



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 offers 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 and we will stop sending you our newsletter.

October 2017

A Hard Pill to Swallow

A "hard pill to swallow" is a common saying that most of us can relate to. I still remember watching my Grandma grab a handful of pills and swallow them all at once. In fact, just remembering it brings a small gag reflex as I write this. Unfortunately, my kids have followed in my footsteps when it comes to swallowing pills. I was reminded of this last evening when I entered the house to sob.

After inquiring what had happened my daughter explained, "I wasn't watching and put my hand on the hot iron." It was only a minor burn with a bit of a blister, but apparently the pain was equal to third degree burns covering the majority of the body! After an hour or more of cool water and ice packs but no end to the pain symptoms being expressed verbally, Mom asked me to take action.

"Can you try putting butter on it?" she asked me. Immediately, my daughter says with a bit of panic in her voice, "My health book says to never put butter on a burn!" I remembered vaguely from the many times that I have had first aid training that she might be right. However, I couldn't remember what to do so I pulled out my phone and googled "minor burn, major drama" treatment. The first suggestion was to soak it in cool water for five minutes. Next suggestion was to take an acetaminophen or ibuprofen for pain relief. We hadn't done that and it seemed it was much needed. I dug out a very small ibuprofen and attempted to hand it to my daughter to take.



A couple of young and talented diggers from Aquatech were helping Jake layout the foundation on C&E's new office. A small pile of dirt was in the way but they had a solution!

She flat refused to even touch it. "Don't you remember?" she almost screamed at me. "I can't swallow!" I was somewhat puzzled. "You can't swallow?" I asked. "Not hard stuff!" she replied. Pausing, I remembered how tough it was as a kid to swallow pills. I also remembered the gagging, choking and heart burn her brother caused us as he was going through learning to swallow pills, so I decided to use logic and teach her how to swallow. "First," I said, "you have the ability to swallow." "No, I don't," she said. "What?" I asked. "You are the only one in the whole world that can't swallow hard stuff?" "Yep," she replied. Well that wasn't working so time to try another tactic. We talked about all the hard food she swallows, including chips. She informed me that she chews them first. At this point I wasn't getting anywhere with talking, so I thought

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Brock's Perfect Blind Date

"Do you want to go on a blind date to the Touchet Junior/Senior Prom?" Carol Brock's class mate whispered to her one spring day. "Touchet?" Carol thought. "Why, I am going to Walla



Carol and Frank Brock enjoy life and birthdays together. The Brock's were born on the same day and year.

Walla Walla High, a really big school." The friend went on, "I know two boys who need dates and they are both pretty good looking." Carol thought a second and then said, "I'll take the tall one." The blind date was set but the second thoughts began. Frank Brock was the "tall" one, and taking a date sight unseen to his senior prom was just a little unnerving. But he had a plan.

"You see," Frank states, "There were two other proms that night. I thought, if she's not good

looking at all, I'll take her to the Burbank prom. If she's not too bad, I'll take her to Prescott's prom and if she's really good looking, I'll take her to Touchet." Carol made the first team. Frank smiles, "I took her to Touchet."

After high school, both Frank and Carol went to college at WSU and were married after their sophomore year. They then transferred to the University of Washington where Carol was able to get better paying secretarial jobs while Frank finished college. With Frank's several different part-time jobs (unloading box cars, bill collecting, unboxing and tuning television sets, etc.) and Carol's full-time secretarial job, they managed. "We got by just fine on \$400 a month," states Carol. "That \$400 covered everything - rent, gas, groceries, clothing, books and tuition. We even had \$5.00 or so left for some movies, popcorn and a couple of hot fudge sundaes."

After college graduation, Frank spent three years in the army. He went through officer candidate school and Ranger training before he and Carol returned to Gardena, near Touchet, where they purchased a small farm. Frank sold real estate in Walla Walla in order to keep farming. In 1963, they purchased a farm in the Columbia Basin and began farming full time. "Well, I had something that every farmer needed. I had a wife who made good money at a full-time job. She went to work at People's Bank in Pasco for the first three years we were here. Her job put groceries on the table," Frank stated.

