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Back home on the farm

Book details county history

By KEVIN HARDEN
Of the Emerald

One February afternoon in 1903 Lane County Sheriff W.W. Withers and a deputy went out to the farm of Calvin Hale, outside Eugene, in search of suspected horse or cattle thief Elliot Lyons.

Sheriff Withers left his horse and buggy with Hale, owner of a stagecoach stop between Mapleton and Eugene, and set out across the fields in search of Lyons.

Late that evening, while everyone was asleep, Hale awoke to the deputies' shouts for help. Withers was shot in the back by Lyons, and paralyzed from the waist down. Moved to one of the bedrooms in the upstairs of the Hale home, he died two days later.

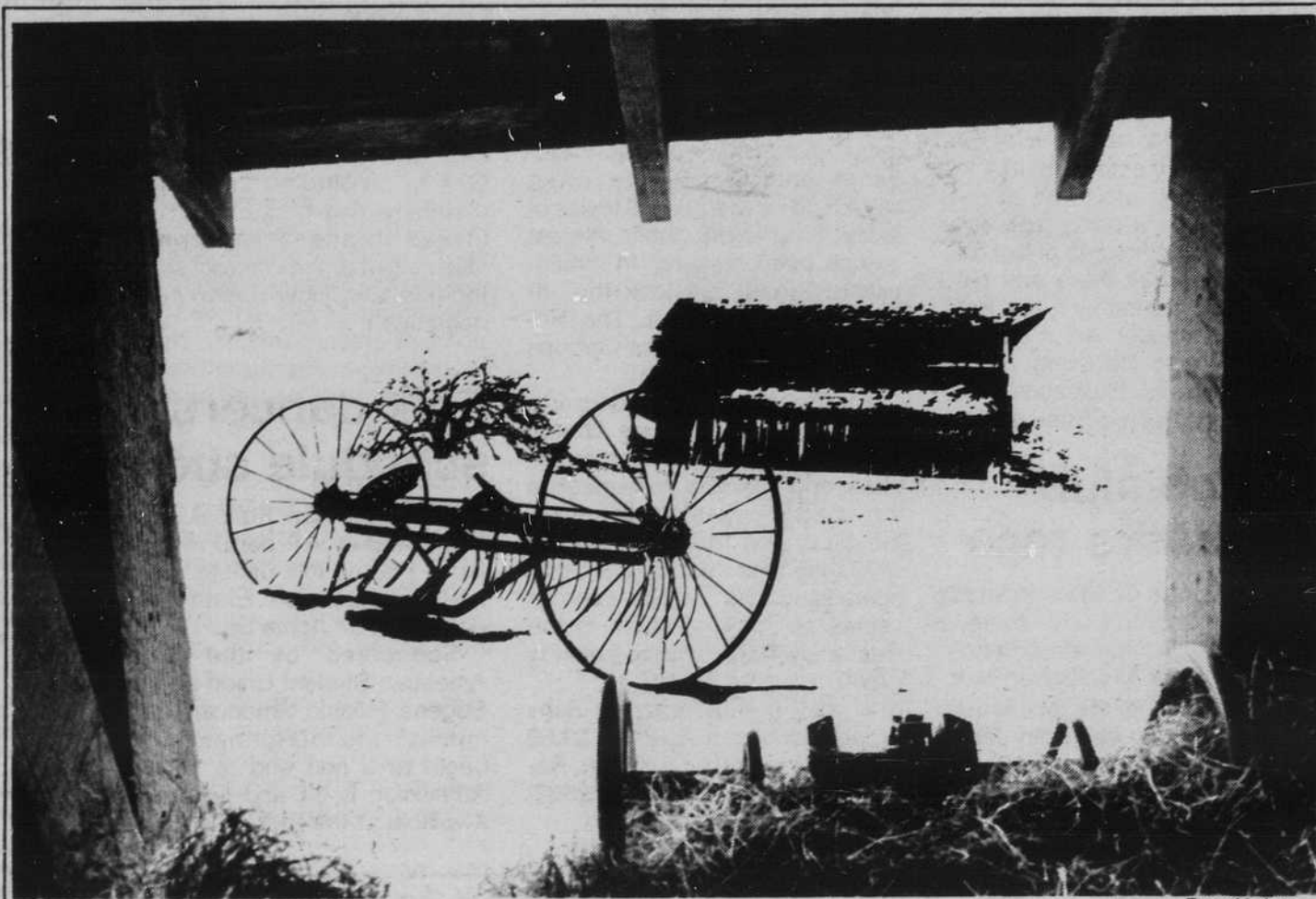
Lyons made his way past guards and road blocks to Creswell. While trying to hop a freight train, he was captured and taken to jail in Eugene. After a speedy trial, he was hanged in the jail yard.

