

Territorial News

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Vol. 22, No. 6

Your Connection to the Old West

March 12, 2014

Next Issue
Wednesday
March 26

Play
Arizona Trivia
See Page 2 for Details

This Week's Question:

What is the only
Arizona frontier
era military post still
active today?
(12 Letters)

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Richard West

The Outlaw Known As “Little Dick” Meets His Maker

By Richard W. Kimball

Richard “Little Dick” West was a notorious gunslinger and drifter who roamed the Texas plains until he joined up with Oklahoma’s infamous Doolin Gang. Standing not taller than five feet with his boots on, Little Dick was noted for his quick and accurate gun handling ability. He could shoot lightning-quick with either hand.

It is believed that Little Dick was born in Texas in 1860. Nothing is known about his parents or anything about his early life. It is believed that he ran away from home and spent most of his time wandering around the open rangeland of northern Texas. When he drifted north, he eventually found cowboy work at the Oscar Halsell ranch in Indian Territory. It was while he was at the ranch that he met Bill Doolin.

In early 1892, Bill Doolin persuaded Little Dick and another man named Charlie Pierce to join him to form an outlaw band. Doolin wanted



Little Dick after being shot by deputies

money and figured the best way to get some was to rob some banks. During one of the

gang’s first bank robberies in Southwest City, Missouri, Little Dick was slightly wounded in a gun battle with local lawmen.

A few months later, Doolin’s gang was enlarged by other out-of-work cowboys and outlaws. In addition to Doolin, Pierce, and Little Dick, the gang included Bittercreek Newcomb, Oliver “Ol” Yantis, Bill Dalton, Tulsa Jack Blake, Dynamite Dan Clifton, Arkansas Tom Jones, Red Buck Waightman, and Little Bill Raidler.

Two teenage girls, known as Little Britches and Cattle Annie, began to hang around the gang. They often would go into towns to look around and let the bandits know about any lawmen who might be looking for them.

The Doolin Gang, which was also known as the Wild Bunch, was usually involved in stagecoach, bank, and train robberies. It terrorized towns throughout Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and the Indian Territory. In addition, both Doolin and Little Dick made a specialty of ambushing lawmen and then murdering them. Little Dick was considered the worst criminal in the entire Territory, outside of Bill Doolin.

(See Outlaw on Page 4)

The Captivity of the Oatman Girls

CHAPTER 2: Camp on the Island Late at Night

By R. B. Stratton

We descended to the ford from a high, bluff hill, and found it leading across at a point where the river armed, leaving a small island sand-bar in the middle of the stream. We frequently found places on our road upon which the sun shines not, and for hours together the road led through a region as wild and rough as the imagination ever painted

On August 9, 1850, the Oatman family left Independence, Missouri, headed for a new life in California. They would never reach their destination. On the trail in Arizona, an Indian party attacked the family. The only survivors were sisters Olive and Mary Ann and their brother Lorenzo. Lorenzo was left for dead and the sisters were taken captive. In 1857, R. B. Stratton wrote a book titled *The Captivity of the Oatman Girls Among the Apache and Mohave Indians*.

The *Territorial News* is serializing the book in its entirety. Look for a new installment in every issue of the *Territorial News*.

any portion of our earth. It was impossible, save for a few steps at a time, to see at a distance in any direction; and although we were yet inspirited at seasons with the report of Dr. Leconte, upon which we had started, yet we could not blind our eyes or senses to the possibilities that might lurk unseen and near,

and to the advantages over us that the nature of the country about us would furnish the evil-designing foe of the white race, whose habitations we knew were locked up somewhere within these huge, irregular mountain ranges. Much less could we be

(See Captivity on Page 6)

Shootout in El Paso

In 1881, veteran gun-fighter Dallas Stoudenmire was appointed city marshal of booming, violent El Paso, Texas. A tall, rangy, impressive figure, Stoudenmire patrolled the teeming streets of El Paso with a brace of six-guns tucked under his coat in a pair of leather-lined hip pockets. He also carried a snub-nosed revolver as a hideout gun.

Stoudenmire was a walking arsenal, because trouble seemed to seek him out. As a 16-year-old in 1862,



the Alabama native joined the Confederate Army and suffered numerous wounds in combat. After the war, he

(See Gunfight on Page 8)

The Light of God before me.
The Light of God behind me.
The Light of God above me.
The Light of God beside me.
The Light of God within me.

