

Bus Safety
Taught at
Schools

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It's Fire
Prevention
Week

B1

— MACKLIN — HAYTER — CHAUVIN — BODO — PROVOST — CADOGAN — METISKOW — CZAR — HUGHENDEN — AMISK —

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Fireman Works 50 Years as Volunteer



Wilf Nett remembers being on the bucket brigade at age 12 during the big fire of March 1946. Years later he became a full member, then fire chief—and one year ago fire marshall. Here he

points to a painting of the old fire hall in town that he spent some time in learning the ropes after he joined other volunteers at age 22. ©PROVOST NEWS PHOTO.

Wilf Nett is the longest serving volunteer fireman in Provost—and one of the longest in Alberta.

The 72 year old man recently marked a half century as a member of the local fire department and in an interview with *The Provost News*, had to stop and look up his own file in the fire hall to check the date. “I thought it was in October . . .”

He joined Sept. 28, 1956.

Nett’s first experience with fire fighting was being part of the bucket brigade during the fire of 1946 when three downtown business buildings were lost. He helped carry water from the fire hall across to Larson’s Hardware and onto the roof there and the Post Office roof (now The Binge) where water was poured onto Lindberg’s store (Schielke Equipment store today). “That was my first taste of firefighting. I would have been 12 years old. I joined the fire department when I was 22.”

Nett was appointed fire chief on Oct. 12, 1972.

Provost News: What do you remember about your first fire practice?

Wilf Nett: We didn’t do a whole lot. We met in the old fire hall, there were no chairs so we just stood there. We went out and squirted water on the street. I was new so I just kind of watched. We did it on the centre of Main Street, that’s where most of our wet fire practices were held. Fred Gregory was the fire chief and I also remember Ben Miller, Ross Meiklejohn and I think my brother Edwin was there as well. I remember most of my fire years were spent when the old civic centre housed the fire hall, after the original fire hall, and before the current fire hall. In the oldest fire hall I remember there were two pot belied stoves, one in front and one in back. And the jail cell was

More Fireman P. 4

Family Loses Hayter Home in Early Morning Blaze

A family of five has been living in hotel space in Provost since their home in Hayter was destroyed by fire.

There were no injuries.

“I just thank God nobody was there, because I don’t think anybody would have made it out”

owner Scott Dorey told *The Provost News* in an interview.

The fire was discovered on Sunday, October 1 at approximately 5:15 a.m while Dorey had his family at his mother’s place in Rosalind, Alberta.

All of their possessions were destroyed in the fire except those they took with them on their trip. “We only had a bag of clothes, a diaper bag and a few toys. That’s it.”

More Hayter Fire P. 2



No One Was Home—A Hayter family was not home when fire recently burned their home to the ground. Owner Scott Dorey, who works in Provost says that he likes the community and wants to re-build there. The building was for many years the general store and also served as the post office. Story in this paper. ©PROVOST NEWS PHOTO.



Tight Living Quarters for Five

This family has been living in hotel space but is searching for a new place to live following the loss of their Hayter home (left) to a recent fire. From left: nine year old Michealla Dorey, Christa Sherman (30), with nine month old Mathew Dorey on her lap, 11 year old Patrizia Sherman and 40 year old Scott Dorey. Front is five year old Buddy on the floor. Story in this paper. ©PROVOST NEWS PHOTOS.