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Interviewee: Janet Sproull
Interviewer: Whitney Gaskill
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Whitney Gaskill: Okay this is Whitney Gaskill interviewing Janet Sproull about her family in Montana and Missoula in the Rattlesnake Creek area. Can you first please tell me about when your family came to Montana and what brought them here?

Janet Sproull: As far as I know, I mean I was born and raised here. My mom was born and raised here in Missoula. Her mother was from a family of Irish immigrants- they ended up in Anaconda. Her brothers worked in the Butte mines and the smelter there at Anaconda. They were not doing well. So when my grandmother was 16 years old, they sent her to Missoula to stay with some friends here. She learned the haberdashery business, how to make hats.

Anyway, then she ended up marrying my grandfather, who came from Illinois. His family came originally from England. They married and had five children, one of which was my mom Donna, who is a twin. She was the youngest by far. Then my mom met my dad and we ended up at the Rattlesnake when I was about three years old. My mom did say at one time that her dad actually had the opportunity to buy all of the land in the Rattlesnake for dirt cheap, but at that time, it was not something that they were really interested in. he had a grocery store in town and they did fine. So it was an interest in getting into the land owning business. I wish he would have.

WG: And you mentioned your aunt. Your aunt also grew up in the Rattlesnake area. Could you tell me her name and when she was born?

JS: Her name is Grace Tubbs and she was born in 1914. There is also my uncle Bobby Tubbs who was born in 1916 and another daughter Cat that was born two years after that, well 1918. They grew up on Van Buren, 14...I can never remember...14 something Van Buren, which at that time was out of town. They had a great time up there. She told me that they went to Prescott School and their big thing for the summer is that the last day of school they'd run home and they'd take off their shoes and they would just hike all the way up the valley, like way up there, like where the Rattlesnake recreation area is nowadays because that was their big toughening up their feet for the summer.

They never wore shoes for the summer. It was just bare feet all the way. She also talked about going up on Mt. Jumbo and just collecting armloads of wildflowers for May Day. They'd make their little May baskets and hang them on people's doors and that sort of thing. She also said that in the winter they'd scrape off the creek. They'd go down to the creek and find a spot that had iced over and scrape it off and go ice-skating.

WG: On the creek?

JS: On the creek yes. I don't know how this happened, but she said that they would sled- they'd go up by Prescott School and it's not the new one, it was the old one that was there. They could sled like all the way down to where the gardens were down by the river, which I thought, "Wow I don't know." If things have just been really leveled out there over the years or what. It was a long walk back up. They could get quite the ride.

WG: So let's just talk about the Rattlesnake Creek area as you may have heard of it from your aunt. So she was growing up in the Twenties. How developed was Rattlesnake Creek at that time? How many families do you think were living up there? Did you say it was your grandparents that were in the grocery store business?

JS: Yes.

WG: So what other kinds of things did people who lived in the Rattlesnake do?

JS: She didn't have much else to say as far as that. We didn't really talk about that. But I remember growing up actually that Mom would take us down to have our hair cut at this lady's house right on Van Buren Street. She had a little beauty parlor in the back of her house. There were also several- there were Morin's, I think, market that was right at the corner, right near where the interstate goes through now.

So that was of course taken out. There were also a couple more little stores on Van Buren just, I'm trying to think. I don't know exactly like what the cross streets would be. Just in that lower section. So then of course there was the Greenough Mansion that we got to watch them kind of divide that into sections and haul it across the Van Buren Street Bridge and up onto the mountain once the interstate went through.

WG: What was the Greenough Mansion?

JS: Mr. Greenough was, you know Greenough Park, and they donated that to the city. It was pretty awesome because they made a stipulation that it remain wild. That's been amazing because it's a huge place and it's got creek bottom and, you know, you've been there. It was quite a gift. He made his- from what I remember, he made a fortune in timber. He supplied a lot of the railroad ties for the railroad but mainly the mine timbers for the mine in Butte. So as they were digging down, they needed all those timbers to make their little tunnels and things.

