

100 years and counting

# Nellie Currin's memories linger on

by LINDA LESOWSKI  
Special Writer

When Nellie Currin was married, her husband gave her a beautiful black horse. The horse has long since departed, but for Mrs. Currin, who is 100 years old, the memories linger on.

In their wedding photograph she's wearing yards of white, gathered and pleated in the style of the 1890's. He stands sternly in starched white shirt and black suit.

His name was Robert Hugh Currin, and he was a cousin of the three Currin brothers — George, Hugh and Bob — who came to Oregon in 1846 and settled in what became Currinsville, not far from Eagle Creek.

In another photograph, Nellie has just come back from picking blackberries and wears a loose smock dress and wide bonnet to protect her from the sun.

Nellie's memories of a rich life go back many years. Her father was Henry Wehrheim, who stowed away on an American sailing vessel anchored in his home port of Frankfurt, Germany in the late 1840's. Wehrheim was eighteen years old, and had

just finished his apprenticeship as a furniture builder.

Upon arrival in Columbus, Ohio, Wehrheim plied his trade until deciding to join the westward movement. In Missouri, he joined a wagon train headed toward the coast.

According to Nellie, when the wagons reached Wyoming and a fork in the trail, one road leading to California gold fields and the other to Oregon, only Henry and one other man opted for Oregon. The rest of the train turned south, and the two men were left alone to find their way through hostile Indian territory.

"I put my trust in God," Nellie remembers her father saying of the journey. Indians came and hid in the bushes, watching the men while they ate their meals. Gradually Wehrheim learned to communicate with the Indians, and at one point smoked a peace pipe with a friendly chief.

It was in 1852 that Wehrheim and his friend led their wagons down Laurel Hill with ropes and chains, drove their cattle around and rested a day or two at Foster's. Crossing Eagle

Creek, Wehrheim began looking immediately for vacant land and laid claim on a heavily timbered 320 acre spread.

After clearing eight acres, he planted hay and eventually raised cattle. But he also continued his carpentry, and was contracted to build several homes in the area, some of which still stand in Eagle Creek. His farm was about half-way between the Currinsville store and Philip Foster's store at Eagle Creek.

Wehrheim married a young German immigrant from Indiana, and when Nellie was born in 1878, her parents still spoke only German in their home. It was the only language she knew until she was 9 years old.

But Nellie's mother tutored her at home, and when she had mastered her second language, she was sent to school at Currinsville. She remembers the school as having about 65 students with only one teacher. The children who attended were of all ages. The schoolhouse had one room heated by a large pot-bellied stove.

About the time she graduated and was preparing to attend high school in Oregon City, her father died. Nellie, an only child, remained at home to

help her mother. She regretted the education she missed, and much later lavished it on her only child, Dorothy.

When she married, her husband Robert built a large, three-story house at Currinsville. While they lived there her husband farmed and Nellie tended to the house. The Currins frequently took in roomers, usually school teachers working in Estacada, Damascus, Currinsville or Eagle Creek.

According to the old-timers in the area, Nellie was known far and wide for her cooking. She gave many elaborate parties, preferring dinner parties for eight which she would plan for days, doing all the cooking herself.

Now she keeps her photos and other treasures in a box in a special drawer in the Gladstone retirement home where she lives.

"The other night I had a dream," Nellie recalled. "I was having a party and the table was all set with china and crystal and bowls of flowers. Then just as the guests were coming through the door, I woke up, and... I never knew who was coming."

Nellie Currin's memories linger on.



Nellie Currin

## Public notices

### NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING

A meeting of the Mt. Hood Loop Water District Budget Committee will be held at 8 p.m. on July 11, 1978 at the Lions Hall in Wenme, for the purpose of considering a budget for the district for the fiscal year 1978-79. This is a public meeting where anyone may discuss questions relating to the budget. A copy of the budget is available at the home of the Secretary, Neil K. Howe, secretary Mt. Hood Loop Water District, Box 87, Welches, Oregon 97067.

