



(509) 763-3836

PLAIN TALK

WHAT'S HAPPENING

PUMPKINS ARRIVE OCTOBER 1ST

Pumpkins of all shapes and sizes for fall decorating and carving will arrive October 1st from Zimbleman's Farm in Quincy, Washington. We'll also have decorative squash, Indian corn and mini pumpkins as well. Come early for the best selection!



JUST PLAIN FUN RUN

3.5 Mile Trail Run and Family Walk
Sunday, October 16 at 10 am sharp

Day of race registration only
 from 9 to 9:30 am

Run/Walk begins and ends at Plain Hardware
 18636 Beaver Valley Road, Plain
 Post race prize drawings and party.
 \$5 donation per individual or family appreciated. All proceeds to benefit the Beaver Valley School.

Sponsored by Plain Hardware.
 Please call Plain Hardware at 509-763-3836 for more information.

KID'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

Lake Wenatchee Recreation Club
 14400 Chiwawa Loop Road
Saturday, October 29th
from 7 pm - 8:30 pm

For children age 12 and under. Children must be accompanied by a parent.
 Free admission.
 Sponsored by the Lake Wenatchee Recreation Club.

**PLAIN
 HARDWARE**

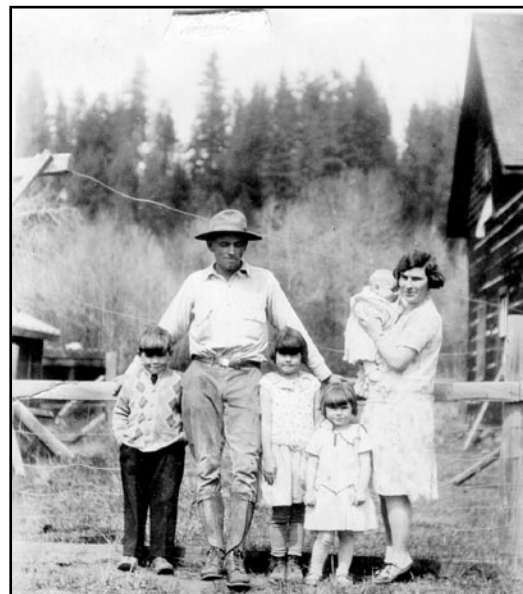
**Open Sundays
 9am to 3pm**

A Plain Pioneer—The Story of W.W. Burgess

Four years ago, I was lucky enough to get to spend a couple of hours with one of our local history buffs, Byron Newell. He is interesting, funny and full of fascinating stories about the early life here in the Plain valley. He also just happens to be the great grandson of W.W. Burgess, one of the very first pioneers of the area. In the fall 2001 Plain Talk Newsletter I wrote about W.W. Burgess and how he came to settle in our beautiful little valley now known as Plain, Washington. The following is a reprint of this story...

In 1892 when W.W. Burgess was in his early 20's, the Plain valley was a forested, primitive land that had not seen many Europeans. When W.W. Burgess came to Leavenworth he heard about cheap land in the Plain area, checked it out and purchased a homestead in the Plain valley. This homestead was located next to the big

Continued on page 6



Life in Plain circa the early 1930's - Left to right: Bill Burgess, W.O. Burgess (W.W. Burgess's son), Betty Burgess Newell, Carol Burgess Adamson, Barbara Macpherson and Trinna Burgess in Plain.



COME JOIN US FOR A GREAT CUP OF COFFEE FROM OUR ESPRESSO BAR!

Front row left to right: Katie Whitten, Gwen Whitten, Rob Whitten and Jake Whitten.
Back row left to right: Jackie Frazier, Jerry Franklin, Jody Allen, Joan Foote, Paul Rawlins and Jake Allen. **Not pictured:** Teresa Gonder, Caren Karnofski, Mary Espe, Sarah Butler, Kelly McDaniels, Kim Wiley, Lori Jones and James Walker.

I get a lot of positive feedback from our customers about Plain Hardware. They always seem to give me full credit for everything. I say thank you, but always quietly chuckle to myself. That's because I personally have so little to do with the things that usually get complimented. It's really the people who work at Plain Hardware and my wife that make it such a great store. I don't pick out the giftware that we sell. I don't buy the hardware every week to keep the shelves stocked. I don't make the espresso drinks while answering the phone and juggling two customers. I don't order the lumber, and keep the price books up to date. I don't open the hundreds of boxes of product that flow into the back of our store every week, nor do I put that product out on the shelves.