WG: He had this huge mansion?

JS: Oh yes.

WG: What did it look like do you remember?

JS: Oh yes it was just gorgeous. It had this big huge rock wall around it, but you could see it. It was two or three stories high. Actually when they moved it up on the hill by the golf course that's up there now, it's now Shadow's Keep because the mansion burned down. I remember going to a high school formal there among other things and it was just beautiful. They did turn it into a restaurant. It was still gorgeous. It had a big huge stairway is what I remember, going up to the second story with stained glass windows and it was just beautiful, gorgeous.

WG: That's interesting. I hadn't heard of that piece. Can we talk a little bit more about what you remember about your aunt? You mentioned that your grandparents ran a grocery- was she involved in that? Did the kids do a lot of chores? What kinds of chores, do you know anything about the work she might have done?

JS: No, I didn't ever hear about her day-to-day. I do know that they did move into town once she got to high school. They decided to move into town, which is just hilarious nowadays because people drive up and down all day across. They went to the Missoula County High school, which is now Hellgate. So they lived on Eddy and just like four blocks down towards the university and Eddy. So they could just walk to school. My mom and her twin, they didn't really grow up in the Rattlesnake, but then she and my dad moved up there in 1956. They've been there ever since. So it was kind of interesting. She didn't make it in her younger, younger years, but she's lived up there now the rest of her life.

WG: So what else do you remember about your aunt growing up in the Rattlesnake? Did she tell you any other stories?

JS: It was just, from the letters that she wrote to me, just talking about her growing up. That was the basic thing. I do remember one other thing- she mentioned (?) - it was really cool when they were about to be 13 or 14 to have their little flasks. I don't know if it was during prohibition or what, but it was like the thing to have- I don't think they had whiskey or anything like that. She said that was the cool thing for a girl to carry around was a little flask in their pockets. I thought that was pretty funny.

WG: That's funny. When she went to Prescott School how did she get there? Did she have to walk?

JS: I think they walked. It was only like three blocks away or so. I think her parents were very concerned about things being close by, for them to move into town for them to be near the high school. Although, I've seen pictures too of my grandfather's father at the store, which was right off Orange. Do you know where Casey Meats is? It's right across from the health department now. He originally was a partner in the store there at that location. His dad would do deliveries. He's up front with the wagon and the horses. It was kind of a family affair there too. I should have my mom talk with you too. She would remember a lot more of the older stuff.

WG: Yes that would be wonderful. What about your grandparents? Were they involved in hunting and trapping, anything like that?

JS: Not for like survival or anything. I know my grandpa, that yes, he loved to hunt and fish. There are pictures that I've seen of him up at Seeley Lake. I have one on the refrigerator there (unintelligible) the way we were. It's all of them at Seeley Lake, which is really cool because it was taken right at the same place where we now, my brother-in-law and sister bought an old resort up there a couple of years back. It was the same place where they had their picture taken. It was really weird. We didn't know that until afterwards. We just had a big reunion up there last summer. So that was kind of neat. Everybody really enjoyed seeing that picture.

WG: In terms of the grocery store, where did they get their food? What was the grocery store like in those times? Do you remember? That's okay if you don't know.

JS: I don't. The only thing I remember my mom saying about the grocery store was that her dad helped a lot of people through the Depression. They couldn't afford to buy food and he did a lot of really nice, giving away stuff to people because people were in such dire need. That's all I really know. I think my mom was the last- the twins were kind of the surprise children. My grandmother had them when she was like 40 or 41. They were a little bit- they didn't have as much of the really earlier experiences or whatever. They went through the whole war. They were kind of babies in the Depression, but they did go through World War II.

WG: Did they ever mention anything about that, how that affected them?

JS: They didn't seem to really...I think their dad having the store and just being as young as they were, I mean they were in high school, but basically when World War II got over in '45 and they were just 15. So I don't think it really affected them that much, although their brother, he was in the Air Force and saw some duty during the war too. I didn't ever hear anything from them about them being really worried about him or anything. I don't know if he was doing anything that would have really put him in any danger.

