



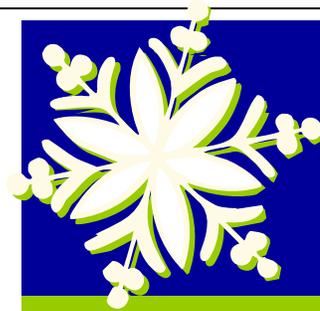
# The West Side

DECEMBER 2014

Volume 46, Issue 10

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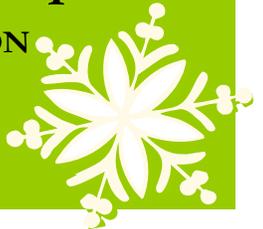
## 5th Annual Handmade Holiday Bazaar

**Saturday**  
**December 6th**  
**10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Sunday**  
**December 7th**  
**Noon to 5 p.m.**

**FREE ENTRY WITH FOOD DONATION**

Yamhill Valley Heritage Center  
Hwy 18 and Durham Lane, McMinnville  
(Intersection of Hwy. 18 & Durham Ln.)



## NOTICE: DECEMBER ANNUAL MEETING and Potluck

- **Date:** December 14, 2014
- **Time:** 1:30 pm Potluck, 2:30 pm Program
- **Program:** Photos in Detail by Tom Catrall
- **Location:** Heritage Center, Hwy 18 & Durham Lane, McMinnville

## The Prehistoric Willamette Valley

Who were the first settlers? The Indians, of course. The Yamhill Indians were here when the explorers began arriving. Early reports of these Indians were very negative: calling them lazy, dirty, thievish and completely disorganized. There was a good explanation for this, however. Between the arrival of the first explorers' ships off the Oregon coast and the settlement of the emigrants in the 1840's, a complete Indian society had been decimated by disease. They had been through several epidemics that wiped out complete villages. By 1830, after numerous contacts with trappers, mountain men and exporters, it was estimated that 90% of the Indians in the lower Columbia River area and the Willamette Valley had perished. The survivors lost families and friends. By 1830, they were a "lost" race. In the 1910 census, only fifteen people were identified as "Yamhill" Indians.

What was it like before the explorers arrived off the Oregon coast? Scholars have made some educated guesses based on artifacts found in the valley. Stephen Beckham in his book, "The Indians of Western Oregon," reports that the Indians generally lived in or east of the Cascade Mountains up to 8000 years ago. He believes they moved into the upper valley near Eugene as early as 6000 years ago and then began spreading north as late as 2200 years ago. Geologically, this seems reasonable since the valley was ravaged by floods after the last ice age, 12,000 years ago. The valley was a lake for some time after that. Also, old Indian stories tell of the explosion of Mt. Mazama (now Crater Lake), 6000 years ago. That event drove the people north to the Columbia River and the Willamette Valley.

*Continued on Page 5*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS****OFFICERS****President**

Steve Leonard (2013-2015)  
503-472-6908  
sleonard15@frontier.com

**Vice President**

Cliff Watts (2012-2014)  
503-435-9700  
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**Secretary**

Rick Fieldhouse (2014-2016)  
503-537-2529  
gfumuseum@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

John Lewis (2013-2015)  
503-883-9588  
jjaklewis@aol.com

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Kim Courtin (2012-2014)  
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Sarah Miller (2014-2016)  
Todd Holt (2013- 2015)

**Past President**

Carolyn Meeker

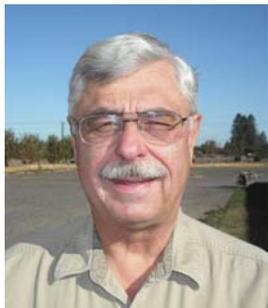
**YCHS GENEALOGY**

Louise Heindl  
(503) 864-2308

**GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

Nancy Mabi, Co-President  
(503) 472-9272  
Kathy Burden, Co-President  
kerb1941@aol.com

## President's Letter



YCHS Members,

The Board of Directors recently held a workshop with the crew at Lafayette to discuss plans for the maintenance and operations of our facilities there.

