

# Historic Cemeteries Commission seeks new members

Wallowa County Chieftain  
 PENDLETON — The Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries is seeking volunteers to fill open positions representing three regions across

the state, including northeast Oregon. The commission, comprised of seven members, works to maintain a list of all pioneer and historic cemeteries in Oregon, make recom-

mendations for funding, obtain grants and coordinate restoration projects. Positions are also open for southern Oregon and the greater Portland area. The group meets four times per year in various locations

around the state. Anyone can apply, though members should have some knowledge related to cemeteries, historic preservation, genealogy, cultural and burial practices of ethnic groups in Oregon, archaeology,

landscaping and history. To apply, send a letter of interest and résumé to commission coordinator Kuri Gill at [Kuri.Gill@oregon.gov](mailto:Kuri.Gill@oregon.gov). Applicants should include their reasons for wanting to serve

on the commission, skills they will bring and goals for participation. The deadline is Dec. 20. For more information, email Gill or call 503-986-0685.

## OBITUARIES

### Donel 'Roger' Courtney Jan. 13, 1949 to Nov. 12, 2015

Donel "Roger" Courtney passed away in Portland on Nov. 12, 2015. He was born in the old hospital on the hill in Enterprise on Jan. 13, 1949. It was 20 degrees below zero and his dad had trouble getting the car started to get his mother to the hospital. His parents were Donel "Jick" Courtney and Shirley "England" Courtney.



Roger spent most of his early years growing up in Enterprise and graduated from Enterprise High School in 1967. He worked in his uncle's Texaco Service Station and then went to the University of Washington and became a pharmacist and lived and worked in Seattle for awhile.

Then he went on to school to become a medical doctor, specializing in general practice, trauma, vascular and micro surgery, metabolic physiology and critical care.

He practiced in the Portland area and worked in the emergency room at Emmanuel Hospital for some time.

Roger and Neelima toured much of Europe and many other parts of the world.

He enjoyed seeing the sights of the world and visiting with the people.

He loved cars and motorcycles of any make and age, especially exotic and fast cars. Being gifted with his hands, he enjoyed restoring cars and motorcycles. He also loved to build computer systems from scratch.

Roger was preceded in death by his father Donel "Jick" Courtney, sister Jill Courtney and uncle Richard Courtney. He is survived by his wife Neelima, son Donel "Ajai" Courtney, mother Shirley Steward, sister Diana Barney, brother Tyler Courtney, uncle Mick and Sharon Courtney, and many relatives and friends.

Celebration of his life will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 3 at the Bollman Funeral Home with fellowship to follow at the VFW Hall. Private Interment of Remains will take place at Enterprise Cemetery. Bollman Funeral Home will handle arrangements.

Donations can be made in Roger's name to the Enterprise Cemetery.

### Lester O. Ruud July 17, 1913 to Nov. 12, 2015

Lester Ruud, 102, passed away Thursday, Nov. 12, 2015 at Parkview at Wheatland Village in Walla Walla. A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Nov. 28 at Walla Walla City Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Lester was born July 17, 1913 in Elgin, Ill., to Iver O. and Karin (Nicolaison) Ruud. He graduated from Walla Walla Academy in 1935 and attended Walla Walla College. He met Vera Grove at Walla Walla College and waited for Vera to graduate from nursing training before marrying her. They were married May 14, 1939 in Portland. They were married 76 years.

He was taught watchmaking by his father in Oregon City, Oregon. He started his own watchmaking business in downtown Portland, repairing watches by mail from jewelers along the Oregon coast and from Portland. He settled in Enterprise in 1948 and operated a jewelry and gift shop until watches began to be run by batteries. He moved to Pendleton and started a hearing-aid business and became a hearing instrument specialist. In 1978, after 17 years in Pendleton, he purchased a hearing-aid business in Walla Walla, then retired in 1985.

Lester was a very active member of the Walla Walla City Seventh-day Adventist church. He was the assistant director of the Adventist Community Services Center in Walla Walla. He volunteered for Gospel Outreach in College Place. He and Vera volunteered on several Maranatha building projects throughout the U.S. He was an amateur radio operator. He was a member of the International Hearing Society and the Oregon and Washington Hearing Societies. He is a past member of the Pendleton Round Up Lions.

Lester loved to ski from childhood until in his late 80s. He loved to water ski and sail. He built grandfather clocks for each of his six grandchildren's weddings. After his retirement he repaired many of the clocks in the Walla Walla Valley.

Lester is survived by his loving wife Vera of 76 years. They have two children: Phillip (Linda) Ruud of Pendleton and Dennis (Diana) Ruud of Chesapeake, Va. Other relatives include brother Nils (Jo) Ruud of Oregon City; sister Shirley (Calvin) Hartnell of Desert Hot Springs, Calif.; six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by both parents, sisters Emily, Lilly, Ruth and Helen, and brother Leslie.

Contributions may be made in Lester's name to Gospel Outreach, Adventist Community Services or Walla Walla Hospice. Friends and family may share memories and sign the online guest-book at [www.mountainview-colonialdewitt.com](http://www.mountainview-colonialdewitt.com).