WG: How about we just transition into you talking about your childhood now. Can you tell me what year you were born please?

JS: I was born in '53, St. Pat's. At that time we lived in town. Then my parents moved up the Rattlesnake when I was three, so '56. We grew up basically outside. It was a wonderful place to grow up as a kid. The whole baby boom thing was going on and the neighborhood was just rife with kids. There were so many kids that we would- we were always outside playing together and oh gosh, at one point we even would like have little gang wars in the neighborhood. Kids from that side of the street would come and capture some of us and take us to their place.

I don't know I remember having squash fights. There was a big garden right across the street from us, the family that lived there- the dad was a farmer in the Bitterroot and when he moved into Missoula he had a whole lot next door to their house. He had chickens and then everything you can think of in the garden from fruits, vegetables, apples, everything. We would just go over there and graze. He wouldn't mind if we'd go through the raspberry bush and the strawberries, pull a few carrots, have some apples when those were ripe then. We would have big street fights every once in a while where we would take like the squash. It kind of looked like how Halloween does now, the day after Halloween sometimes around here when people are smashing pumpkins and stuff like that. It was an amazing time and place to grow up. It was just made for kids.

WG: What were some of your favorite places?

JS: Let's see, depending on the age. I remember, boy, by the time we were seven or eight, we would walk...We grew up on Lyndon Street until I was about 13. We would just walk across Duncan and go up on the hill, which is now the Luckman land. There were a couple of big pine trees up there. We would take our little picnic lunches and go sit in the shade of the pine and have our little picnic lunch and look at the valley. We thought we were pretty cool. Just as we got older though, we started ranging farther away. I remember distinctly finding that if you go up and over toward the Randolph property, go up and over and down into Cherry Gulch, that it was like this secret valley and this just amazing- the big really steep size of the hills that come down.

It was - in the middle of nowhere. You were just 20 minutes from home and 10 from town. So that was a pretty big discovery then for me. Also actually the Papoose Pony Ranch was just right up the road. Once we discovered that and got old enough to do babysitting, my sister and I, every bit of babysitting money would go right to the Papoose Pony Ranch. We would just ride our bikes up there and it was \$1.50 an hour to go riding. So you'd have all that sunlight land up there actually and all the Montana Power land. That was where you'd go riding. So we'd jump on a horse and we spent a lot of time up there, to where they would let us saddle the horses for them and groom them, all that kind of stuff.

WG: That sounds fun.

JS: It was a blast.

WG: Any other places that you remember wandering to?

JS: The creek of course. We spent a lot of time at the creek. There was a little swimming hole right up above our house. When we moved up, when I was 13 we moved up the street to Duncan Drive up near what was the top of the road at the time. It was really close to the footbridge going across to the Rattlesnake School and all my brothers and sisters went to the Rattlesnake School. There was the swimming hole in the summer and there was a log jam- the

places that we really loved are now kind of in Dennis Washington's backyard. There's a big fence across there. Although, there is, behind the fence, is city open space. And it continues on down and you can go down there now, but it's a whole different field.

WG: All right so you were talking about the creek.

JS: Yes and the creek, it was just fun to go down to the creek and just throw rocks in or just wade around or whatever. Also one big thing, I have to say, while we were growing up was the little store. It was just across the creek and up the hill, just- oh gosh I'll never remember the name of that- it was right before you get to Gilbert, I don't know if it's Wylie or one of those streets. Anyway it hasn't been operational for a long time. That was the penny candy heaven of our childhood. Whenever we would get a nickel when we were eight, nine, ten years old, we'd just head on over to the little store. Penny candy you just don't see it anymore.