From the Prayer of St. Patrick

Captain's Bar Presents

ARIZONA TRIVIA

This Week's Question: What is the only Arizona frontier era military post still active today?
(12 Letters)

Last Issue's Question: What former Arizona governor is entombed in a pyramid in Papago Park in Phoenix?
Answer: George Hunt

*Congratulations! You got the right answer!
You are entered into our drawing*

Keith Adams, Ben Cerney, Sid Clarke, Larry Damer, Vicki Damer, Doyle Ekey, Jack Gajewski, Kevin Gartley, Clarence Hodges, Frank Justin, Evelyn Kolsrud, Nikki Leschuck, Robert Lidgett, Marilyn Olsen, Roger Ringer, Yvette Rivera, Carol Slattery, Gary Swanson, Nancy Swanson, Richard Valley, Linda Wolfe.

How to Play

Letters are hidden in the advertisements. Find the letters to spell the answer. Submit your answer with your name, address & phone number on a postcard for the current issue's question to Territorial Publishing, P.O. Box 1690, Apache Junction, AZ 85217. Look for the answer in the 3/26/14 issue. To have your name listed in the next issue, cards must be received no later than 10 days past the current issue of the Territorial News. For example: submitted answers to the 3/12/14 question, deadline is 3/22/14. Limit one postcard per household per issue. Must be at least 18 years old. Remember to put your name and address on your entry!

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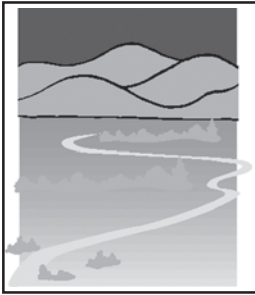
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The Territorial's East Valley coverage area includes areas east of Gilbert Road, including East Mesa, Apache Junction, Superstition Falls, Mountain Brook, Gold Canyon and Queen Creek. Copies are distributed free at convenience and grocery stores, restaurants and bars, RV parks and subdivisions and libraries. Subscriptions are also available.

Merchandise or services advertised in the Territorial News are expected to be accurately described and readily available at advertised prices. Deceptive or misleading advertising is never knowingly accepted. To find out if a contractor is licensed call the Registrar of Contractors at 602-542-1525. All classified ads must be paid in advance. Standard ad rate is \$2.00 per line or \$10.00 per column inch. Payment may be made by check or credit card. Mail to Territorial News, P.O. Box 1690, Apache Junction, AZ 85117 or E-mail editor@territorialnewspapers.com. The Territorial News publishes every other Wednesday. Ad deadline is one week prior to printing.



Arizona - Web of Time

Jim Harvey

The Arizona Trail

Long before Arizona became a state, federal government explorers looking for a railroad route to California passed the place where Williams is today. Indian tracks were seen and smoke that may have come from Indian camps. The year was 1854 and the explorers were led by Lt. A.W. Whipple of the U.S. Army. Later on, a fort was named for him near the town of Prescott.

In 1889, northwest Arizona's Hualapai Indians

started ghost dancing which was a prayer ritual borrowed from the Southern Paiutes. By staging the dances, often at night around a pole crowned with eagle feathers, the Hualapai hoped the Supreme Being would restore their dead to life and drive white people away. Most of their land had been stolen since the white invasion began during the 1850s. White miners and ranchers denied them access to water and destroyed much of the wildlife and vegetation on which they

depended for food. The Hualapai survived and welcome visitors today to see their Grand Canyon attractions.

Black bear steak was sold by a butcher shop at 1895 Flagstaff. The bears had been shot by a hunter named Bear Howard.

Also that year, books about table manners were popular among socially ambitious people in many Arizona towns. Readers were advised that it was not refined to drink coffee from a saucer, to gesticulate with knife or fork, or to drink soup with one's nose in the bowl. Cussing was taboo at meals or at any other time.

Fashionable Kingman women wore hats plumed with feathers in 1898. And it still was the style to wear skirts so long they almost touched the floor.

Asbestos was being mined at the Grand Canyon in 1900. It was expected to have many industrial uses because it contained no iron and could be used to insulate electric cables.

At Seligman the summer of 1919, authorities wouldn't let women and children traveling by automobile continue west on Route 66 to California because of extremely high temperatures on the low desert ahead. Only men were allowed to risk it. Women and children were told to take the train.

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THURSDAY
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Walter Brennan

Legendary Character Actor

Walter Andrew Brennan is remembered as one of the premier character actors in motion picture history. He was born in Swampscott, Massachusetts, to Irish emigrants, on July 25, 1897. His father was an engineer and inventor. Young Walter studied engineering, but while in school, he became interested in acting and began to perform in vaudeville.

After service in World War I (where, according to legend, his vocal cords were damaged by mustard gas), he moved to Guatemala and raised pineapples before settling in Los Angeles. During the 1920s, he became involved in the real estate market, where he made a fortune. Unfortunately, he lost most of his money when the market took a sudden downturn.