### Elizabeth 'Betty' Elva Curtis Sept. 28, 1927 to Oct. 19, 2015

Elizabeth "Betty" Elva Curtis slipped away Monday, Oct. 19, 2015 at Angeline Senior Living in La Grande — into the hands of her Lord, husband Melvin and daughter Lorraine.

Betty was born in Everson, Wash., to Alexander and Elva (Bates) Walter. She was an only child, which she loved. She was spoiled and stayed that way all of her life.

Betty lived in many parts of Oregon but Wallowa County was her favorite and she lived here over 30 years. She didn't feel the need to go anywhere else when she already lived in "God's country". She enjoyed taking the bus to the senior meal site. The drivers usually took the long way home, and she thought it was wonderful to see "places she had never seen before".

Her hobbies were sewing, making quilts, knitting, crocheting and counted cross stitch. She earned many blue ribbons at county fairs. She give away the many things she made to ones she loved, those who appreciated her work.

She attended the Church of the Nazarene in Enterprise. She enjoyed the music and the friendly people. It became home to her.

Betty and Melvin raised five daughters: Diana, Elaine, Anne, Lorraine and Shirley. She has several grandchildren and great-grand children. Her big black cat, "Darlin' Big Guy," was her constant companion.

Betty is survived by Diana Bolin, Elaine Winnie, Anne Freiberg and Shirley Curtis. She was preceded in death by her husband Melvin, daughter Lorraine and grand-daughter Corina.

A celebration of life will be announced at a later date.

### Todd Ebsen Boston Aug. 29, 1963 to Nov. 8, 2015

Todd Ebsen Boston passed away suddenly on Sunday, Nov. 8, 2015 at his favorite place on earth, where his family ties run for over a century, at Grouse Flat, Ore., while doing one of his most beloved activities — hunting for elk.



Todd was born in Lewiston, Idaho, on Aug. 29, 1963. Todd lived for the most part of his life in Clarkston, Wash., and Troy. He attended grade school through high school in Clarkston, graduating in 1981. He also attended Wenatchee Valley Community College, where he played football.

Todd worked in farming and ranching, construction, electronics manufacturing and most recently at Costco in Clarkston.

A true outdoorsman, Todd spent his spare time on Grouse Flat to hunt, fish and enjoy the beauty of nature and wildlife. He cherished his time with family in participating in these activities and the wonders of the great outdoors. His heart was open to all and his infectious joy for family and friends impacted the lives of many.

Todd is survived by his parents, Paula Ebsen of Clarkston and Clarence Boston of Terrebone, Ore.; brother Terry Boston (Tammey) of Pullman; nephews Chase Boston of Madison, Wis., and Drew Boston of Kennewick; aunts Norma Lovelady of Asotin and Pam (Rich) Earp of Lenore; and many cousins throughout the Pacific Northwest. His sister, Taunia, preceded him in death in 1976. He also was preceded in death by grandparents Joe and Ellen Ebsen of Asotin, and Dewey and Anna Boston of Troy.

Graveside services were held at Vineland Cemetery in Clarkston, and a celebration of life for Todd was held Nov. 13 in Asotin, Wash. In lieu of flowers, please provide memorial gifts to your favorite charity.

## Correction

Our Nov. 18 Biz Buzz column listed an incorrect artist name for the works being displayed at Missy's Uptown Art. The gallery has work by Robert Dawson, Dean Crouser and many more local artists.

## About Obituaries

News obituaries are a free service of the Wallowa County Chieftain. The paper accepts obituaries from the family or funeral home. Information submitted is subject to editing. Send obituaries by e-mail, [obits@wallowa.com](mailto:obits@wallowa.com); fax, 541-426-3921; or mail, PO Box 338, Enterprise, OR 97828. The deadline to submit an obituary is 2 p.m. Monday for the Wednesday paper.

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## Weather Forecast

Courtesy of Weather Underground. [www.wunderground.com](http://www.wunderground.com)

	High	Low	Condition
Nov. 26	23	6	Clear
Nov. 27	27	8	Clear
Nov. 28	30	9	Clear
Nov. 29	32	13	Clear
Nov. 30	33	16	Clear
Dec. 1	35	18	Clear

### Phases of the moon

Nov. 25	Dec. 2	Dec. 11	Dec. 18
Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon	1st Quarter

## The Gift of Art

A Youth Art Program Fundraiser Silent Auction  
**Thursday, December 3**  
 Doors open at 6:30 bidding starts at 7 and ends at 8:30.

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**WALLOWA COUNTY SUNRISE, SUNSET NOV. 25-DEC. 1**  
 (from the U.S. Naval Observatory)

WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES
Nov. 25	Nov. 26	Nov. 27	Nov. 28	Nov. 29	Nov. 30	Dec. 1
Rise: 7:01	Rise: 7:02	Rise: 7:04	Rise: 7:05	Rise: 7:06	Rise: 7:07	Rise: 7:08
Set: 4:11	Set: 4:10	Set: 4:10	Set: 4:09	Set: 4:08	Set: 4:08	Set: 4:08