The creek then, as we got older and started fanning out, we discovered the dam. When I was probably 10 or 11, my sister and I were Campfire Girls. They had the day camp up at the dam one year, which was really awesome. That was my first experience with the Power Park, which is now very- used big time by walkers and bikers and everybody. It's at the north end of Lincolnwood. They just put in a new bridge across the creek there. Back in the day, you couldn't get across except for the footbridge to the school and the dam. You could actually walk across the dam. You could stand on the dam and look down into the- it was probably like 20 feet deep there and you could watch the fish. The spring was really awesome because with high water it would just be roaring over the dam. You could just stand over the dam and watch the water ripping down the valley.

WG: There's a dam on Rattlesnake Creek?

JS: Yes that's it. They put it in there and they had the big huge reservoir. It used to be the water source for Missoula. The aqueduct would go from the dam down the valley to the bubble now that's on Waterworks Hill. It would go there. Anyway, so we grew up drinking Rattlesnake Creek water. That's something that I really miss because I just- I never thought I'd see the day when I'd pay for water. Now with our water being- well we have well water here and it was okay. Then with the chlorination and all of that it's like I can't even drink it anymore. We used to drink right out of the creek all of the time. Then they started building lots of houses and we decided that probably wasn't a good idea unless you were farther up.

WG: So how many less houses were there in the Rattlesnake when you were growing up compared to now? Was it a lot?

JS: Oh gosh yes a lot. I remember when they did Lincolnwood. Before that, just in our travels around the valley, there used to be a slaughter house up there up where Lincolnwood is now. I remember we chanced upon it one time when we were up there meandering around. It was kind of a shock because you knew it was a slaughter house that was gross. So none of that

development was there. Oh gosh, yes Lincoln Hills was not there. In fact the Papoose Pony Ranch, when the man that owned that- I don't know if he lost the lease or what, but he ended up- there was another big old barn over on the east side of the creek that's at the bottom now of Lincoln Hills.

That's all filled in now of course. For several years he ran the pony ranch out of that barn. We would rent horses and ride up on the saddle of Jumbo and around and back down. There's a little bit of a remnant of that that you can see across from the parking lot where the school baseball field is now, soccer field. Right across the street there's a little strip of land left that was actually where the entrance was to the barn. Now that's totally filled in. yes there's- it's just amazing how things have filled in. Even just on Lyndon Street.

Lyndon used to be on the east side of Woodland, the Ores; Connie Ore was a veterinarian- he's since passed away. He had this beautiful house that was right on Lolo, but behind that along Woodland was a big open pasture land and a barn. Now that's all filled in too is where it was behind that. Now what you're seeing even besides just the new homes going up is the in fill. It's shocking to me. I don't know if you have been on Lolo street, you come up Duncan and turn right at Lolo, just right around the corner there there's those four houses that are like packed right together.

Their front porches are like two feet from the road. They're just really packing things in there. So in fact, that's something my parents are starting to worry about that they're getting to an age where they're starting to think about divide up their property and they happen to have their house- is one of those that's back from Duncan Drive. It has a big open front yard that could easily be built on. So they're starting to think, "Is that something that we want to see?"

How are we going to divide our wealth up between our children equally and kind of keep things to where everybody would be happy with it?" So it's kind of a big question anymore. Land up the Rattlesnake has become ridiculously expensive. It used to be- it was rural. You'd have horses in the pasture and all of that. Now it's like, "Wow you've got those huge mansion houses that are going up." A lot of money, you have to have some money to live up there now. Any who...

WG: So did you go to Rattlesnake School? Is that what you said?

JS: I did not. My sister and I... my grandson does.

WG: Awesome.

JS: It is awesome. My brothers and sisters went to Rattlesnake School. My older sister and I, though, we went to St. Francis Xavier School and then to Sacred Heart Academy. My parents were very religious Catholics. They wanted to do that, which- I was more than happy to do that too. Although it kind of gives you a different relationship with the other kids in the

neighborhood or whatever. Some of them went to St. Francis too, but most of them went to Rattlesnake. My brother, the oldest brother in the family, there were six boys and then my little sister, he made it as far as third grade and then he just- Catholic school wasn't for him. I don't think he was as easy going as we girls. Anyway so they finally said, "Oh forget it."

