

Drexel "Rex" Calhoun

Dec. 1925 - Dec. 2015



Drexel "Rex" Lewis Calhoun, 89, of Baker City died Monday, Dec. 28, 2015 at Beehive Homes Residential Care Facility in Baker City. No services are currently planned.

Rex was born on Dec. 29, 1925 in Pennsboro, West Virginia to Otto Clarence Calhoun and Fannie Francis (Dodd) Calhoun. He received his education in Ohio and later served his country from 1944-1946 in the United States Navy. During his time in the Navy, Rex worked as a machinist 3rd class on the USS Tennessee BB43 in the South Pacific.

Sept. 27, 1952 he married Reva Joy McClure in Vancouver, Wash. and together they enjoyed 63 years of marriage.

Rex was a hard worker and loved working. After moving to Baker City in 1963, he worked with his two brothers, Jesse Calhoun and Silvan Calhoun operating the Baker Mill and Grain located in Haines, Ore. He continued to work at the mill until 1975. In 1976 Rex and Reva opened the Ace Nursery which they operated for 29 years.

Rex is survived by his wife Reva Calhoun of Baker City, his brother Silvan Calhoun of Baker City, and his sister-in-law Jackie Calhoun of Baker City. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews as well as many friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, his son, Jo Calhoun, eight sisters, four brothers, and nine of his sibling's spouses.

Memorial contributions may be made in Rex's honor to the Parkinson's Foundation or to a charity of choice through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave. Baker City, OR 97814.

To light a candle in memory of Rex, please visit: www.grayswestco.com

LeRoy Albert Pearson

Aug. 1934 - Dec. 2015



LeRoy Albert Pearson of Sunset, Utah and formerly of North Powder, passed away Dec. 24, 2015 from a lingering illness. He was born Aug. 24, 1934 in Baker, Ore. to Emery Frank and Delores Emeline Dickinson West Pearson. He spent his first years in North Powder and Baker. He lived a few years with his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Pearson in Hereford, Ore.

He graduated from North Powder High School. When he was fifteen, he went with his mother to Bozeman, Montana and worked as a busboy and set the pins at the bowling alley.

LeRoy is the descendant of two early pioneer families in Union County; those of his grandparents, Henry and Manerva Anderson Pearson and John Samuel and Susan Dealy Davis, who homesteaded in North Powder in 1872. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and spent four years in Japan and California.

In 1955 he came to Burley to be with his mother. There he met his wife, Rheta Elquist. They were married March 1, 1957 in Heyburn, Idaho where LeRoy worked for the BLM. They were blessed with three wonderful children: Cheryl, LeeAnn and Monte Pearson.

In 1966 they moved to Sunset, Utah so LeRoy could finish his career with the U.S. Government at Hill Air Force Base. He retired with 36 years of service in 1991.

They spent many years in Arizona and summers at the Sourdough Wilderness Ranch. He loved to go camping and drive his side-by-side. He loved his animals and was an avid rock hunter.

He is preceded in death by his mother and father, and mother and father-in-law, Ron and Marie Elquist, sister and brother-in-law, Betty and Ron Knopp.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, children, Cheryl (Larry) Campbell, LeeAnn (Greg) Riddle and Monte (Cathy) Pearson all of Utah; two grandchildren, Royce Pearson and Steven Peart; a brother, Patrick (Jean) Pearson of Cascade Locks, Oregon; and a sister, Janice Springer of La Grande, Oregon; aunt, Phyllis Fettig of North Powder, Oregon.

He was cremated under the direction of Leavitt's Mortuary. A Memorial Service will be held in the spring. Burial will follow at Clinton City Cemetery in Clinton, Utah. A special thank you to Inspiration Hospice for their kindness and care.

Letter

Baker City Bottle Recycling Dilemma

To the Editor:

I have been a bottle recycler for the past ten years! It has always been a "chosen responsible chore" to recycle my bottle purchases to aid in recycling purposes. There have been times over those 10 years that I, along with many others, have become frustrated with the condition of the bottle recycle machines and areas offered to the local recycling citizens by the TWO local grocery stores.

