

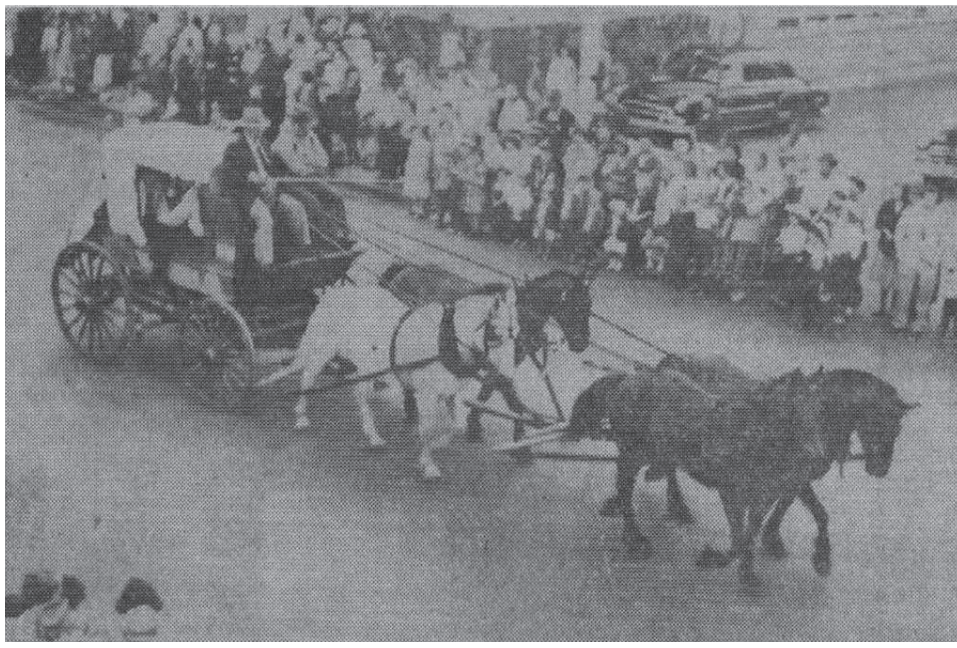
Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at Sentinel stories from 60 and 80 years ago

July 11, 1935

Stump struck by ax set afire

To see a large oak stump burst into flames when struck lightly by an ax would astonish most anyone. That certainly was the effect it had on Walter Graham, a lad who was working at the golf course the past week. He was one of a number of boys who are earning dues by cleaning up rough spots and chopping out some oak sprouts. In doing so he struck a nearby stump and it burst into flames. He was almost as badly frightened as he was astonished and went right away from there to inform Groundskeeper Bagley, who was aware that stumps had been treated this spring with sodium-chlorate, a highly inflammable substance. Bagley had no idea that it could be set off in that fashion, but he took advantage of the fact to set other stumps afire. A large portion of the rough was in that manner cleaned up with a minimum of physical exertion.



July 14, 1955: Winner of the animal drawn conveyance division of the Centennial Parade was Tucker's covered wagon, drawn by six work oxen. Pictured is one of the stage coaches in the parade. An estimated 20,000 viewed the parade, which lasted approximately an hour and went from Pioneer Bridge, down Main Street and up the highway to Sixth Street.

POLICE BLOTTER

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

July 6

Theft, Speedway

The complainant, who was calling from Eugene, requested to file a theft report as her purse fell below the grandstands while at the location watching races on Saturday between 6 and 9 p.m. The complainant further reported that when she went to retrieve her purse \$50 in cash as well as RX meds — methadone and oxycodone — were missing.

Theft, Thayer Ave.

The caller reported the theft of several bags of pop cans, approximately worth \$60. The caller also reported additional thefts that had occurred previously, including baseball equipment valued at \$200. The caller did not file a report.

Information — attempt to locate, bike path behind Safeway

A male with black hair had a knife in his hand and told the caller to walk the other way. The suspect also chased after a girl on the bike path. The suspect then left the area in a black Mazda Prelude.

July 8

Suspicious subject, Jim's Tire Factory

The complainant observed a male transient hiding near a train car behind the location. The complainant said that the subject appeared to be spray painting the train car. The subject was last seen wearing a blue shirt, black shorts and carrying a backpack and was heading south bound on the tracks.

