

Early morning barn fire gives Enterprise a scare

OUT OF THE PAST

Compiled by Cheryl Jenkins

100 YEARS AGO

Aug. 17, 1922

An old barn, burning with a brilliant glare, gave Enterprise a bad scare early Tuesday morning. The town was sound asleep when the fire started and the structure was wrapped in flames before it was seen by night watchmen at the East Oregon mill a short distance away.

After inspecting the new hatchery ponds, officials of the state fish department said that conditions for propagation of salmon are more near natural at the Enterprise

ponds than at any other plant in the state.

Mrs. Sarah Jane Findley, the first white woman to make her home in Wallowa county, and an Oregon pioneer, died Aug. 10. She was 79 years old. She crossed the plains in 1852 in a wagon drawn by ox teams, in the first rush to Oregon.

75 YEARS AGO

Aug. 21, 1947

Ernest Sasser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chet Sasser, had a narrow brush with the Grim Reaper when he was harvesting at the Jay Bowerman ranch. He started to climb on a tractor to ride in on the gas tank. The leg of his Levis

caught in the revolving power takeoff, quickly twisting his clothes up until it got to his belt which was pulled until Ernest was only about five inches in diameter around the waist. His father cut his belt loose and there were no serious injuries resulting from the experience.

Wallowa county is to have two air marking signs which will be painted to aid air navigation in the area. The signs, consisting of a circle 15 feet in diameter with an arrow about twice that length, will be painted on the roofs of the Joseph Lumber company and the Wallowa school gymnasium.

Safecrackers, operating

with the skill of professionals, made their second raid in the county, breaking into Tippet's Tavern at Wallowa where they smashed open the safe and escaped with about \$1000.

50 YEARS AGO

Aug. 17, 1972

The Wallowa County All-Girl rodeo was held last Sunday at the Harley Tucker Memorial Arena. An estimated crowd of 2500 attended the rodeo. The Wallowa County trophy went to Jane Anderson of Joseph.

The stockgrowers "Cattleman of the Year" award was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Bill Cool of Joseph. Mr. and Mrs.

Jim Stubblefield of Imnaha were selected "Grassman of the Year."

Reports have been coming in from all over the county and have been quite consistent of a fiery ball or a silver or chrome ball with smoke trailing out behind, moving quickly across the sky in a northerly direction. The object was seen between 1 pm and 2 pm last Thursday.

25 YEARS AGO

Aug. 14, 1997

The EHS mascot received a one-year stay of execution when the school board agreed to let the athletics teams continue to use the nickname "Savages" and Indian logo

until the fall of 1998.

Wallowa County skiers Rocky Thies, Charlie Kissingner and Ryan Kissingner have now skied 48 months in a row in Wallowa County, a feat that has taken them to destinations they previously hadn't even heard of.

Acting on a tip, Humane Society volunteers visited the Wallowa County dog pound and found the caretaker out of town with no provisions taken for the six dogs in the building. They have controlled the facility ever since with daily visits bringing food and water to the impounded animals. They are now asking the county court for official control of the facility.

Daniel Aschenbrenner

September 19, 1948 - August 7, 2022

Daniel William Aschenbrenner died while enjoying a beautiful day outdoors on Aug. 7, 2022 on Cold Springs Ridge, Oregon. He was 73 years old.

He was born to William (Bill) and Rita Aschenbrenner on Sept. 19, 1948, in Enterprise, Oregon. He attended school in Enterprise and graduated from Enterprise High School in 1967.

He then attended Blue Mountain Community College until he was drafted by the Army in April of 1968. He attended Infantry Noncommissioned Officer School and graduated in December 1968. He married his high school sweetheart Donna Varney in March of 1969 before being deployed to Vietnam.

Sgt. Aschenbrenner served active duty with the Bravo Company of the First Cavalry Division (Airmobile) until he was wounded in battle on Nov. 17, 1969. He received multiple awards including two Purple Hearts, the Air Medal, a Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Gallantry Cross with Silver Star, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm.

He was discharged from active duty in April 1970, but remained in the Army Reserve until 1974.

He and Donna lived in Spokane upon his return to the states until the fall of 1970 when they moved back to Enterprise. He ran Dan's Phillip's 66 Station for a short time upon his return until he started at

Boise Cascade in December 1971. He worked at Boise Cascade as a machinist/millwright until his retirement in 2004.

Dan's favorite place was the woods. He loved hunting, fishing and camping. After his retirement he would spend weeks at a time camping, only coming to town to drop firewood and get supplies.