The Brock's first year in the Columbia Basin was really tough. "It rained on all our crops and we had nothing but bad news," recalls Frank. "We decided we were going to sell at the end of the first year." Earlier, Frank had talked to a land leveler about doing some work for them and asked the man to let them know when he could start work. One night, when Frank went out to make his evening water check, he found the land leveler going full bore with his Cat and can. Frank came in and said, "I guess we'll stay. We're committed to paying this fellow." Staying ended up being a great choice for them.

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If you have a story or funny event that we can share, send us an email at news@candetrenching.com.

YouTube



"With YouTube and a little bit of insanity you can do anything." That was said by my cousin regarding figuring out home improvement projects. However, I just found out that his daughter learned to swallow pills watching YouTube videos. So now it's proven. You can learn anything using YouTube. Have trouble swallowing pills and love whipping cream? They go together. Search Youtube for "kids swallow pills".

Swallow...Continued from page 1

it was time to start practicing. I dug out some ice and broke it into a piece about twice the size of the pill. I made sure to point out to her that it was larger than the pill, which she agreed with. I told her we were going to practice on this. Of course, there were many "I can't do it's!" and "No's!", but finally the ice went into the mouth. Then the head started shaking and there were more "I can't do it's". I told her to take a drink of milk. I knew that the ice was melting and getting smaller. I thought she wouldn't realize that and when she got the ice down she would have swallowed something bigger than the pill, taking away the "I can't do it" in her mind that was holding her back! She took a mouthful of milk, and then her eyes started panicking and she said, "I can't swallow it!" through closed lips with a mouthful. Quite impressive if you think about it! I tilted her head back and told her to swallow the milk. It took about three swallows but she got it all down and then immediately said, "See! I told you I can't do it!" "What?" I said. "You still have the ice in your mouth? Let me see." Sure enough! Somehow that little piece of ice that was now so small it was more of a drop of ice, was still in her mouth! Not quite ready to give up, I said, "That's ok. It will take practice just like when you were learning to ride a bike." "I had training wheels!" she said loudly. "Well, remember when we took them off you had to practice for a while before you learned?" I told her. "Dad," she said quite seriously, "I can't swallow a bike!" After I got done laughing and she got done glaring (she was quite serious), I said "Well, I don't know what to do. You are in pain and I am trying to help." She told me it didn't hurt anymore. "Really?" I said. Then sensing my advantage I told her that if there was any more crying or drama she was going to take this pill. And guess what? There wasn't. Which reminded me that the true power of a pill is often mental!

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

Nature's Phenomena

I'm always amazed at God's creation.

World Record Lightning

Venezuela's Lake Maracaibo earned a place in the Guinness Book of World Records for "highest concentration of lightning" with 250 lightning flashes per square kilometer each year. The storms ease off in the dryer months of January and February and are most spectacular at the peak of the wet season around October. At this time of year, you can see an average of 28 lightning flashes each minute.



The village of Congo in Venezuela, which sits on the shore of Lake Maracaibo, is known by many names.

"Maracaibo's Lighthouse" and "The Never-Ending Storm of Catatumbo" are both used to describe the area where lightning strikes over 300 days per year. But the most impressive name by far is the one NASA awarded the area with: "The Lightning Capital of the World".

From April to November, locals in Congo can expect to see lightning 80% of the year, an average of 297 days according to the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. The lightning phenomenon in Venezuela is so frequent that it draws tourists to the area to view the lightning show that locals see nearly every night.

Continually Burning Crater

In the hot, expansive Karakum Desert in Turkmenistan, near the 350-person village of Darvaza, is a hole 230 feet wide that has been on fire for over 40 years (since 1971).



Locals know the crater as "The Gates of Hell". Its glow can be seen for miles around.

The Gates of Hell was created in 1971 when a Soviet drilling rig accidentally punched into a massive underground natural gas cavern, causing the ground to collapse and the entire drilling rig to fall in. Having punctured a pocket of gas, poisonous fumes began leaking at an alarming rate. To head off a potential environmental catastrophe, the Soviets set the hole alight. The crater hasn't stopped burning since.



Frozen Sea Waters

When the surface of the sea freezes—such as around the North and South Poles—it does so in a way that it forces pockets of especially cold and salty seawater to gather on the underside of the ice. This mixture of brine is denser than the seawater below it, and as a result it tends to slowly sink to the bottom. Because it's so cold, the fresher water below the brine actually freezes around it as it falls, which results in a giant icicle under the surface.



