

OUT OF THE VAULT

Pendleton woman drowned in steamer wreck

A holiday trip ended in tragedy for a Pendleton woman in 1921 when the steamer ship she was sailing on ran aground in dense fog on Blunts Reef off the northern California coast.

Ruth Hart, a telegraph operator for the O.-W. R. & N. Railroad in Pendleton, boarded the steamer Alaska in Portland on Aug. 5, 1921, en route to California for a month-long holiday. The following evening the steamer's inexperienced crew lost its way in heavy fog off the northern California coast south of Eureka and, though they changed course several times, the steamer was allowed to travel too close to shore. The foghorn near Blunts Reef was heard, but couldn't be located.

When the steamer crashed into the reef, the passengers flooded the decks in an attempt to secure a place on the ship's lifeboats. But the green crew badly bungled the launch of the loaded boats and two were upset, throwing

their passengers into the water. The ship sank in just 30 minutes. Captain Hovey was last seen on the bridge of the steamer with two wireless operators, one of whom bailed into the water just before the steamer went under.

The survivors, clinging to debris from the sunken steamer, floated for hours before the steamer Anyox, alerted by the S.O.S. calls from the Alaska, arrived at the crash site to begin rescue efforts, eventually picking up 166 of the more than 210 passengers and crew. Many of the survivors were covered in fuel oil from the steamer's ruptured tanks. Residents of Eureka provided, food, clothing and baths for the rescued passengers, most of whom were transported to San Francisco the following evening. Fishing boats from nearby villages had the grim task of hauling the bodies of the dead ashore.

Though accounts of the accident varied, passengers and crew said the wreck would not have occurred if the

steamer had not been traveling too fast along the treacherous coastline in an attempt to make up speed. The inexperienced deck crew also took much of the blame, one boatswain stating that only five of the 14 crew members were competent in their duties.

The dead washed ashore for days. On August 10, the body of a girl about 25 years of age wearing a wrist watch bearing the initials R.G.H. and a lapel pin with the letters O.R.T. (Order of Railway Telegraphers) was found. Ruth's sister, Julia Metzler of La Grande, traveled to Eureka to identify her body and bring it home.

Ruth Hart was laid to rest August 15, 1921, next to her parents at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton.

Renee Struthers is the Community Records Editor for the East Oregonian. See the complete collection of Out of the Vault columns at eovault.blogspot.com

DEAR ABBY

Teen weighs impact of joining school gay-straight alliance

Dear Abby: I'm 14, starting my freshman year in high school and, of course, will be joining lots of clubs to prepare for college.

My best friend is gay, and when I asked her if she wanted to join any clubs together, she suggested the Gay-Straight Alliance club. As a saved Christian, I am unsure how to answer.

I believe Christians should treat homosexuals with kindness and respect. I believe also in same-sex marriage because of the legal protection it gives a couple. I respect my friend's decision, and I'm happy she's happy with her life. My family doesn't know how to respond either, though they have similar beliefs.

I am afraid if my church found out, they would dislike me for joining, as well as question where I really stand as a Christian. I feel conflicted about how to address both sides of my beliefs. Can you help? — Caught In The Middle In Kentucky

Dear Caught: I, too, believe that Christians (and people of all faiths) should treat each other with kindness



JEANNE PHILLIPS Advice

and respect, regardless of their sexual orientation. But somewhere you got the impression that sexual orientation is a choice. It isn't. Your friend's orientation was determined before she was born, just as yours was.

Wanting to support your friend by joining a Gay-Straight Alliance is a commendable thing to do, and it follows the Golden Rule. I can't see how a church that preaches love would object to that.

Dear Abby: I am a 24-year-old college graduate who has been unable to find a full-time teaching job, so I'm working as a teaching assistant. My salary is less than average, and between rent, bills and student loans, I am stretched more than thin.

Recently, a woman has been talking to me about nannying for her child after school. She'd like to hire me and have me meet her child in person, and we agreed on an hourly rate. I was excited about the opportunity and looking forward to starting.

This week she told me she wants to report my work for her on her taxes,

which means I'll have to report as a freelancer and pay estimated quarterly taxes while I work for her. Abby, this is unheard of in the baby-sitting world! I have been baby-sitting from my preteens all the way through college, and never once have taxes ever been part of the conversation.

