Fair. Midnight also consistently won first place for her type of cattle breed confirmation (body shape) as a Limousin/Angus beef animal.

In order to show an animal, it must first be tamed. This starts when it is young and involves lots of close contact and attention by the trainer. Midnight has become comfortable with a halter around her neck and temporary nose rings for vaccinations and other special occasions (only bulls get permanent nose rings.) She also gets posture training: getting her belly

rubbed by a stick to learn to keep her back straight.

Though Midnight is currently enjoying a thick winter coat, that will all change as the show season approaches this summer. She'll get a short haircut and pedicure as well as lots of brushing and cleaning for the show.

Midnight currently shares the 10 acre farm with a young



steer, a cow with one in the oven, a horse, a flock of guinea fowl and chickens. (The Gladstone Farm has had up to 12 head of livestock at one time.) The guinea fowl make great watch-dogs, as we witnessed when they erupted into a raucous chorus of loud cackles. Looking around, we spotted the source of their attention: a large red-tailed hawk circling above. They give similar welcomes to the frequently visiting owls and coyotes, who are rarely successful at having yard-bird for dinner.

As a 7th grader at Leota Jr. High, Alexandra plans to be an engineer and continue to run the family farm after school. In addition to her 4-H activities, she is involved in Girl Scouts Troop 1044 and plays the clarinet.

### Keep Your Septic System Working

The maintenance of your septic system is an important factor in continuing the lifestyle that you enjoy in our area. The recommended time frame for having your septic tank pumped is every 3 to 5 years. Heavy use of the system requires that the tank be pumped more often than does use by a one or two person household. If you do not know the location of your septic system, most particularly the opening of the tank, you should be able to obtain the information from the King County Office of Environmental Health at (206) 296-4932. Association members have access year round to a reduced rate of \$30 off the regular price offered by Pete Couty who owns Alberta Septic Systems. Additional charges will be made for locating a tank, unearthing the cover, repairs, etc. Mr. Couty is licensed and is qualified not only to pump your tank and make repairs but also to install a new system. Call Karen Mackie, board member, at 483-0889 if you have questions or would like assistance in contacting Pete.

## ...from the President

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead

It has been said that the only thing that remains the same is change. This universal truth certainly applies to us, as evidenced by the variety of issues undertaken by the HHA and the many neighbors who have contributed their energies to this community-based organization over the past 25 years. While the list is long, there are a few who stand out as having had exceptional influence over the character of our community that we currently enjoy.

At the end of this past year, we had one such individual hang up his hat as a board member. After 12 years of service to our community, he certainly deserves a break. Many on the hill know Steve Gallagher, and many others have heard of him. By lending his considerable intellect and powers of critical analysis to the issues in which we are often involved. Steve has been a cornerstone of the HHA.

As with anyone who takes strong stands on complex issues, Steve has had his share of detractors. But, if such critics are honest, they will tell you that their most unpleasant experience with Steve has been when arguing a point against him. They usually lost the debate. That's because Steve wouldn't take a stand until he had thoroughly researched and considered a topic. It has been just such focus, thoroughness and, above all, integrity that has made Steve so effective over the years.

As with trees and aircraft wings, our strongest structures and people have the ability to flex and accommodate changes in the wind. Steve had this trait. For instance, ten years ago, when the City of Woodinville was incorporating, Hollywood Hill was targeted for inclusion within the City limits. At first, many folks considered this to be a good thing: Local Control at last! But, as the details became known, it was discovered that being within any city boundary would have required Hollywood Hill to accept Urban housing density. This would have spelled the end of our community's rural character.

That concept of Local Control didn't die easily. In the face of an acrimonious debate, Steve was one who stood his ground, faced the often unfair criticisms and went on to be one of the leaders of the successful campaign to keep us out of the city and maintain our Rural designation.

There are other issues, big and small, in which Steve was influential. And, of course, there are other people who have made exceptional contributions. The strength of the HHA has never come from any one person, but, rather from the synergy that results from group efforts. While competent leadership is always important, the efforts of the HHA would have been (and will be) for naught if it weren't for the teamwork of its board members and the support of an informed general community.

However, this is Steve's moment. To him I offer my heart-felt thanks for the considerable time and energy that he has poured into this community.

The unique character of our neighborhood didn't happen by mistake, nor will it stay so without our continued vigilance. In order to maintain our community's atmosphere, it is essential that we stay informed and involved. Involvement may take many forms. An individual claiming to be from the Hill recently wrote a couple of letters to the editor of a local paper in which he was critical of the Hill and the litter along our roads. Yet, this person was nowhere to be seen during our neighborhood clean-up days. In less time than it took to write those cvnical outbursts, that person could have taken a bag, picked up some litter and been part of a solution. What a contrast his actions are to those who take life in hand by doing something concrete and positive.