Sailing Stones

Also known as sliding rocks, rolling stones, and moving rocks, sailing stones are a geological phenomenon where rocks move and inscribe long tracks along a smooth valley floor without human or animal intervention. Instead, rocks move when large ice sheets a few millimeters thick floating in an ephemeral winter pond start to break up during sunny days. These thin floating ice panels, frozen during cold winter nights, are driven by wind and shove rocks at up to 5 meters a minute.

Brain Cramps by Famous People

“Outside of the killings, Washington has one of the lowest crime rates in the country.” -- Mayor Marion Barry, Washington DC.

“It isn’t pollution that’s harming the environment. It’s the impurities in our air and water that are doing it.” -- Al Gore, Vice President

“I love California. I practically grew up in Phoenix.” -- Dan Quayle

“We’ve got to pause and ask ourselves: How much clean air do we need?” -- Lee Iacocca

“If we don’t succeed, we run the risk of failure.” -- Bill Clinton, President

“Traditionally, most of Australia’s imports come from overseas.” -- Keppel Enderbery



The C&E team is putting final touches on a new commodity bin for one of our loyal customers. The new bin has concrete walls for a couple feet and shotcrete slopes above that. Below: I wish my razor cut as smooth as our grader running on auto control and laser guided!



Brock's...continued from page 2

Farming was hard work but unloading box cars during college helped prepare Frank for hand lines! At one point, Frank changed 400 pipes a day. “That made the days rather long,” recalls Frank. “I had no trouble going to sleep at night.” He changed all of them every day and some twice a day. The Brocks grew hay, wheat, and asparagus and also raised Holstein cows for many years. Through all the years Carol did the farm books “with a pencil”; there were no computers back then. “When we got a copy machine, we were overjoyed,” laughs Frank.

The Brock’s full-time farming days are over. They now lease their farm out. Frank remembers one of his greatest challenges was trying to figure out the markets for selling their hay. He was very active in starting the Hay Information Network which is now the Washington Hay Growers Association. This organization helped to provide farmers with information about how much hay was leaving the Basin so that a farmer could better gauge the hay price.

The Brock’s have three children. Doug, their son, has been a field man for many years in the Basin and surrounding counties. One of their daughters was Miss Tri-Cities in 1978 and runner-up for Miss Washington the following year. Both she and her sister have been television news anchors in large markets.

“I have learned there are very few certainties in life. You have to plan on change and you have to go with change,” comments Frank.

Carol says, “Never let yesterday use up today.”
(Originally published April 2011)



C&E Operations Manager, Robert, doesn’t let his title get in the way of getting work done! If you happen to talk to him, don’t be surprised if you hear machines running in the background. Welcome to the many hats of a small company!

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The Call of Nature

One fine day in the middle of class at school, a girl raised her hand and asked to be excused: "Teacher, can I answer the call of nature?" Knowing what the kid wanted, the teacher said okay. Immediately, the girl ran to the toilet. But, within a minute, she was back. Another girl was shocked by how she could actually take care of business so quickly, and asked how she managed to do it so fast. The girl responded, "It was a prank call."

Invention of Football

Football sounds like it's invented by an eight-year-old girl. 'Like, all right, here's the deal. There's a ball and you get four tries to take the ball ten yards. In between each try we're going to have a huddle and we're going to tell secrets about the other team. By the way, we're all wearing Capri pants.'

Old Encyclopedias

I had a horrible set of encyclopedias growing up. My parents didn't want to get new ones, so they got my grandma's old ones. A-Z was covered in two books then. I had no idea how old they were until I got back my failed report on the five planets of our solar system.

Funny Parents

I love my parents. They are very, very funny people. I come by this very honestly. They're not nice people; they're funny. They make up for not being nice with the funny. Granted, I was a mouthy child, I will give them that, but my mother, when she'd have enough of it, she'd say, 'Come here, sit on my lap. Let's look up orphanages.'

Home Cooked Meals

The elementary school cook prided herself on the healthy meals she provided with lots of vegetables and fruits. When the power failed one day, the cook couldn't serve a hot meal in the cafeteria, so at the last minute she whipped up great stacks of peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches. As one little boy filled his plate, he said, "It's about time. At last, a home-cooked meal!"