My mother says I shouldn't be upset because the woman is doing what she's supposed to as far as the IRS is concerned, but I feel shortchanged. Shouldn't she have been upfront about her intentions when we discussed my hourly rate? Am I wrong for asking her for more money per hour to make up for some of the taxes? — After-School Nanny

Dear Nanny: William R. Turner, CPA, says your mother is correct. Your prospective employer is obeying the law. She wants you to meet her child, negotiate an hourly rate and hire you as a NANNY, not as a baby sitter. Your new employer should have you fill out a form W-4 and pay you as an employee. Because payroll deductions will be taken out of your gross pay by your new employer, you should negotiate your hourly rate accordingly.

DAYS GONE BY

100 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Aug. 19-20, 1917

Last Sunday evening, long before the stars were out, a very odd but beautiful thing was seen to fall from the sky over Meacham. It was like a meteor, but many say it was not. It fell very slowly, with the appearance of a sky rocket. Before disappearing, it burst and spread fiery particles about. It was very large and of a beautiful color, of purple and red, and did not seem far away.

50 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Aug. 19-20, 1967

A Pilot Rock man was arraigned in

district court Friday and charged with intent to kill. The suspect, James E. Mulvaney, 23, remained in the county jail after being arrested at his home in Pilot Rock. State police and sheriff deputies arrested Mulvaney in connection with the beating of Dennis Lyle Holmes, 21, of Pendleton. Holmes remained in serious condition Saturday morning at Kadlec hospital in Richland, Wash. He was to have undergone surgery, hospital authorities said. Holmes, who was found about 6:30 a.m. Friday morning in a ditch along Highway 395 at milepost 3 south of Pendleton, was sent to Richland for treatment by neurosurgeons. A state policeman said Mulvaney did not resist arrest.

25 Years Ago From the East Oregonian Aug. 19-20, 1992

A surprise visitor awaited Bonnie Rada of Pendleton when she entered her living room on Friday. She discovered Kjell Havnevik, former exchange student from Norway who stayed with Rada and her husband, Rudy, during the 1966-67 school year. Havnevik, 43, returned for the Radas' 50th wedding anniversary celebration. Now living in Uppsala, Sweden, Havnevik is a senior researcher for the Scandinavian Institute of African Studies through Sweden's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 231st day of 2017. There are 134 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On August 19, 1942, during World War II, about 6,000 Canadian and British soldiers launched a disastrous raid against the Germans at Dieppe, France, suffering more than 50 percent casualties.

On this date:

In A.D. 14, Caesar Augustus, Rome's first emperor, died at age 76 after a reign lasting four decades; he was succeeded by his stepson Tiberius.

In 1812, the USS Constitution defeated the British frigate HMS Guerriere off Nova Scotia during the War of 1812, earning the nickname "Old Ironsides."

In 1814, during the War of 1812, British forces landed at Benedict, Maryland, with the objective of capturing Washington D.C.

In 1918, "Yip! Yip! Yaphank," a musical revue by Irving Berlin featuring Army recruits from Camp Upton in Yaphank, New York, opened on Broadway.

In 1934, a plebiscite in Germany approved the vesting of sole executive power in Adolf Hitler.

In 1936, the first of a series of show trials orchestrated by Soviet leader Josef Stalin began in Moscow as 16 defendants faced charges of conspiring against the government (all were convicted and executed).

In 1955, torrential rains caused by Hurricane Diane resulted in severe flooding

in the northeastern U.S., claiming some 200 lives.

In 1964, The Beatles opened their first full-fledged U.S. tour as they performed at San Francisco's Cow Palace.

In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford won the Republican presidential nomination at the party's convention in Kansas City.

In 1980, 301 people aboard a Saudi Arabian L-1011 died as the jetliner made a fiery emergency return to the Riyadh airport.

In 1987, a gun collector ran through Hungerford, England, 60 miles west of London, killing 16 people, including his mother, before turning his gun on himself.

In 1991, Soviet hard-liners stunned the world by announcing that President Mikhail S. Gorbachev had been removed from power. (The coup attempt collapsed two days later.)

Ten years ago: Hurricane Dean, which had already killed eight people on its destructive march across the Caribbean, pummeled Jamaica with gusting winds and torrential rains as a Category 4 storm. French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner paid an unannounced and highly symbolic visit to Baghdad — the first by a senior French official since the war started. Elvira Arellano, an immigrant without legal status who'd taken refuge in a Chicago church to avoid being separated from her U.S.-born son, was deported to Mexico. (Arellano eventually made her way back to the U.S. and was paroled by immigration

authorities in March 2014; her case remains under review.)