Now with only one local grocery store with the only bottle recycle center available, this frustration is absolutely a mess! The actual designated recycle area size is state regulated, as to the merchant building size and the selling of deposit paid designated bottles such as water, soda, beer, etc. But, and here is the kicker, only if the merchant should choose to bother with providing a recycle area. The health maintenance of the area, the mechanical workings of the machines, the staff to assist the recycling citizens when the machines are filled to capacity, is strictly left to the store managers.

I recently contacted the OLCC agency as to what happened with the recycle machines located at the empty Haggen store front. I was informed those machines were owned by the Fragg corporation, and how and where they went was that corporation's business and the state agency has no say in the matter of dealing with the lack of recycling opportunities for the 10,000 Baker City citizens.

I would like to suggest to the current grocery corporation that the policy makers who now most definitely have a "local monopoly," should address the lack of an adequate recycle center for deposit paid bottles.

And to the Baker City Council and Business Development planners, please include this needed business recruitment into any "new and incoming business developments" in the questionable future!

So, in the interim, I will be looking for any non-profit group, church, or school team, which would desire to recycle deposit bottles to aid in their fundraising endeavors. I realize they must also be recycling at the aforementioned centers, but perhaps it would limit the number of frustrated citizens jamming up the area unsuccessfully.

Waiting for any solutions to be offered up, before this frustrating situation becomes a "just dump 'em" dilemma that possibly could make for a much larger city problem! How about business owners who sell deposit charged bottles, and offer no measurable aid in the solution of the recycle bottles concerns?

Cheryl Gushman
Baker City

Baker City Farmers Market Membership Meeting Scheduled

Anyone interested in learning more about and participating in the Baker City Farmers Market as more than just a customer is encouraged to attend their Jan. 27 meeting. It will take place from 5:30-7 p.m. at 3030 Grandview Drive in Baker City. They will be re-capping 2015, looking forward to the 2016 season, nominating and voting in new board members, and discussing any other business that the membership has.

Anyone with questions, please email Amy Young at bakercityfarmersmarketOR@gmail.com or call 541-523-5203.

Scott Places at Swim Meet with 999 Athletes

Riana Scott age 13 attended the 2016 Washington Open swim meet on Jan. 14-17 in Federal Way, Washington. This meet required qualifying times to enter and was highly competitive. There were 999 athletes representing 76 teams from the Western states and British Columbia. Scott achieved personal best times most of her events and the following are her results:

Women's 200 IM	2:17.25	70th
Women's 50 free	26.48	116th
Women's 200 free	2:02.23	88th
Women's 100 Breast	1:12.17	73rd
Women's 100 Back	1:06.43	166th
Women's 100 free	56.87	118th
Women's 200 Breast	2:34.14	43rd

Guest Opinion

Ammon Bundy Please Go Home

by Mary Kerns, Harney County

I would have spoken up earlier, but we really did not think this nonsense would go on for so long. My husband and I are ranchers here in Harney County. I am third generation Harney County stockgrower. This is a good place to ranch and live our lives. My family has worked with the Bureau of Land Management since its inception. We were part of the Malheur Refuge's program utilizing cattle in their management for many years. These bureaucrats are not perfect but the staff we work with in our operation are competent, helpful, caring people.

These people are friends of ours and a part of this community. If you were an actual rancher you might know that agriculture's biggest adversaries are environmental groups that spread misinformation about our industry and tie the government agencies we work with up in litigation. Our industry is working hard to inform the public of our progressive animal treatment and grazing practices.

You sir, are simply part of the problem now. I cannot express how disturbed we are that you have insinuated yourself into our country with the expressed purpose of supporting the Hammond family and 'helping' us with our constitutional rights.

AND....you THREATENED our friends and family members. LEAVE NOW.

Editor's Note: Mary, a cattle rancher and artist, lives in Baker City for several years in Harney County. She and her family, Wes is the son of Mac and the late Joyce Kerns. Mary and Wes sold their ranch here and relocated to Harney County.

My Action Plan for Our Rural Oregon

By Dr. Bud Pierce, Republican Candidate for Governor

Addressing the crisis in rural Oregon starts with electing a governor who actually acknowledges rural Oregon is in crisis. This governor should not be part of the one-party rule that has presided over rural Oregon's demise these last 30 years. The majestic and fruitful lands beyond Oregon's 1-5 corridor can no longer be seen solely as giant vacation lands and parks for recreating urban Oregonians. That's not good for the proud residents of rural Oregon. That's not good for our mountains, forests and high desert lands. And that's not good for our urban and suburban communities – that pay for our "forgotten" rural Oregon in the form of higher social welfare costs and lower tax revenues for schools and state services in these impoverished communities.