In the next couple of Plain Talk Newsletters, I'd like to tell you about the outstanding employees at Plain Hardware who actually do all the work that make Plain Hardware what it is today. To begin, I'll start with a few of the "old timers..."

CAREN KARNOFSKI

was one of the first employees we hired, way back in 1998, when things were much slower. She is responsible for the ordering, pricing, and stocking of all the hardware, plumbing, electrical, and automotive (and a few other categories). And on top of that, she assists Gwen with giftware, helps run the front counter, AND makes espresso drinks. The sheer volume of work that she completes every week is beyond my comprehension. She is invaluable to us. Not to mention she keeps her work area neat as a pin!



TERESA GONDER

was hired on in 1999 and has done a little bit of everything. She initially helped at the front counter, organized our offices, and helped me out with lumber bids. She is now our store manager, runs the contractor sales department, is the purchasing manager for the lumber yard, pumps propane, makes espresso, and now I help her with lumber bids! Wow! There must be two of her working here!



JODY ALLEN

joined the team in 2000. Luckily, Y2K didn't bring the world to a halt! Jody is the one who routinely juggles making the espresso drinks while answering the phone and helping two lumber customers, all at the same time. She takes multitasking to a new level – one that a mere male such as myself could never really comprehend, let alone master. And she does this all with a friendly smile.



Last but not least, my wife **GWEN** is responsible for the "look and feel" of the front part of Plain Hardware. She is the giftware and apparel buyer, and does the majority of the display work. With no formal training in retail or fashion (but with a woman's innate ability to shop endlessly – almost as if it were as important as watching football on Sunday), she has taken a product line that didn't exist at our store when we bought it eight years ago, and turned it into the leading product category. She was the most difficult of any new "hire". It took me over two months to convince her that she really wanted to work at a hardware store. But her hard work, creative display skills, and perky enthusiasm have really made a great impact, and it gives our store a unique flavor.



My hat is off to these four great women who along with all our other outstanding employees really are the ones responsible for making Plain Hardware such a great place to work and shop.

Need to hide a key?

This handy hint was inspired by the true life story of Nona, one of Gwen's college room-mates...



Rob's Handy Hints

Late one evening, Nona arrived alone at her brother's cabin here in Plain. Not having a key, she gets out her flashlight and trudges around the back of the cabin in search of the hidden key (we all have one!). The neighbors see this, and suspecting a probable prowler (she does look like trouble), call 911. After Nona finds the key and let's herself in, she settles down in front of the fire for a peaceful evening. Unfortunately, it's interrupted by a deputy banging on the front door, demanding to know who is in the cabin.

Nona's brother could have installed a Master Lock® locking key storage box right next to the front door, and saved Nona from lots of embarrassment. These heavy duty key boxes attach securely to the wall, and have a four digit combination lock that opens the compartment that stores your key. No more scrounging around for that hidden key. They install in minutes, are very secure, and you can easily set the combination to any number you want. It is also a great way to make a key available to your plumber or repairman who might be up to work on you cabin while you are away (you can change the combination as many times as you want).

We're due for a big winter ...

So consider putting in a snow melt slab or walkway from your driveway to your front door. Your walk will remain free of snow and ice all winter long. A snow melt slab has heating elements or tubes imbedded in the concrete that heat it to just above freezing. When the snow falls, it instantly melts, and never gets a chance to build up. If you are gone all week and can't stay on top of the shoveling, this will save your bacon. It's also great for steep driveways that can turn into a solid sheet of ice. Contact us at the store for a contractor referral if you are interested.

Products mentioned in Rob's Handy Hints are available at Plain Hardware.



Like to Bike?

Here are a few route suggestions

ROAD RIDES

Easiest

(Good for beginners, families, and relaxed riding): **White River Road** (Forest Service Road #6400)

Scenic ride along the White River. Approximately 9 miles from the junction with the Little Wenatchee Road to White River Falls. First 6 miles are paved.

Moderate to More Difficult

(Conditions range from moderately graded roads to trails requiring reasonable skill and fitness):

Smithbrook/Rainy Creek Road (Forest Service Road #6700)

Approximately 13 mile ride over scenic Nason Ridge that connects U.S. Hwy. #2 and the Little Wenatchee River valley.

TRAIL RIDES

Easiest

Sea and Ski Loop (Across Road from Chiwawa Loop Road Sno-park)

This mostly flat trail takes you along the Wenatchee River for some distance before looping back through the forest. Approx. 5 miles.