They took him out and the rest of them went to public school. So they went to Rattlesnake. It was K through 8 when they were going, which was nice because there was none of this bussing kids around. So it was really good. They used to...forever until just a couple of years ago, the kindergartener- the first and second graders were bussed over to Mt. Jumbo school in East Missoula, which I always thought, "I don't think I would want my kindergartener to get on a bus and go to East Missoula." Not anything against East Missoula, just the traveling on the interstate every day back and forth.

WG: How did you get to school?

JS: I got to school- pretty much the bus would pick us up. We had a bus at St. Francis or when we got to high school, we'd go pretty much with Dad. He'd take us in the morning; drop us off until we were a little bit older. Then my sister and I got to use the car. We would drive to school. Sometimes we'd walk home. If he dropped us off, we'd walk home occasionally. Another thing that I forgot to tell you that reminded me of just walking home, when the interstate came through, another thing besides the Greenough mansion was the Highlander Beer Brewery was just right there, just like at the foot of Waterworks Hill right on the other side of- on the Waterworks Hill side of the tracks. So that was another thing that just kind of went by the wayside when the interstate came in.

WG: What was it like when the interstate came through beyond simply having to move some things around?

JS: I just thought it was a shame- well especially the Greenough mansion, that they had to move that. It was just one of those things. After driving in a car with no- we didn't have seatbelts back then with nine kids and two parents and little windy two lane roads. It was probably- I can imagine especially my parents were just really happy to see the interstate come in. It was a lot safer driving.

WG: What did your parents do?

JS: My dad was- well and still is an optician. He has, he and my sister have Spectica downtown and he's had his own business, Missoula Eyewear Center, he had that for years, like 40 years. He started out apprenticing with some optometrist downtown in a building that's actually not there anymore. It's a parking lot. It's at the corner of Higgins and Broadway. If you go, I guess it would be east then, just there was a building that was right behind the building that's now there. Gosh I'm trying to think where the Dana Gallery is in the bottom floor. It's just right on the corner. Forever it was like a bank there, the Western Bank I think. There was a building

similar to it, whatever it is, six or eight stories that was right next door across the alley, but they were attached. So my dad worked for those optometrists for several years until he decided to just strike out on his own because he wasn't really making enough money working for them to feed a family- our huge family.

WG: Nine kids.

JS: Yes. He had a second job too. He worked at Missoula Textiles at night for a while, cleaning rugs, that sort of thing. So then my mom, she worked at the Forest Service as a secretary until Kevin, the fourth child in the family was born. Then she was at home until my youngest sister, Jennifer who is 17 and a half years younger than me. When Jennifer got into school, my mom went back to work. She went back to the Forest Service and stayed there until she retired. They've worked hard all their lives.

WG: What about holidays, you said you were a big Catholic family?

JS: So Easter and Christmas, those were all really big celebrations. I can't think of anything other than just the typical family. We'd have Easter, dye Easter eggs and Mom usually would give Kathy and I perms the night before, which we hated. That didn't last too long. Anyway we'd get all dressed up and go to church on Sunday. So yes, that's basically- the whole family gets together still for Easter and Thanksgiving and Christmas and birthdays. We just had a birthday party last night. There were five people that we were celebrating their birthdays. There are pictures. Here they are blowing out their candles. Anyway, so yes, I'm trying to think of if there's anything. We would go to mass every Sunday and Christmas was always a special time. We actually went to church at St. Francis Xavier. I don't know if you've been in there, but it's just a beautiful church. Have you had a chance?

WG: I've never been.

JS: Oh gosh you've got to go in because it's - have you been up to the mission at St. Ignatius?

WG: Yes.

JS: Same thing. There was- whenever it was, 1800s, there was- he was Italian brother that did all the murals in the church. It's just gorgeous. The whole ceiling is just covered with murals and stations of the cross on the sides, big pillars. It's just a beautiful church.

WG: St. Francis Ignatius?

