

OBITUARY

Fay Almetta Paustian
June 8, 1934 - Aug. 13, 2017

Fay Almetta Paustian, 83, of Baker City passed away Sunday, Aug. 13, at her residence in Beehive Homes. Gray's West & Co. has been entrusted with the arrangements. At her request, no services have been planned.



Paustian was born June 8, 1934, to Ross and Irma (Ray) Raymond in Woodburn. At a very young age, she moved to Grant County, and she graduated from Prairie City High School in 1952. She married Gordon Bruce Paustian on May 28, 1960, in Winnemucca, Nevada, and together they raised five children: Carrol, David, Tamara, Gary and Almetta.

Her main occupation was being a homemaker, but she also worked for Kolb & Oster, Pioneer Federal Bank, Ben's Transfer, Baker School District and the Grant County Assessor's Office. She retired from Baker School District. Paustian enjoyed crocheting, knitting, sewing, gardening, bowling, square dancing and spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. While in school, she played volleyball and was in band. She also volunteered at Baker Co-op for the past several years. She did many great things in her life but the accomplishment she was most appreciated for was being a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

She is survived by her husband, Gordon Paustian, of Baker City; daughter Carrol Titus and son-in-law Bob Titus of Prairie City; son David Paustian of Baker City; daughter Tamara Zemmer and son-in-law Ron Meng of Baker City; son Gary Paustian and daughter-in-law Sherri Paustian of Nampa, Idaho; son-in-law Lee Fuge of Canby; brother Delmas Raymond and sister-in-law Mary Raymond of Prairie City; 11 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and numerous extended family members.

She was preceded in death by her daughter Almetta Rene Fuge.

Memorial contributions may be made to Heart 'n' Home Hospice through Gray's West & Co. Pioneer Chapel at 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To leave a condolence for the family, visit grayswestco.com.

About Obituaries

News obituaries are a free service of the Blue Mountain Eagle. The paper accepts obituaries from the family or funeral home. Information submitted is subject to editing. Obituaries submitted to the Eagle with incorrect information may be corrected and republished as paid notices. Send obituaries by email, editor@bmeagle.com; fax, 541-575-1244; or mail, 195 N. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. For more information, or to inquire about a paid memorial, call 541-575-0710.

CORRECTION

In last week's edition, an article about a Grant Union teacher and students involved in a national total solar eclipse project, sophomore Gage Brandon's name was listed incorrectly. Brandon said he plans to pursue astronomy studies in the future. Charlotte Hopkins won a blue ribbon in the Grant County Fair Parade for mounted female adult and a special award for most creative entry; her name was listed incorrectly in the results submitted to the Eagle. We regret the errors.

Prairie City American Legion Post receives membership award

By Angel Carpenter
Blue Mountain Eagle

Prairie City's recruitment of American Legion members to Post 106 is going strong.

National Commander Charlie Schmidt of Burns presented the 21st Century Award to the local group at its Aug. 5 meeting. About 25 were in attendance.

"The award was given to Post 106 for membership and their great job of recruiting," said District 10 Commander Jim Jerome of John Day.

To receive the award a group must increase their membership by two or three members in one year. The organization in Monument also received the award.

Jerome oversees eight posts in the Oregon Department's District 10: Prairie City, John Day, Dayville, Monument, Burns, Nyssa, Vale and Ontario.

Ed Negus is the commander of Post 106, which has 42 members from Prairie City, John Day, Sumpter and other areas, including out of state.

Jerome said the American Legion organization is important in many ways, including the GI Bill for higher education, which is now a benefit for life, and assistance purchasing a home.

He said the American Legion wrote the first GI Bill to help former servicemen receive higher education in a field they are interested in,



Contributed photo

American Legion National Commander Charlie Schmidt speaks to the American Legion Post 106 on Aug. 5 in Prairie City. From left, Chaplain Jim Litscher of Burns, First Vice Commander Daniel Burk of Ontario and Adjutant Julie Gibson of Burns.

noting it used to be in effect for 10 years after completing service, but now veterans can use the benefit for life.

"It's also been working hard as a strong supporter of our VA program to take care of our wounded and injured veterans," Jerome said, adding they are also working to revamp the VA to expedite services and to ensure quality care. "The Legion fought hard for these programs to be initiated and put into place."

Schmidt said gaining membership is always a challenge. District 10 includes

members from Grant, Harney and Malheur counties.

"We consider ourselves the biggest little district in Oregon," he said.

"We work on Capitol Hill every day," he said. "Our staff works with legislators on our concerns. We're concerned about veterans, their families and our America."

He added, "Membership strengthens our voice, which basically means more numbers; it gives us a little bit more of a powerful voice, because behind that is over 2 million Legionnaires."

Schmidt said it's important for the members to be visible, volunteering with community programs to help other veterans see the value of what the American Legion does.

He said the organization started after WWI to help wounded veterans and their families.

The American Legion has veteran service officers to help, whether a veteran is young or old, he said.

"I'm proud to be a member of the American Legion and also to be a member of District 10 because we all stick together, we work together, and we've been doing that for a number of years," he said. "We help one another while we're also doing programs and advocating for veterans."

Membership dues help Schmidt and other leaders pay for travel to make presentations before congress and help fund scholarships.

Schmidt and Jerome attended the Aug. 18-24 American Legion National Convention in Reno, Nevada, the 99th annual convention.

Jerome said it has been 98 years since the organization has chosen a national commander from Oregon.

The next meeting for Post 106 is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5, in the log cabin building at 307 SW Front St. in Prairie City.

For more information, call Ed Negus at 541-820-3593.

BRIEFLY

Grant Union graduate wins scholarship

Jessica Carter, a 2017 Grant Union High School graduate, re-

ceived a \$1,500 Oregon Farm Bureau Memorial Scholarship.

Carter plans to pursue agribusiness management, studying at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

She is among 12 Oregon students receiving the scholarship.

The goal of the OFB Memorial Scholarship is to "support students that will have a positive impact on production agri-

culture and other agricultural related fields," said Andrea Kuenzi, scholarship coordinator for the Oregon Farm Bureau.

This scholarship program is open to new and continuing full-time students.

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TUESDAY	84/56
WEDNESDAY	86/51
THURSDAY	87/54
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SATURDAY	82/55
SUNDAY	85/50
MONDAY	88/53

24/7 FORECAST

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WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF AUG. 23-29

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Partly sunny	Afternoon showers	Sunny and pleasant	Sunny and warm	Mostly sunny	Sunny and hot	Mostly sunny
88	82	85	91	94	95	93
56	47	48	52	52	50	53