Moderate to More Difficult

Lower Chiwawa Trail (Access trail from Deep Creek Campground on Forest Service Road #6100)

This trail is a single track that winds through the forest with many ups and downs. Approx. 11 miles.

For more bike route suggestions, stop by Plain Hardware and pick up the Lake Wenatchee Ranger District's Guide to Mountain Bike Routes. If you would like to rent a mountain bike call Plain Hardware at 509-763-3836 for rate and bike rental information.

Employee Profile

Jackie Frazier

There is never a dull moment working at Plain Hardware, especially on weekends—lots of people and lots of activity. And with my friend and neighbor Jackie Frazier now working most weekends with us, there are lots of laughs as well. She is friendly, fun and gives a very entertaining interview...



Jackie Frazier was born in Seattle and spent her grade school years living in Kent, Washington. Her parents owned and operated a chicken farm that her grandparents started after moving to Kent from North Dakota in the mid 1900's. She graduated from Lindbergh High School in Renton, Washington in 1987. Three years later she married David Frazier, who she first met at Cascade Meadows Church Camp near Stevens Pass when she was 13. "We liked each other at camp and I was the first girl he ever kissed. I like to say...I was his first and he'll be my last!" laughs Jackie. They hooked up years later and started dating when Jackie was 19. "On our first date, David took me to Lake Washington and sang to me. Right then and there I knew I was a goner! We got married two years later."

While Jackie was attending college (she has a B.A. degree in Human Services from Western Washington University), both she and her husband worked for New Horizons—a service agency that

works with homeless street kids in downtown Seattle. "It was a hard job emotionally because the kid's stories were so tragic and sad. But at the same time we both really enjoyed their passion and energy."

In 1993, Jackie gave birth to her first daughter, Cassidy (age 11) and two years later to her second daughter, Delaney (age 9). Having always discussed adopting a child, and not feeling like their family was complete, Jackie and David decided to adopt a child from an orphanage in Liberia. In 2000, instead of adopting one child, they adopted three brothers, Elijah (age 9), Emmanuel (age 13) and Morris (age 16).

In 2002, the Fraziers visited friends in Plain and after that one visit, Jackie decided Plain was where she wanted to live. Within a year they moved to a home in Alpine Acres. "I have never regretted moving to Plain. I love the natural beauty. I really like the people. And I especially like the freedom my kids have to be kids," says Jackie.

Jackie will complete her teaching certification in January after student teaching last year at Beaver Valley School in Plain. She hopes to eventually obtain a teaching position in the Cascade School District. Her interests include going to dinner parties, cooking, reading, gardening and hanging out with her family. She is also a vegetarian and loves animals - she has two dogs, two cats, a rabbit, two parakeets and wants to get a peacock.

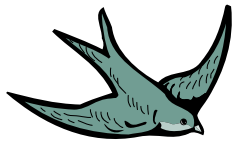
Jackie's main duties at Plain Hardware are assisting with giftware, entertaining me and working the front counter on weekends. She is lively, quick witted and adds a spark to Plain Hardware that lights up the store. If you haven't met Jackie, stop in and say hi.

IS YOUR BUSINESS LISTED IN OUR SERVICE DIRECTORY?

If you've got a business you'd like to promote in the Plain & Lake Wenatchee areas, the Plain Talk Newsletter is a great way to reach your customer. Published three times a year (August, December, April), the Plain Talk Newsletter is bulk mailed to all the mailbox holders (approx. 1000 households) in the following areas—Chumstick Highway, Plain, Ponderosa, Chiwawa Loop Road, Lake Wenatchee and the east side of Stevens Pass. The newsletter is also mailed to approximately 1,200 people who

do not have mailboxes in the areas—the majority of them being local vacation home and property owners. Approximately 750 newsletters are also handed out each quarter to customers who visit Plain Hardware and other local businesses.

For further information or to reserve ad space in our winter issue (published December 1st), please call Gwen Whitten at 509-763-3011. Please note that ad space must be reserved up to a month in advance of the publish date and is first-come first-served.



