



# The Latest Dirt...

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

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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.

September 2015

## How much do you really know?

I am starting to realize that I know less than I used to. It's been a gradual process that has slowly dawned on me over the last few years. Every time I think I understand something new, ten new situations or ideas present themselves and I wonder, "Where did they come from? How did I not know about this?" At Action Coach, they explain it this way. Draw a large circle with the assumption that this circle represents all of knowledge. Then draw a line from the center of the circle to the outside that represents your portion of knowledge. Then shade in a small pie wedge beside it that represents what you are aware of that you don't know. For example, I know that I don't know much about why my wife will never work when I need it the most. Neither do I know anything about rocket science other than the fact that I have been told what I do "isn't rocket science". I don't know much about medicine past applying a band aid. Or why some people do Iron Man competitions, when I think an hour workout is near ridiculous. Or what attracts one person to another. Frankly, the last one baffles me the most.

Recently, Marla and I made a quick Saturday trip to Ikea in Portland where

my knowledge was increased once again. I learned that every single person in the Portland area goes to Ikea on Saturday. Apparently, there is a huge need for cheap furniture in that area or maybe they just feel the need to put something



Lined up and ready to work. Our equipment is ready for ag season. Give us a call to get your pond, pipeline or road on our schedule for fall! Before you know it, winter will be here.

together. I can relate. Speaking of home décor, I recently learned again I wasn't as smart as I thought I was. A few weeks ago, we went to the Yakima fairgrounds to an antique show. Actually, it was more of a vintage sale which I learned is code for "any old junk you feel like bringing in here". To prove my point, there was an old metal bolt bin for sale just like the ones in our shop for, you know...bolts, and someone thought that was something to put in your house. But the one that really showed me how much I have to learn was the antlers. I don't hunt. At least not in the traditional sense. I hunt for my keys and my shoes, etc., but not animals. And frankly, I have always felt just a bit superior to not be a part of wasting money on hunting, not to mention how much cheaper the beef that I buy is per pound. This was all fine till I seen the antlers for sale at the "vintage sale"

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P.O. Box 3788  
Pasco, WA 99302  
509-545-6940

## Dan Holmes' Mother Cried

On July 3rd, 1955, my uncle's family and my family pulled into Pasco with a two-ton truck, a pick up, two cars and five kids," recalls Dan Holmes. "On July 4th, it started raining and it rained for at least a week straight. We had no house, so we huddled in the cars and under the trucks trying to keep dry. Thankfully, Lloyd Ledgerwood, our ditch tender, invited us to stay in his basement



Dan Holmes creates amazing wood products.

until things dried out. It was an adventure for us kids but my mother cried every day for two years. My dad was a building contractor and had just built her a nice home in Modesto, California and now we moved to nothing."

Dan tells us, "Dad knew nothing about farming. In fact, no one really knew anything when they settled here. Since we were from California, we decided to try flood irrigation. We had our first section of land all diked but when we turned on the water, we soon learned the dirt was very different here." As the water began to cover the ground, the dikes broke and water ran everywhere! "You can't believe the amount of water. I can remember mom laying down in the dikes that broke and we'd shovel in dirt behind her as fast as we could to get the water to stop."

Times were hard. Dan's family rented a house in town for a little while until Dan's dad finished a garage type house that would suffice until a nicer home could be built. Since there was no electricity on the farm, his trailer full of power tools was useless. The house was built entirely with hand tools. There was no running water or electricity and the outhouse was outside.

"Once the irrigation water filled the canals, all of us neighbors would meet up at the canal around 5 o'clock. There, we'd take our baths and swim. The Tri-City Herald came out one time and took a picture of us all swimming in the canal taking our baths," laughs Dan. "The water was very clean then. You wouldn't think of getting in now."