### NOTICE OF STREET VACATION

NOTICE is hereby given that the common council of the City of Sandy, on July 10th, 1978, duly adopted and passed a Resolution that proceedings should be undertaken by said council pursuant to O.R.S. 221.080 to and including 271.230 for the vacation of portions of Bluff Boulevard and Fountain Boulevard within the corporate limits of the City of Sandy, Clackamas County, Oregon, more particularly described as follows:

All that portion of Bluff Boulevard and Fountain Boulevard in the town plat of The Bluffs located in Section 11, T.2 S., R.4 E., of the W.M., in the City of Sandy, in the County of Clackamas and State of Oregon, which lies South of a line running from the Southeast corner of Lot 7, Block L to the Southwest corner of Lot 6, Block M of said plat and which lies North of the South line of the tract of land described in a deed to William J. Anderson, at the County Recorder's Office, January 16, 1973 as Recorder's Fee No. 73-1507, Film Records EXCEPTING THEREFROM that portion of Bluff Boulevard which has been previously vacated.

The City Council of Sandy, Oregon has fixed the hour of 8:00 o'clock P.M. on the 7th day of Aug. 1978, in the meeting room of the City Council and City Hall at Sandy, Oregon, as the time and place for the hearing of any and all objections or claims concerning said vacation of said Street which may theretofore have been filed in writing with the City Recorder of the City of Sandy, and at said time and place the City Council will consider any such objections thereto.

Dated and first published this 13th day of July 1978.

Paul F. Helton  
City Recorder  
City of Sandy  
July 13  
July 20  
July 27  
Aug. 3  
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### NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Clackamas County Board of Adjustment will on the 17th day of July, 1978, in Courtroom 3, third floor, County Courthouse, Oregon City, Oregon, at a meeting commencing at 7:30 p.m., take testimony and evidence in the matter of a Staff Temporary Permit, in the area generally described as follows:

On the west side of 377th Avenue approximately 600 feet north of the intersection of Olson Street and 377th Avenue, in the Sandy area.

This property is more properly described as follows:  
Tax Lot 1600, Section 11AC, T2S, R4E.

This application has been filed by Robert Purcell to use a mobile home as a residence for the applicant's father-in-law, who needs care because of ill health.

The application and record is available for inspection in the office of the Clackamas County Planning Department, 940 Warner-Milne Road, Oregon City, Oregon, during normal working hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) File No. STP-4-78.

## Nell's Notes

### A family fourth

Hope everyone had as nice a fourth as we did. The family all showed up over the mountain with additional folk, so we had 10 in all. Had a ball.

Saturday night was our anniversary, also the anniversary of Jeannie and Len Walsh, who live over on the development. So we pooled our parties and had one big one.

All the good cooks do not live here on the mountain as I used to think. We had a huge roast turkey, a large baked salmon, a huge pot of delicious baked beans and a large watermelon filled with all kinds of melon balls and

fruit of other kinds, plus loads of delicious salads, and a huge cake.

If you didn't cut out the recipe that was in The Journal last week for a Chinese Almond Salad, you goofed. I made it for the party and everyone raved. It is delicious.

If you want to take a drive, and are not sure which direction to take, head over to Sisters. Plenty of shops, good places to eat and much to see.

Belated congratulations to Pat and Rudy Kasch. They also had an anniversary the same day as ours.

## Public notices

### NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Clackamas County Hearings Officer on the 27th day of July, 1978, in Courtroom 4, third floor, County Courthouse, Oregon City, Oregon, at a meeting commencing at 7:00 p.m., will take testimony and evidence in the matter of a Development Permit application in the area generally described as follows:

On the west and east sides of the Sandy River in the area a distance south of where Lusted Road crosses the river: Sandy area.

This property is more properly described as follows:  
Tax Lots 4200, 4300, 4301, 4302, & 4303, Section 1, T2S, R4E; Tax Lot 1300, Section 1AB, T2S, R4E; and Tax Lots 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, 1000, & 1200, Section 1AC, T2S, R4E.

This application has been filed by the Board of County Commissioners and Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District to allow the Soil Conservation Service to do emergency watershed protection work on the Sandy River to solve streambank protection problems.

The application and record are available for inspection in the office of the Clackamas County Planning Department, 940

Warner-Milne Road, Oregon City, Oregon, during normal working hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) File No. FHD-9-78.

### CITATION NO. A-78-17

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF CLACKAMAS; Department of Domestic Relations.

