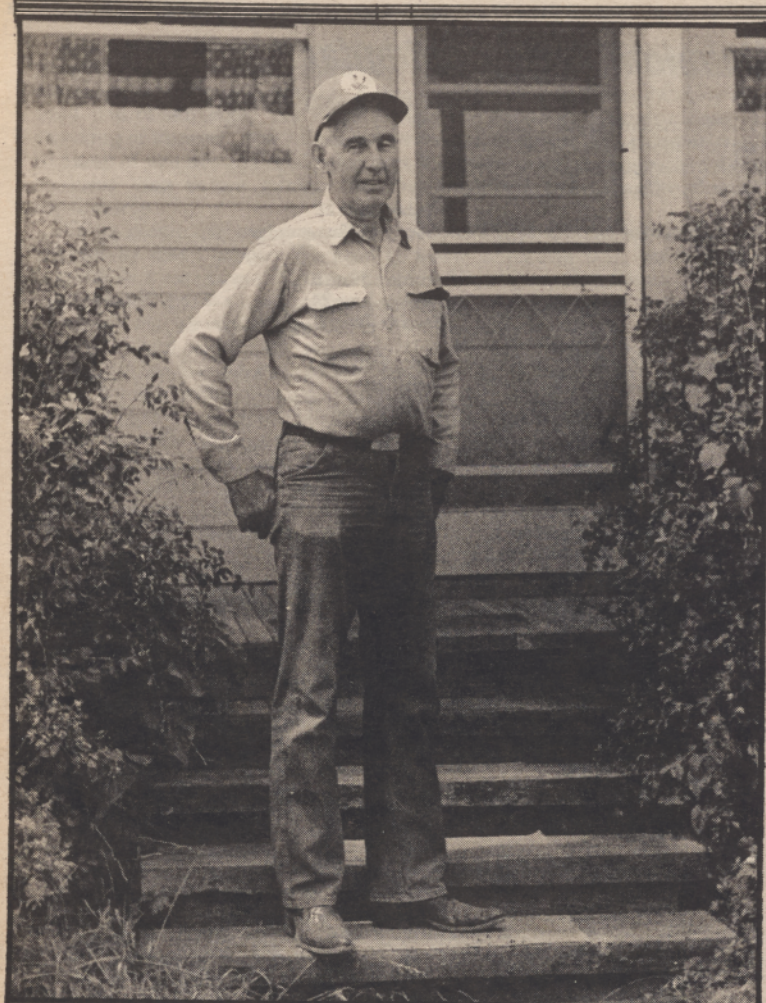




Jenelle Wiggins

Nehalem Valley People *Those who were here*

Shalmon Libel

Shalmon Libel, owner-operator of the Libel farm supply store out Mist, just might have the deepest roots of any pioneer in this valley.

"My granddad, John Jones was born in 1842 and fought through the Civil War," Shalmon tells me. "He came west to Frisco from Illinois, took a boat from there to Portland and then came on Mist. I've got the original homestead papers in my safe. My mother Clara was born at Mist in 1882 on Granddad's homestead here," he gestures. "Mother is 96 years old and my wife and I took her to the Pioneer Picnic at Natal last Sunday. She was the oldest woman there."

"My father John Libel was born here too just across the river where the Olympic sawmill stands. Dad always had stores. He owned the store at Mist for 17 years and I was born there."

Although most of the buildings are

gone now, at one time Mist was a thriving little community with two hotels and a livery stable. Because people weren't able to travel freely then, they were dependent on the Mist Store for most all their shopping needs. "Dad had a three horse team," Shalmon tells. "They were Belgians and their names were Bob, Bill and Prince. Every other day, three times a week that team traveled over the mountain to Clatskanie to pick up supplies. I was too young to remember, but Dad printed up some picture postcards of the team standing in front of the store. The driver always carried a six gun on his hip for protection."

"In 1925 Dad bought the store at Birkenfeld and I went to five grades there," he continues. There used to be twice as much to Birkenfeld as there is now but a lot of the buildings burnt down including a hotel, pool hall and Macabee Hall. The Macabee was a large building and located close to us.

Notes on Folks

Edgar, Herbie and Margaret Hartzell, former Vernonia residents, returned to town Friday afternoon to visit with friends and attend Margaret's class reunion. She was a graduate of 1936. The Hartzells are residents of Bend, Oregon.

John, Elaine and Little John Young have moved back to Vernonia. They now have a niece living with them. She is Allison Clarke from Australia.

Ed Wisdom, owner of Alpine Lanes and resident of Vernonia recently took 7th place in the 3-6-9 Tournament at the Valley Lanes Bowling Alley. Ed has a 709 series, which was good for a \$25 cash prize.