Karen Sitton-Saxberg and Todd Holt went over plans to keep the property in good shape, including the need to remove a Cedar tree at the front of the Miller Museum. The tree is diseased and will soon present a threat to the building and other trees around it. The exterior lighting is being improved and the storage barn will be improved to include a secure area for document archives, among other things. If you have been to the Lafayette site recently you will have seen a very nice new sign at the front of the Miller Museum thanks to Karen and Todd. Questions were raised by volunteers regarding the security system and maintenance of the Poling Church, particularly the rear extension which is in need of repair. Both of these items are under review; however a fairly large amount of funding will be required to do the work on the church. We also discussed staffing. As you know, some of our volunteers have stepped back from management responsibilities while continuing to volunteer regularly. A big thank you goes out to them and all the other volunteers who keep the Museum open three days a week. They could benefit from additional volunteers to help fill out the schedule if you are interested. The question of being open on bad weather days

was raised. The policy is that if the local schools announce that they will be closed due to weather, then the Miller Museum will also be closed.

The YCHS will participate in the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition's Cultural Campaign this year. They will be communicating via both regular mail and email this year with supporters around the County. This campaign has been a success for both the YCCC and the YCHS in past years and we look forward to another. You will hear from them soon and we thank you for your consideration during this annual event.

Take a look at your calendar and set aside the dates December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> for Handmade Holidays. The list of vendors is growing and there should be a wide selection of Christmas offerings and activities. Please come out to the Heritage Center and join the fun. Then on December 14<sup>th</sup> we will have our Annual Meeting at the Heritage Center. We will announce the results of the election for new members to the Board of Directors and the proposed amendments to the Bylaws. Tom Catrall will have a presentation from the YCHS photo archives for the program.

Thank you for your support of the YCHS.

Steve Leonard  
YCHS President  
Phone: (503) 472-6908  
Email: sleonard15@frontier.com  
*Submitted: November 15, 2014*

**COORDINATORS****Computer Coordinator:**

Tom Catrall

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Nancy Thornton

**Freezer Coordinator:**

VACANT

**Funding Coordinator:**

VACANT

**General Meetings Program Coordinator:**

Sarah Miller

**Heritage Brick & Flagpole Coordinator:**

Carolyn Meeker

**Heritage Center Facilities Operations****Manager:**

Cliff Watts

**Lafayette Activities Coordinator:**

VACANT

**Lafayette Operations:**

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Terry Nelson

**Research Librarian:**

VACANT

**Visitor Service Coordinator:**

Heritage Center—VACANT

Lafayette—VACANT

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

VACANT

## Board Meeting Recap ~ November 12, 2014

*The following recap is a condensed version of not-yet approved minutes from the board meeting. All committee reports are filed in the record book with the minutes at the Lafayette Site.*

### Committee Reports:

- ♦ **Activities & Events Committee**—Pam Watts submitted a proposed schedule of programs, list of upcoming events and building usage report. The committee is reviewing pricing and guidelines for building usage as better information about cost of utilities and YCHS’s usage needs become more evident.
- ♦ **Education Committee**—Cynthia Christensen reported that the YCHS exhibit in Portland was very successful. The committee is having wrap-up meetings to review last year’s events.
- ♦ **Heritage Center and Property Development**—Cliff Watts reported that the Auction was a success and many excess items had been moved out. The fire suppression and lighting systems in the Heritage Hall are almost complete. John Lewis reported that the building project is still coming in under budget.
- ♦ **Lafayette Development & Operations**— An informal meeting of the Lafayette Museum volunteers and several board members was had to discuss volunteer scheduling. The organizational structure needs to be simplified while giving the volunteers primary responsibility for scheduling. Todd Holt and Karen Sitton-Saxberg will be responsible for operations and maintenance of the structures on the site. Karen reported that the new museum sign was finished and additional security measure have been put in place to secure the property.

### President’s Report:

- ♦ Steve Leonard presented the original policy on criminal background checks with amendments.