Finding himself broke, he began taking bit parts in as many films as he could, including *The Bride of Frankenstein* (1935), and also working as a stunt man. In the early 1930s, he began appearing in higher quality films and received more substantial roles as his talent

was recognized. This culminated with his receiving the very first Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor for his role as Swan Bostrom in the period film *Come and Get It* (1936). Two years later he portrayed town drunk and accused murderer Muff Potter in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

Throughout his career, Brennan was frequently called upon to play characters

considerably older than he was in real life. A 1932 accident that cost him many teeth, his rapidly thinning hair, thin build, and raspy voice all made him seem older than he really was. He used these physical features to great effect.

Director Jean Renoir gave Brennan a leading role in 1941; the actor played the

(See Actor on Page 14)

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Sunday, March 16th

The Beatles Experience



SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH

Paperback Writer THE BEATLES Experience

Paperback Writer -The Beatles Experience takes it's audience on a trip through the musical years of the world's most popular rock group of all time! Hear the hits from Sgt. Pepper's years and on to the roof tops of the Ed Sullivan Show through the colorful "spot on" vocal, look and sound alike ability.

Don't miss this true "Beatles Experience"- A good time will be had by all!

Tuesday, March 25th

Nashville Gold - Country



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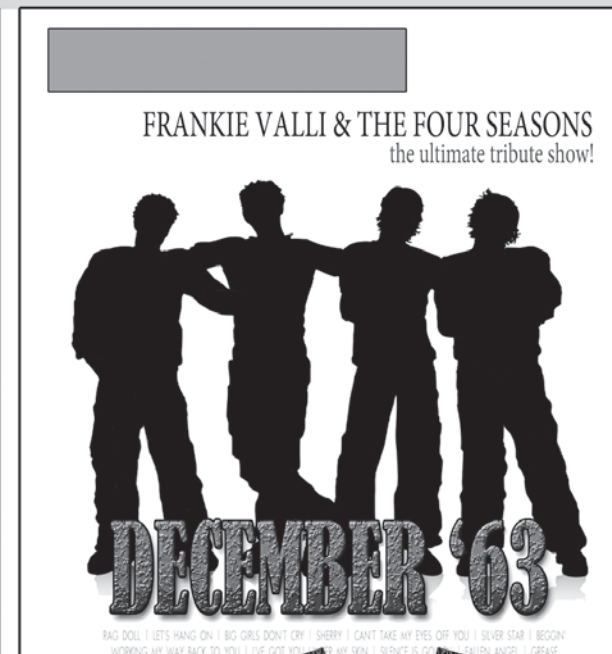
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Sunday, May 18th

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OUR DAY WILL COME | CRUISE TO THE SUNSHINE | GIVE YOUR EYES SOMEbody | THE BAY | I'VE NEVER ASKED
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Little Dick West

Outlaw

(From Page 1)

On November 1, 1892, the gang robbed the Ford Count Bank at Spearville, Kansas and got away with a substantial amount of cash.

The gang's first casualty happened on November 29, 1892, when Ol Yantis was killed. Kansas Sheriff Chalkey Beeson and Deputy U.S. Marshal Tom Hueston tracked the outlaw to the house of a relative in Orlando, Oklahoma Territory, where they shot and killed him.

The gang next stopped a Santa Fe train in June of 1893 and got \$1,000 in silver bars. The sheriff of Beaver County organized a posse and caught up with the gang at Fort Supply. During a running gunfight, Bill Doolin was wounded in his left foot, but all of the outlaws got away.

In September earlier that year, a new U.S. Marshal, Evett Dumas "E.D." Nix, put together a posse and went after the outlaws who were holed up in the Oklahoma town of Ingalls. Nix was hoping to trap and capture the entire Wild Bunch. During the battle of Ingalls, three of the 14 lawmen were killed. Two townspeople were also killed during the shootout. Outlaw Bittercreek Newcomb was seriously wounded, but was able to escape. Arkansas Tom Jones, who had killed three deputies and one citizen, was captured.

After laying low for several months, Doolin and his Wild Bunch continued their criminal activities. In January of 1894, Pierce and Waightman robbed a store and a post office in Clarkson, Oklahoma Territory. Two weeks later, the gang robbed a bank in Pawnee and in March robbed a train station in Woodward where they rode off with more than \$6,000.

Marshal Nix had had enough. On March 20, he authorized about 100 Deputy U.S. Marshals and bounty hunters, including the Dunn brothers, to search the countryside for the gang. He also directed the Three Guardsmen to take down the leaders of the gang. All three were experienced lawmen and included Deputy U.S. Marshals Heck Thomas, Bill Tilghman and Chris Madsen.

"I have selected you to do this work," Nix said to them, "by placing my explicit confidence in your abilities to cope with those desperadoes and bring them in—alive, if possible—dead, if necessary."

