

# Safety Rest Area Reopens Chapter of History

By EVA HAMILTON  
Mail Tribune Staff Writer

The bureau of public roads has approved construction of the Manzanita Safety Rest area approximately 1.3 miles north of Louse Creek and 5.3 miles north of Grants Pass.

And the action has brought a reopening of history books to one of the most compelling chapters in the story of the Indian uprisings of 1855 in southern Oregon.

For the rest area is to be located near the site of the former George W. Harris home.

The choice of this location will be understood by some Oregonians, who know the Harris story, and realize that the Washington office justifies approval of a site only when it has scenic or historical value.

**Story Told Many Ways**  
There are many persons, however, new to Oregon, who have never opened their books to this particular story. A story told many ways by many people during the more than 107 years since Harris was murdered by enraged Rogue River Indians.

This is the story as it is told by Miss Martha Hanley, his great granddaughter.

Close to the spot where Miss Hanley's great grandmother, Mary Ann Harris, soled her injured daughter and guarded the body of her massacred husband, tourists will relax and listen to the cooling wind in the willows.

Few travelers will be able to visualize a pioneer mother, bloodstained and powder blackened, waiting in a similar willow thicket and listening only for the stealthy footsteps of Indians. The most imaginative one may hear on the wind the voice of the little lost boy, David Harris, whose fate still remains unknown.

**Reason for Happening**  
Why did all of this happen? Students, who view Indian history objectively, may ask. And, as they are prone to suspect, there was a reason—a man named J. A. Lupton.

Known for his hatred of the Indians, Lupton had served in the Mexican war but had no training in dealing with the Rogue River



**HUSBAND IS KILLED**—Mrs. Mary Ann Harris Chambers, above, was the great grandmother of the Misses Martha, Claire and Mary Hanley of the Jacksonville-Central Point road. Many years after husband, George W. Harris, was killed by Indians, Mrs. Harris married Aaron Chambers.

tribe, which was at peace with the whites and receiving annuities from the government. Chief Sam's band known as "treaty Indians," lived across the river from Lupton in the Table Rock area.

For what reason, history has failed to adequately establish, Lupton, a man with "political aspirations" who had been elected to the territorial legislature, enlisted a company of about 40 whites and started on an Indian raid.

The Indian encampment was entered. When daylight brought the wickiups into view the whites started firing. The Indians came out to see what was happening and were immediately shot down. Some retreated.

**Will Never Know**  
Modern historians will never know whether Lupton's gang knew that the Table Rock village contained only old men, squaws and children, but several writers have described the incident as one of the most "depraved and misguided" in Indian history of this area.

Lupton, the instigator of the raid, bled to death when an arrow penetrated his chest. A 12-year-old Indian boy was

They were going about the usual tasks of pioneer living when the attack moved to their home. Mrs. Harris was washing on the front stoop of the cabin. Harris was splitting puncheon with a mallet. Sophia, 11, was helping her mother, and David, 9, had been sent to the garden for potatoes.

Suddenly the thuds of the mallet stopped. Harris came to the house to warn his family that there were Indians on the warpath. He had just crossed the threshold when he was felled with a bullet.

Realizing that the wound in his lung was a fatal injury, Harris hurriedly instructed his wife in the firing of the three guns in the house, an Allen revolver, a Kentucky rifle, and a double barrel shotgun.

She climbed a ladder to the attic and peering through openings in the chinking, began the defense of her home which continued for 19 hours. Frequently she changed her location to give the Indians the impression that there were more people in the house. Suddenly she saw the Indians waving scalps and from the red hair on one she suspected that it was that of Mrs. Wagner. The following day her fears were verified. Mrs. Wagner and her four-year-old daughter had been scalped.

At one time, Mrs. Harris counted 21 Indians encircling the cabin. A squaw in the group was wearing a dress she had given her.

During the forenoon a ball entered the cabin and struck Sophia's arm between the wrist and the elbow, but she continued to melt lead and mold bullets for her mother.

As the frantic woman continued firing the three guns, she could hear the moans of her husband calling for water which she dared not get him. There was none left inside the house.



**STRUCK IN ARM**—Sophia Ann Harris Love, above, was the mother of the late Mrs. John Hanley and grandmother of the Misses Hanley. It was she who was struck in the arm by Indian gunfire while helping her mother load the Kentucky rifle.

After 19 hours with the guns glued to her fingers, Mrs. Harris realized that the Indians had disappeared. At least from the immediate area. She went to her husband and found that he had died of his wound.

She ventured out the door, suddenly concerned about her daughter's injury; got water, washed and dressed the little girl's arm. She found a blanket or canvas

her mother, daughter of Sophia, told it to her, says Mrs. Harris tied a rope about the body and dragged it with her into the thicket and guarded it there through the remainder of the night.

The Indians did return and she watched them burn down the house. She had more than this to frighten her. Wolves, drawn by the odor of blood, came so close she could hear their breathing. Sophia's arm began to throb and ache and swell indicating infection in the wound.

**Bathing Their Feet**  
Finally daylight came and no more Indians. Four who had been bathing their feet down the stream disappeared and Mrs. Harris began the search for her son, David.

Her repeated calls received no answer. Soon she heard the galloping of horses. She recognized that they were the patrols and started to meet them. This was almost a mistake. The soldiers mistook her for an Indian until they recognized her red hair. One knocked the leveled gun from the hand of another who was ready to kill after visiting the Wagner cabin.

The other version of the story states that the house had not been burned by the Indians. That the body of Mr. Harris was buried under the floor before the troops and Mrs. Harris set it on fire to keep the Indians from knowing that Mr. Harris was buried there.