"There were lots of good times," recalls Dan. "Dad bought a '32 Chevy and took the trunk lid off so we could set two galvanized garbage cans in the back. My little brother and I were ten and nine years old and barely able to see between the steering wheel and the dash board, but we would drive that car down to the water well and fill up those garbage cans with water. We'd drive back as fast as we could, spilling most of it. The cans would be about 1/2 empty and we would have to go back and get more. We had more fun with that car." Many Sundays after church, they would bring friends home and the kids would get into that old car and chase rabbits and kids would fly off around the corners. "You know, just fun stuff," smiles Dan. "Actually, it's surprising that no one got really hurt."

Soon after Dan was called into the army and stationed in Georgia, they found out his wife Patty was pregnant with their first child. It was then that Dan's orders changed from heading to Vietnam to 'OJT (on-the-job training) cook.' Dan recalls the conversation going something like this. "Do you know how to cook?" asked his commanding officer. "No, not at all," Dan responded. "Well, don't worry about it. All you have to do is make salads."

When Dan reported to the little, short cook sergeant named Sergeant Crumb (really!), Dan said, "Sarge, I'm your new salad maker." To which Sergeant Crumb responded, "You don't come in here and tell me what you do in my kitchen. You're gonna be my roll man. You're gonna make the rolls for dinner." Sergeant Crumb then got out a big, old pan and says, 'Pay attention....' as he adds so much of this and so much of that and finishes with 'Now you mix it.' Dan started looking around for the mixer when Sarge said, 'I'll show you the mixer' and rolled up his sleeves. So that's what Dan did. He was the roll man. After two months in the kitchen, Dan's daughter was born and he received orders to be in New York in two weeks. "I had bought an old 1957 four-door pink and white Pontiac from an old couple who had probably never driven it out of town. It still had the plastic on the back seat. When I got the orders to leave, Patty and I loaded everything we had in that car and got

Continued on next page



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## Know...Continued from page 1

in Yakima. I picked them up, turned them over and saw the price tag. I am now considering buying a gun.

As my knowledge decreases, it seems my kids at 9 and 7 are surpassing me. Maybe if you have kids you can relate. There is one area that kids instinctively know adults struggle with. That is the area of sales. Kids don't give up. You can say "no" five different ways but they keep asking. I have even tried to sing "no" to them, but they just don't hear it. It reminds me of a story of a lady who was supposedly a great sales person. She couldn't hear a "no" screamed at her, but could hear a "yes" whispered across a room. I think of sales as helping someone buy something that they want or need, in their time frame. With that in mind, improving our sales skills is something that can benefit all of us, so I have spent quite a bit of time studying this area. One of the closing techniques you will hear quite often is the optional choice close. "Would you like to meet on Tuesday or does Wednesday work better for you?" "Would you like the antlers to go with your vintage dresser?" I had a good chuckle on the road home from Portland when my son, always thinking ahead towards lunch, pipes up from the back seat, "Dad, would you like to go in to McDonalds and eat, or would you rather go through the drive through?"

## Dan Holmes...Continued

ready to head out. When another guy heard I was heading out, he asked if I was going through California on my way home to Washington. I told him we'd probably go that way. Then the man said, 'I have a Shell credit card and I'll buy all the gas if you'll drop us off in CA on your way through.' So we loaded up," Dan laughs. "We had stuff strapped to the top, the trunk was full, everywhere in the car was full, you only had a certain place to put your feet. We had two new babies just two weeks old. I drove from Augusta, GA to Atlanta where I stopped to fill up with gas. When I checked the oil, it was two quarts low. I thought, 'Oh no.' I filled it with oil, added a quart of STP and we hit the road. We must have been driving 70-80 mph the whole trip. When we stopped for gas, we got food. We drove non-stop and it took us 2 ½ days. When we unloaded all their stuff in CA, we wondered what to do with all this room?!?!"

Dan ended up serving in Milano, Italy and was able to bring Patty over to live with him there. "Seeing her and my baby daughter get off that plane was the prettiest sight I'd ever seen." After serving, Dan returned to Pasco and worked for the Bureau (as a ditch rider), Boise Cascade, Pasco Meat Packers, Green Giant, Smith Frozen Food and finished his working career at the WA/OR Asparagus Growers Association.

