

# The Latest Dirt...

Happy Heart Day

You won't have a pain from the neck up when you work with us from the ground down!

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*Keep the pictures coming!*

Curtis, Marla, and Mary make up the team that records daily events, photographs C&E crews, shares history, and makes sure it's all error free.

We at C&E Trenching offer this monthly publication free of charge to our premier customers. We hope you enjoy reading about the real moments that molded the lives of our customers and crew. If you would rather not receive the exclusive offers we give to our premier customers, send an email to [news@candetrenching.com](mailto:news@candetrenching.com) and we will stop sending you our newsletter.

February 2018

## The Difference 109 Years Makes!

A few months ago, I wrote about a bucket list item of mine which was to ride a horse across the country from ocean to ocean. Since then, I have been given a book about a man and a woman that drove a horse and team across the nation, and more recently, a book about two young boys that made that ride in the early 1900's. I was fascinated by this account as the boys were only eleven and seven years old.

The book Bud and Me is a true story about two boys. Lewis (Bud) and Temple Abernathy grew up in Oklahoma under the care of their father Jack, who was known as "Catch-'em-alive Jack" for his unique and puzzling ability to catch wolves alive! In fact, he was so famous that President Teddy Roosevelt heard of his unique skill and had a hunt set up so he could watch it in action. This happened in April of 1905, when Teddy was President. Can you imagine a President today being allowed to go camp in the back woods and run on horseback across the prairie chasing wolves at top speed? Jack and Teddy became friends and Jack later became a US Marshal, who by all accounts, was good at his job.



The future C&E crew! Yep, we'd take them all right now but we have to wait due to our country's over-the-top labor laws that I talk about in the article at left. However, I know these kids and the amazing things they build and accomplish. Keep it up guys and send me your resume in a few years!

When Bud and Temple were ten and six years old, respectively, they talked their Dad into letting them ride their horses out to New York to welcome home Teddy (who was out of office by now) from an overseas trip. This was a journey of over 2,000 miles! Since they had just ridden out to Santa Fe and back (a long journey in itself), they figured they were ready. They had many adventures on their journey. In almost every town they came to, the Mayor would greet them and show them around. In one town, they were shown the fire station. Temple loved fire engines and so, on a whim, he asked if they could sleep there overnight. The fire chief thought for a moment and said, "Sure! Why not?" Sure enough, there was a fire and they were allowed to slide down the pole and ride along, standing on the side of the engine that was pulled by a team of horses. When they hit Washington DC, President Taft had them in for dinner.

After they met Teddy and rode in a parade with him (you can see a short clip on You tube of them on their horses in the parade), they shipped their horses home on the train and

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## Five Siblings Each Celebrate 50+ Years of Marriage!

Recently, my (Mary's) parents celebrated fifty years of marriage which was awesome but when all five of my mom's siblings celebrated fifty years, I just had to share. Two of these families, Roger & Norma Wolf and Butch & Susan Young, live here in the Basin and are readers of our newsletter. I'd like to say "avid" readers, but I think my parents slack sometimes. :-) Anyway, with Valentine's Day approaching, I am sharing the following article that the Tri-City Herald published. Enjoy and be encouraged to keep your marriage a priority.

When Elwin "Butch" Young first laid eyes on Susan Wolf more than half a century ago, he knew. She was the one for him — the "perfect young lady for life," he said. And since then, "I haven't changed my mind," Butch said.

He and Susan, who live outside Pasco, celebrated their golden anniversary a few years back. It's a milestone not that many couples reach — in 2009, it was just 6 percent, according to a report from the U.S. Census Bureau.

But in the Youngs' world, it's not all that unusual. As of this year, all four of Susan's siblings also have been married to their spouses for at least five decades.

The couples recently gathered at the Wolf family homestead in Quinter, Kansas for a reunion weekend to celebrate the golden quintet. Asked if it was a fun time, Butch said that "wouldn't be the right word". Instead, he said it was "a blessing". "Family is a blessing to us," he said.

