

TEACHERS

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longtime principal Jackie Lester to the brand-new position of P-20 Outreach Coordinator. Lester will be tasked with helping to improve the connections between the District and the community partners that offer services to local families before they reach school age and after they depart.

““I’ll be working as a conduit with our community partners, including early childcare providers, and I’ll be trying to grab as many opportunities as I can to promote and expand the services each provides, in addition to working to align those services with the services we offer in the K-12 education system,” Lester told the Sentinel as school wrapped up last year. At the district level, Jessica Campbell will also transition this year into the position of school psychologist.

On Thursday, Bridgens and Melendy welcomed their students, many of whom are already familiar to them, with popsicles.

“Laurie really knows the inner workings of this school, so between the two of us, I’m sure we can figure things out,” Bridgens said. “Today is about welcoming them, about making sure they know that we want them to be as involved as possible.”

The need to provide space for all-day kindergarten instruction has left Bohemia “more crowded than ever,” according to Bridgens.

During the meet-and-greet, new kindergarten teacher Ambyr Hankins said she’s excited about the chance to teach a group of students all day, adding that the extended day will mean more time for subjects like science and art that have tended to find themselves on the back burner in recent years. Hankins said parents are understandably concerned about a longer day for their kids, and she said



photo by Jon Stinnett

Bohemia Elementary Principal Heather Bridgens and Assistant Principal Laurie Melendy welcomed students for a meet-and-greet Thursday.

frequent breaks will be the key to fight fatigue.

“Some of the kids will get tired, so we want to just keep the day broken up to make sure that they’re not doing any one thing for too long and allow time to rest and recharge.”

At Harrison Elementary, Principal Ali Nice said that the new faces in the hall will only be new at Harrison, and that they “all represent experienced teachers from other schools.

“People have requested to come teach here,” she said. “We’re excited about the new ideas it will mean for Harrison and hope to collaborate a lot this year.”

A list of all new teachers, administrators and transfers at South Lane is at right:

District-wide

Jackie Lester, P-20 Coordinator
Jessica Campbell, School Psychologist

Bohemia Elementary

Heather Bridgens, Principal
Laurie Melendy, Asst. Principal
Ambyr Hankins, Kindergarten
Desi Dimock, Kindergarten
Kristina Fournier, Kindergarten
Alicia Osborn, Second Grade
Stephanie Randall, Second Grade

Cottage Grove High School

Cristine Boles, Math
Carmen Adler, Language Arts
Leilagh Boyle, Science
Gabe Dickinson, Music

Dorena School

Kelsey Dimock, K-1
Joana Munson, 2-3
Stephen Sadiq, 4-5

Harrison Elementary

Molly Northrup, Third Grade
Monica Marquess, Third Grade
Amie Pierzina, Kindergarten
Marni Degarlis, Special Education
Deedra Huff, Fifth Grade

Kennedy High School

David Heritage, Math
Jessica Martinez, Science
Daniel Henson, Language Arts

Latham School

Trisha Chapman, First Grade
Della McGinley, Second Grade
Jamie Prichard, Fourth Grade

Lincoln Middle School

Emily Wren, Asst. Principal
Dana Merryday, Math/Science
Craig Thompson, Special Education
Casey Kerns, Math
Laura Clark, Math
Jason Corwin, P.E./Health
Lisa Churchman, Language Arts/Social Studies

WELLS

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pointed out that each is able to draw 15,000 gallons of water per day without needing a special permit. He said that most wells draw about 1000 gallons of water a day in a time of heavy watering.

“Many residential wells are not efficient,” he said. “To find out their efficiency, a well driller has to do a one-hour flow test. If they shut the well off and the water comes right back, it’s usually not a problem with the resource.”

To complicate matters, Mattick said most older wells do not

“People’s wells aren’t going dry; they’re just worried that they will.”

— Carl Galliway,
Christensen Well Drilling

have meters to track their flow. And to complicate them further, many new property owners even have trouble locating a well on their property or finding even basic information about it.

“We spend a lot of time helping people find construction records that tell them how deep

their well is or what it can produce,” he said. “Early wells offer scant information; it’s often like a treasure hunt.”