Officers contacted the subject, who was intoxicated, near the south end of Bohemia Park. Officers gave the subject a courtesy ride to the ER for treatment of a large bruise on his back. The subject's dog was lodged at the kennels until the subject is released from the hospital.

Burglary attempt, N. 11th St.

The property owners said that it appears someone drove through the new garage door and tried to pry open the door to the other side of the garage. He also said there was evidence of several BB holes in windows on the back of the residence. Officers determined that no entry was made and a canvas of the area was negative.

Kidnap, Quality Inn

The caller said her cousin was taken by force from the location sometime that morning. The caller was able to communicate with the victim via text. The subject said she also received the following text: "She owes me and she's going to make it right. She is going home with me."

July 10

Information, Landess Rd.

The reporting person said a neighbor shot her dog, possibly for getting into his chickens. An officer contacted both parties.

CITY BEAT Excerpts from the City of Cottage Grove's 'Friday Update'

Governor declares July "Water Awareness Month"

Last week, Governor Kate Brown declared July "Water Awareness Month". There are 20 counties under emergency drought declarations and ap-

proximately 98 percent of the state is experiencing drought.

"I am asking all Oregonians to do their part to use water wisely," said Governor Brown. "Water is the foundation for local economies and ecosystems, and essential to the health and well-being of Oregonians. Drought is a slow moving disaster, adopting responsible water use practices now will help reduce the impact of drought for

years to come."

The proclamation cites as causes for concern the lowest statewide snowpack level on record; the third warmest average temperature from January to May in the past 121 years; and below normal rainfall. The proclamation also recognizes some climate scientists' prediction that over the next 50 years Oregon is likely to lose most of its snowpack and become a rain-

dominated system.

South Fourth Street and Hayes Avenue water line replacement

The City of Cottage Grove Public Works Department will be replacing the water main

line on South Fourth Street from Grant Avenue to the end of South Fourth Street and from South Fourth Street to the end of Hayes Avenue. The new water line will be a combination of 12-inch and 8-inch C-900 PVC and is approximately 1300 feet in total length. One additional fire hydrant will also be installed in this area. Preliminary work is scheduled to begin on the project the week of July 13.

Due to the water line replacement there will be limited, and at times, no parking along Hayes and South Fourth Street. Water service will also be disrupted at times. Customers will be notified door-to-door when these service disruptions are scheduled.

Those with questions or concerns about this project may contact the Public Works Department at (541) 767-4100.

OFFBEAT

Continued from page 4A

As word spread around the peninsula, local residents start-

ed pouring down to the beaches to watch the disaster unfolding as best they could through

the driving rain and whipping wind. Many of them left with armloads of salvaged goods from the Iowa's cargo; the seas had done such a thorough job of breaking the hull apart that cases of canned salmon, bags of flour and huge pieces of lumber had poured out and now littered the beaches, along with millions of soaking-wet matches. McLeod described one man, who for obvious reasons declined to give a name, beating a hasty and triumphant retreat from the scene of carnage with 25 cases of canned

salmon.

The next day, the storm had blown itself out, leaving flooded roads and flattened telegraph lines all over northwest Oregon. Aircraft and boats flocked to the scene of the disaster, looking for bodies to recover and answers to the questions that could never really be found. They discovered the ship was in about 20 feet of water, and realized that had she drawn just two feet less she would have been carried over the spit and probably either managed to get control again,

or fetched up on a beach within breeches-buoy range of shore.

To this day, the wreck of the Iowa remains the worst disaster in the history of the Columbia River Bar since 1852, when the sidewheel steamer General Warren foundered there (42 drowned in the General Warren incident). And to this day, when people talk about the bar's capacity to destroy even major modern oceangoing freighters, it's usually the Iowa they have in mind.

(Sources: McClary, Daryl. "SS Iowa wrecks on Peacock Spit ... (Essay 11007)," Historylink.org, Feb. 2015; Portland Morning Oregonian archives, Jan. 13-14, 1936; Marshall, Don. Oregon Shipwrecks. Portland: Binford, 1984)

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.

6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY July 16 51° 80° Sunny	FRIDAY July 17 53° 79° Partly Cloudy
SATURDAY July 18 56° 88° Sunny	SUNDAY July 19 56° 86° Sunny
MONDAY July 20 53° 85° Sunny	TUESDAY July 21 52° 85° Sunny

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