Bird Viewing in the Fish Lake Area

Considering how much bird seed we sell at Plain Hardware and the fact that my parents are birders, I can only assume that many of you are avid bird watchers. Over 273 bird species have been recorded in the Wenatchee National Forest. An excellent bird watching area right here in our own back yard is Fish Lake. You can access Fish Lake by either Forest Service Road #6107 on the south end, and #6202 on the north end. Access through the Cove Resort off of Chiwawa Loop Road is the best recommendation for visitors who would like to go bird watching for the first time. They offer boat rentals and launching. There is a 150-acre marshy area at the west end of the lake. This marshy "floating bog" is an excellent area for bird watching according to John Soest, a local birdwatcher. The floating bog community is very fragile according to the Lake Wenatchee Forest Service and is susceptible to damage by foot traffic. They ask you to view this area by boat only. Following is a condensed

list of interesting birds that may be seen during different times of the year when visiting the Fish Lake area:

- Common Loon
- Great Blue Heron
- Bufflehead
- Osprey
- Bald Eagle
- Sharp-shinned Hawk
- Red-tailed Hawk
- American Kestrel
- Great Horned Owl
- Barred Owl
- Calliope Hummingbird
- Rufous Hummingbird
- Red-Naped Sapsucker
- Hairy Woodpecker

- Pileated Woodpecker
- Black Capped Chickadee
- Mountain Chickadee
- Red-Breasted Nuthatch
- Yellow Warbler
- Yellow-Rumped Warbler
- Black-Headed Grosbeak
- Evening Grosbeak

How to get to Fish Lake

From junction of US Highway 2 and State Route 207 – Go North on Highway 207 for 5 miles to the Chiwawa Loop Road for access from Forest Service Road #6107 or from the Cover Resort or follow Chiwawa Loop Road for 1-1/2 miles to Meadow Creek Road. Turn left for 2 miles to Forest Service Road #6202. Turn left and drive 2 miles to the gate for walk-in lake access.

KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING ... Woodcutting Information

According to the Wenatchee National Forest Service, a woodcutting permit is required. Permits are available at all Wenatchee Forest Service offices. The minimum firewood permit is \$20 for four cords of wood. The cost for permits over the four-cord minimum is \$5 per cord. Generally, woodcutters may cut "down wood" (wood lying on

the ground) and standing dead trees (except wildlife habitat trees). Be aware that western larch (tamarack) drops its needles and may look dead, but isn't. Remember, it is illegal to cut down green live trees – all wood cut as firewood must be dead. For further information, please contact the Wenatchee National Forest Service at 509-64-9200.



TRASH IT!

Dryden Transfer

Station Hours:

Tuesday — Friday
9:30am to 5pm

Saturday and Monday
8:30am to 4pm

Closed Sundays

For more information,
please call 509-548-5592.

PLAIN HARDWARE Home & Garden

Open Monday through Friday
7:30 am to 5:30 pm

Saturday 8 am to 5:30 pm

Sunday 9 am to 3 pm

Phone: 509-763-3836

Fax: 509-763-2204

18636 Beaver Valley Road • Plain, WA 98826

Plain Talk Newsletter

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E-mail us at plainhardware@hotmail.com

We sell propane!

Historical Highlight

WHITE RIVER VALLEY

White River Road (Forest Service Road #6400) winds along the beautiful White River and takes you into the heart of the White Mountains. The Lake Wenatchee Forest District has put together a 24 mile round trip auto tour that includes five points of interest. The tour begins at the junction of White River Road and Little Wenatchee River Road. If you would like to explore the White River Valley, stop by Plain Hardware or the Lake Wenatchee Ranger Station to pick up an auto tour brochure.



First stop on the White River Valley Auto Tour—A stone and concrete cross beneath a lilac bush mark the final resting place of Eunice Henry, one of the early settlers of the White River Valley. Across the road, a short trail leads to the site of the cabin where she lived until her death in 1913 at the age of 82. The cabin was built by her family beside the original wagon trail that followed the river up the valley.

FISHING



UPDATE

Lake Wenatchee and Fish Lake are open year-round for fishing. To protect steelhead, spring Chinook, and bull trout, many rivers and streams on the Wenatchee River Ranger District are closed, including, but not limited to:

- **Chiwaukum Creek**—closed waters from the mouth to Foolhen Creek
- **Chiwawa River** – closed waters from the mouth to Buck Creek
- **Icicle River**—closed waters from the mouth to National Fish Hatchery
- **Ingalls Creek**—closed waters from the mouth to Alpine Lake Wilderness boundary
- **Little Wenatchee River**—closed waters from the mouth to falls below Forest Service Road #6700
- **Mill Creek**—closed waters
- **Napeequa River**—closed waters from the mouth to Twin Lakes Creek
- **Nason Creek**—closed waters from the mouth to Smithbrook
- **Panther Creek**—closed waters
- **Peshastin Creek**—closed waters from the mouth to Ruby Creek
- **Wenatchee River**—closed waters from the mouth to Lake Wenatchee
- **White River**—closed waters from the mouth to White River Falls

Please refer to the Washington State Sport Fishing Rules pamphlet for complete regulations.

