

Weston Library Page

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July 2024

Volume 18 Issue 7

Summer Reading Events!

July 11th 1pm to 4pm, Thursday In the Park With Library Upcycle Craft for all ages (even you, adults!): Colored Jars

July 12th in the park at 1pm, Museum of Natural and Cultural History: Under the Sea

August 8th 1pm to 4pm, Thursday In the Park With Library Upcycle Craft for all ages (even you, adults!): Book Page Origami

August 15th in the park at 1pm, EOU Mobile Maker Lab Greater Oregon Stem Hub Program: Wildlife Seek & Find

What's Happening?

7/2 FOWL Board 5pm

7/9 Library Board 5:15pm (Library)

7/4 Closed in observance of Independence Day

7/11 1-4pm, Thursday In the Park With Library Upcycle Craft for all

ages (even you, adults!): Colored Jars

July 12th in the park at 1pm, Museum of Natural and Cultural History: Under the Sea

7/25 Novel Readers: The Woman In the Library by Sulari Gentill

Weekly programs:

Tuesdays at 4pm Come In For a Yarn

Fridays at 10:30am Preschool

Storytime



Weston High School Graduating
Class of 1930
Hold That Tiger





Research



I have been lucky enough to do a little research in June, following the exploits of a man buried here in the Weston Cemetery. He had many wives, he was reported to be a wild kind of character, he may have died in a scandalous confrontation in a hotel far from here. Unfortunately, the year of his death is not available in the internet newspaper databases.

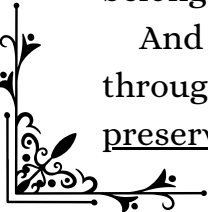
I have been able to track his movements over the years in other cities, from his youth stealing liquor to his adult life as a family man working for logging concerns. He did indeed have three wives at least, but he had one of them for 20 years, and the others for only a year or two apiece. He had children, he had in-laws, he had brothers. I am not mentioning his name, nor the where and when of his exploits, because of the people left behind. If I am not mentioning his personal details, why have I written about him at all?

I have found out all of these strange details with databases available online to the general public. Not only did I use the Oregon Historic Newspapers database maintained by the University of Oregon, oregonnews.uoregon.edu, to trace the man through the decades, I also used the free genealogy website Family Search, www.familysearch.org, to double check birth dates and marriage dates to be sure I was still following the same person. It turned out I wasn't.

There were two men of the same slightly unusual name, with birth dates very nearly the same, in much the same region, but completely different from one another. There weren't quite as many marriages as it had at first appeared for the rascally man, and he didn't move around quite as much in as short a time as it first appeared. He was in fact two men living separate but similar lives.

The only question remaining is about that death in the hotel. What kind of confrontation was it? I can't find newspaper reports of it, and the only reason I have to think it might have happened is a story in the family who has requested the research. I hope to find out someday.

Even if you have never heard a racy story in your own family, even if you have never been tempted to trace a black sheep or pin down the details of a lost lamb, it is still fascinating to search old newspapers and genealogy websites for the people of the past. They once lived and breathed and fought and looked for a new house and a new job and a new wife and trouble in a hotel where they didn't belong. All of that information is right there waiting for you to find it.



And by the way, the best information to be found in any database is available through our own Weston Leader Database, weston.advantage-preservation.com. It has stories that will amuse and amaze. Read some today.