AA Meeting

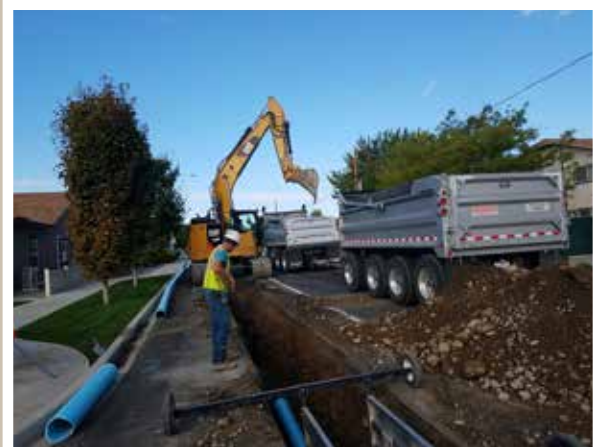
At a Plastic-Surgery-Addicts-Anonymous meeting:
"Ah, I see we have a few new faces here today."

Self Esteem Booster

I have a bumper sticker saying, "Honk if you think I'm sexy". Some days I just stay stopped at a green light till I'm feeling good about myself.



Paul with Anchor Hauling sent in this cool photo of him loaded down with a D6 near Weston, OR.



Kirgan keeps a close eye on the trench on another water line replacement project for the City of Kennewick.



Edgar and crew work on installing a new water main in Kennewick.

It's winter. We're out of here!

As I pondered what to write about this month my mind wandered to all the natural disasters in the U.S. and throughout the world. After researching that for a bit, I was awed by the amazing nature that God created. Below and scattered throughout the pages of this newsletter, learn about the amazing migration patterns of just a few animals, which still baffle scientists who continue to study how these animals get from one point to another and back again without Google maps. Be amazed how a 4-ounce bird travels to the moon and back three times in its life and how the Monarch butterfly leaves one area, goes through four stages of life and returns to a place it has never been before.

Whales - While many of the world's species of marine mammals migrate, none go the distance like giant baleen whales. The gray whale (which travels as far as 14,000 miles round trip annually) and the humpback whale (which



travels as far as 16,000 miles round trip annually) migrate a greater distance than any other mammal on earth. Each species travels to warmer tropical waters during the

winter months to mate and give birth. Then they swim to the rich colder waters of the Arctic or Antarctic to feed for the summer. Before they migrate, though, they have to store up enough food to make the trip. Because they won't be eating any food in the tropics.

- Did you know that in the winter, waters around Maui turn into a whale sanctuary encompassing 1,400 square miles? It was designated by United States Congress on November 4, 1992 as a National Marine Sanctuary to protect the endangered North Pacific humpback whale and its habitat.

Monarch Butterfly - The annual monarch butterfly migration might be the most colorful migration in the natural world. The monarch migration spans about



4,349 miles. Monarchs summer habitat is just north of the Canadian border and throughout the US where they feast on milk weed. Come fall they fly to coastal southern California and Mexico City, Mexico. The interesting thing about

their migration is their extremely short life span and the four distance stages the butterfly goes through in one year. Check out its stages on page 7.

Leatherback Turtle - The leatherback turtle (the largest turtle--and one of the largest living reptiles) travels an astounding 10,000 miles each year in search of jellyfish, crossing the entire Pacific Ocean from Asia to the West Coast of the US to forage off the coasts of Washington, Oregon and California.



Credits to: www.nmfs.noaa.gov

Sea turtles nest in tropical and subtropical regions around the globe. Both males and females will migrate to nesting areas to breed,

generally in the area where they were born. It is not known exactly how adult turtles are able to navigate to their natal (birth) beaches. However, researchers think they may use a number of clues including ocean currents, the earth's magnetic field and water chemistry.

Arctic Tern - The tiny arctic tern (13 inch body, weighing only 4 ounces) makes the longest migration of any animal in the world, zigzagging between the North and South



poles each year. This migration racks up about 44,000 miles a year. Since the birds often live 30 years or more, researchers estimate that over its lifetime, an arctic tern migrates about 1.5 million miles—equal to three trips to the moon and back.

