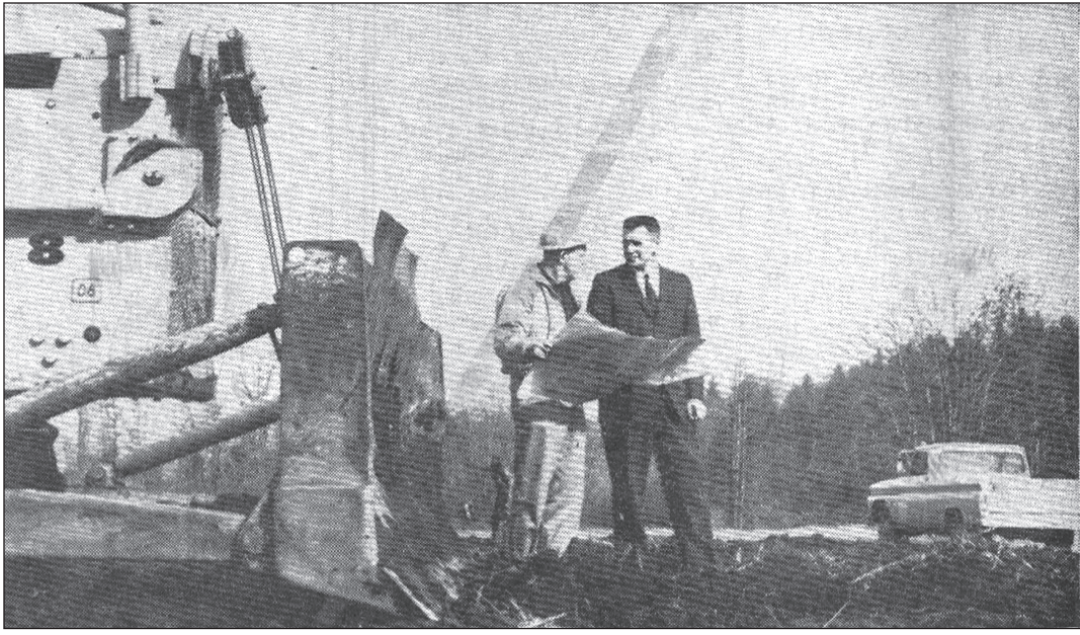


Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at Sentinel stories from 50 and 70 years ago

POLICE BLOTTER

Cottage Grove Police Department 24-Hour
Anonymous Tip Line: 767-0504



March 3, 1965

Lost cat found quickly

Lost last Thurs. vicinity Godard Lane, male cat, light gray, striped, white chest and paws. Reward.

The cat was reported to the owner at 2 p.m. Feb. 24, a few hours after the Sentinel went to press. Whether it's a lost or found item or for sale, the results are usually very gratifying. The above is just one example of the hundreds of want ads appearing in the Sentinel during the past year where quick results were obtained.

Above: March 4, 1945: Work Begins — Clearing work and other preliminary construction was started on the Cottage Grove Airport last Thursday by Glen Ousley Construction Co. of Eugene. The Airport, which will have a 2,600-foot runway, has been in the making for approximately three years now. Located in the Thornton Corners area east of Cottage Grove, Glenn Plymate, state airport supervisor, estimated construction would not be completed until July or August. Above, Ousley (left) and Plymate (right) are shown as they inspect plans for the airport last Thursday.

Feb. 23

Found child, New to You

A caller reported a 2-3-year-old female found wandering in the area. The child was unable to articulate her name or address. The caller waited in front of the store for an officer, who returned the child to her residence.

Trespass, Apothecaria

A reporting person said a subject had been in and out of the shop several times, inquired about the purchase of marijuana but did not have a medicinal prescription and the purchase was refused. The subject then loitered at bus stop nearby but left before officers arrived.

Feb. 24

Warrant service, Dots Trophy

A reporting person said a green van was parked at the location loading something from the shop. The caller believed that the subject did not have permission to take anything. Officers on the scene determined the vehicle had switched license plates, and the subject had an expired license. The subject

was filling barrels with water when officers made contact and detained for failing to appear in a Jackson County court on charges of manufacturing marijuana and possession of methamphetamines. The subject is to be transported, and was not prosecuted for theft of water.

Criminal mischief, Village Green

A complainant reported that graffiti had been applied to fences, sidewalk and driveway at the location. The damage was estimated at \$200.

Mental, Police department

A complainant at the station insisted on speaking with an officer regarding crimes occurring within the city but was unwilling to speak with dispatch. The complainant was not in danger to herself or others, but was very paranoid and wouldn't give the officer any information regarding the alleged crimes.

Feb. 25

Information, Harvey Rd

A reporting person at the station said that she has been trespassed at the location by a subject who entered the house and

helped herself to food. She was told to call 911 if the subject, a former housekeeper, returned.

Feb. 26

Criminal mischief, Bryant Ave

A complainant said a tire on their vehicle was slashed. Approx. value was \$100.

Feb. 27

Suspicious condition, Withycombe Ave

The caller said two males dressed in all black were just at her door asking about her DirecTV service; the subjects were not in any official vehicle.

Reckless driving, Hwy 99

The complainant and another caller said that there was a red Kia with a Dominoes delivery sign on front speeding down the street, almost hitting multiple people in the road and flipped them off as he drove by.