Lodging, Activities and Real Estate Brochure Rack at PLAIN HARDWARE

Plain Hardware has a brochure rack that has lodging, recreation and real estate brochures from local businesses. Plus, we have back issues of the Plain Talk Newsletter as well as hiking and biking trail recommendations and free maps of the area. **STOP IN ANYTIME!**

WOOD PELLETS

In stock September 1st.
40# bag **\$2.94**
1 ton (50 bags) **\$137.50**
Delivery available

GREEN TRAIL MAPS Your Guide to Adventure

First published in 1973, these up-to-date topographic maps are essential for every outdoor enthusiast to plan their hiking or biking adventure. If you are in need of trail ideas or simply directions, come by Plain Hardware and check out our map selection so you can hike, bike and explore to your hearts content.

LIVING WITH THE BLACK BEAR

There have been a lot of bear sightings in the Plain and Lake Wenatchee area this past summer—exciting, but at the same time a little unsettling. For those of you who are unnerved like I am (okay, it is bordering on a phobia!) about the prospect of running into one of our big furry friends, here are some tips on what to do in the unlikely event of a close encounter...

- Stay calm and avoid direct eye contact, which could elicit a charge. Because bears are nearsighted, if one has not caught your scent, it could mistake you for prey. Try to stay upwind and identify yourself as a human by waving your hands above your head and talking.
- Give the bear plenty of room and slowly back away. Black bears can run up to 30mph, so do not run. Running may stimulate a bear's instinct to chase.
- If you cannot safely move away from

the bear and the bear doesn't flee, then try to scare it away by aggressively clapping your hands or yelling. Black bears can climb trees, so fleeing up a tree is not a safe option.

- In the unlikely event a black bear attacks you (meaning he thinks you are prey), fight back aggressively. As a last resort, protect yourself by curling into a ball or lying flat on the ground on your stomach and playing dead. Do not look up or move until you are sure the bear is gone.

Black Bear Facts

SIZE—Adults range from 5 to 6 feet long, and 2 to 3 feet tall at the shoulder

WEIGHT—Adult males average 225 pounds, adult females 130 pounds, and yearlings are typically 60 to 75 pounds.

COLOR—Black bears range in color

from black, brown, cinnamon and reddish-blond.

LIFE SPAN—Black bears may live 20 years or more in the wild and 30 years in captivity.

YOUNG—Females usually give birth to two cubs. Cubs are born during January or February. Newborns weigh less than a pound. Though weaned in August, cubs remain with their mothers for about 15 months.

ABUNDANCE—Approximately 25,000 black bears are estimated to inhabit Washington

These tips and black bear facts were taken from the brochure "Living with Wildlife in Washington—Black Bears" by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. If you would like to read more about black bears you can pick up this brochure at Plain Hardware.

A Plain Pioneer—The Story of W.W. Burgess

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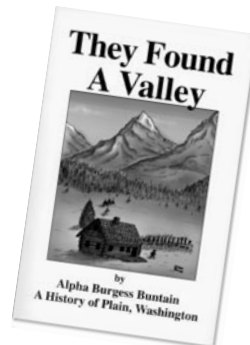
oak tree that sits in the field at the right of the "Y" made by Beaver Valley Road and Chiwawa Loop Road. This homestead had a very primitive house on it that Byron referred to as a "hovel" – not very comfortable I would imagine. After purchasing the homestead, W.W. went to Orcas Island to work in a lumber mill. During his stay on Orcas, he sustained a severe leg injury and his leg was nearly amputated. Rumor has it that W. W. had a pistol under his pillow to shoot the doctor if he tried to cut his leg off! Luckily, W.W. healed with his leg intact. It was on Orcas Island where he met his future bride, a Norwegian immigrant, Elizabeth Gaasland.

