

The YELLOWSTONE



News

February 25, 1994

Next Deadline: March 8

Yellowstone in the Spotlight

O Pictures production company was in the park earlier this month making a commercial for Reebok athletic shoes. The spot features numerous big name athletes. Look for Arturo Barrios, former world 10km record holder, running across Norris Geyser Basin boardwalks when the commercial airs this spring.

Condolences

Iven Clary, father of Voyageurs Superintendent Ben Clary, passed away on January 19. Condolences may be sent to Zoe Clary, RR1 Box 680, Lubbock, Texas, or to Ben Clary, 321 Shorewood Drive, International Falls, Minnesota 56649.

Indian Creek Campground Host, Robert R. Perry, passed away recently. Condolences may be sent to his family at 244 Roberts Avenue, Horsham, Pennsylvania 19044.

Career Opportunity

Have you always wanted to be a writer? Want a new skill to include in your SF-171? *The Yellowstone News* is looking for correspondents from each area of the park's interior to write short columns (bi-weekly or monthly) on what's going on in your area. Interested?? Call Elizabeth at 344-2012.

QUOTE, UNQUOTE

Speak the truth, but leave immediately after.
-Slovenian proverb-

Personnel News

By Vanessa Ford, Personnel Staffing Specialist

Employment Freeze Now In Effect

On Friday, February 18, 1994, we received the following memo through the electronic mail system informing us of a hiring freeze effective February 17, 1994. If you have any question regarding the freeze please contact the Personnel Office, Vanessa Ford, 344-2044.

To: Directorate and Field Directorate
From: Director Kennedy
Subject: Employment Freeze

The National Park Service is reorganizing to strengthen itself, to make itself more responsive to the people it serves and to become more efficient in providing that service. Pending issuance of an implementation plan for Streamlining/Strengthening the National Park Service, and effective immediately, I am implementing an agency-wide employment freeze. The filling of all permanent positions at WASO, regional offices, Harpers Ferry Center and Denver Service Center, and of all permanent positions at the GS-9 and above in field areas is suspended until further notice.

The following are excepted from the freeze if the positions are established and funded:

- 1. Superintendent positions. (The Leadership Selection Process outlined in the Deputy Director's September 7, 1993, memorandum remains in effect.)*
- 2. Seasonal, temporary and term positions.*
- 3. Non-supervisory Federal Wage System (WG) positions (In keeping with efforts to reduce the supervisory ratio from 1:7 to 1:15, WS and WL positions are frozen.)*
- 4. Positions for which firm offers have been made to prospective employees prior to the date of this memorandum.*
- 5. Same grade reassignments and changes to a lower grade from WASO, regional offices, Harpers Ferry Center and Denver Service Center to field offices (Reassignments and changes to a lower grade to central offices from the field are frozen.)*
- 6. Promotions for employees in employee developmental and upward mobility positions, regularly scheduled promotions in multi-grade, career ladder positions and promotions due to accretion of duties are not affected.*

Criteria for granting exceptions:

Regional directors, center managers and, for WASO, the Deputy Director, may grant exceptions to the freeze if one of the following criteria is met:

- 1. Filling of the position is critical to the mission of the Service and an alternative method to accomplish the critical task is not feasible.*
- 2. Filling of the position is consistent with the Streamlining/Strengthening objectives of the Service.*
- 3. Filling the position is in response to employee hardship.*

See Freeze next page

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Seasonal Hiring for 1994

We've been getting a lot of questions about the seasonal hiring process for the upcoming summer. Here's a recap of the way it will work for this year.....as of today, anyway!!!!

Washington Process: If you are applying for the seasonal Park Ranger program through the Washington Process, we will be using the WASO certificates the same way we have in the past. Appointments made from those certificates will have an appointment limitation Not-to-Exceed 180 working days.

The selection process will continue as before by using the "score block" selection method. That means that candidates in the score block 95-100+ will be considered first. As always, supervisors can never pass over a veteran to select a non-veteran. The score blocks are as follows: 95-100+; 90-94.99; 85-89.99; 80-84.99; 75-79.99; 70-74.99.

Rehires: If you obtained a rehire evaluation as a Park Ranger at any time in Yellowstone, you are eligible for rehire into a like position. If you obtained a rehire evaluation as a Laborer in Yellowstone in 1993, you are eligible this year to be non-competitively rehired as a Laborer in Yellowstone. This is how the seasonal rehire has worked in the past, and will not change for 1994.

For Your Health

A message from the Safety Office

Have A Good Safety Attitude

- ☛ Take responsibility, even when "it's not my job."
- ☛ Concentrate on the present task.
- ☛ Take the time to do the job right.
- ☛ Make your own decision to have a good attitude.

Exceptions to the freeze must take into consideration the professionalization efforts currently underway in the natural and cultural resource areas.

This is also a reminder that, notwithstanding this memorandum, as of January 26, any administrative position to be permanently filled through promotion, appointment or reassignment must be approved by the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks and all GS-14/15 level positions continue to require Departmental approval before filling.

As we go through this streamlining process, I reaffirm my commitment to avoid RIF's and want us to work together to ensure the least possible impact on our employees. I expect supervisors and managers to, wherever possible, fill positions that are excepted from the freeze with employees that may be dislocated from WASO, regional office and Harpers Ferry or Denver Service Centers. The WASO Division of Personnel is developing a central referral process to aid in the out-placement of affected employees to field positions. If you have a position which will be filled as an exception to the freeze approved by the Regional Director, Center Manager or Deputy Director before the development of this outplacement process please contact Mario Fraire at (202)208-5093 or Mary Martin at (202)208-4577.