In the Matter of the Adoption of RODNEY GEORGE STILWELL, A Minor Child. IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON TO: ROBERT ABEL DOUGLAS aka GEORGE ALONZO STILWELL. You are hereby cited to appear at 1:30 o'clock P.M., on Monday, the 24th day of July, 1978, to show cause, if any you have, why the Petition for Adoption and Change of Name concerning the above named minor child should not be granted.

This Citation shall be served in the same manner as a Summons and due return thereof shall be made by the officer serving the same.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of said Court at Clackamas County, Oregon, this 22nd day of June, 1978.

### NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election to be held on Tuesday, August 8, 1978, between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., there will be submitted to the qualified voters of the following districts the following questions:

#### COTTRELL SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATING LEVY

Shall School District No. 107 - Cottrell, Clackamas County, Oregon, levy a tax in excess of the limitation imposed by Section 11, Article XI, Oregon Constitution, in the amount of \$267,359 for the fiscal year 1978-1979, for the purpose of operating the educational program for grades one through eight?

#### EXPLANATION OF THE BALLOT QUESTION

1. Cottrell School District has no tax base; therefore, any tax to be levied by the school board must be approved by the voters.
2. This proposed levy is to maintain current educational standards; to develop a program for learning problems; to inaugurate a program for accelerated learners; to adjust faculty and staff salaries in accordance with School Board-Personnel agreements; and to provide adequate maintenance of the physical plant.
3. The 1977 Legislature authorized \$60,156 to be deducted after voter approval of the budget. With these funds and other reductions in levies it is estimated that the tax rate for school purposes will be slightly less than the current year.

If this measure is approved, the operating budget to be financed by local taxes for the tax year 1978-1979 will be \$52,839 greater than the operating budget financed by local taxes for the preceding year.

#### SANDY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATING LEVY

Shall School District No. 46 - Sandy Elementary, Clackamas County, Oregon, levy a tax in excess of the limitation imposed by Section 11, Article XI, Oregon Constitution, in the amount of \$1,227,960 for the fiscal year 1978-1979, for the purpose of operating the educational program for grades one through eight?

#### EXPLANATION OF THE BALLOT QUESTION

Sandy Elementary District #46 does not have a tax base and must seek a voter approved operating levy each year. The proposed levy for 1978-79 reflects increased costs due to inflation, maintenance of existing buildings, increases in student enrollment, and the voter approval of additional school construction. The School District will receive an increase in Basic School Support Fund Equalization monies from the State of Oregon which comes to the District as a tax offset. These offset monies that will be available may not be claimed in preparing the levy amount on this ballot.

If this measure is approved, the tax to be levied will be reduced by the Basic School Support Fund offset.

If this measure is approved, the operating budget to be financed by local taxes for the tax year 1978-1979 will be \$26,006 lesser than the operating budget financed by local taxes for the preceding year.

ATTEST: GEORGE D. POPPEN  
COUNTY CLERK

## An Invitation

# TO GORDON STONE'S OF GRESHAM & SANDY'S GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION SALE

As you know, Gordon Stone's has expanded into Sandy. So we are celebrating by marking down clothing in all departments  $\frac{1}{3}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  off the regular price.

Come into either our Gresham or Sandy store & find super savings on our sale merchandise.

While you are in our Sandy store, don't forget to enter our free drawing. Here are some of the \$5000 worth of merchandise included in our grand opening drawing:

- | - MEN -                      | - SHOES -                    | - WOMENS -            |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| * Curlee Suit & Sport Jacket | * Texas Boots                | * Graff Pant & Top    |
| * Champion Slacks            | * Red Wing Boots             | * Bleeker St. Dress   |
| * Haggar Slacks              | * Florsheim                  | * Terri Jr. Dress     |
| * Levi Pants & Shirt         | * Weyenberg                  | * West Set Pant & Top |
| * Arrow Shirts               | * Men & Women Dexters        | * Tami Pants          |
| * Jantzen Sportswear         | * Men & Women's Hush Puppies | * Alpaq Pants         |
| * Pendleton Shirts           | * Air Step                   | * Duet Sweater        |
| * Jockey Sportswear          | * Bare Traps                 | * City Girl Dress     |

Hours:  
Mon-Thurs 9:30-6:00  
Gresham 9:30-9:00  
Friday Sandy 9:30-8:00  
Saturday 9:30-5:30

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