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Obituaries

Oscar E. Peterson



IONE — Oscar E. Peterson, a lifetime resident of the Ione area, died Tuesday, February 9, 1982 at Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner. He was born April 23, 1893 to John Edward and Louise Johnson Peterson on the family homestead near Ione. He attended Reed College in Portland.

On September 2, 1924, he was married to Esther Engstrom at Portland.

Mr. Peterson was a member of the Rhea Creek Grange for 50 years; a 44-year member of the Ione Masonic Lodge; a member of the Oregon Wheat League; a founder of the Jordan Elevator; charter member of the Ione Lions Club; member of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce; a charter member of the Willow Creek Country Club; an Ione school board member and chairman for many years; a collaborator with Giles French on the book "Homesteads and Heritages"; and Sunday school superintendent of Valby Lutheran Church for 32 years. The church was founded by his father and neighbors near his farm in 1886.

Mr. Peterson was prominent in political, religious and farming circles in the Northwest as well as in Morrow County.

He served on the state Agriculture Commission for eight years and on the advisory commission for Bonneville Power Administration for several years. He was elected judge of Morrow County Court (commission) in 1958 and served until 1966. Farming a ranch south of Ione, which was homesteaded by his father, John, in the 1890s, he was instrumental in bringing electric power to the area.

Along with neighbors, he organized Columbia Basin Electric Co-op under the Rural Electrification Act. He served on its board of directors for eight years.

Mr. Peterson also worked for many years in the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association promoting navigation on the Columbia River.

He was attending a national meeting of the waterways association in Minneapolis in November when he suffered a heart attack. He had been hospitalized most of the time since.

Mr. Peterson worked for regional cooperation in government, helping to organize the Mid-Columbia Association of Counties in the early 1960s. He organized the Port of Morrow and served as a commissioner on its board for several years.

He was also a champion of the Willow Creek Dam, making several trips to Washington D.C. to promote the

project.

Funeral services were held Saturday, February 13, at Valby Lutheran Church, with the Rev. John Maas officiating. Rikka Tews was organist. Casket bearers were Kerry Peterson, Paul Peterson and Joel Peterson, Richard Lindner, Jon Kvistad and Rod Kvistad. Honorary bearer was Andy Kvistad. Concluding services and vault interment were at Valby Cemetery. Sweeney Mortuary was in charge of arrangements.

Survivors include his wife, Esther, of Heppner; a daughter, Eunice Kvistad, Beaverton; two sons, Donald and Gerald, both of Ione; a sister, Emma Peterson, of Minneapolis, Minn.; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Valby Lutheran Church memorial fund, or the Oregon Heart Fund, directly or through the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

The Rev. Walter B. Crowell

IONE — Word has been received here of the death of former Ione resident, the Rev. Walter B. Crowell, Mr. Crowell, 81, of Woodburn, Ore., died Dec. 27, 1981.

He was born January 6, 1900, at McClure, Ohio.

Memorial services were held January 4, 1982 at Hubbard Community Church, Hubbard, Oregon, with the Rev. Burton Alvis officiating. Private entombment was at Belle Passe Memorial Mausoleum, Woodburn.

The Rev. Crowell was a former minister of the Ione United Church of Christ. Upon leaving Ione, he and his wife retired to Woodburn Estates in Woodburn.

His wife, Helen, preceded him in death in 1978.

Survivors include a daughter Erlene Crowell Cares, 2817 Washington, Parsons, Kansas, 67357; a sister, in Vancouver, Washington; and several grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hubbard Community Church, Second and Eighth Streets, Hubbard, Oregon 97032.

Five Day Stop Smoking Program slated

A special Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking will be presented in Heppner starting Sunday, February 21 through Thursday, February 25, at the Heppner Junior High School at 7:30 p.m.

The plan consists of regular evening group therapy sessions, films and a daily personal control program for home or work. Lectures, printed materials and medical facts will combine to help participants break the habit, said a church spokesperson.

The plan was developed in 1959 by a doctor-minister team of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and has been successful over the years in major cities around the world. It is presented locally by the members of the Adventist Church with the help of medical and other professional personnel.

There will be a small fee requested from each participant to cover the cost of materials, films and other immediate expenses, said the spokesperson.

Thank God and Morrow County

To the editor: Thank God our county had pride enough to have a Neighborhood Center.

If you could trade the sympathy for the pain that people really have when they need the services of our Neighborhood Center there would be no cuts or even a thought of any more cuts. Our county needs their programs. Look around, your mother, father, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, someone in your family or very close friend at one time or another has needed help that Welfare couldn't or wouldn't.

They have gotten programs in our county that our tax dollars have paid for for years. They have helped the handicapped to be trained to take care of themselves—otherwise they would of lived off us or drained the families of all savings with nothing left to educate the other children of the same family.

