

Obituaries

Louis "Poppie" Carlson

Louis Andrew Carlson, 89, of Heppner, passed away from health complications October 21 in Bend, OR. Louis was the youngest child of Leonard and Julia Carlson. He was born February 6, 1930 at the family homestead located in the Valby Community (Ione, OR). He had three older siblings: Joyce Carlson-Darst, Cliff Carlson and Mildred "Millie" Carlson-Hope.



Louis "Poppie" Carlson

Louis attended Oregon State University and married Betty Graves-Carlson of Heppner December 22, 1950. Together they had four children: Sandra Carlson-Richardson (Danny), Cheri Carlson-Frey (Thomas), Phil Carlson (Kathy) and Clint Carlson (Sarah).

Louis was Oregon State Conservation Man of the Year in 1967, president of Oregon Wheat League in 1982, board member of Columbia Irrigation District and Port of Morrow, Morrow County judge for 12 years, Blue Mountain Community College foundation member, double bass player for the Inland Northwest Orchestra, actively involved in the Morrow County Museum and Historical Society and a 4-H member and leader, as well as a member of many local, state and national agricultural boards.

Carlson was a third-generation farmer and rancher involved in the Cattlemen's Association. He was dedicated to Valby Lutheran Church and his Christian faith. According to a family member, Louis was fair, compassionate, hard-working and loved by many. He enjoyed spending

time with family, especially the love of his life Betty. Together, they created a beautiful life filled with countless memories that spanned 69 years of marriage. "The legacy he leaves in his family and community will never be forgotten."

He is survived by his wife Betty Graves-Carlson and their four children, sister-in-law Rita Graves-Hill and brothers-in-law Walt Hill and Dean Graves.

Louis leaves behind eight beloved grandchildren; Andrea Frey-Nelson (Andrew), Amanda Richardson, Brad Frey, Jodie Carlson-Matteson (Ryan), Amy Frey, Kyle Carlson (Brenda), Alex Carlson and Julianne Carlson; along with nine great-grandchildren and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Louis is preceded in death by parents Leonard and Julia Carlson, brother Cliff Carlson and sister-in-law Marion Carlson, sister Joyce Carlson-Darst, sister Mildred Carlson-Hope and brother in law Bob Hope, in-laws John and Doris (Wilcox) Graves, Howard and Jo Ann (Graves) Pettyjohn and son-in-law Thomas Frey.

The family invites everyone to celebrate his life and legacy on Friday, November 22 at 4 p.m. in Ione at the Legion Hall. Those who wish may bring a salad or side dish to share.

Donations in memory of Louis Carlson may be sent to the Valby Memorial Fund, 60492 Valby Road, Ione, OR 97843. The online condolence book is available at sweeneymortuary.com.

~ Letters to the Editor ~

The Heppner Gazette Times will print all letters to the Editor with the following criteria met: letters submitted to the newspaper will need to have the name of the sender along with a legible signature. We are also requesting that you provide your address and a phone number where you can be reached. The address and phone number will only be used for verification and will not be printed in the newspaper. Letters may not be libelous. The GT reserves the right to edit. The GT is not responsible for accuracy of statements made in letters. Any letters expressing thanks will be placed in the classifieds under "Card of Thanks" at a cost of \$10.

Voices need to be heard

To the editor:
I am writing this from Eugene. In a couple of days I will swear in as the President of the Association of Oregon Counties. This will allow Morrow County and all of the Columbia Basin region statewide influence, at a time when it is paramount that our voices be heard.

There is legislation that is returning to the fore in Salem that needs the measured input of Oregon's 36 counties.

Closer to home, I would like to turn my attention to the arts and robotics program that we will be crafting for the students of the county. This is coming from the first of several potential SIP agreements. These programs will set Morrow County schools apart from the rest of the state over the next 15 years.

The unincorporated rural areas of the county need to share in the success. Our farms and ranches remain the backbone of our economy. I will be spending more time over the next years working to return

commodity prices to a level that allows sustainability and hope for a future. This one hits close to home; I want to turn my own ranch over to my son Bryce and his wife Hannah someday. They love it as much as my wife and I do.

The growth of the industrial partners on the river, rail and interstate routes of our northern border give no indication of waning. I look forward to working with them on responsible growth. After several years it looks like we are prepared to lead the state in fixed rural route transit, which will allow us to continue our economic development.

Crafting houses is necessary but our number one resource remains the people, young and old, of Morrow County. To continue this we must focus on the health and culture of our communities.

I am honored to represent you and look forward to the ability to carry the message and craft the future of Morrow County.

Jim Doherty, Commissioner

Planning Department seeks commissioners

The Morrow County Planning Commission is seeking volunteers for open commissioner positions. Positions are available representing the greater Heppner area, the greater Ione area and one at-large position. Morrow County Planning Commissioners serve four-year terms, with these openings beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2023.

Planning Commission duties include approving land use actions, maintaining the county's subdivision and zoning ordinance and working with the County Board of Commissioners

to manage the county's land use Comprehensive Plan. The Planning Commission generally meets once a month, alternating between Heppner and Boardman.

Interested parties must reside within Morrow County and in the community they are representing. Those interested are encouraged to submit a letter of interest by mail to the Morrow County Planning Department, PO Box 40, Irrigon, OR 97844 or by email at scooper@co.morrow.or.us, by close of business on Friday, December 6, 2019.