**Body Is Removed**  
Years later his body was removed to Jacksonville, where a monument reads: "George W. Harris, killed by Indians Oct. 9, 1855. Age 35 years, 9 months and 3 days." Other descendants of the pioneer couple are Miss Claire Hanley and Miss Mary Hanley, curator of the Jacksonville Museum. In the museum the double barreled

shotgun, and Little David's small red haired woman, testament are preserved along where the Manzanita Rest with documents which verify Area will backon travelers the valiant defense staged by from Interstate 5.

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## On the Air By ELEANOR WIESE

International television via a Telstar communications satellite once again was successfully accomplished last week as thousands of Europeans watched the launching and flight of Astronaut Cooper in the Faith 7.

As far as European technicians are concerned, handling live TV transmission from the United States is now a routine operation. As far as TV viewers in America are concerned, international television so far has been a one-way proposition. Only a few isolated test programs have been beamed from Europe to us.

Why this should be seems a mystery. Surely our networks cannot be so satisfied with their own programming as to feel English and European TV has nothing interesting and original to offer.

Some British plays are outstanding. Viewers of Canadian television along our northern borders know this. There are other possibilities too: ballet, a French revue, perhaps a steeplechase from Epsom Downs, Italian opera, foreign drama. Language is no barrier since English can easily be dubbed in.

Electronic genius has orbited satellites to make international television a reality. It's up to the networks' would-be geniuses to discover and explore the entertainment and educational horizons across the ocean—an instant away.

**CATHOLIC HOUR**, 10:30 a.m. Sunday KMED-TV. The current Second Vatican Council is the focus of "The Age of Renewal," the final program in the four-part history of the Catholic Church.

**MEET THE PRESS**, 6 p.m. Sunday KMED-TV. James H. Meredith, the only Negro student knowingly admitted to a white college or university in Mississippi, will be interviewed.

**TWENTIETH CENTURY**, 6 p.m. Sunday KBES-TV. "First Man on the Moon," a report on the research being done to insure the success of a three-man flight to the moon. (Repeat)

**DISNEY'S WORLD**, 7:30 p.m. Sunday KMED-TV. The adventures and education of a quarter horse filly who is sold as a "cull" but goes on to win show ring honors are dramatized in "Horse of the West."

**ED SULLIVAN**, 8 p.m. Sunday KBES-TV. Guests include: Eddie Gorme, Frank Fontaine, Bill Dana, Cab Calloway, the Italian mouse puppet, Sergio Franchi and Pat Buttram.

**EMMY AWARDS**, 10 p.m. Sunday KMED-TV. The 15th annual awards of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences will be presented in ceremonies originating in Hollywood, New York and Washington, D.C. Joey Bishop,

Arthur Godfrey and Walter Cronkite will be hosts.

**RED SKELTON**, 8:30 p.m. Tuesday KBES-TV. Don Knotts plays a government bureau representative stressing health and exercise in a skit entitled "Jerk and the Beanstalk."

**DICK POWELL THEATRE**, 9:30 p.m. Tuesday KMED-TV. Michael Rennie stars in "Project X," a drama in which the director of a top-secret space project lets his desire to "get there first" endanger his health and his marriage. (Repeat)

**ROUTE 66**, 8:30 p.m. Friday KBES-TV. Tod and Buz find panic threatening a community when an epidemic of rare sleeping sickness threatens to break out. Chester Morris is guest star.

**ALFRED HITCHCOCK**, 10 p.m. Friday KBES-TV. MacDonald Carey and Robert Sterling star in an adaptation of an Andrew Garve novel concerning the reputable proprietors of a private school who become implicated in murder and extortion. (Repeat)

**DAVID BRINKLEY'S JOURNAL**, 8 p.m. Saturday KMED-TV. Klamath Falls, Oregon, is one of the small towns visited this spring by Brinkley's crew in a study of the discussions of U.S. foreign policy by Americans that were held as part of the "Great Decisions" program.

## SOC Representative Attends Conference

Ashland—"Meeting Medical Manpower Needs" was the topic of the Western Forum on Medical Education recently in San Francisco, according to Dr. Marvin D. Coffey, Southern Oregon college representative.

"One of the problems of most concern expressed at the conference," Dr. Coffey stated, "was the tremendous shortage of general practitioners in medicine. As one of the advisers to pre-medical students attending, he reported that a number of solutions to the shortage were proposed by the practicing physicians, medical educators, legislators, and advisers present."

More medical training schools and facilities must be made available as qualified students are being turned away from the profession in increasing numbers; presentation of scholarships and grants must be stepped up and more funds for them be raised; and advisers must be kept informed of the changing demands in medicine so as to be able to increase their counseling effectiveness.

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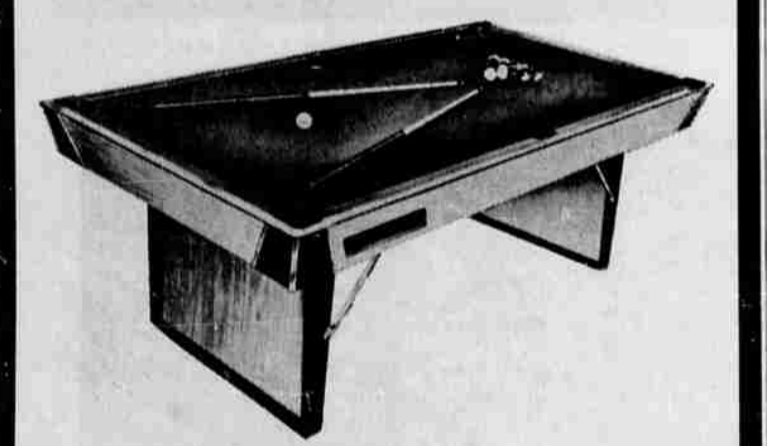
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