JS: Xavier. Yes. The Mission Church is similar, a little bit smaller scale. It was a beautiful church. It's a historical, significantly historic site of Missoula. If you have a chance you should just go check it out.

WG: Thanks that's good advice. So what about local festivities or traditions, holidays? Do you remember anything, I've heard a lot from some of the kids that grew up farming in Missoula about the summer fair, the Missoula fair.

JS: Oh the fair, sure.

WG: Did your family participate in that?

JS: We always went to the fair. We didn't grow anything. I wasn't in 4H. I was in Campfire [Girls]. So we didn't have animals in the fair kind of thing. We'd always- the fair- we'd always go to the fair. It used to be later in the season like you would think, that's when people's produce was ready to pick and all of that. Now with the weather problem, they've moved it on up

WG: What was it like? What did you like to do at the fair?

JS: Oh gosh, just all the rides and looking at all of the animals. We always loved animals and we always dreamed of having our own horse and being cowgirls, cowboys that kind of thing. I think always- well not always, but I remember wearing cowboy boots and the cowboy hat around for quite a while when I was growing up because it was just- we grew up watching Roy Rogers and Dale Evans on TV and Rin Tin-Tin, all the cute kid's western shows. So yes, basically the rides and the animals. When we got older, the horse racing was fun to watch too. Rodeos- actually that's one thing, the university, the field house used to be a big open area, you know the Adams house?

WG: Yes the Adams Center?

JS: It just used to be one big huge open arena thing. It was covered, but you'd go in and the lobby was- whatever had linoleum or whatever and you'd go in to the actual place. It was like a dirt floor. They would put down floors for certain events and they had things in there from like the basketball games, like when the basketball games came on, they actually had the floor that they would put up in the center there. They could then have- they had the three ring circus there in the Adams Center. They could just come in the big doors with the elephants and all that other stuff. It was big enough as far as the trapeze and all that kind of stuff. They had rodeos there.

I remember going to a lot of rodeos there. The Forester's Ball was there too. I went a couple of years when I was in college. The first time around, it was amazing because of where it was and how big the place was, they had a section of- a log rolling section where, you must know foresters, they can do practically anything. They made like a little pond right there and there were log rolling and had little demonstration things- climbing the poles and all that sort of stuff. And the Mission Mountain Wood Band was actually playing, I don't know if you know the Mission Mountain Wood Band, but some time you'll have to listen to their music. They are Montanans. They actually just filmed- they had a big reunion at the Wilma last year and they

filmed it for PBS. They have actually a film that they previewed at the concert that's on PBS every now and then. I have it if you'd like to borrow it.

WG: Oh thank you. Well can you think of anything else that you might want to- any other stories that you remember growing up? Anything else that you'd like to add in?

JS: I guess just- I don't know. It was just such a wonderful place to grow up. Like in the winter, several people around on the west side where we would make their own ice skating rinks. I remember just walking. We would walk from our place on Lyndon to people's back yards from one place to the next and we did a lot of outdoor stuff, ice skating and, anyway, sledding. We used to go sledding there with the sledding hill just- it's still there actually. It's a little county park that's in the city, but there's nothing much there. It's a really good place to sled.

It's just right off Duncan on- I'm trying to remember the name of the street, where Dickinson comes in, if you cross the road, it's no longer Dickinson, it's like something Court. It's open at the end there. People sled there still when there's snow. That's another thing I remember there was always a lot more snow. It seemed like when it was winter, it was winter, none of this kind of namby pamby stuff we have now.

WG: So did you say that you worked for the Forest Service? How did your childhood affect what you did growing up as an adult?

JS: It affected me big time actually. I loved the outdoors and I loved just anything athletic. We used to have track meets in our backyard. We always used to play football and our Duncan house we had kind of a long rectangular backyard. So all the kids from all over the neighborhood would come and we would have big football games and stuff. We'd play baseball and all that. I originally went into just P.E., recreation they had at the university, but after I did that for a couple of years, I just remember specifically I was walking up the road that's now closed off unfortunately and I think there's a house built pretty much where I sat down along the creek and it was in the fall and it was beautiful.