Guest Editorial

Are your books in order and do you have a plan?

By Greg Smith

It's hard to believe, but the end of 2019 is nearing, and business owners have multiple items to address.

One of the most important things owners can do is make an appointment with their tax professional now, before tax season, so they won't be surprised by an unwelcome and hefty tax bill. If given enough time, an accountant can advise whether additional allowable business purchases can be made to reduce any tax liability.

For an accountant to accurately assess the finances of a business, the books must be in order. It can be a very easy task if income and expenses have been entered in a regular and timely manner. If not, the owner has a big job ahead, and it may be very wise to hire a bookkeeper as it is essential for this to be completed right away.

Thoroughly evaluate financial statements which include the following three common documents. If unsure how to generate these or interpret the information, ask the accountant for assistance. Reviewing this information should occur on regular intervals instead of just once a year so adjustments can be made, helping to ensure profitability and growth.

-Balance Sheet: This includes business assets, liabilities and equity and provides a snapshot of how the business is doing at a specific point in time.

-Income Statement: Is the business profitable? The income statement itemizes expenses and revenues and quickly tells the owner if the business is showing a profit or loss during a selected time period.

-Cash Flow Statement:



Greg Smith

An illustration of how money is flowing in and out of a business from operating activities (income and expenses) and assets purchased and sold.

It is also not too soon to begin planning for 2020. If a person has a business plan, spend time reviewing it and ask whether it accurately summarizes the objectives with specific plans and budgets to achieve stated goals. Perhaps there are new opportunities on the horizon which will necessitate a change in operations, additional key employees or financing. On the other hand, if there is no business plan, now is the perfect time to create one. There are many online resources available and capable business advisers at a local Small Business Development Center can assist.

Benjamin Franklin is often credited for the following quote, "If you are failing to plan, you are planning to fail."

Small business owners should take that to heart.

Greg Smith is the director of the Eastern Oregon University Small Business Development Center, which is located at 1607 Gekeler Lane, Room #148. To schedule an appointment for free, confidential business advising, please call 541-962-1532 or email eousdbc@gmail.com.

Christmas tree permits available

Umatilla National Forest will offer permits for purchase online through new pilot program

Christmas tree permits for the Umatilla National Forest are available to purchase at forest offices, several local businesses and now online. The Umatilla National Forest is one of 13 National Forests participating in a pilot to offer permits online through the Open Forest system. The Open Forest program allows the public to purchase a 2019 Christmas tree permit from home, or by using a mobile device, instead of traveling to a Forest Service office. Christmas tree permits purchased online will have to be printed to be valid and can only be used on Umatilla National Forest lands, as specified on the permit.

Permits cost \$5 each and are limited to one per household. Traditional Christmas tree permits will still be available at local Forest Service offices, or participating vendors. Forest Service offices are open for business Monday through Friday at the four Umatilla Ranger District offices in Ukiah and Heppner, OR; and Walla Walla and Pomeroy, WA; and at the Supervisor's Office in Pendleton, OR. Participating vendors are conveniently open evenings and weekend hours. Traditional permits are valid on National Forest System lands only and do not authorize tree cutting on private, state or other federally managed lands.

As part of the national Every Kid in a Park initiative, all fourth graders are eligible for a free Christmas tree permit from their local national forest. In order for students to receive a free tree permit, they must present a valid paper voucher printed from the Every Kid in a Park website. Visit www.everykidinapark.gov and follow instructions to obtain and print the paper voucher. Bring the paper voucher to a local National Forest office to claim the free permit. Students must be present to pick up the free permit. These free permits can only be issued through a National Forest office and will not be available through local vendors who sell permits.

For more information about purchasing a permit and gathering a Christmas tree online, please visit <https://openforest.fs.usda.gov>.

FOOD DRIVE

Wheatland is hosting our annual food drive. We will be accepting donations of non-perishable food items until December 17th. Please stop by your local Heppner and Ione offices and help us help our neighbors in need. All donations will be donated to the Neighborhood Center and distributed throughout South Morrow County. Office hours 8 - 5 Monday - Friday

Wheatland Insurance Center, Inc. Serving Eastern Oregon since 1983.

The Country Rose

Wine & Design
Thanksgiving Cornucopia Centerpiece
Sunday, November 24 at 2:00pm
\$30 Sign up and pay in advance at Murray's

217 North Main St.,
Heppner, OR
Phone 676-9158
Floral 676-9426

We have Heppner Mustang gear!
Come get your Hoodies, Shirts, Hats,
Stickers & More!

Murray's will be closed
Thursday, November 28th.
Happy Thanksgiving!

MURRAY'S 2020 MEDICARE PART D PLANS

SILVERSCRIPT
WELLCARE
CLEAR SPRINGS HEALTH
CIGNA HEALTHSPRING
ENVISION
EXPRESS SCRIPTS
AARP
AARP WALGREENS
MUTUAL OF OMAHA
ASURIS MEDICARE SCRIPT
ENHANCED

Medicare Advantage plans:
MODA HEALTH PPO

*Please note we are NOT a provider for Humana
Enrollment ends December 7th.

Want to know when your prescriptions are ready?
Ask the pharmacy about text alerts.
Sign up for our auto-refill program.
Shingrix Vaccine available at the pharmacy.

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