His next favorite thing was supporting his kids and grandkids. He spent countless hours on bleachers and sidelines watching track, football, baseball, softball, lacrosse, volleyball, basketball, tennis, horse shows and any other activity the kids were involved in. He was a talented woodworker and Grampa Dan's wooden toys will be cherished by everyone lucky enough to have one.

He is survived by his mother, Rita; wife, Donna; his children, Julie and Brent Hereford and Chad and Cindi Aschenbrenner; his granddaughters, Jessica Kooch, Sarah McLaughlin and Regan Hereford; grandsons, Coy Aschenbrenner and Peyton Hereford; great-grandson Macrae McLaughlin; brothers Larry (Judy) and Steve, as well as multiple nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father Bill and brother Stan.

There will be no services. In lieu of flowers or food, please make a donation to the Enterprise Education Foundation, 4-H, or the youth organization of your choice.



DEATH NOTICES

Gary L. Ainsworth

Gary Lynn Ainsworth, 67, of Rapid City, South Dakota, and formerly of La Grande, died Aug. 7, 2022. A graveside service will be held Sept. 9 at 2 p.m. at Mt. View Cemetery in Rapid City. Arrangements are by Kirk Funeral Home, Rapid City.

Daniel Aschenbrenner

Daniel Aschenbrenner, 73, of Enterprise, died Aug. 7, 2022. Aschenbrenner was born Sept. 19, 1948. At this time no services are planned. A full obituary will be published later. Bollman Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements.

Rock Botham

Graveside services for Rock Botham will be Saturday, Aug. 20 at 1 p.m. at the Cove Cemetery.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

SEE THE EXPANDED ONLINE CALENDAR AT EASTERNOREGONEVENTS.COM

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 17
SENIOR STRENGTH & STRETCH: 10 a.m. Wallowa Avenue Wellness, Joseph. Six-week series to enhance strength and increase balance. \$67. 541-203-3634.
ROTARY CLUB OF WALLOWA COUNTY: Noon-1 p.m. Odd Fellows Hall, Enterprise. Presenter Ron Polk's topic will be "Is it the truth? Science and misinformation in the era of COVID."

WALK WITH A DOC: 12:30-1:30 p.m. Meet outside in front of Wallowa Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday, Dr. Emily Sheahan will host a brief discussion around a health topic, and then the group will head out on the walking path that encircles the hospital campus — about a half-mile long, flat and well equipped with rest-

ing benches along the way.
WINE GLASS PAINTING: 5-7 p.m. Josephy Center. Give back to the community with your finished painted wine glass. Ages 14 and up. Free.
DRAGONS ON THE LAKE DRAGON BOAT PADDLE PRACTICE: 6-7 p.m. Boat launch dock at the Marina. No experience required. Wear light clothing and bring water. For more info, call 541-432-1121.

THURSDAY, AUG. 18
WALLOWA-ABLE BALANCE CLASS: 1-2 p.m., Wallowa Memorial Hospital classroom. Designed for older adults to focus on safe cardio, strengthening and coordination. To register, call 541-426-5314.
COURTHOUSE CONCERT SERIES: 5:30 p.m. Courthouse gazebo and lawn.

Weather Forecast

Courtesy of Weather Underground • wunderground.com

	High	Low	Conditions
Aug. 18	92	61	partly cloudy
Aug. 19	93	61	partly cloudy
Aug. 20	93	59	mostly sunny
Aug. 21	91	59	afternoon showers
Aug. 22	91	59	sunny
Aug. 23	93	59	mostly sunny
Aug. 24	92	60	partly cloudy

Phases of the moon

Aug. 18	Aug. 27	Sept. 3	Sept. 10
Last Quarter	New Moon	1st Quarter	Full Moon

WALLOWA COUNTY SUNRISE & SUNSET AUG. 18 - 24 (from the U.S. Naval Observatory)

THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED
5:52	5:53	5:54	5:56	5:57	5:58	5:59
7:53	7:51	7:49	7:48	7:46	7:44	7:42

Gerald (Gerry) McLain

Dec. 28, 1953 - June 15, 2022

Gerald (Gerry) Keith McLain, formerly of Wallowa, OR, passed away peacefully on June 15, 2022 in Walla Walla, Washington, at the age of 68.

Born in 1953 to Gerald Vern McLain and Bettie McCrae McLain, he grew up on the land that both his parents and grandparents farmed and where he would eventually make his living.

In high school he enjoyed playing basketball, running cross country, and took pride in getting good grades. Graduating from Wallowa High School in 1972, he went on to run cross country for Eastern Oregon University. He then took a gap year and spent many months enjoying travel and experiencing life in Australia and New Zealand.