### Secretary’s Report:

- ♦ Rick Fieldhouse reported that he received positive feedback

on his mentioning other events of interest to YCHS members during the General Meeting.

### Treasurer’s Report:

- ♦ John Lewis provided the treasurer’s report which is on file in the record book in Lafayette. John stated that Committee chairs need to provide him with draft operating budgets by December 2014. He again expressed his concern that membership renewals are steadily declining. Membership Chair Carlene Kadell sent reminders to members who had not renewed and another 18 renewals were submitted. Members must submit receipts for any items purchased on open accounts with vendors such as Davison Auto Parts, Oregon Stationers, Fastenal.

### Unfinished Business:

- ♦ Malcolm Marquis/Baker House proposal—The board agreed by consensus to continue to discuss the proposal and to hear details from Mr. Marquis.
- ♦ TLT grant—YCHS’s application for a McMinnville Room Tax/Transient Lodging Tax grant was rejected. The organizers of the application process asked to meet with Rick Fieldhouse for further discussion.

### New Business:

- ♦ Burgerville (Newberg) Fundraiser—Sarah Miller said that Burgerville offers 10% of all sales for one day to non-profit organization fund raisers. Sarah will pursue this project aiming for mid-April event.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jo McIntyre, Secretary Pro-Tem  
Submitted November 15, 2014*

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Accessions Lafayette:

*Ursula Doud*

### Accessions/Restoration

#### Heritage Center:

*Cliff Watts*

#### Activities and Events:

*Pam Watts*

#### Audit:

*Jo McIntire*

#### Blacksmith Shop:

*Jeff Monahan*

#### Budget:

*John Lewis*

### Business Plan & Grant Review:

*Steve Leonard*

### Education Committee:

*Cynthia Christensen*

### Farm/Harvest Fest:

*Cliff and Pam Watts*

### Governance:

*Carolyn Meeker*

### Handmade Holidays:

*Karen Sitton-Saxberg*

### Heritage Center Development & Operations:

*Tony Meeker*

### Hutchcroft School:

*Steve Leonard*

### Insurance Committee:

*Tony Meeker*

### Lafayette Development & Operations :

*Karen Sitton-Saxberg*

### Lafayette Pioneer Cemetery:

*Todd Holt*

### Landscaping:

*Gloria Lutz—Heritage Center*

*VACANT—Lafayette*

### Miller Museum:

*VACANT*

### Photographic Project:

*Tom Cattrall*

### Publications/Gift Shop:

*Jean Sartor*

### Sawmill:

*Don King*

### Secrets of the Past Tours:

*Karen Sitton-Saxberg*

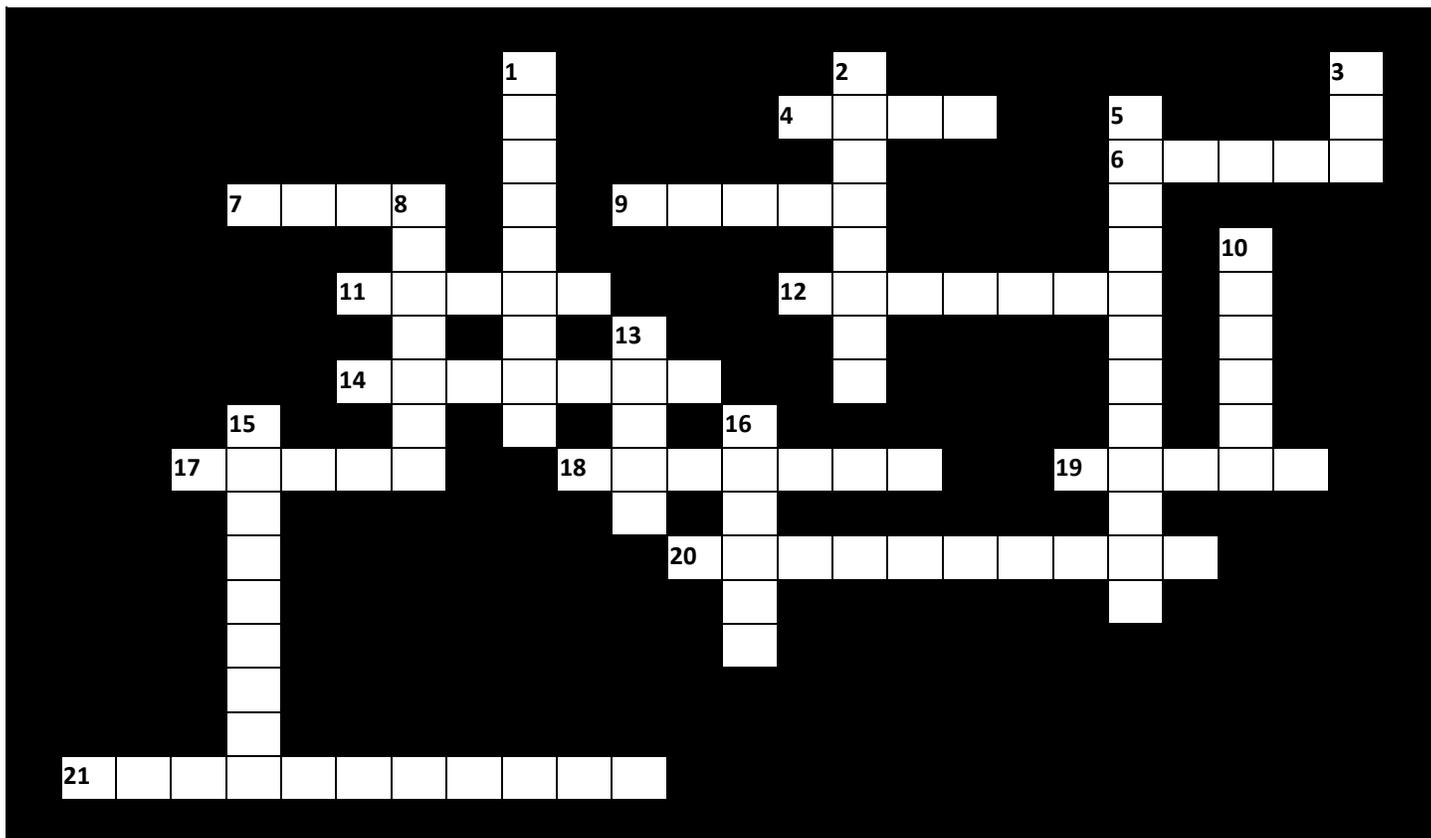
### Steam Engine:

*Vern Yeager*

### Treasures in the Attic:

*Carolyn Meeker*

*YCHS Crossword Puzzle Theme: McMinnville, from the book Old Yamhill*



**Across**

4. \_\_\_\_\_ School was the first public school in McMinnville.
6. Who was the founder of McMinnville?
7. One of McMinnville's first newspapers was called the \_\_\_\_\_ Side, published and edited by T.B. Handley.
9. In 1853, the first \_\_\_\_\_ Mill was built by William T. Newby.
11. McMinnville's council enacted the city's first \_\_\_\_\_ law for horseless carriages after Ralph Wortman clobbered a councilman's dog.
12. The first General Store was built in 1854 by a traveling \_\_\_\_\_, Solomon Beary.
14. In 1883, the First National Bank was established by Jacob \_\_\_\_\_ thrusting McMinnville into a key role for Yamhill County.
17. Third street was \_\_\_\_\_ for the first time in 1912.
18. In 1847, Aaron Payne was the first \_\_\_\_\_ in McMinnville.
19. The first house erected in the vicinity of McMinnville was the home of John Gordon \_\_\_\_\_.
20. In 1855, McMinnville hired Eldridge G. Edson as its first \_\_\_\_\_.
21. The brick \_\_\_\_\_ was built in 1888 at a cost of \$62,000. It was 9,000 square feet and stood 121 feet tall.

