

OUT OF THE PAST

Feb. 17, 1916
Grant County Journal
100 years ago

J.A. Shields of John Day was the first Grant County man fined for bootlegging under the new prohibition law. He plead guilty before the justice at John Day, and was fined \$100.

Feb. 14, 1941
Blue Mountain Eagle
75 years ago
Was Bad Day for Sherm Guttridge

It was a bad day for Sherm Guttridge of the Guttridge Estate ranch near Prairie City.

He started the day building a fence. He got a long sliver in his hand that went to the bone and that completed fence building for a day. But he could ride horseback and rest sitting down, but the horse stumbled and fell and that "Limped" him up all over. To finish the day he went to the blacksmith. Working with some steel a hot splinter struck him in the breast and it went to the bone and would have penetrated the lung had not a friendly rib barred the way. That took a little surgery and then, he called it a day.

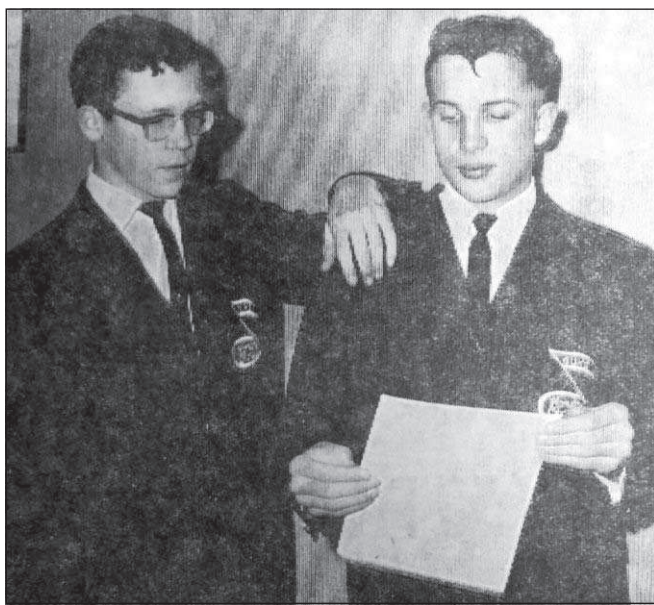
And it was not Friday the 13th.

Feb. 17, 1966
Blue Mountain Eagle
50 years ago
Old Timer Says

There is a very interesting picture in the museum, taken in 1895 showing the ice cutting on Canyon Creek.

Ice-houses were very common in those days, at many homes, ranches and the General Stores. Ice was a must for the hot summer months when the favorite beverage was lemonade, and there was an ever present hunger for the good homemade ice cream.

A familiar sight was families and friends gathered in the yards, under trees, enjoying a freezer or freezers of the ice cream. Ice cream



From the Feb. 17, 1966 edition of the Blue Mountain Eagle: Dick Merrill looks over the shoulder of Neale Ledgerwood at a letter informing them they were selected to the Oregon State honor chorus.

socials were popular. Large quantities were consumed at the 4th of July celebrations, which were celebrated in a large way in each community.

Each year when the weather was ready to "break" or thaw, crews of men with wagons and teams would go to the deeper holes or ponds in the creeks, where the ice would be frozen from 12 to 18 inches. (Sometimes ice ponds were made by filling holes or depressions with water, then letting it freeze to the desired thickness.)

They had a special marking board used to measure or draw out the ice blocks before cutting, so that they would be uniform in size and shape. They could then be stacked in the ice-houses. Cross cut saws were used to saw the blocks of ice. They were then transported by wagon-box and team to the ice-house, where it was covered with sawdust and kept through the summer.

Ice was sold by the pound from the General Merchandise Store. When someone wanted a block, it was grabbed by ice tongs from the mound of sawdust, placed on a rack where it was rinsed free of some

of the sawdust, weighted and sold. It was a common sight to see customers leav-

ing the store with a block of ice. To the store, ice was as necessary as "sugar in the bin."

Ice-houses were used to the 1920's. In later years the Canyon City Bottling Works and the Meat Shop in John Day froze ice by the modern methods.

One Old Timer recalls another remarking; "Everything equalizes its self - The rich man has ice in the Summer, and the poor man in the winter!"

Feb. 14, 1991
Blue Mountain Eagle
25 years ago

Second annual sled dog races planned at Lake Creek Camp

Although Grant County has not had much snow this winter, the Lake Creek Camp area southeast of John Day still has about eight to 10 inches on the

ground — enough to conduct the second annual sled-dog races this Saturday and Sunday. Last year the races drew 32 participants and over 100 spectators.

Competition for the local events is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. and run to about 4 p.m. The planned order of events for each day is 10-dog class (the distance of each race is approximately one mile for each dog run), eight-dog, pee wee, six-dog, four-dog and novice. The entire pee wee and novice class events can be observed

by the spectators and therefore are usually good crowd pleasers.

Public transportation to Lake Creek Camp is being provided by the People Mover. Cost for a one-day round trip and lunch is \$8.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages are available at a concession stand inside the Lake Creek Camp lodge. Drinking water is not provided to the camp facilities.

Tickets for door prizes and rides for children are also available.



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Do you know
what the Elks do?

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Saturday, Feb. 27
at our open house.

John Day Elks Lodge
No. 1824
140 NE Dayton • 4-8 p.m.

Open to the public - bring a friend!

Free hamburgers, hot dogs and sweet tater tots (donations accepted).

Take a tour and learn about our scholarships, Veteran services, charities and youth activities. Come see the displays from Elks Children's Eye Clinic, Meadowood Springs Speech and Hearing Camp, Elks National Foundation, Veteran's services and short videos.