Local well-drilling companies are getting calls all the time fielding well concerns, according to Carl Galliway of Christensen Well Drilling, which

serves an area from Portland to Cottage Grove and westward to the Coast.

“A lot of people are having problems with wells,” Galliway said. “They’re trying to put in irrigation systems and have a lot of concerns.”

Galliway said his company

is concentrating on well repairs and tests this time of year.

“People’s wells aren’t going dry; they’re just worried that they will,” he said. “A lot of people end up having flows of 23 gallons a minute or so, and there are no worries there. You can have five gallons per minute and be all right.”

Truly testing a well’s output requires a test of its recovery rate, Galliway said, about a four-hour process that typically costs about \$200.

“The test usually takes the fear away,” he said.

Galliway said many local

well drillers are currently operating in California, where tapping new water sources is a necessity.

“Down there, you can’t go further down than about 1000 feet or you hit saltwater,” he said. “Here, we’ve got a lot of lakes and aquifers that go from one lake to another underground. There’s a lot of water here, really.”

More information on well maintenance and a well location database can be viewed at the Oregon Water Resources Department website, located at Oregon.gov/OWRD.

OFFBEAT

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It’s not clear whether any of these offers were actually passed on to their object of long-distance affection, though.

As the case continued, the two opposing attorneys fell into some eyebrow-raising interpersonal acrimony. The fireworks seem to have started when Murray’s attorney, John F. Logan, used his opponent, W.T. Vaughn, as a case study in personal disreputability.

“To give point to his contentions, Mr. Logan suggested that Mr. Vaughn might possess an excellent character, but that a considerable interval would elapse between the date of his death and the hour when people would be saying good things about him,” the newspaper recounted.

This poke drew a rebuke from the judge, but the pugnacious Mr. Logan doesn’t seem to have taken the hint, for on the last day of the trial Logan punched one of Whitney’s relatives in the ante-room. In the ensuing scuffle, a wild punch landed on the chin of the Multnomah County Sheriff, who was helping to restrain the would-be combatants.

From the perspective of the scandal-hungry newspaper readers of Portland, it was over all too soon. When the verdict came in, it was an open-and-shut victory for The Unwritten Law: Not guilty.

The crowd in the courtroom was overjoyed. “Thank God for it!” quavered an old woman from the front row of the gallery. Spectators rushed to congratulate Murray, who was clearly the hero of the hour – the righteous avenger and defender of his sister’s honor.

But even the Oregonian reporter, who was clearly on Murray’s side, seemed a little uncomfortable with his reaction to the verdict:

“He took his mother in his arms,” the reporter recounts. “She commenced weeping hysterically, and he began laughing, both exhibiting the same emotion in a different way.”

The truth of the matter

So, what really happened? As with most “unwritten law” cases, the trial generated far more heat than light; it’s likely that we’ll never know. Murray’s account – that Whitney looked down the barrel of a .38 revolver and refused to say he’d marry Mary – is very improbable. It seems most likely that Murray’s conversation with Whitney escalated from accusations to insults to threats of violence, and then Murray simply got so angry that he whipped out his revolver and started shooting.

Another subject we know nothing about: How did Mary feel about the way things turned out? She spent most of the trial either in a hysterical breakdown, or recovering from one at home in bed while other members of her family detailed the most intimate and personal details of her nascent sex life for all the world to gawk at and judge. Were her hysterics a reaction to that? Or was she, in part, grieving for the father her child would never know?

Questions like that are, of course, like a handful of gravel in the comforting balm of mob justice. No one in the audience really wanted to know. It was enough that Woman had been Wronged and Man had Avenged.

The day after the trial ended, Lincoln Whitney’s bereaved father was also in the paper. The spectacle of seeing Orlando Murray hailed as a brave hero and champion of virtue for the act of murdering Whitney’s own son was apparently too much for the old man. After going home from the courthouse, he’d suffered a heart attack and died.

(Sources: Portland Morning Oregonian, Nov. 13, 14, 17 and Dec. 2, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, 1906)

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