I just thought, "I think I'm going to change my major to forestry recreation. I just love this land so much. That's where my interests slide." So I did that and I didn't quite graduate before I had my first child. When my youngest was four or five I went back to school and finished up my degree in recreation resource management. Anyway, so it had a huge impact. I've worked seasonally for the Forest Service a couple of summers. One of them when I went back to school, when I was a little bit older, I worked with Dave Kohl and Ellen Watson over at the forestry sciences lab. Just working on some surveying they were doing in several wildernesses around the country. Then Ellen called me a few years later, by that time, they had created the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute and so all the wilderness people were in one place.

He asked if I would be interested in helping him coordinate a symposium for the Sixth World Wilderness Congress. So I said, "Sure." So I've worked on that one and then the Seventh World

Wilderness Congress actually got to go to that one. The latest one, the eighth one was in Anchorage so I got to go there too. So it's an intermittent job. It was nice for me because it's really flexible. So I'm able to do things like what I've done too besides the Forest Service thing. Anyway, after I got out of school, then the save open space local land trust was just starting up and so I started going to meetings and then I ended up on the board. I've been with them since '93 or so.

Gosh we have several conservation easements around the Rattlesnake. In fact we're kind of regrouping right now. We're narrowing our focus from the greater Missoula urban area to the Rattlesnake. So we have the 108 acre Waterworks Hill conservation easement, which is adjacent to the Randolph Hill. Then we have some, we have 20 acres over at the base of Mt. Jumbo, plus several other smaller acreages on the west side. Actually, well I guess they're not adjacent to the Randolph, but pretty close. The Cleaves property, which is just right over the hill from you guys at the Randolph, just at the east of you guys there's a ten acre plus another four-well yes another four there. Then there's another three there up the valley too, another three acre piece. Some people may not think that's that big of a deal, but gosh when you think of how much a lot costs now in the Rattlesnake, it's a huge deal. It's a really huge deal.

I don't know. As far as the future goes, that's one thing I noticed- one of your questions about how Missoula has changed. That's the one thing that's just really tough for me having grown up in the Rattlesnake. When it was Montana Power land, it was off limits to development. We had the run of the whole place. We used it a lot from kite flying to just hiking around, watching the wildlife and gosh it's changing. It's incredible. When I looked at that map that you had, just even the Spurlock's land right there, it was subdivided into 20 acre parcels. So in fact, I have nightmares about the hill that I was telling you about, the Luckman land that we used to hike up on when I was seven or eight years old.

I have really vivid nightmares where I see a road has been built- a diagonal road like the one on South Hills, Hillview and just knowing that they can just build streets off of that and that whole mountain could just be covered over. What a huge impact that would have on the open space land in the Randolph land right next door? Even if that per chance did happen, then there's already the land that's just east of the Randolph property just over the hump there that it is privately owned. It is privately owned and I don't know if you've been to any of the meetings. I haven't myself, but I've heard about the development that they have planned for over there. It's going to have a huge impact because there's already so many people that now use Waterworks Hill that once there's people not only coming from town and from the Rattlesnake but also from the north end, there's going to be a whole huge big neighborhood there.

It will be, you can be assured that it's going to have a lot of people, dogs, and cats, whatever. They're going to be using it too because it's all open space. That's one of the big draws actually of building there is that there's lots of city open space there. Anyway, so to me that's kind of going to be the last nail in the coffin I guess of my experience growing up in the Rattlesnake as far as the open land and being able to go out and be in nature and find peace and solitude, just

be able to discover new cool things. I don't know. Even things like owls, every once in a while you come across owls or fox pups or any of that kind of stuff, the elk every once in a while, you'd see the elk up there. I don't know. I worry about what it's all going to come down to. So quality of life kind of thing. I know the people that are moving in will be thrilled. They'll have a whole new experience and they'll love every minute of it.

WG: Thanks, Janet.

[End of Interview]