- Because of their migratory pattern, arctic terns get to see 2 summers every year. They see more daylight than any other animal in the world.
- Arctic terns do not spend the whole route of their migration flying by flapping their wings – instead they glide a great amount of the distance. They're such good gliders that they can sleep while gliding.
- Arctic terns are one of the only birds, aside from the hummingbird, that can hover.

The Amazing Butterfly Life

Science isn't really something I enjoy studying so I never really cared about butterflies. That was until I read about their enormous migration pattern. I was shocked to learn that they have 4 stages of life, some lasting days, others weeks and the last phase months. All of this happens as they complete their over 4000 mile journey. Read below and be amazed at this creature created by God.

Stage 1: During the months of February and March, the torpid monarch butterflies in the closing generation, come out of their hibernating state to search and find a mate. After this, they search for the ideal place for laying their eggs, by traveling to the east and the north. This initiates the first stage and simultaneously, the New Year Generation for the monarch. Unfortunately, this initial generation of monarch butterfly then dies after having laid eggs for the second generation.



Stage II: During March-April, butterflies lay their eggs on the milkweed plants, and in nearly four days the hatching caterpillars or the larvae appear. Then the only job of the larvae is to eat and grow up. The caterpillar attains full adulthood in nearly a fortnight and unearths the right place for attachment to begin the course of transformation. It will connect itself to a twig or a leaf by silk and change over to a chrysalis. In about 10 days, you can see the larvae entering the chrysalis stage. During this time, looking from the outside, nothing seems to happen. But inside the chrysalis, the previous body elements of the caterpillar are going through an amazing conversion, called metamorphosis, to develop into stunning parts that go to make the emerging butterfly. The monarch, when it comes out from the pupa as a beautiful butterfly, will commence its journey to feed on flowers, simply enjoying its short life of about 2-6 weeks.

Stage III: During May-June, you can see the second generation of butterflies appearing, while the third generation completes a life cycle similar to the 1st generation, dying in 15 to 50 days of becoming a stunning adult monarch butterfly.

Stage IV: The 4th generation of this species of butterflies is slightly different from the earlier three generations. Taking birth in September–October, this generation goes through the same progressions as the three others, except for one difference. The life of the 4th generation goes beyond 2-6 weeks. Monarch butterflies belonging to the 4th generation travel to the warmer Californian and Mexican climates and live for 180-240 days (six to eight months) until it is time to begin the entire process once more. It is remarkable to note how monarch butterflies of four generations work out in a way that their population survives through the years without causing any ecological issue. They start developing to mate during February-March, the next spring before laying their eggs. Thin and frayed during their hibernation and migration, they die at last.

Important Things...

- Please let us know if you're receiving duplicate copies of our newsletter. We don't want to overcrowd your living room coffee table.
- If you move, we want to be the first to know. Ok, Ok...maybe not the first, but we don't want the post office to tell us in the form of returned mail.
- Know someone that knows something? Well, something about The Basin's history to be specific. We trust you have a few smart friends. We're looking for community members who can tell us about the "good ole days" of pioneering in The Basin. If you could pass along a name or two, that would be awesome. We come out and talk with them, then write up their story. It's all fun. After it's published, each contributor receives a nice looking plaque to showcase their story. Send an email with any leads to news@candetrenching.com.

Welcome to C&E

Dawn Bentley
Oliver A Farabee
Oran Denton
Phipps Farms

Nice To See You, Again!

Anchor Hauling LLC
Andrist Enterprises
Bart Larsen
Chuck Moddrell
Debbie Hazen
Devon Woodward
Fresno Valves & Casting
Garden Gate Nursery
Gesa Credit Union
Gilbert Orchard
Kennewick Irrigation District
Kirby Naglehout Construction
Lad Irrigation

Lamb Weston
Pasco School District
Shaw Vineyards
Simplot/Grandview Farms
South Columbia Irrigation Dist
T Tap Construction, LLC
Tesoro Logistics
Three Monkeys LLC
Valmont Northwest Inc.
Van Rijn Farms
Victory Farms Inc

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Pumpkin spice cough drops?!
Yes, they have them for a limited time.

Photo Contest

**The Latest Dirt went....
...to Maui!**



Lois Powers enjoyed some marvelous sunshine in Hawaii this year. Thanks for taking us along. The weather is changing and soon we'll all wish we were there!

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.