Today's Birthdays: Actor L.Q. Jones is 90. Actress Debra Paget is 84. USTA Eastern Tennis Hall of Famer Renee Richards is 83. Former MLB All-Star Bobby Richardson is 82. Actress Diana Muldaur is 79. Rock musician Ginger Baker (Cream, Blind Faith) is 78. Singer Johnny Nash is 77. Actress Jill St. John is 77. Singer Billy J. Kramer is 74. Country singer-songwriter Eddy Raven is 73. Rock singer Ian Gillan (Deep Purple) is 72. Former President Bill Clinton is 71. Actor Gerald McRaney is 70. Tipper Gore, wife of former Vice President Al Gore, is 69. Actor Jim Carter is 69. Pop singer-musician Elliot Lurie (Looking Glass) is 69. Rock musician John Deacon (Queen) is 66. Bluegrass musician Marc Pruett (Balsam Range) is 66. Actor-director Jonathan Frakes is 65. Political consultant Mary Matalin is 64. Actor Peter Gallagher is 62. Actor Adam Arkin is 61. Singer-songwriter Gary Chapman is 60. Actor Martin Donovan is 60. Pro Football Hall-of-Famer Anthony Munoz is 59. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ivan Neville is 58. Actor Eric Lutes is 55. Actor John Stamos is 54. Actress Kyra Sedgwick is 52. Actor Kevin Dillon is 52. Country singer Lee Ann Womack is 51. TV reporter Tabitha Soren is 50. Country singer-songwriter Mark McGuinn is 49. Actor Matthew Perry is 48. Country singer Clay Walker

is 48. Rapper Fat Joe is 47. Olympic gold medal tennis player Mary Joe Fernandez is 46. Actress Tracie Thoms is 42. Actor Callum Blue is 40. Country singer Rissi Palmer is 36. Actress Erika Christensen is 35. Actress Melissa Fumero is 35. Pop singer Missy Higgins is 34. Actor Peter Mooney is 34. Actress Tammin Sursok is 34. Country singer Karli Osborn is 33. Olympic silver medal snowboarder Lindsey Jacobellis is 32. Actor J. Evan Bonifant is 32. Rapper Romeo is 28.

Thought for Today: "Being an intellectual creates a lot of questions and no answers." — Janis Joplin, American rock singer (1943-1970).

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The weekend TV Schedule, crossword and KenKen have moved to the comics section

WORD★Roundup™

by David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

Find and Circle...

- Seven team sports □□□□□□
- Three branches of the U.S. military □□
- Three five-letter zodiac signs □□□
- Bicker □
- Duck relative □

ARGUE / GOOSE
HOCKEY RUBY POOL / MARINES ARMY NAVY / ARIES VIRGO LIBRA
Answers to Sunday's puzzle: BASEBALL FOOTBALL SOFTBALL CRICKET
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P F V I R G O J L Z L Y
S O O V C Z N L H L Y C
E L L O J R A A Y B Y
N I E O T B I B V S G E
I B S A T B E C E Y U K
R R O F R S A I K G R C
A A O Z A M R L R E Z O
M S G B V A Y A L X T H

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 San Francisco specialty (9)	_____
2 San Diego's neighbor (7)	_____
3 San Andreas Fault outputs (11)	_____
4 San Salvador, for one (7)	_____
5 San Antonio tourist trap (5)	_____
6 San Jose area valley (7)	_____
7 San Marino, for example (10)	_____

RD	JU	AMO	TI	SILI
ANA	TAL	CAPI	TH	TA
SOU	EAR	AL	MIC	KES
OUGH	ROS	TE	QUA	CON

Today's Answers: 1. SOURDOUGH 2. TIJUANA 3. EARTHQUAKES 4. CAPITAL 5. ALAMO 6. SILICON 7. MICROSTATE

ODDS & ENDS

Escape artist llama makes bid for freedom on golf course

JACKSON, N.H. (AP) — Maybe these golfers in New Hampshire didn't yell "fore" but they might have considered "llama on the links." Golfers at Eagle Mountain Golf Course in Jackson were joined Monday on the sixth fairway by a llama that escaped from his pen about two miles through some woods. The Conway Daily Sun reports that the pack animal, named Noir, was friendly and got in pictures with the golfers. The fugitive is well known to local police. Officers escorted him home in June when he escaped from his electric fence enclosure. And this time, Jackson Police Chief Chris Perley again returned him to his pen with help from his owner, Russ Miller. Miller admits the electric fence needs to be a little higher.

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