**Down**

1. In 1888, McMinnville won a bitter fight to move the county seat from \_\_\_\_\_. The fiery politics of today cannot hold a candle to the shenanigans pulled by both factions during this fight.
2. In 1894, McMinnville was on the direct line of the West Side division of the \_\_\_\_\_ Pacific railroad.
3. On \_\_\_\_\_ 29, 1855, the first McMinnville Post Office was established.
5. McMinnville was \_\_\_\_\_ in 1876.
8. Frequent cases of \_\_\_\_\_ fever forced the town to create the McMinnville Water and Light Utility Department in 1889.
10. Samuel \_\_\_\_\_ built the first Blacksmith Shop on the present site of Linfield College.
13. The first businesses of the town lined \_\_\_\_\_ street which followed a well established Indian Trail.
15. In 1894, McMinnville had two \_\_\_\_\_ and one freight train pass through it each way daily.
16. The original \_\_\_\_\_ was established in 1847 by the Christian Church.

# DECEMBER 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	4	5 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	6 <b>HANDMADE HOLIDAY</b> 10—5
7 <b>HANDMADE HOLIDAY</b> NOON—5	8	9	10 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> 5:30 pm	11	12 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	13 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
14 <b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b> 1:30 pm	15	16	17 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	18	19 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	20 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
21	22	23	24 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	25 <b>CHRISTMAS</b> 	26 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4	27 Lafayette Museum Open 10-4 Heritage Ctr. Open 10-3
28	29	30	31 <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>	JANUARY 1 	JANUARY 2	JANUARY 3

### Event Locations

- ◆ December 6-7—  
Handmade Holiday—  
Heritage Center
- ◆ December 10 —Board  
Meeting 5:30 pm—  
Lafayette Museum
- ◆ December 14—  
**ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING 1:30 pm—**  
Heritage Center

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ January—Lafayette  
Museum is **CLOSED**
- ◆ January 11—General  
Meeting
- ◆ January 14—Board  
Meeting
- ◆ February 8—General  
Meeting
- ◆ February 11—Board  
Meeting
- ◆ March 8—General  
Meeting
- ◆ March 11—Board  
Meeting

### Historic Lafayette Museum

605 Market Street  
P.O. Box 484  
Lafayette, OR 97127

**Hours:**  
Wednesday, Friday, and  
Saturday 10-4  
Or by appointment  
503-864-2308

### Yamhill Valley Heritage Center

11275 SW Durham Ln.  
McMinnville, OR 97128

**Hours:**  
Saturday 10-3  
Contact: 503-435-9700

## The Prehistoric Willamette Valley Continued...

We are sure these people were semi-nomadic: having permanent homes in the winter and moving to different camps in the summer, gathering berries, fishing and hunting. Their tools were made of stone. Life was good to them in the lush Willamette Valley. They lived in small bands of which the Yamhills were one. A band consisted of several families, usually with a headman, a medicine doctor and a war leader. In the Willamette Valley they were known as the Kalapuyans.

An old Indian legend that Jacob C. Cooper put into print in 1902 is of interest to us. The book, "The Yamhills an Indian Romance", tells of Hassiwa and his family being the first people to settle in the Yamhill country. Colonel Cooper says in his introduction: "Some people fail to see anything but savage cruelty and degradation in the American Indian. Others can see back to the time when our own ancestors were mere savages, and can see the finer human instincts in the earliest developments of the race. I have hunted for the better part of the Indian, and the struggles and trials of savage life are told as I have seen them." He goes on to say: "Many of the myths and rites of Indians were changed at the whim of the leader. The legends, although claimed to be handed down through generations, were often

## The Prehistoric Willamette Valley Continued...



Early sketch of Kalapuyan Man drawn by Alfred Agate, a member of the Wilkes Expedition in 1841.

colored by the imagination to suit the fancy of the narrator. However, some of the incidents related in this story may be of historic interest. The grave of Hassiwa, in the foothills northwest of McMinnville, is that of a noted Indian scout and warrior. The battlefield of Tonvolieu is yet in evidence (found in 1902 south of Bellevue on the Yamhill River) as the skulls, bones and battle axes are turned to the surface every year by the farmer who owns the land.” You will find Cooper’s books at the McMinnville Library. Sine they are old, rare editions they cannot

be checked out.