The bread winner in the family is out of work-which we saw a lot of with Kinzua's cut back the last two years-they can give a helping hand in a retraining job, where to go look for what you need, help with tax papers free to the low income, help with heat and or heat bills.

Helping our senior citizens so they don't set around and lock themselves away from the world, some will not eat right, some cannot afford to eat right. Our county takes care of our senior citizens through meals on wheels and helping them get to the free meals or the meals get to them. If we live long enough we will be senior citizens too and this just might be our highlight of the day-it doesn't cost that much but it does take quite a bit of time. So many enjoy donating time as they're not just sitting idle also.

I'm proud to live in Morrow County as they do take care and they do care, lots of counties don't care. It's easier not to find the funds and forget it but so far we care for our own.

I've seen families helped with clothes to keep children in school, children that would be crippled if not for corrective shoes, encouragement to families with a handicapped member to educate and train them to live and take care of themselves. I've seen a youth without a mother and an elderly father, get an education. What a proud day that was for Morrow County and that youth.

We don't produce Welfare recipients, Morrow County produces self-supporting citizens.

I've seen times people from other counties turn to our Neighborhood Center for help to find out where to go for the help they are seeking.

They have helped train our youth in actually finding work-job applications (when did you last fill one out? It's quite an experience in itself.) withholding forms and resumes.

Of course, all the Christmas baskets that are made up and delivered.

There are so many things they help with and I know I've forgotten many but I know as I was a Welfare recipient that our Neighborhood Center picked up by the boot straps. Gave me the helping hand I needed for an education and job without crushing my pride, when my job was defunded a few years ago I went on to another job, bought and paid for and remodeled a house with the help of my five children. Four of these children finished school, two even college and one is in the fifth grade. With God's help and the education I received from our Neighborhood Center she'll have an education too.

Thank you dear God and Morrow County for our Neighborhood Center. Please don't defund any more of these programs.

Sincerely, Jeane McRoberts

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Boxing anyone?

To the editor: The controversy over the Neighborhood Center reminds me of round two of a boxing match.

Round one was a mismatch and the senior citizens came out the loser. The mealsite was underhandedly removed from the Neighborhood Center to the fairgrounds. Anyone wishing to ride the bus from lone or Lexington to the mealsite can ride free. Those that choose not to go to the mealsite and have other things to do are charged 75 cents. Some would call this discrimination.

Round two: "We will find someone to supply the human needs of those that need it if humanly possible." One word stands out in that quote, NEED.

This round involves the Neighborhood Center. During the last budget, the writing on the wall began to show that something was in the wind as to the services the Neighborhood Center was giving to the county of Morrow.

Someone wasn't happy that the seniors were content with their meal center downtown. The seniors were content and also were, I am sure, happy being able to participate in the other things offered by the Neighborhood Center: handy helper (repair work), weatherization, clothing (washed and repaired before distribution), food program (all walks of life), gleaning program (products canned or frozen for future use), glasses, shoes, crutches for all in need, aid to burned out families, wood deliveries, blood pressure (county nurse), use of government agencies, Christmas baskets, Thursday social (getting together to talk over problems where someone is concerned). These are only some of the many things done at the Neighborhood Center by Pat Brindle and her faithful and hard working volunteer crew.

Ten thousand dollars, revenue sharing funds, not a big price to ask for all that the people of Morrow County receive from it.

There are no duplications of services such as the job title for senior services that cost the tax payers \$7,000 last year and will receive \$7,887 if the budget is passed this year. This job was handled by the Neighborhood Center.

If we look around our county, we find at Lexington, the remains of the offices that cost the taxpayers many dollars, having them moved here, set up by county employees only to be condemned disassembled and moved to Lexington. Wasted funds.

On the other hand, the Neighborhood Center, mostly volunteer operated, a place where everyone in the county, north or south, can come in need of help, just to pass the time of day, companionship or friendship, its existence being threatened by the same county court that can spend thousands, reaping nothing in return.

Again the county court has moved to not only do harm to the senior citizens but to all who live in Morrow County, young and old, those not so fortunate as they themselves who probably will never have to use the services of the Neighborhood Center.

What will round three bring? After all, most boxing matches are three or more rounds.

Thank you, Merl Cantin

Heppner news

David Sykes attended an Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association conference in Eugene last Friday. He and April, Christopher, Andrew and Allison spent the weekend visiting Ardeen and John Clay and sons, Jim, Alan and J.C., in Monmouth and Vickie and Charlie Lewis and son, Max, in Portland.

Is it real?

To the editor: If Oregon is short of money, why did Governor Atiyeh introduce Senate Bill 974, asking a \$1,385,351 raise for judges of Supreme Court, Court of Appeals, Oregon Tax Court, circuit courts and district courts?

