

GOP party lines, Lewiston Barbies and Idaho retirees

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Not that the INKster gives a rip, but there may be some misguided readers out there interested in the fact that Washington Republican Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers made herself available for interviews and comments both before and after President Barack Obama's address to a joint session of Congress on Thursday evening.

In a release issued Wednesday, the vice chairwoman of the House Republican Conference (that in itself tells you how desperate the GOP is for competent leadership) McMorris Rodgers spewed the same old party line that "if we want to grow jobs in the private sector, we need to shrink the size of the public sector."

(The INKster imagines McMorris Rodgers might have a tough time right now trying to convince people in small towns losing their post offices they were better off without their community hubs).

But not to worry folks. McMorris Rodgers concludes her release with the assurance that "House Republicans have a plan to get our economy moving again."

Really? The INKster hopes she lives long enough to take a look at that plan!

The INKster didn't have to scroll to the bottom of a recent forward regarding the release of "Mattel's limited edition of Barbie Dolls for the Idaho market" to know it was from her old friend, Donna Woolston.

The following are a few of the Idaho Barbie Dolls Donna mentions.

"Boise Barbie: This collagen injected, rhino-plastic Barbie wears a leopard print outfit and drinks cosmopolitans while entertaining friends. Percocet prescription available as well as newly built spec house in new sub division.

Coeur d' Alene Barbie: She comes with an assortment of Kate Spade Handbags, a Lexus SUV (with Idaho or California plates optional), a long-haired foreign dog named Belle and a million dollar waterfront home. Available with or without tummy tuck and face-lift. Workaholic Ken sold only in conjunction with the augmented version.

Lewiston Barbie: The modern day homemaker Barbie is available with Joe Hall Ford Windstar Minivan and matching gym outfits. She gets lost easily on her shopping trips to Spokane and has no full-time occupation. She has no idea what Ken does at the mill or ATK. Cellphone and golden retriever dog sold separately.

McCall Barbie: This yuppie Barbie comes with your choice of BMW convertible or Hummer H2. Included are her own Starbucks cup, credit card and country club membership. Also included for this set are Shallow Ken and Private School Skipper. You won't be able to afford any of them.

Moscow Barbie: This doll is made of actual tofu. She has long, straight brown hair, arch-less feet, hairy armpits, no makeup and Birkenstocks with white socks. She prefers that you call her Willow. She does not want or need a Ken doll, but if you purchase two Moscow Barbie dolls and the optional Subaru

wagon, you get a rainbow sticker for free.

Rural Panhandle Barbie: This pale model comes dressed in her own Wrangler jeans, two sizes too small, a NASCAR t-shirt and Tweety Bird tattoo on our shoulder. She has a six-pack of Bud Light and a Hank Williams Jr. CD set. She can spit over five feet and kick mullet-haired Ken's butt when she is drunk. Purchase her pickup truck separately and get a Confederate flag bumper sticker absolutely free."

Don Drum, Director of PERSI, will be in Moscow on Monday to talk with elected officials, retirees and those vested in the Idaho Retirement Fund.

Rep. Tom Trail circulated an email Wednesday with Drum's schedule, which includes a general meeting 3-5 p.m. at the Gritman Wellness Center, 510 W. Palouse River Drive. The meeting in the conference room is open to retirees, representatives from other organizations covered by PERSI and those vested in the PERSI program.

.the blotter rests.

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