"Living in the Basin was a great choice for my family," remarks Dan. "Eventually, mom grew to love this place and you would not have been able to drag her out of here with a D8 tractor."

**Need a frost control pond?  
Give us a call and let us put our  
experience to work for you!**



These three pictures are of a frost control pond we recently finished near Mattawa.



Loading up the off road dump truck for another round.



Sal, one of our skilled dozer operators, cuts the side slope with precision.

# Spot Us? Tag Us!

When you see us around town, leave us a note on our windshield. We'll collect the notes and periodically have a drawing for a winner. What you write on the note really doesn't matter. However, you will need to put your name and contact information so we can let you know if you win!

The **Spot Us? Tag Us!** idea came about when Wayne thought he'd acquired a traffic ticket while driving around town one day. However, when he got home and read the note, it was a pleasant surprise to see the kudos given to us by one of our great customers.

We're all over town... and country. Keep watching for us. We'll draw a winner in December for our Spot Us, Tag Us campaign.



Out with the old, in with the new. Fifth Avenue in Kennewick is getting an upgrade. Phase 1 - Demo.



Phase 2 - cut out excess soil and haul it away.

## Thoughtful Gift

A tightwad was looking for a gift to give a friend. Everything was too expensive except for a broken glass vase that he could purchase for almost nothing. He asked the store to send it, hoping his friend would think it had been broken in transit.

In due time he received a note: "Thanks for the vase," it read. "It was so thoughtful of you to wrap each piece separately."

## Stay!

This guy pulled into a crowded parking lot and rolled down the car windows to make sure his dog had fresh air. The dog was stretched out in the back seat, and the guy wanted to impress upon him that he must remain there. The guy walked to the curb backward, pointed his finger at the car and said emphatically, "Now you stay. Do you hear me? Stay!" The driver of a nearby car gave the guy a startled look. "I don't know about you, man," he said incredulously, "but I usually just put my car in park."

## God's Creation

One day a little girl was sitting on her grandpa's knee playing with his long beard and patting his baldhead, and asked, "Did God make me?"

"Yes, my dear," her grandpa replied.

"Did God make you?" she asked. "Yes, he did," he replied again.

She then said, "Well, he sure does a better job these days, doesn't he?"

## Car Curfew

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"Did God make you?" she asked. "Yes, he did," he replied again.

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## Smart Whippersnapper

A young boy enters a barber shop and the barber whispers to his customer, "This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while I prove it to you." The barber puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, "Which do you want, son?" The boy takes the quarters and leaves. "What did I tell you?" said the barber. "That kid never learns!" Later, when the customer leaves, he sees the same young boy coming out of the ice cream store. "Hey, son! May I ask you a question? Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?" The boy licked his cone and replied, "Because the day I take the dollar, the game is over!"

## Chicken Little

One day the first grade teacher was reading the story of Chicken Little to her class. She came to the part of the story where Chicken Little tried to warn the farmer. She read, "... and so Chicken Little went up to the farmer and said, 'The sky is falling, the sky is falling!'"

The teacher paused, then asked the class, "And what do you think that farmer said?"

One little girl raised her hand and said, "I think he said, 'Whoa! A talking chicken!'"

The teacher was unable to teach for the next 10 minutes.

## God Will Provide

A young woman visits her parents and brings her fiancé to meet them. After an elaborate dinner, the mother tells her husband to find out about the young man. The father invites the fiancée to his library for a drink. "So what are your plans?" the father asks the young man. "I am a Torah scholar," he says. "A Torah scholar? Hmmm," the father says. "Admirable. But what will you do to provide a nice house for my daughter to live in, as she is accustomed to?" "I will study," the young man said, "and God will provide for us." "And how will you buy her a beautiful engagement ring, such as she deserves?" asks the father. "I will concentrate on my studies," the young man replied. "God will provide for us." "And children?" asks the father. "How will you support children?" "Don't worry, sir. God will provide," replies the fiancé. The conversation continues like this, and each time the father questions, the young idealist insists that God will provide. Later, the mother asks, "How did it go, Honey?" The father answers, "He has no job and no plans, but the good news is he thinks I'm God."

