

HISTORY

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to give the library larger and better quarters, but still he was not satisfied with the space available. By that time the ladies had hired a librarian at a part time salary, but even the small salary and other costs were difficult for the club to meet. Consequently, several months back the city of John Day was prevailed upon to assume the salary of the librarian in addition to the rent, and this year appropriated \$2,000 for library funds.

Tribute From Mayor
Mayor Earl Van Voorhis paid tribute to the determination of the ladies, and related how they had descended on the city fathers “in great gobs and droves” seeking assistance, and would not be put off. This year a group went to the county budget board to seek funds to help support the John Day Library, but were refused, since the budget board considered that it was not a proper function of the county to help support the John Day City Library, even though it was admitted that the library was being used by a great many residents of all parts of the county.

Oliver later went to the county court and reach(ed) an agreement whereby the county would provide funds to operate a county library if he provided the library to be operated. He immediately set out to find a suitable location and to make arrangements to have a structure built to meet library standards and provide sufficient space. The result will be a building in the 500 block of South Canyon Boulevard, a short distance north of the John Day Floral Company.

May 31, 1962
Blue Mountain Eagle
Bank Officer Rescues Man

J.M. Bayley, president of the Grant County bank in the 1890’s, was camping and prospecting one day near the summit of Dixie Mountain, South of Cox’s cabin. About 9:30

PRAIRIE CITY IS READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL



Contributed photo/Grant County Historical Museum

Prairie City High School football team, circa 1916. From left, Kenneth McHaley, Robert Damon, John Fuerst, Ted Chambers, Sam French, ? Pike, Walter Kight, Chuck Collier, Stanley Younger, George Fell, Jack Cochran, Bill Cooley and Dewey Schroder.

o’clock that evening he heard cries for help.

He lit a torch and made his way towards the direction from which the plea had been sounded. About 300 yards from his encampment he found Gus Smith and his horse in the bottom of an eight-foot deep prospect hole. Smith, formally known as G.S.L. Smith, was on the bottom of the pile.

Bayley finally freed Smith from his predicament and after a moment of feeling joints and shaking limbs Smith decided that he was in working order. It took a bit of doing to free Smith’s horse though. Both men dug an incline down into the hole so that the gelding could be removed from the pit.

Curiously enough, an antelope hunting excursion from England to Grant County brought Smith to the John Day valley and he liked it so well that he homesteaded a ranch in Hawkins flat on the Middle Fork of the John Day river. He later bought holdings above Herman Oliver’s ranch in the John Day valley, and, at the peak of his operation, ran about 1,600 cattle and four bands of sheep.

Jul. 13, 1967
Blue Mountain Eagle
Fires Keep Men Alert

Lightning caused 11 fires Wednesday on national forest lands and 25 on state lands, according to a report received to-

day from the respective offices. One state fire was reported out of control.

Of the 11 reported by the Malheur Forest Service, the largest was a two acre burn in the Long Creek District near Raddue Guard Station. Others reported were two in the Bear Valley District, six in the Burns District and one in the Long Creek District. Aircraft(s) dropping fire retardant were used in quelling the blazes.

Oregon State Forest officials reported their biggest fire

was a 30 acre grass fire near the Wise Ranch at Dayville. Another fire in that area involved three acres. Airplanes and helicopters are being used to move men and materials during this critical time.

Malheur forest officials stated today there is a 70 percent chance of lightening today, cooler on Friday and warming trend again Saturday.

Aug. 28, 1975
Blue Mountain Eagle
Youths scamper for pigs, cash

An event capturing good participation by boys and girls age 6 through 14 and enthusiastic adult watching was the Grant County Fair’s greased pig contest, held in cooperation with the John Day Fire Department.

Winners in the respective age groups were:

Ages 6-8 – Chris Claire, Canyon City; and Wade Kilby, Hamilton.

Ages 9-11 – Gil Brough, John Day; Rocky Maley, Fox; and Jeb Bowling, Canyon City.

Ages 12-14 – Blaise Burgman, John Day; and Casey Johnson, Canyon City.

The pig winners were given their choice of either the pig or \$30 in cash. One Canyon City winner dearly wanted the pig

but was finally persuaded by anxious parents, not eager to test city animal controls, to take the \$30 instead.

May 15, 1980
Blue Mountain Eagle
TV Star Howard Is A Hit in John Day

It would appear to be a case of mutual admiration: Ken Howard likes John Day’s small town atmosphere, especially the clean air; and John Day... well, it seems to love Ken Howard.

The popular star of the CBS television show “White Shadow” arrived in John Day Sunday for his on location filming of the TV documentary “Facts for Boys.” He expected to leave today.

Howard was an obvious hit with more than 125 people who gathered Monday for a luncheon in his honor sponsored by the Grant County Chamber of Commerce.

Just breathing the mountain fresh air of Eastern Oregon is exhilarating after coming from smog-prone Los Angeles, Howard commented.

He said the John Day area is an ideal setting for the half hour documentary. The town has a healthy atmosphere about it that is so characteristic of Oregon, he said.

Howard displayed as much enthusiasm for the project as he did for the town. He said the show will explain the changes boys experience as they enter puberty, as much or more from a social aspect as a biological one.

Three John Day are boys are being featured in the filming. They are fifth grader Kade Lyons, 11, seventh grader Shane Hankins, 13 and freshman Billy Warner, 14.

Howard’s role will be that of narrator of the show. The boys will be shown in scenes that illustrate the changes in interests the boys develop as they grow.

The show is being produced by Medcom, Inc. of New York and is expected to be aired on CBS as an after school special sometime this Fall.


Howard felt he was approached to narrate the show because of the appeal created by his role as a high school basketball coach in the “White Shadow” series.

The “White Shadow” has been picked up for a third year by CBS. Howard said, and indicated he would be happy with that long of a run. Howard also indicated that he had a part in developing the TV character through his own experiences with coaches.

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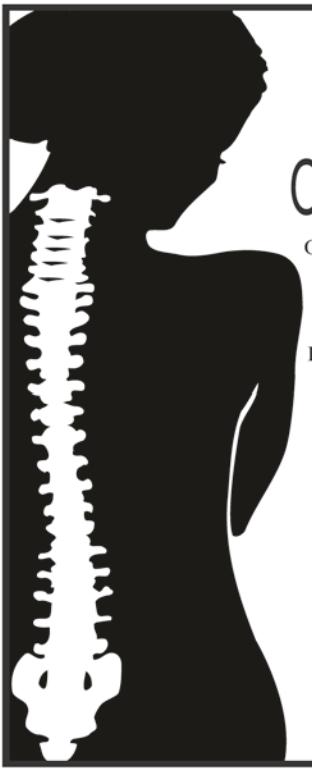
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