The Wolf siblings and their spouses belong to the Old German Baptist faith, a religious denomination with similarities to the Mennonite and Amish traditions. Butch said that faith is the "secret" to the family's long marriages. "It was something we didn't make happen, but it happened because we conformed our lives to the Biblical teaching," he said of the five couples all reaching their golden anniversaries. "That's the cornerstone of the whole thing."

Susan is the youngest of the five Wolf children. She and Butch have been married 53 years, placing them in the middle of the pack in terms of length of marriage.

The most recently wed are Susan's brother Roger and his wife, Norma, who also live near Pasco. They're at an even 50 years. Susan's brother William and his wife, Erma Jean, live in Kansas and have been married 55 years. So have Susan's sister Rachel Brovont and her husband, Millard. They live in Indiana. The longest-married of the bunch are Susan's sister Ruth Benedict and her husband, Lee, also of Indiana. They've been married 56 years.

Butch, who'll turn 80 in the spring, also has long marriages on his side of the family. His parents were wed 57 years. His three siblings all have passed, but they also were "married for life," he said.

Butch and Susan met in Kansas and eventually moved west. Butch farmed in Franklin County and is a pastor in the church's local congregation, which has about 160 people. He and Susan have five children — all are married and live close by — plus 15 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Their daughter Mary Bauman said they've "been a Godly example to us" and shown "how a marriage is about serving one another, and putting other people's needs above your own". Her parents "encourage us," she said. She and her husband, Sid, are relative newlweds in this family — just 22 years.

Butch said he and his wife and the other four golden couples aren't ones to seek attention. But they like the idea of their long marriages inspiring others. "Maybe it will help somebody struggling with their marriage to realize it can work and it can work wonderfully," Butch said. "If the article can do that, that would be my prayer. It would be the prayer of the family."



The Wolf siblings (**two who live near Pasco**) each have been married to their spouses for more than 50 years and recently gathered in their Kansas hometown for a celebration. Two of the couples live in Pasco. From left, Roger and Norma Wolf of Pasco, married 50 years; William and Erma Jean Wolf of Quinter, Kan., married 55 years; Millard and Rachel (Wolf) Brovont of North Manchester, Ind., married 55 years; Lee and Ruth (Wolf) Benedict of Goshen, Ind., married 56 years; and Elwin and Susan (Wolf) Young of Pasco, married 53 years.



We love that Mom sent us a picture of the Tonka truck's load of goodies in action! The C&E cup definitely trumps that sipper cup and being the wise mom she is, the football remains in the truck bed until school is done.



## 109 years ago ...Continued from page 1

bought a Rush car to drive home. They followed their Dad on this round who had caught car fever (thanks to the boys) as well and bought his own car. Can you imagine? A ten and six-year-old driving over 2,000 miles in 1910 across country? That was probably a bigger deal than the horse ride. It wasn't until 1919 that most states had a minimum driving age.

As if this wasn't enough, Jack got to talking one evening to a friend and bragging up his boys to the point that his friends issued him a challenge. Have Bud and Temple start with their horse's knee deep in the Atlantic and ride to knee deep in the Pacific. Do it in sixty days or less and the friends would award the boys ten thousand dollars in prize money (roughly equal to \$250,000 in today's money). The one catch was that the friends insisted that the boys wouldn't eat or sleep inside the whole trip. Jack did hold fast that there would be no traveling on Sundays and that they would be allowed to wait out bad weather. What a ride and adventure! Did they make it and win the money? I wouldn't want to ruin the book for you! It is a delightful read and also a fairly short one.

The thing that blows my mind is how much we have changed as a nation since then. I think their Dad would be arrested today and his boys certainly wouldn't be sleeping in a fire station. In fact, at the time I was reading this book I was looking into what a minor could do work-wise for our company. Do you know that if you are under eighteen, you can't wash a piece of heavy equipment? You can't grease it either, and of course you can't operate it. In fact, one person with the licensing department told me that a minor can't even be in a shop with heavy equipment in "close proximity". Only something like office work would be acceptable, I was told. Good news! Minors can run a copy machine. I was curious though, how the minor would make it through the parking lot walking by all those parked cars that could possibly hurt them. (For some reason, the licensing person didn't think I was funny!) It is interesting to think how things have changed in the last 109 years. It isn't all bad, of course. Child labor was scary and misused in those days, but maybe (just maybe) we have gone a bit too far the other way!