## Vanishing Cream

During a dinner party, the hosts' two little children entered the dining room totally nude and walked slowly around the table. The parents were so embarrassed that they pretended nothing was happening and kept the conversation going. The guests cooperated and also continued as if nothing extraordinary was happening.

After going all the way around the room, the children left, and there was a moment of silence at the table, during which one child was heard to say, "You see, it is vanishing cream!"

## Blessings of Children

It is truly said that children brighten a home - they never turn the lights off.



Here we are fusing 32" HDPE pipe for the South Columbia Irrigation District. Our thanks to Devin from HD Fowler who was great to work with on this project.



When you do a cool project with big pipe, you can't help but share pictures.

## Oops

A new business is open and one of the owner's friends wants to send him flowers for the occasion. They arrive at the business site and the owner reads the card: "Rest in Peace". Understandably, the owner is angry and calls the florist to complain. After he tells the florist the obvious mistake and how angry he is, the florist replies, "Sir, I'm really sorry for the mistake, but rather than getting angry, you should imagine this. Somewhere there is a funeral taking place today, and they have flowers with a card saying, 'Congratulations on your new location.'"

# Football's Brutal Past

If I were to guess what you were watching on TV, I would guess football! Football is the most popular pro sports league in the United States and the Super Bowl is usually the most watched television event of the year.

In the early 1900's, America's football was brutal. Obituaries were often in the paper for young college football players. Football began with the forward pass being illegal and brute strength was required to move the ball. Players would lock arms in mass formations and use their helmetless heads as battering rams. Gang tackles became routine, burying players under massive body weight.

Because there was little protective equipment, players sustained terrible injuries. In 1904, the Chicago Tribune reported 18 football deaths and 159 serious injuries. Newspaper editorials called on colleges and high schools to banish football outright. The sport reached such a crisis that one of its biggest boosters—President Theodore Roosevelt—got involved.

In 1903, the president told an audience, "I believe in rough games and in rough, manly sports. I do not feel any particular sympathy for the person who gets battered about a good deal so long as it is not fatal."

Football, however, was fatal, and even Roosevelt acknowledged it required reform if it was to be saved. Roosevelt held a meeting of the head coaches and top college representatives at the White House. Roosevelt urged them to curb excessive violence and set an example of fair play for the rest of the country. The schools released a statement condemning brutality and pledging to keep the game clean.

Fatalities and injuries mounted during the 1905 season. A Cincinnati Commercial Tribune cartoon showed the Grim Reaper on a goalpost, surveying a twisted mass of fallen players.

Roosevelt continued to push for football to continue with radical rule changes. He invited other school leaders to the White House to discuss changes.

A spike in fatalities in 1909 led to another round of reforms that further eased restrictions on the forward pass and formed the foundation of the modern sport.

In 1920, the American Professional Football Association League started with 10 teams agreeing to new rules. The Green Bay Packers joined in 1921 and is the oldest and longest running franchise in NFL history. In 1922, the league changed its name to the National Football League (NFL). In 1959, a rival league was formed, the American Football League (AFL). The AFL was very successful and soon was competing with the NFL for players. In 1970, the two leagues merged together. The new league was called the NFL, but they incorporated a lot of innovations from the AFL. There are currently 32 teams in the NFL.

## Nice To See You, Again!

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# Did You Know That...