Trespass, Middlefield Oaks

A reporting person said an ex of an employee is at the location and refusing to leave.

CITY BEAT:

News and events from the City's 'Friday Update'

Tidy up the Town

A group of dedicated volunteers will visit historic downtown Cottage Grove to "Tidy Up The Town" on Friday, March 13 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. This is an annual event that brings volunteers together to clean up downtown sidewalk areas, wash windows and generally tidy things up.

Community Center hosting tax service

Volunteers from AARP are offering free tax service on Wednesdays in the Reception Hall at the Community Center from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This service is being offered on a drop in basis; no appointments are being taken. Doors open at 8 a.m. and a sign-in sheet is available for those interested in having help with taxes.

Saturday Yoga class

A new Yoga class is being offered at the Community Center beginning Saturday, March 14 from 10-11:30 a.m. The cost for each class will be \$5 with money raised from classes to be donated toward scholarships for children's swimming lessons. For more information about the class please contact Gloria at (541) 912-7789.

AARP Safe Driving Class

The Community Center will be hosting another AARP Safe Driving Class Saturday, March 7 in the Shepherd Room from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This class is open to all ages and to non-AARP members. The cost is \$20 for non-members and \$15 for AARP members. Those interested in learning more about the class or to sign up can contact volunteer instructor Bryan Ducker at (541) 942-7260.

Consumer Confidence Report

The 2014 Water Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) has been finalized and will be made available to all City water customers over the next few weeks. The City will be reporting on the quantity and quality of the City's source, treatment and distribution of drinking water to its customers.

The availability of the CCR

will be announced in the water bill that will be mailed in March. Customers will be given a web address that will link to the City's website, where the CCR can be viewed or printed.

Additional copies of the CCR will be printed and made available for pick-up at the Public Works Department in City Hall or by calling (541) 942-3349 to request a copy via mail.

OFFBEAT

Continued from page 4A

water the fairgrounds could possibly need, and by the time the expo came to a triumphant conclusion late in 1905, he'd almost made up for the Bull Run blunder.

Then, at the head of his consortium of local and national investors, Pence bought the fairgrounds and started putting his plans into effect.

His crews got busy tearing down the fairgrounds structures and using the scavenged wood to create a massive system of flumes — 14 miles of them —

leading back up into the West Hills to the sources of water he controlled. With these, he fed a colossal high-pressure hose. He would use dynamite to loosen the soil, then wash it down into the lake in a muddy, swirling torrent. Blast, rinse, repeat. Day after day, all through the rainy season.

Naturally, this played poorly with the neighbors. It played especially poorly with Colonel L.L. Hawkins — remember him? Hawkins was already displeased that his park dream had been definitively scotched by Pence's scheme, and the constant drumbeat of dynamite charges wasn't helping his mood. It wasn't making the other neighbors happy either. Pence also had some trouble

with the government. Denied permits for his system of flumes, he built them anyway, knowing if he missed the rainy season, he'd be done for. This resulted in some hard feelings at City Hall. Luckily for Pence, Mayor Harry Lane overplayed his hand when he personally helped destroy a section of Pence's flume system that he thought was inside Macleay Park; Pence graciously met him at the site with a team of surveyors who demonstrated that his flume was not encroaching, and the embarrassed Lane helped him fix it and removed further bureaucratic hurdles.

There was also a horrifying episode when a section of flume collapsed, precipitating several workmen to their deaths on the ground several dozen feet be-

low.

Nonetheless, by the end of the rainy season (1906-1907), Pence was very bullish on the venture. His operation had all but removed a hill called Scotch Nubbin, and dumped over 200,000 cubic yards of dirt into the lake. At that rate, he expected to have the job fully finished well before the six years he'd promised his investors.

But it was not to be. In summer of 1907, a bank panic broke out, and the bank that was his primary backer closed its doors. Suddenly gasping for cash, Pence found himself unable to make payroll, and with the bankruptcy trustees trying to claw back the money the bank had advanced to him. Seeing the writing on the wall, Pence closed up shop and headed back east, where he finished out his life as a railroad lawyer.

As for the lake, when the property reverted to the sellers they sold it to a duo of Seattle hydraulic contractors, who fin-

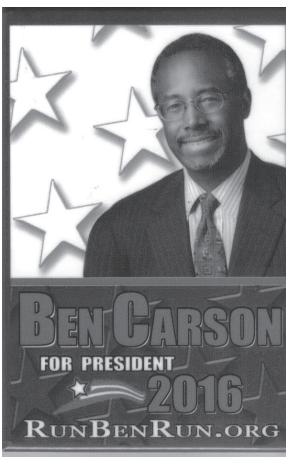
ished part of the job and called it good. Then in the early 1920s, the Port of Portland filled in the rest of the lake when it dredged the river channel and used the lake as the repository for 20 million cubic yards of silt from the river bottom. Today, Guild's Lake is an industrial neighborhood, and Northwest Yeon Avenue (Highway 30) runs right through what used to be the middle of it.

(Sources: Portland Morning Oregonian, March 11, 1907; Liston, Gabriel. "The Reclamation of Lafe Pence," lastwater.net; ohs.org; oregonencyclopedia.org)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. For details, see <http://finn-john.com>. To contact him or suggest a topic: finn2@offbeatoregon.com or 541-357-2222.

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Do you know this name?



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