On his return, he continued his education at Oregon State University where he earned a B.S. in geography, receiving his degree on a day where they interrupted the ceremony to announce the Trail Blazers winning the national championship.

He loved his time at OSU, where he made lifelong friends and met his future wife, Kate Macnab, whom he married in 1979. He never stopped rooting for the Beavers.

Following graduation, he returned to Wallowa County to take over the family farm, raising pigs and cattle as well as growing hay and grain. He took pride in farming and worked hard to be a good steward of the land.

Later, he added a new venture with his business, McLain Spraying.

Despite long days in the fields or out spraying, many mornings he could be found sitting around the Lostine Tavern shooting the breeze with the locals over a cup of coffee. He brought a sense of humor to the table that always livened things up.

He and his wife Kate had two daughters, Kelly and Megan. He loved being a father and spent quality time with his girls; he found joy in taking them for leisurely drives along backroads, sharing stories and passing along life's great lessons.

Gerry was community minded and served as a board member for Wallowa FFA, Wallowa School, Grain Growers, and Wallowa Resources. By far, his favorite community involvement was as a basketball coach for Wallowa High School. He loved the sport, the kids, and that it was an activity he could share with his daughters.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Vern and Bettie McLain, and his stepmother Minerva McLain. He is survived by his former wife Kate McLain of Vancouver, Washington; daughters Kelly Peacock (husband Jesse) of Imbler and Megan McLain (husband Karl Kiest) of Portland; his brother Kirk Wade (wife Deborah) of Canby, as well as by two nieces, one nephew, and their children.

A Celebration of Life will be held at M. Crow in Lostine on Sunday, Aug. 28, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.



Shirley Gardner

June 20, 1936 - August 3, 2022

Shirley Ann Cuthbert Gardner, 86, peacefully passed away on Wednesday Aug. 3, 2022 at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center, in Boise, Idaho.

All who knew and loved Shirley called her "Annie."

Annie was born on June 20, 1936, in her grandmother's home in Henderson, Illinois, to the late Milo Cuthbert and Dorothy Folger Cuthbert.

Annie grew up on the Mississippi River in the towns of Nauvoo, Illinois, and Fort Madison, Iowa, where she graduated in 1954. During her journey she met Robert Gardner Sr., who she would marry in 1956.

Annie was a devoted military wife with Robert Sr. being in the Air Force.

Throughout her life she would relocate to several different states including South Dakota, Texas, New Hampshire, and California. Along the way she formed many lifelong friendships.

Annie was full of love and joy and she let this shine through with her varieties of interests. She was an artist. As an activities director, she enjoyed being very creative, from putting on parades to teach line dancing. She also loved to make people smile by being Mrs. Claus and "Lovie" the Clown. Her love of all children shone through while being involved with the Scouts - both Boys and Girls.

Her children, then all of her grandchildren, were her next adventure. She followed her first grandchildren to Oregon, where she lived for the past 30 years. During this time, in 2012, she opened the Red Rooster Restaurant, which became a family affair. Annie loved to be a "Hostess with the Mostest," while her daughter, Kim, uses her creativity in the kitchen.

Four generations and extended family members have worked in some capacity at the restaurant, from waitressing, to prep cook, to carpenter.

Above all, Annie was a devoted Catholic while being a parishioner at St. Katherine's for the past 30 years. She was involved with the Rosary Guild, where they made and distributed thousands of Rosaries to missions around the world, and to overseas military soldiers. She also was a Eucharist Minister where she would take communion to those unable to attend Mass.

Annie's greatest love was for Mary, Jesus's mother. She commissioned the "Our Lady of Comfort" statue of Mary, located at the entrance of St. Katherine's.

Annie is survived by four children, Kim (Bill) Moore, Diane (Mark) Hill, Robert Gardner Jr., and Christopher (Mary) Gardner; Larry Martin, who is a long time foster son; eight grandchildren, Kristy, Matthew, Robbie, Gregory, Gillian, Val, Sophia, and Aidan; eight great-grandchildren, Madison, Nathaniel, Miles, Celeste, Caleb, Calvin, Eden, and Coby; and one great-great-grandson, William.

Annie is preceded in death by her father, Milo and mother Dorothy Cuthbert; one brother, Barry; and two sisters, Gloria and Candace. Robert Gardner Sr., her loving husband of 54 years, passed in April 2010.

A Celebration of Life will be held at St. Katherine's Catholic Church in Enterprise on Friday, Aug. 19, 2022 beginning with the Rosary at 10 a.m., followed by Mass. Immediately following, all are welcomed to join family and friends at a luncheon in the parish hall. Bollman Funeral Home entrusted with arrangements.