Something as simple as taking a few minutes to pick up some litter is just one of the many small things that, when multiplied by many hands, make a huge difference in a community. There are many other ways to contribute to any community. Hollywood Hill is a special place, something most of us recognized when we chose to live here. While there are many elements that contribute to this, the long-term involvement in and support of the HHA by the residents of the Hill has certainly been a unique and decisive factor. We are doing well and leaving a legacy that we can be proud of. Let's keep up the good work.

- Mike Tanksleu

#### Hollywood Hill Saddle Club A unique amenity in our 'Neigh'borhood.

The Hollywood Hill Saddle Club just completed its 25th year of service to the community; providing and maintaining a site for equestrian and community activities on Hollywood Hill. Few communities are fortunate enough to have such a crown jewel in their midst. HHSC is a non-profit organization with the expressed purpose of maintaining the site above the Hollywood Hill Elementary School for equestrian activities (open to the public year round). Because of its rural nature, it is also a site for walkers, hikers, and dog owners. We celebrate its varied use and encourage the public to enjoy its serenity free of charge. The Hollywood Hill Saddle Club Arena site contributes to the rural flavor that is so precious to all of us. Our first activity of the year will be our annual Community Easter Egg Hunt held on Saturday March 30th, the day before Easter. It is a fun and growing event for children and adults throughout our community. It begins at 10:00am and is over very quickly as kids scurry to find eggs hidden throughout the grounds. The kids are separated into age groups so that their hunt site can be appropriate to their ages. No one goes home without an egg. Hidden amongst the grounds are golden eggs with special treats inside. Kids need to bring baskets or bags in which to collect their eggs and a big smile! Our first fundraising events will begin in April with a Hunter Show on April 27th, a Game Show on April 28th and a Performance Horse Show on May 11th. The public is welcome to come and watch free of charge. Any questions regarding HHSC may be referred to Lynn Burch 425-481-8376.

### Your Association

The Hollywood Hill Association is a private, state nonprofit corporation, formally chartered in 1976. We are an all volunteer, community based organization, dedicated to the preservation of our community character. Our primary goals are the preservation of Hollywood Hill's rural designation and the preservation of the agricultural lands of the rural Sammamish Valley. We are widely recognized by both government officials and development interests as an influential and determined organization. Our many successes have been due, in large part, to dedicated volunteers, and to the support of our many members. We encourage you to become actively involved in the Association by joining one of our standing committees. Please contact any Board member for more information.

> President Vice President

Mike Tanksley: 483-2529

Secretary Treasurer Directors

Tricia Callahan: 488-6863 Bethann Martin: 402-4783 Karen Mackie: 483-0889 Marsha Martin: 883-8561 Torrey Russell: 483-6531 Lincoln Potter: 481-8382

**Committee Chairs** 

Government: Marsha Martin Membership: Steve Gallagher **Environment: Mike Tanksley** 

**Events:** 

Newsletter: Karen Mackie Roads: Tricia Callahan Trails: Susan Cyr: 487-2908 www.hollywoodhillassoc.org

Website

The HHA is managed by a 9-member Board of Directors. Elections are held by mail each autumn at the time of the HHA annual membership meeting. The existing Board selects candidates from those volunteers who have demonstrated a willingness to actively contribute to the HHA and who support its goals. Board meetings are scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of each month at the homes of Board members. The Board welcomes HHA members who wish to attend these meetings as long as prior arrangement has been made. Because these are business meetings, space availability and legal issues may require closed meetings from time to time. Contact any Board member if you are interested in attending.