Hassiwa, a wealthy old warrior of the Umpqua tribe, was tired of war. He purchased a beautiful bride, Thera, and moved north and inland to the Willamette Valley. Arriving at the Yamhill River early one beautiful spring day, they knew this was the place for them: completely unspoiled, where no one had lived before. They set about making a home for themselves and their expected baby. Hassiwa wanted a boy to teach the ways of a man in this paradise. He was not particularly pleased when a baby girl was born but found that Shanseppepi was a wonderful addition to the family. However, when the next baby girl, Tlynpe, was born, Hassiwa pouted and placed an embargo on the addition of any more females to the family. However, Hassiwa came to love his daughters and taught them the ways of this primitive world. He and Thera wondered how their beautiful young daughters could possibly meet some appropriate men because in all the years they lived on the Yamhill they hadn’t had one visitor.

The Indian tribes east of the mountains and in the southern part of the valley began looking for new territory to settle. Several years of drought had seriously depleted their food supply and they needed more fertile ground to provide for their needs. Ralbo and Tocus, advanced scouts for the invading tribes from east of the Cascades, were scouting the Yamhill and Coast areas. As they crossed the Willamette River and were walking up the Yamhill, they came upon two lovely young maidens gathering roots. After watching them for some time, they tied a small cluster of flowers

to the shaft of an arrow and let it fly—traditional love message. As it landed between the girls, the scouts stepped out of hiding and waved. The girls responded excitedly to these young men, the first they had ever seen Ralbo, from east of the mountains, and Tocus, a Kalapuyan from the lower valley.

At this same time, a coast Indian courier, Nevyo, was headed north to unite the coast and Columbia River tribes to fight the invaders, Ralbo and Tocus. Noticing Hassiwa’s home, he stopped and talked for some time and the old warrior said he would support the coast tribes. Thera was glad the girls were away as she didn’t want this man to see them. (Little did she know what was happening down by the river.)

As good stories go: Shanseppe fell in love with Ralbo who was the main war chief for the Eastern Indians. But, the deceitful Nevyo kidnapped Tlynpe and carried her off to the Killamook (Tillamook) tribe. There, “South Wind”, who was the war chief for the Killamooks, rescued and fell in love with her. Many strange events were to happen. The climax came when the two war parties led by Ralbo and South Wind (Hassiwa’s daughter’s lovers) met in battle on the fields of Tonvolieu. (This, ironically, was Hassiwa’s backyard.) Hundreds of young warriors were killed.

Ralbo and South Wind were saddened by all this. They called a halt to the fighting and wept over the braves lying dead on the battlefield. They decided that fighting was not the way to solve their problem, so they made a truce—a strange one—to leave all the dead on the battlefield for two years and attempt to live together in this beautiful paradise and start a new nation. If, after two years, they were not successful, finish the battle to the end. Otherwise, bury their dead and continue to grow as a new people, *The Yamhill Nation*.

The story says that they were successful! Ralbo became Tyece or Chief of the new nation. His reign was marked with a great advance in the condition of all of the people of his realm. One interesting ruling was the freeing of all slaves and the treatment of people in an equal manner. South Wind was his best advisor; their children for many years continued the peaceful and happy reign established in the beautiful valley of The Yamhill. They were a well-developed though primitive people, who enjoyed a good life right up to the sighting of the first tall ships.

It is interesting to speculate concerning a time frame for this legend. Two clues we might use are the depth of soil over the battlefield and the lack of horses in the story. It would take several floods to cover the results of a battle to plow-depth and, of course, Native Americans did not have access to horses until they were introduced by the Spanish in the early 1500’s. Also, the story mentions many generations of living together.