- Helmets weren't required for NFL players until 1943.
- In football, it's rare for a game to end in a tie. However, the Chicago Bears had a total of 6 tie games in 1932.
- A Superbowl's 30 second commercial costs about \$4 million.
- Eli and Peyton Manning are the only brothers to both win the Super Bowl MVP.
- NFL is the world's richest professional sports league, making over a billion dollars annually.
- Just two years after finishing their careers, approximately 78% of NFL players go bankrupt.
- The Colts were the first NFL team to have cheerleaders.
- Thanksgiving is the only other day where more food is consumed than during the Superbowl.
- The Vince Lombardi Trophy is made by Tiffany & Co. of New York and will cost \$25,000 to make.
- The coldest game in NFL history was the 1967 NFL championship game between the Dallas Cowboys and the Green Bay Packers. Now known as the "Ice Bowl", the game-time temperature in Green Bay was -13 degrees with a -48 degree wind chill.
- Due to the manpower shortage caused by World War II, the Pittsburgh Steelers merged with the struggling Chicago Cardinals for the 1944 NFL Season. Officially known as the Card-Pitt Combine, the team went 0-10, and was so bad that it was derided as the "Carpets".
- It takes about 600 cows to make one season's worth of NFL footballs.
- The Wilson Sporting Goods Company in Ada, Ohio, has been the official football supplier for the NFL since 1941. They make more than 2 million footballs of all sorts every year.
- Super Bowl weekend is the second-biggest grilling weekend of the year. July 4th is the first.
- Deion Sanders is the only person in history to both hit an MLB home run and score an NFL touchdown in the same week. He's also the only person to play in the World Series and the Super Bowl.
- Though a televised football game usually lasts around 3 hours, the ball is typically in play for only 11 minutes. Around 56% of the game on TV is devoted to replays.
- In an NFL game, as many as 75 minutes, or about 60% of total TV air time (excluding commercials), is spent on shots of players standing on the line of scrimmage, huddling, or just walking around between snaps.



These two pictures are of a new Gesa branch in Moses Lake. Above is the site prior to construction. Below shows it ready for asphalt. Our thanks to Banlin Construction for letting us be a part of this project.



Here is the Mattawa frost control pond lined, graded and almost done! Also a cool view of Eastern WA orchard and hills!

Really? No wonder you can leave the room and feel like you haven't missed anything when you come back.

Newsletter inside

**Holmes' history ..... 2**  
*Mother cried daily*

**Frost control ponds ..... 3**  
*Utilize our experience.*

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*Real life in action*

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*Today's game is pretty mild.*

**Football facts ..... 7**  
*Really? Showing more guys standing around?*

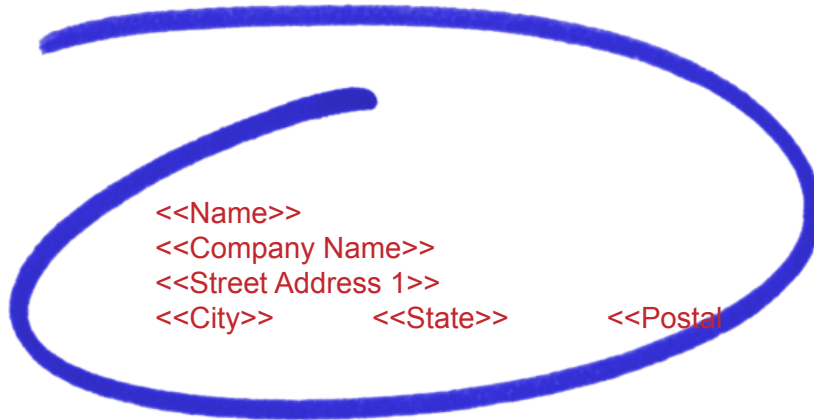
**Photo contest ..... 8**

MORE INSIDE!!!



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"Before the first year, nobody gave it a chance. Now, 36 years later, everybody knows Monday Night Football." – Frank Gifford

# Photo Contest

**The Latest Dirt...  
Went to Hawaii!**



Jamie Orton took us to Kauai, Hawaii for a bit of tropical paradise. Thanks, Jamie! I'm sure you had a fantastic time. How could you not in Hawaii?

# 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).