Here's my plan for rural Oregon:
One, acknowledge that rural Oregon is in crisis and act like it.

Two, launch a six-year action plan to revive rural Oregon. Three, keep this initiative and similar (related) initiatives to reduce class sizes, to put more money into the pockets of working Oregonians and to end traffic congestion at the center of Oregon's public policy agenda. Every day. All year.

OK, what would the specifics look like? A governor-led effort to:

Encourage across-the-board businesses, such as Intel, to spread out Portland the state, opening up job opportunities in rural Oregon. The governor must ensure that the state spreads the wealth by creating more opportunities across Oregon, with the help of state and local incentives and targeted transportation infrastructure projects.

Eliminate state regulations that make it more difficult for Oregon manufacturers to compete in the marketplace. For example, Oregon requires shipping of market homes in much smaller loads than other states, greatly increasing transportation and ultimately home costs for Oregon manufacturers and buyers. Our state government needs to stop putting our manufacturers – and their workers – at a competitive disadvantage.

Make the Port of Coos into a vibrant, deep-water port so our goods can be shipped out from southern Oregon instead of California, Washington and Canada.

Bring the weight of the governor's office to bear on fixing the labor problems at the Port of Portland so our farmers and agribusinesses once again have regular shipping schedules.

Increase timber harvest levels on our state lands under Oregon's Forest Practices Act. Ensure our state forests can meet their legal production goals as set by the Oregon Forestry Board. This would create new jobs and preserve existing ones in our rural communities. It would also generate millions more in revenue for our counties and the state treasury.

Push through projects that bring jobs to rural communities.

Push Washington, D.C. to increase harvest on our federal lands in an environmentally responsible and timely manner.

Establish a system of functioning small rural airports across Oregon.

I'll be a balanced voice for rural Oregon and bring the citizens together. I'll do all I can to incentivize the movement of people and resources to citizens who want to live in Oregon's rural areas. The fact is that if we make rural Oregon successful, we make urban Oregon – and all Oregon – successful.

Bud Pierce is a Republican candidate for Oregon governor and a respected oncologist and senior partner of Hematology/Oncology of Salem. www.budpierce.com.

Death / Service Notices

Paul Thomason, 91, a former Buxton - Baker City resident, died on Jan. 13, 2016, surrounded by family and friends at his home in Scotts Valley, Cal. Interment will be at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Baker City. A Graveside Service will be held this spring, date and time to be announced. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

Sharolet Harter, 81, of Baker City died on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2016 at Settler's Park Assisted Living. A celebration of Sharolet's life will be held this summer. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com

Dona Stanbro, 85, of Union, died Jan. 16 2016 at Jodi George's Adult Foster Home in Union. Arrangements are under the direction of Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. Light a candle in remembrance of Dona at www.grayswestco.com.

Amber L. Brown, 38, of Baker City died at her residence Jan. 17, 2016. Arrangements are under the direction of Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814. Light a candle in Remembrance of Amber at www.grayswestco.com.

Nina Labrum Stevens, 91, longtime Baker City resident, died at her home on Monday, Jan. 18, 2016. Arrangements are under the direction of Tami's Pine Valley Funeral Home & Cremation Services. Online condolences may be shared at www.tamispinevalleyfuneralhome.com



Record-Courier

(USPS 457-720)
COMBINED WITH NORTH POWDER NEWS
HAINES, OREGON 97833
BAKER COUNTY NEWSPAPER
Gina Perkins, Editor - Publishingnews@theronline.com
Heather Honeywell,
Double H Productions
Graphic Design/Production
news@theronline.com
Evan Perkins, Circulation Assistant

Published every Thursday at Haines, Ore. Office located at 914 Front Street. Telephone (541) 856-3615. Periodicals "Postage Paid at Baker City, OR 97814."
Subscriptions and Postmaster: Send Address Changes to P.O. Box 70, Baker City, Oregon 97814-0070.
Subscription Rates: \$39 per year in area, \$44 per year out of area.
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Thursday, January 21, 2016



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