

Obituaries

Violet Wieneke

Violet F. Wieneke died at her home in Boring on Oct. 19 at the age of 74. She will be buried privately at Forest Lawn Memorial Park. She was born Dec. 29, 1912, in Pen-brooke, Wales, the British Isles. She is survived by her brother, Glen Carmony of Sandy; and nieces and nephews, Pam Grayson, Nancy Richards, Casey Carmony, Larry Carmony and Randy Carmony. Carroll Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Lawrence Thompson

Funeral for logger Lawrence "Larry" E. Thompson, a long-time resident of Sandy, was Oct. 17 at Carroll Funeral Home in Gresham. Mr. Thompson died Oct. 9 at a Portland hospital at the age of 59. He was born the son of Edgar and Inez Thompson on June 7, 1928, in Greeley, Colo. As a young child, he moved with his parents to Longmont, Colo., where he began his education. He moved to Sandy with his family in 1942. He attended Sandy Ridge School and Sandy Union High School. He served in the U.S. Army as a

private first class from 1945 to 1947. After his honorable discharge, he returned to Sandy, where he worked as a logger and truck driver. He moved to Portland in 1960 and married Grace Troutman on Oct. 25, 1961, in San Luis, Mexico. The couple traveled around the country. He retired in 1980. Hunting was his favorite hobby. He is survived by his wife, Grace Thompson of Portland; his daughters, Sandra Russell and Tandra Young of Portland, and Elizabeth Perkins of Crawford, Neb.; his brothers, Howard Thompson of Portland, Theodore Thompson of Oregon City, and Gerald Thompson of Kaiser; his sister, Carol Harris of South Tucson, Ariz.; and seven grandchildren.

Etta Newlands

Memorial for Etta Ala Newlands will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 24, at the Sandy Baptist Church, 34435 S.E. Jarl Road, Sandy. Mrs. Newlands died at a local hospital on Oct. 5 at the age of 72. She was born the daughter of Fredrick and Etta Bechill on June 5, 1915, in Brightwood. She attended grade school and high school in Gresham. She married Thomas Newlands on

June 30, 1934, in Portland, and the couple moved briefly to Canby before settling in Fairview in 1946. They raised their family there, while her husband worked at Reynolds Metals Company and as a custodian at Reynolds High School. The couple enjoyed camping and fishing together, and spent their winters in Arizona after her husband's retirement. She is survived by her husband, Thomas Newlands of Fairview; her sons, Ron Newlands of Eagle Creek, John Newlands of Sandy and Jim Newlands; her sisters, Winnie Griffin of Boring and Polly Haskell of Portland; and seven grandchildren and a great-grandchild. Her family suggests memorial contributions may be made to Dogs For The Deaf, 13260 Highway 238, Jacksonville, Ore., 97530.

Dorothy Epperson

Dorothy Epperson, a former Sandy resident, died Oct. 17 at the age of 84. She was born Dorothy A. Smith in Wheaton, Minn., on Nov. 23, 1902. She was raised near Belfield, N.D., where she completed high school. Dorothy continued her education at Dickinson Teachers College, now Dickinson State College, Dickinson, N.D., where she received her

teaching certificate. She taught elementary education in one-room schools in North Dakota. Living in both Minnesota and North Dakota while beginning her family, Dorothy came to Oregon in 1943 to live at Vanport while working as a welder in the shipyards. In 1945, Dorothy was married to Robert Epperson. They made their home in Sandy where they finished raising the two children. Dorothy went back into the teaching profession, working at various elementary schools in the East County area. They remained in the Sandy area after Dorothy retired in the early 1960s. In 1972 they moved to Portland to make their home. She was a member of the Kelso and Powell Valley Granges, a past member of the Eastern Star and active in senior citizens groups. She died at her Portland home Oct. 17. Survivors include her husband, Robert of Portland; son: Udene Urban of Gresham; daughter: Neida Darley of Jacksonville, Fla.; three sisters: Ila Kohl of California, Ethel Sherwin of Vancouver, Wash., and Norma Newton in North Dakota; four brothers: Howard Smith of Portland, Gene Smith in North Dakota, and Hubert and Lloyd, both of Vancouver; five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



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Scenic area opponents renew battle

by DAVE PINSON
Staff writer

A group of gorge residents is continuing to fight the creation of a Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and plans to file a lawsuit challenging the scenic area on constitutional grounds. Columbia Gorge United, an organization based in Stevenson, Wash., plans to file a brief with the Oregon Supreme Court early in November and with the U.S. Supreme Court shortly thereafter. The lawsuits will challenge the constitutionality of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area and the bi-state commission that governs the scenic area in Oregon and Washington. Joe Wrabek, executive director of Columbia River United, said his

group will argue that the bi-state governing commission violates the Oregon Constitution because the electorate in the Oregon portion of the scenic area was not allowed to vote on the legislation that created the commission. Wrabek said it is his organization's position that Oregon voters are allowed a ballot opportunity if legislation affects a geographically limited area. No popular vote was taken during the establishment of the bi-state commission. The group plans to raise the same issue in federal courts, Wrabek said. "We hope the federal case (is) filed shortly after the state case," he said. The members of the organization, which has been in existence for five years, are dedicated to fighting the scenic area designation, Wrabek said.

"This is the direction we have gotten from our membership," Wrabek said. "I guess the best description would be that we are in a survival mode out here." Columbia River United waged a bitter battle over the 1986 federal bill that established the scenic area. But the group is optimistic about its chances in court, he said. "We don't have any doubt that the case is there," Wrabek said. It is important to put the legislation that allowed the formation of the bi-state commission before the voters, Wrabek said. "If they want to approve it, then they can," he said. Mike Granger, Corbett resident and Columbia Gorge United member, said Friday that the powers of local jurisdictions have been negated by the federal act and the

commission. "This is not a question of people in the area being against the preservation of the gorge," Granger said. "We feel that the rights of the citizens and the powers of the local governments have been taken away. And that is wrong." But Richard Benner, the executive director of the bi-state commission, questioned the wisdom of Columbia Gorge United's plans to file lawsuits against the scenic area legislation. "Efforts to shoot down the program on constitutional grounds are efforts misspent," Benner said Friday. Opponents of the scenic area would be able to accomplish more of their goals by getting "involved in the program" to establish a management plan for the gorge than they would by spending thousands of dollars on litigation, he said.

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