All in all, I highly recommend the book Bud and Me. I want to thank Mrs. Shay for passing it on and insisting that I read it. To the rest of you, I hope you have an adventurous and blessed New Year!



Thanks for many years of service. (l-r) Curtis, Sal (10 years), Don (2 years), Rudy (10 years), and Jake (15 years).



Our 2019 Ambassadors, voted in by their peers: (l-r) Sal (Humor Award), Robert Nelson (Ownership Award), Jamin Miller (Safety Award and Excellence Award), Rudy (Servant's Heart Award). Congratulations. Thanks for your leadership, guys!

## Eastern WA Ag Expo

Thank you for stopping by! It's always a pleasure to chat.



Lucky winners!



We had the best of the best helping this year. Thanks to our junior helper, Terrance.

Need some service roads smoothed out? ----- Call us at 509-545-6940.





### Welcome, Alvin Brovont, to the C&E Team

Alvin, pictured above with wife Bev, joined the C&E team and has been a great help wherever we need him. "Our blood just may run GREEN," laughs Alvin, who recently restored this beautiful 1951 John Deere tractor. In their early days, Bev remembers riding on the tractor seat of this model behind her mother while working in the fields. Alvin also spent many hours as a teenager driving through the fields on this specific model. While the tractor is not their exact tractor handed down, it is the same model and brings back many memories of the good old days. Welcome, Alvin, to the C&E team. We are glad to work with you.



Nothing says love quite like a heart drawn in the dirt with a road grader! We do truly love our customers and hope you have a love filled Valentine's Day this year!

### Insider Info....

Mother's Day is coming up and we are giving you an opportunity to win BIG! To enter, you will need a picture of you and your mother. The picture can be anywhere, anytime but it needs to be in to us by... Ah, we'll give you more details in next month's newsletter. Stay tuned and be snapping pictures.



*The C&E family is privileged to serve you.*

Do you need trenching between crops? ----- Call us at 509-545-6940 to get it scheduled.

## Song of Solomon Pick up lines

If you're really wanting to win the heart of the one you love, try out some of these lines from the Song of Solomon. After all the Bible tells us that Solomon was the wisest man that ever lived.

1. "I liken you, my darling, to a mare harnessed to one of the chariots of Pharaoh."
2. "Your eyes behind your veil are like doves."
3. "Compared to other women, my beloved is like a lily among thorns."
4. "Your hair falls in waves, like flocks of goats frisking across the slopes of Gilead."
5. "Your teeth are like a flock of sheep just shorn, coming up from washing. Each has its twin; not one of them is alone."
6. "The scent of your clothing is like that of the mountains and the cedars of Lebanon."
7. "Your lips drop sweetness as the honeycomb."
8. "You are tall and slim like a palm tree."

## Is He the One?

In the realm of dating, ever wonder if the guy you're dating is "the one"? Try this bit of wisdom from a mom. Replace the word "love" with your man's name and if this is not accurate, he's not the one.

*1 Corinthians 13:4-7*

*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.*

If you're married already, these are good things to work on if your name doesn't fit here.



There's got to be easier ways to access the water cooler. But at least he's harnessed on.



One day each December we enjoy breakfast at the shop followed by a cleaning day. It's always nice to start the year out with a clean shop!



*p.s. I love you*

## Marriage Drama. Are You Drama Free?

Enjoy these actual tweets

1. Text from wife: "I'm so sorry! I'm gonna be about 1/2 hour late."  
Me [forgot we were even meeting, still in bed]: "You always do this!"
2. The worst thing about marriage is how it makes you start snoring. I never snored when I was single....

**Even though we all have different strengths and weaknesses, we really should: Treat your spouse better than they deserve, because that's pretty much how God treats you every day.**

3. Wife: "Don't forget to pick up the kids from school."  
Me: "It's Saturday. They're both upstairs."  
Wife: "It's Wednesday and we have three kids."

4. Marriage is mostly about knowing which hand towels you can use and which ones are for the better people who visit your wife's home.