He sold his new bride on the idea of the pioneer life and brought her to the Plain valley in a covered wagon. When they got to the top of Beaver Hill, she took one look down into the forested valley and cried. The story is that she was disappointed. It didn't seem to be the paradise that her husband described, but exactly why she cried has been lost to history. The wagon trail down Beaver Hill was so steep that they had to tie a huge log to the back of the wagon to act as a brake so they wouldn't go tumbling down the mountainside.

W.W. and his new wife cleared the forest and created the pasture land that you

now see. They chopped down the trees and used a team of horses with a stump puller to pull up the stumps. They then planted cold weather crops like potatoes, alfalfa and squash. In 1895 they built a log home on their homestead site by hand hewing the logs with a broad axe. Their original home was moved across the street from where it was originally built to the corner of Chapel Drive and Beaver Valley Road – where it still stands today. W.W. and his wife Elizabeth not only tamed this land out of sheer hard work and determination, but at the same time raised six children. Three of their grandchildren, along with many of their descendants still live in the Plain/Lake Wenatchee area.

If you would like to read other stories about early life in Plain, pick up a copy of "They Found a Valley – A History of Plain" by Alpha Burgess Buntain – daughter of W.W. Burgess. Out of print for many years, you can now purchase a copy at Plain Hardware for \$11.95.



Davis Stryer and Kellen Stull want their discount!

Wear Your Life is Good Gear and Get 10% Off!

If you're a loyal Life is Good fan, we've got a deal for you... get 10% off any single Life is Good product of your choice – if you are wearing a Life is Good t-shirt, sweatshirt or cap at the time of purchase! Offer good thru September 30.



Sarah Butler, Jackie Frazier and Gwen Whitten modeling the latest and...sweetest tee-shirts for sale at Plain Hardware!

Chocolate and Espresso ... The Perfect Combination!

No, we are not talking about drinks from the espresso bar...new women's tee-shirts have arrived that are both sexy and...sweet! One style has the words chocolate on a dusty pink feminine style tee-shirt and the other on tan. Plus, there is the darker roast tee-shirt version that says espresso across the chest. They are very cute. They are very fun. And most importantly they look great on us all. Plus, you get a free 12 oz. espresso drink with the purchase of these scrumptious shirts...free drink at time of tee-shirt purchase only.

**VISIT THE PORCH
FOR GREAT
Clothing, Gifts, Garden Art,
Jewelry, Toys & Espresso**



at PLAIN HARDWARE HOME & GARDEN

Colorado Country Chenille Robes, Sweaters, Baby Blankets and Throws... Soft as Butter

Our buttery soft chenille bathrobes are still as popular as ever. And we are now carrying their newest color...butter yellow. We are also selling the new front zip chenille sweater in beautiful wasabi green and oatmeal. And for the perfect baby shower gift, we once again have the Crib Clouds baby blankets in luscious pastels—ice, rain, cotton candy, white, cocoa butter and viola . And back by popular demand...we now have Colorado Country's chenille throw blankets in terragon, wasabi, butter yellow, oatmeal and paprika. Soft and cozy—what more could you want for those chilly Autumn evenings?

Kid's Corner

New Klutz Kits for Fall

Those amazingly creative people at Klutz have come out with craft books/kits designed for younger children (age 4 plus). My favorite titles are Make Your Own Twinkly Tiaras, Amazing Lacing and Melty Beads—great gifts for preschoolers thru 2nd grade. Plus we have new titles for the older kids as well. Come check'em out!

**LOYAL PLAIN HARDWARE
CUSTOMER DELANEY FRAZIER
ENJOYS A CUP OF HOT COCOA
OUTSIDE PLAIN HARDWARE.**



"I like hot cocoa with extra whipped cream a lot, but I like Plain Hardware's Italian Sodas even more. My favorite is the Beaver Hill Thrill. It has lime and vanilla in it and it is really, really good! I like to take it outside and drink it in their porch swing."

**Light My Fire
Candles—
Autumn Scents
arriving Mid
September!**



The ever popular Light My Fire "Autumn Spice" scented votive candles—Apple Spice, Pumpkin Spice, Orange Spice and Cinnamon Spice will be arriving at Plain Hardware in September. We also carry many other scents year round... Honeydew Melon, French Vanilla, Lavender Delight and Lemon Verbena to name just a few of our favorites. Light My Fire candles are handmade right here in Plain by Leesa Broker and are an affordable luxury at \$1.75 each. Come check'em out. They truly are a treat for your senses!

**PLAIN
HARDWARE**
Home & Garden

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Plain, Washington 98826

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