Things have changed around the Hale farm since 1903. Stagecoaches don't rumble past the front door anymore and a town has sprung up near the farm.

Things may have changed, but thanks to the work of five Eugene young people and the Lane County Youth Employment Program, not all will be forgotten.

"Century Farms of Lane County," a paperback book written by five local youths, ages 14 to 20, and published by the Lane County Summer Youth Employment Program is on sale at several area bookstores.

The book, written under the direction of coordinators



Emerald photo

Histories never transcribed have been recovered by students aged 14 to 20 in a book that tells of Lane County homesteads through words of the pioneer's descendants still living on the land. "We ran across a

whole different concept with these people whose values go way back," says Michael Shanahan, one of the coordinators of the venture.

Bob Violetta and Michael Shanahan, captures in 130 pages the histories of 10 Lane County Farms that have been in the same family for at least 100 years. Interviews are frequently used throughout to emphasize the flavor of speech and personalities of the farming families, many of whom are descendants of Oregon pioneers.

According to Shanahan, 33, an unemployed teacher, logger and mill worker, the book grew out of an idea by Marshall Northington, director of the Lane County Youth and Children's Services Division.

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Images in music, art, mime

BSU festival opens Friday

"Putting Forth Excellence through Black Images" is the theme of the Fifth annual Black Arts Festival which begins Friday at 10 a.m.

The festival, sponsored by the Black Student Union (BSU), will open with a slide presentation on FESTAC '77, the world black arts festival held in Lagos, Nigeria earlier this year. Lionel Riley, who represented the BSU at the festival, will discuss his experiences there at the slide show in the EMU Ballroom.



A black art exhibit will open for the day at 11 a.m. in the EMU. The exhibit will feature wood work, New Guinean art as well as work done by members of the local community.

An African braiding and make-up demonstration will be held at 11:30 a.m. on the side terrace of the EMU.

Dr. Quintard Taylor, a Ph.D. candidate in the history of African peoples and a former assistant professor in the black studies program at Washington State University, will present a slide-lecture entitled, "Black Communities in the Northwest: Portland and Seattle" at 12:30 p.m. in Room 167 of the EMU. The Cultural Forum is sponsoring Taylor's appearance in conjunction with the festival.

The BSU will present black poet Keith Jefferson and black mime artist Hayward Coleman Friday afternoon. Jefferson, author of "The Hyena Reader" and founder of the Student Society for the Preservation of Afro-American Culture, will do several oral interpretations of his works.

Coleman will present a mime lecture and demonstration. He has done professional work in France as well as the United States.

The festival's activities will be climaxed with a Creole gumbo dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom. After dinner entertainment will feature a martial arts performance, gospel and popular singing, an African dance troupe, music from a jazz quartet, and a mime performance by Coleman as the special feature of the evening. Ron Brown, a local comedian, will be the master of ceremonies. Tickets for the dinner are \$2.50 for adults and \$1.25 for children. Tickets may be purchased at the EMU Main Desk, the Sun Shop and the House of Records. For more information contact the BSU at 686-4379.

A 'whale' of events set for today in EMU; talks, films scheduled

Representatives from Greenpeace Oregon, the Oregon Marine Science Center and the Cousteau Society are on hand today for the Survival Center's whale festival.

At 11 a.m. seafarer Dave Hibberd will discuss "Cetaceans at Play, or Hitchhiking Through the Universe Without Any Thumbs."

Cindy Baker of Greenpeace Oregon will give a talk at noon. Greenpeace is well known for its activist role in marine mammal issues. Two Greenpeace films also will be shown.

At 1 p.m. Bill McDonald of the Cousteau Society will talk on "Whales, Men and the Economy of Nature." He also will present two Cousteau Society films, "Oasis in Space" and "Wind on the Water."

Cumulo Nimbus, Meg Stormont and Kevin Barnes will present special music and a song for the whales at 2:30 p.m.

At 3 p.m. Bruce Mate of the Oregon Marine Science Center will speak on "Marine Mammals—Where to Now?" He will discuss the history of whaling, the current whale population and the effectiveness of international legislation.

All events are free and in the EMU Ballroom. In addition, art exhibits dealing with whales will be on display from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the rooms across from the Ballroom.

The festival runs through Thursday.