# Hollywood Hill Association Goals

Even though the Hollywood Hill Association has not changed its policies in the last decade, the HHA publishes an annual policy statement in the first newsletter of each year. We invite all residents of the Hill to provide feedback regarding these policies, although we do not expect that every resident will necessarily agree with goals of the HHA. The Board of Directors has tried to make sure that all policies are consistent with views that members have expressed in the past at various public meetings and in some of our opinion surveys. The Board will continue to review and modify these policies as situations change, and will endeavor to ensure that all actions taken are consistent with these policies. What does the Hollywood Hill Association stand for? EUR Preservation of our rural character; EUR Ensuring that Government listens to our community; EUR Supporting growth in a manner that maintains our quality of life. Most of those who live on Hollywood Hill came and stayed here because of the relatively unique character of our community. For many, this 'rural residential' character is what protects our quality of life. The fact that Hollywood Hill has maintained this rural character is not an accident. It exists because so many of the residents of the Hill have been willing to work to protect it. Since it was incorporated in 1976, the Hollywood Hill Association has led the fight to protect the community. This has been accomplished largely by understanding and using the governmental processes that plan for and control development in our area. The HHA has been successful because we can demonstrate the strong support we have in our community. The overriding goal of the Hollywood Hill Association is to 'Preserve and enhance the quality of life on Hollywood Hill.' To achieve that goal, the HHA has 3 primary objectives: 1. Advocate the preservation of the rural character of Hollywood Hill. 2. Advocate the preservation of the rural and agricultural character of the Sammamish Valley. 3. Advocate the development of the Northshore region of King County in a manner that contributes to the quality of life for area residents. Under each objective is a set of strategies designed to help the Association achieve the objectives.

OVERRIDING GOAL OF THE HOLLYWOOD HILL ASSOCIATION:

#### Preserve and enhance the quality of life on Hollywood Hill.

OBJECTIVES TO ACHIEVE GOAL:

#### Objective 1

Advocate the preservation of the rural character of Hollywood Hill

#### Objective 2

Advocate the preservation of the rural and agricultural character of the Sammamish Valley

#### Objective 3

Advocate the development of the Northshore region of King County in a manner that contributes to the quality of life for area residents.

#### STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES:

The first strategy is to preserve and protect the rural character of Hollywood Hill by identifying and promoting those elements of our community that define its character

This includes protection of our environment, rural zoning, ownership of livestock, rural roads serving only our community, and the development of pedestrian and equestrian pathways. The second strategy is to keep residents informed as to issues that affect the rural character of Hollywood Hill. The most powerful asset we have in dealing with area government is an informed citizenry that will speak out to let government officials know that we are watching their actions. The third and fourth strategies involve advocating our interests to King County government and to the City of Woodinville. In both cases, our tasks are to monitor the activities of these governmental bodies and to participate in hearings and planning processes. With King County, our efforts will center around encouraging the County to maintain our rural designation. With the City of Woodinville, our efforts are concentrated on opposing the efforts of the City Council to persuade the County to give the Hill an urban designation and to oppose the City's efforts to annex sections of the Hill. The fifth strategy calls for the development of projects that serve to enhance our community, such as the regular roadside litter cleanup and the development of the neighborhood pathway system

The Hollywood Hill Association has long had a strong interest in the protection and preservation of the Sammamish Valley as an agricultural resource.

The Association sees four strategies to achieve this objective. First, to act as an advocate to King County for the preservation of the Sammamish Valley. Second, to act as an advocate with the City of Woodinville and opposing any effort by the City of Woodinville to annex the Valley or include it in their urban growth area. Third, to encourage Hollywood Hill residents to patronize the agricultural services of the Sammamish Valley. Fourth, to protect the environmental quality of the Sammamish Valley, as well as the Sammamish River and the streams that feed it. While the HHA has not taken an active role in regional planning in the past, the new State Growth Management Act places such an emphasis on regional planning that we can no longer confine our involvement only to our own community.

The first and second strategies for dealing with regional development again involve acting as an advocate with King County and the City of Woodinville to make sure the views of our community are heard. The third strategy calls for developing a working relationship with other rural communities and organizations so that we might combine our efforts in dealing with County and local governments.

#### CHECK YOUR LABEL -- ARE YOUR DUES PAID UP?

ADDRESS Соврестіон Requested

Hollywood Hill Association P.O. Box 404 Woodinville, WA 98072

# Spring Clean-up

Spring is just around the corner. So in the spirit of spring cleaning, we have scheduled our first clean up for Saturday, April 27th.

To participate, stop by the Hollywood Hill Saddle Club, just east of the elementary school, between 9 am and 11 am, to pick a section of road. Plastic bags and safety equipment will be available. All Adopt-A-Road trash should be returned to the Saddle Club area by the end of the weekend in time to be removed by the County. If it is raining or if you can't participate that morning, drop by to pick up trash bags. Clean up may continue through the weekend. For alternative arrangements, call Mary VandenBerg at 402-1216. She will have bags available for pickup.

Our last clean up day in October was rainy and cold, but we had several dedicated neighbors including, Jan Hunt, Jeff Page, Linda Meredith, Steve Lind, Mayomi Terao, Lincoln Potter, Mary, Mitch and Bryce VandenBerg. We have also noticed the independent

efforts of neighbors unknown who have picked up between the regular clean-ups. Thanks for volunteering your time and energy.