5. Protip: If your wife says the cord on the vacuum cleaner is too short, it doesn't mean she's asking for an extension cord for her birthday.

6. Marriage vows should include... "Do you promise to always help him find his stuff that's right in front of him?" Because you will be doing that forever.
7. Have you ever noticed that your wife's "I'll be ready in five minutes" is exactly the same as your "I'll be home in five minutes."
8. No man has ever won the game of 'Notice anything different about me?'
9. Stop saying that marriage is just a piece of paper. So is money, but you still get up every day and work hard for it.
10. Wife: "You're shirtless?"  
\*nods\*  
Wife: "And covered in...oil?"  
-"Well, you know how you say I never glisten?"  
Wife: "Listen. You never listen."  
-"Oh."
11. Just listed my wife as my emergency contact and added the note "Please text. She doesn't answer calls."



A few pictures from above. (Taking pictures with a drone is a lot more fun than with a camera!) This is a local project that will soon be finished up. The septic is ready! We just have to finish the landscape grading and the gravel drive portions.



## Write your own love note

In sixth grade, I had a crush on a girl and I wanted to send her a rose but I didn't want her to recognize my handwriting. One day at lunch, I paid one of my friends to write the note. During lunch, he delivered the note to the special table set up where you could send mail to others. Everyone at my lunch table watched as one of the teachers delivered the card to Lauren. We continued to watch as she smiled and giggled with her friends. She then jumped up and ran to the table where they were selling the cards/rozes, wrote some stuff down and then ran back to her table.

A few moments later, the teacher got up, and walked over to my table. She gave a card to my friend (the one who I paid to write the note.) It was from Lauren. She had recognized his handwriting and wanted to go on a date.

He got up and went to her table and accepted the offer.

*Words of wisdom from ostfan815*

We offer a lifetime warranty on your septic system. ----- Call us at 509-545-6940.



Believe it or not, the ground is really dry under the surface! It takes a lot of water in the trench to get compaction, but it's worth it to keep this new road on the straight and level!

## Thanks for calling, Again!

Allied Potato  
Anchor Hauling LLC  
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Benton County Public Works  
Brad Boler  
Bruce & Diana Carlson INC  
Chadwin Derstine  
City of Kennewick  
City of Walla Walla  
Columbia Valley Family  
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LW Weidert Farms - Tim Weidert  
Miller Ag, LLC  
North Slope Estates  
Pacific Cattle  
PUD No. 2 of Grant County  
Skone Irrigation  
Van Rijn Farms  
Victory Ag



Sal and Weston discuss their plan of action to get the pipe connected to the drain field. It is chilly out but the work continues. Thanks, guys! It's looking great!



Jose pauses after setting the next sewer main pipe we are installing to service a new subdivision in Pasco. More lots for sale coming soon!



Water, water and more water! It gets boring pouring on the water but it can't be skipped or you will have problems. Just like not drinking enough, insufficient water when compacting trenches will set you up for big problems!

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*A few lucky winners!*

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*Recognized by peers.*

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*Glad you're with us.*

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*Funny, but don't try these.*

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*Laugh. Marriage isn't easy.*

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*Keep sending pictures.*

**MORE INSIDE!!!**



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"We are all a little weird and life's a little weird. And when we find someone whose weirdness is compatible with ours, we join up with them and fall in mutual weirdness and call it love." - Dr Seuss

## Photo Contest

**The Latest Dirt went to...  
... Over 1/2 of the USA!!!**

Jordan & Jacki Brubaker love traveling as a family. This fall, they took a long road trip through 29 states. This picture shows the 49th state they have visited as a family. What's next? Did you guess Alaska? If so, you're right! Thanks for taking us along.



**Send Us Your Picture**

Get that camera out and snap some pictures, then send them to us. The catch? Every picture submitted must show a copy of our newsletter. So when on vacation, sitting around a cozy fire, jumping out of an airplane or pulling an Evil Knievel stunt, hold a copy of our newsletter and take a photo. Then send it in to us and you will be entered to win one of our custom C&E dump trucks loaded with C&E prizes. Send your picture to [news@candetrenching.com](mailto:news@candetrenching.com).



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