New Folks

Wayne and Judy Acton are the proud parents of James Winston, born June 15, in Forest Grove at Dr. Bours birthing cabin. James weighed 8½ pounds. Mother and son are home and doing well.

Women Bowlers Meet

Vernonia Women's Bowling Association held its annual meeting June 14 at Alpine Lanes for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year. Those elected were Pres.; Alice Ellison; Vice Pres. Bess Moser; Secretary-Treasurer Eunice Tovey.

After a short business meeting those present were given a chance to bowl a free line. Thanks Ed! The next meeting is scheduled for August 30 at Alpine Lanes.

Former VHS grad honored

The Central Oregon Veterans Council coordinated local observance of Vietnam Veterans Era Week, which ended Sunday.

Six Vietnam veterans were recognized for outstanding service, including

When it burned in June of 1930, the fire got so hot it cracked windows and blistered the paint on the Birkenfeld Store."

Shalmon also remembers when the Gold Medal Shingle Company, up Deep Creek, burned. That fire got moving so fast it created its own wind and traveled 5 miles in a half hour. "There used to be lots of fires because buildings didn't have the protection they do now," Shalmon tells me. "There were few roads, no fire equipment and no fire departments. Unfortunately there is still no fire department in this area. In case of a fire, residents must rely on the Forestry Department in Pittsburg, 14 miles away."

"A man named W.H. Bridgers bought dad out at the Mist and Birkenfeld stores and in 1930 we moved to Portland and then Salem. But in 1932 we moved back to the ranch and I've been here ever since."

Shalmon grew up in the days of big

Obituary

Leaon U. Odam

Funeral services for Leaon U. Odam, 82, resident of the Vernonia community since 1945 were held Tuesday, June 19th at 1:00 p.m. at the Vernonia Bible Church. The Rev. D.J. Dickey, pastor of the Vernonia Bible Church officiated. Committal services followed with Vault interment being held at the Vernonia Memorial Cemetery in Vernonia.

Leaon U. Odam was born October 21, 1896 in Unionville, Missouri, the daughter of David and Edith Reiling Moore. She received her schooling and grew to adulthood at Unionville.

She was united in marriage September 6, 1913 at Unionville to Arthur Odam. After their marriage they owned and operated a farm near Unionville until moving to Vernonia in 1945. Mrs. Odam was a member of the Vernonia Bible Church in Vernonia. Her favorite hobbies were Sewing and her family.

Mrs. Odam died following an extended illness on Saturday, June 16 at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland. She is survived by her husband, Arthur Odam, at the family home, 357 First Avenue in Vernonia. Also surviving are four sons, Myrl Odam, Brownsville, OR., Bill Odam, Brownsville, Jack Odam, Vernonia and Gene Odam of Brownsville. Twelve grandchildren and six great-grandchildren survive as do two brothers and one sister; Paul and Everett Moore, both in Nebraska, and Pearl McKeddy of Missouri. Numerous nieces and nephews also survive.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Fuiten Mortuary Chapel in Vernonia.

Raymond Hartzell, of Bend Fire Department. They received framed Presidential Certificates in a ceremony May 29 in the Deschutes County Courthouse Annex.

Raymond is a graduate of VHS class of 65.

timber, logging camps and railroads. Most roads were gravel and he remembers they used to shovel rock right out of the riverbed and haul it by horse and team up to the road. "I grew up around draft horses," says Shalmon "and I imagine I could harness a team blindfolded I got so used to it. Dad had a team of Belgians and we used to drill grain, mow and rake hay with them. We hooked up three or four teams to the horse sweep to thrash the grain. That's a lot of horse power! Lately I've been thinking about buying a team for a hobby but they cost a small fortune."

Following in his fathers footsteps, Shalmon began selling implements, machinery and feed in 1941. Today his farm supply store caters to residents throughout the Upper Nehalem Valley.

DID YOU KNOW there used to be a blacksmith shop where Lincoln Savings and Loan is now.

SALE

SAVE \$



SIDEWALK SALE

SALE

SAVE \$

Summer's here without a doubt
For fresh air we're moving out—
Just to the sidewalk for 1 day
We're really not out of the way.

June 23 is the date to remember
Items for sale in all their splendor
10:00 to 5:00 at the Sew Simple Shop
So don't forget where to stop!

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Weekend Special
From 5 pm, Friday & Saturday, June 22 & 23
Gary's Special
Prime Rib Dinner
\$7.50

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friday & saturday • 6am-9pm
closed sunday

866 Bridge Street 429-4743