Clerical Register Continuously Open

The National Park Service has opened on a continuous basis the Clerical Register for seasonal and permanent positions. This means that if you have taken the Office of Personnel Management Clerical Test and have a current Notice of Rating (NOR) from that office, you may submit your NOR and an up-to-date SF-171, to the Yellowstone Personnel Office for inclusion on the Yellowstone Clerical Register. If you have any questions regarding this process please feel free to give us a call at (307)344-2044. The Yellowstone Personnel Office historically gives the Clerical Test sometime during the month of March. Stay tuned for the announcement of this year's test date.

Comings and Goings

Congratulations are in order for park employees who have accepted permanent appointments, and welcome to those employees new to the Yellowstone family. We look forward to working with all of you and appreciate the skills you bring with you!

Thomas McKenna has come to us as a Civil Engineer, effective January 23, from the Denver Service Center.

Bonnie Peterson was promoted to Utility Systems Operator, on January 23.

During the month of February, these park employees were promoted to permanent positions.

Douglas Bundren
Rodney Hart
Buck Mace
Wally Wines
Douglas Coy
Jane Cunningham
Stacey Love

Forestry Technician
Utility Systems Operator
Engineering Equipment Operator
Animal Packer
Maintenance Worker
Maintenance Worker
SD Ranger Dist. Clerk (Job share)

GEHA Rep to Visit Yellowstone

Watch your park mailbox for information regarding the GEHA representative who will be coming to the park on April 1st (no joke!) to answer all your GEHA insurance questions.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

✓ Child Find Clinic

The Park County Cooperative will hold it's annual Child Find Clinic to identify children that may have learning or physical disabilities. This is not a kindergarten screening program. This free screening for children ages 0-5 will be provided by qualified professionals on Wednesday, March 30 from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Thursday, March 31 from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Lincoln School in Livingston (corner of Lewis and B Streets). Children from Mammoth are welcome to attend. For more information and to schedule appointments call 406-222-6600.

✓ Vet Visit

Livingston veterinarian, Dr. James O. Murray, will be at the Gardiner Exxon on Friday, March 4, from approximately 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. No appointment necessary. Housecalls available upon request. Next visit: March 18.

✓ Geneology Class Offered

Al Huntsman is coming back again to help us learn more about how to "dig up our roots". There will be a question and answer "help" period, so bring your problems. Saturday, March 5, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Loretta Chapman's in Gardiner. Bring a sack lunch. For more information and/or to register call 848-7794.

✓ Host Families Needed

AYUSA (Academic Year in the USA) is looking for host families for semester and academic year students. Please contact Dayna McClure, evenings at 848-7291.

✓ Woodwind Quintet Concert

The Bozeman Symphony presents a Woodwind Quintet concert at the Mammoth School on Tuesday, March 8, at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited and admission is free.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale:

1991 Kit Monterey RV Trailer, 20ft, self-contained, sleeps 7, awning, microwave, AM/FM cassette stereo, and more, like new. Call 848-7328.

For Sale:

1990 Skidoo Mach I, long track, 583cc, 1400 miles, excellent condition, new track & windshield, with cover, \$2700. Call 344-2031 days, or 848-7798.

For Sale:

Treadmill w/variable speed and incline, rowing machine, and weight bench w/2 sets weights. Call Susan 344-2101 days, or 344-7927 evenings.

For Sale:

RCA 19" color television, \$150 OBO. Call 848-7244 after 3 p.m.

Swim Program Volunteers Wanted:

Gardiner Elementary School is looking for volunteers willing to help one or two afternoons a week with the Swim Program (March 28- April 28). Please contact Margaret Kemner at the school, 848-7563.

For Sale:

Yakima tower base rack, \$50. See list of cars rack fits posted in ADP window or call Roger at 344-2063.

For Sale:

Hunter ceiling fan, (4) 24" blades, \$50. Call 848-7910 evenings, 344-2144 days.

Housesitter Wanted:

Reliable person(s) needed to housesit from April 1-10. Excellent accomodations. Black lab and hot tub thrown in as added incentive. If interested call 344-7447.

Soccer Carpool Wanted:

Looking for Mammoth/Gardiner family with 13 year old interested in playing competitive soccer in Livingston 2 times/week. Would like to set up carpool. Call 344-9272.

For Sale:

King-size waterbed w/bookcase headboard and six underdrawers, \$150 OBO. Call 344-7935.

Moving Sale:

Thursday, March 3, 5:00p.m., Building 70 #F, Mammoth: ironing board & iron, tabletop humidifiers, electric heater, 8' oval rug pad, 35mm camera and lens, vaccuum cleaner, fishing poles, picture frames, Corning Visions pots & pans, dishes (8 matching place settings), double-size mattress/boxspring/frame, and other assorted stuff. Free: VCR movies, men's R&R uniform pieces. Call 344-9242 for more information.

LITTLE PEOPLE'S LEARNING CENTER NEWS

Thank you to Ginny Cowan for all her time and effort in kicking off the Parent Resource Center's first program with: "Building Your Child's Self-Esteem".

Thank you to past Board members Deb Olig and Deb Demaree for all their time and energy.

Board Elections...As of January 1994 the Board consists of Janet Lewis (chair), Barbara Bush (Personnel Director), Mary Hektner (Secretary), Joy Perius (Treasurer), Chris Bray (Fundraiser), Pat Coleman (Health Advisor), and Tracy Bergum (Center Director).

Vacancies...The Center presently has several available slots in all our program areas (Infant, Toddler, Pre-school, and after-school).

Other...Little People's would like to adopt a grandparent. Do you know anyone who would like to spend a couple hours a week with the kids and share their experiences? Please direct inquiries to Tracey at 344-7785 between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.