If this is a genuine emergency, why does SB 983 say it is "...for purposes of ORS chapter 197..." meaning SB 100 and LCDC? The first complete section of SB 983 says: "Section 1. Based on study of relevant data, including but not limited to employment sales of goods and services, financial activity in the private sector and governmental revenues, the legislative assembly finds and declares for purposes of ORS chapter 197 that an economic emergency exists throughout Oregon, and that the economic emergency is a matter of state-wide concern."

LCDC director Jim Ross made the statement while testifying for SB 983, that this bill would allow creation of five new positions. These would "...provide a tool in balancing statewide planning goals." He called this bill a "subtle tool" to be used in forcing counties to meet LCDC goals and guidelines, saying their economies would soon improve once they accept LCDC plans, showing Oregon is an economic hostage.

The format of this emergency fits the game-plan of the faked 1973 gasoline shortage. Now the gimmick is a shortage of money. The same planners are the 1,000 Friends of Oregon, who created L.C.D.C.

Another dimension of Oregon's dollar shortage comes from the nature of Oregon's fiscal agent, which is Chemical Bank of New York City. Oregon has over a \$3.4 billion dollar bonded indebtedness, with annual principal and interest payments of over \$250 million, near the amount of our so-called emergency. This fact and the New York roots of L.C.D.C. need a grand jury investigation.

Proof that artificial shortages have been created over the last 10 years, can be found on page 11 of a little known publication now available from Oregon State University, Department of Agriculture and Resource Economics, Corvallis, OR 97331, Ask for "Rockefeller Project, RF 71079, Final Report."

Why short-change our veterans and fire good employees for such plans?

Sincerely, Joe Spinner

We the people

To the editor: "Land planning will always be flexible to adjustments of-by local areas" and "Citizen input is a primary requisite to all land planning," we were told in the early 1960s.

I attended many of these early planning sessions in Lincoln County, Oregon, as an interested citizen and to increase my knowledge as a real estate broker. Supposedly, citizen input is still part of the planning goals, as long as Mr. Citizen does not stray from the very narrow pathway as set forth by L.C.D.C. Current county comprehensive plans are not citizen activated; rather they are the dictates of L.C.D.C.

I moved from the soggy clay soils of Lincoln County to the semi-arid soils of sunny Morrow County hoping that less population and less rainfall would loosen their restrictive mandates. Not so. Our Morrow County Citizens Comprehensive Plan was a liveable plan, with many donated hours by local citizens.

The land plan of Morrow County, now before L.C.D.C., for approval review in February, is without question mandated by L.C.D.C., without any regard given the earlier county comprehensive planning. We are solid block zoned either "Exclusive Farm Use" or "Exclusive Forest Use" in all county areas lying outside of municipal urban growth boundaries, regardless of the quality of the soils, rimrock or alfalfa lands. Practically none of the other Oregon goals are, in actuality, granted any consideration. Minimum lots will be 160 acres in EFU Zones. It is well established that any future growth must and will be held, within municipal urban growth boundaries only, as dictated by "Uncle Tom's L.C.D.C." His "Visit but don't stay" philosophy is being well continued.

Oregon is home to me and mine, consisting of six generations born in our beautiful Oregon. It is hard to believe that our borders are being effectively sealed by this appointed, dictatorial, unelected body. It will remain so until our silent majority votes it out of existence, or its directorship becomes an elective position, more responsive to we the people.

R.W. Harris Box 694 Heppner, Oregon 97836

PLEASE

To the editor: PLEASE! let the record show that the Neighborhood Center is more than a "socio-recreational" center. It is a desperately needed aid center for needy people that provides help that no other group in our area has been able to provide — not any government agency, not churches, not service clubs.

As a pastor I've referred very needy people (and not just seniors) to the center for food and clothing. These people are both locals and transients. There simply is no other place in southern Morrow County that stock-piles emergency food and clothing supplies. And both local Lutheran churches, recognizing this, have supported the work of the center through donations.

Even if the center was only a "socio-recreational" center (which it is not), so what? Our older citizens have paid their dues all their lives. Can't we provide a place where they can meet, feel warmth and friendship, feel wanted and needed? I think they deserve

as much. Something else bothers me about the commissioners' attitudes. Are the many people served by the Neighborhood Center lacking "cooperation with the County Court" or is it a personnel problem? If it's staff that's not cooperating, why punish innocent people who get help and pleasure from the center? Some commissioners sound suspiciously like they're closing an entire program because they can't or won't deal with one or two individuals. Too bad. A few win, many suffer. But then, that's what elected officials are for, right? John S. Maas

Ione TV Co-op slates annual meeting

The Ione T.V. Co-op will hold its annual meeting Monday, February 22, 8 p.m. at the Ione School cafeteria.

The first paper money in America was issued by colonists in Massachusetts in 1690.

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