**Tales From the Past by Jim and Reita Lockett**

# Yamhill from *The Amity Standard* 1917

March 30, 1917

## The Amity Standard

C. G. LeMasters, Editor and Publisher

Subscription price \$1.25 per year

With this issue The Standard enters upon its eighth year of publication.

### YAMHILL.

The Oregonian is disposed to respond to the appeal from the Kelly clan to protest against the change of Yamhill to Market street. The act is denounced by Mary Agnes Kelley as vandalism. We have no idea that the City Commission intended to lay profane hands on the sacred feelings of all Oregon pioneers, or indeed, that they performed deliberately any deed of iconoclasm or desecration; yet they have proceeded thoughtlessly and ignorantly into the historic temple of tradition and removed one of its most precious objects.

Yamhill is not a byword, nor a provincialism. It is survival of early nomenclature, and it has, and deserves, a high place in the memory of all pioneers.

The first reverence to Yamhill is to be found in the diary of Alexander Henry, a fur trader of the Northwest Company, who made a trip up the almost unknown Willamette River in 1814, and on January 10, at Willamette Falls, encountered seven Indians leading a horse. They were, he said, "an ugly, ill-formed race," and four of them had defects of the eyes. They contrived to make it known that they were members of the Yamhela (as Henry spelt it) tribe. It had its name from the Yamhela (yellow) River, for its appearance during Winter and Spring freshets.

Through slight changes of orthography, Yamhela has



1933, SW Yamhill & Park

become Yamhill. It has an honored and undying place in Oregon history. The Yamhill River was the seat of early navigation, and the Yamhill country was the home of many early settlers who cleared the land, tilled the soil, founded schools, churches, communities, civilization, and there established the beginnings of the state. There are many leading citizens of Oregon who are proud to have hailed from old Yamhill. Well they may be, for they belong to the real aristocracy of Oregon, the men and women of true living, high thinking, worthy doing and sound patriotism.

The City Commission has committed a grievous blunder in eliminating Yamhill from the official street chart of Portland; but it can not erase Yamhill from the grateful and appreciative thoughts of a commonwealth.—Oregonian.

*Theme: McMinnville from Old Yamhill*  
Across: 4. Cook, 6. Newby, 7. West, 9. Grist, 11. Speed, 12. Peddler, 14. Wortman, 17. Paved, 18. Teacher, 19. Baker, 20. Postmaster, 21. Courthouse.  
Down: 1. Lafayette, 2. Southern, 3. May, 5. Incorporated, 8. Typhoid, 10. Cozine, 13. Baker, 15. Passengers, 16. School.

## Crossword Puzzle Answers



Preserving our Past, Enriching our Future

P.O. Box 484  
Lafayette, Oregon 97127

**Dated Material**  
**Return Service Requested**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #103  
McMinnville, Oregon  
97128

Membership Categories

NEW MEMBERSHIP     RENEWING MEMBERSHIP

Members receive The West Side newsletter (10 issues per year), free admission to the Lafayette Museum and Library, access to genealogical and historical files, access to the Yamhill Valley Heritage Center, monthly potluck and program for members, invitations to special programs and events, and 10% off photo orders and gift shop purchases.

*Membership runs from July 1 to June 30 of each year.*

- Senior/Student/Educator \$15       Family (Basic) \$30       Community Builder \$250+
- Senior Family (65+) \$25       Friend \$55       Community Benefactor \$500+
- Individual \$20       Supporter \$125+

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer to receive the YCHS newsletter via:     Email     Postal Mail

- I would like to volunteer to help with activities of the YCHS. Please contact me.
- Please click here* if you do not wish to have your name and contact information released to the Yamhill County Cultural Coalition and/or for the purpose of obtaining grant funding. Member information will never be sold or released for any other purpose unless written consent is provided by the member.

Please make checks payable to YCHS and return with this printed form to:  
YCHS, P.O. Box 484, Lafayette, OR 97127

Questions? Call Membership Coordinator Carlene Kadell (503) 474-0480 or email: [amity1956@yahoo.com](mailto:amity1956@yahoo.com)

YCHS Membership Application