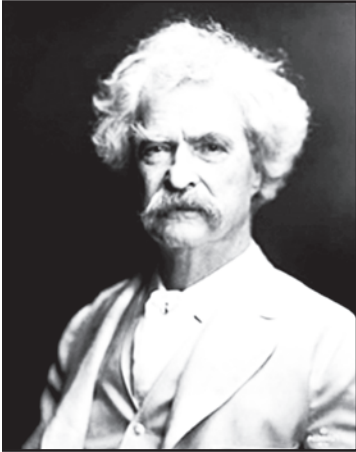
In April 1894, the gang tried to rob a store in Sacred Heart, Indian Territory. The owner of the store was shot in the stomach, but he managed to wound one of the outlaws in the shoulder. The gang got away without getting a thing.

In December, Doolin and six men held up a store in Texana, Oklahoma Territory.

Mark Twain and the Territorial Enterprise

The highly successful Territorial Enterprise newspaper set the tone for freewheeling, uninhibited frontier journalism. First published in Mormon Station (now Genoa) in present-day Nevada in 1858, it moved to Carson City and then to Virginia City in 1860. The presiding geniuses of the paper were Joseph T. Goodman and Dennis McCarthy, and one of their first reporters was young Samuel Clemens, who in 1863 began using the pen name Mark Twain.

As the following brief item shows, Sam was not content to stick to bare-bones facts. To the simple news announcement "A very neat hearse arrived here yesterday, for Wilson & Keys," he added: "This is something that has long been much needed." Better yet, Sam liked to let his imagination take flight, and one sally produced "The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County." The short story was published in New York in 1865—and Mark Twain, age 30, was on his way.





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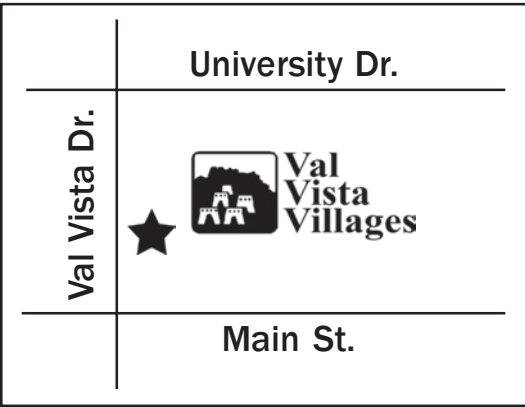
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The Oatman Girls

Captivity

(From Page 1)

indifferent to the probable inability of our teams to bear us over the distance still separating us from the place and stay of our hope. We attempted to cross the Gila about sunset; the stream was rapid, and swollen to an unusual width and depth. After struggling with danger and every possible hindrance until long after dark, we reached the sand island in the middle of the stream. Here our teams mired, our wagon dragged heavily, and we found it impossible to proceed.

"After reaching the center and driest portion of the island, with the wagon mired in the rear of us, we proceeded to detach the teams, and as best we could made preparations to spend the night. Well do I remember the forlorn countenance and dejected and jaded appearance of my father as he started to wade the lesser branch of the river ahead of us to gather material for a fire. At a late hour of that cold, clear, wind-swept night, a camp-fire was struck, and our shivering group encircled it to await the preparation of our stinted allowance. At times the wind, which was blowing furiously most of the night, would lift the slight surges of the Gila

quite to our camp-fire.

"A large part of the night was spent by the children (for sleep we could not) in conversation upon our trying situation; the dangers, though unseen, that might be impending over our heads; of the past, the present, and the cloud-wrapt future; of the perils of our undertaking, which were but little realized under the light of novelty and hope that inspired our first setting out an undertaking well-intentioned but now shaping itself so rudely and unseemly.

"We were compelled frequently to shift our position, as the fickle wind would change the point at which the light surges of the Gila would attack our camp-fire, in the center of that little island of about two hundred square feet, upon which we had of necessity halted for the night. While our parents were in conversation a little apart, which, too, they were conducting in a subdued tone for purposes of concealment, the curiosity of the elder children, restless and inquisitive, was employed in guessing at the probable import of their councils. We talked, with the artlessness and eagerness of our unrealizing age, of the dangers possibly near us, of the advantage that our situation gave to the savages, who were our only dread; and each in his or her turn would speak, as we shiveringly gathered around that little, threatened, sickly camp-fire, of his or her intentions in case of the appearance of the foe. Each had to give a map of the course to be pursued if the cruel Apaches should set upon us, and no two agreed; one saying, 'I shall run;' another, 'I will fight and die fighting;' and still another, 'I will take the gun or a club and keep them off;' and last, Miss Olive says, 'Well, there is one thing; I shall not be taken by these miserable brutes. I will fight as long as I can, and if I see that I am about to be taken, I will kill myself. I do not care to die, but it would be worse than death to me to be taken a captive among them.'"


"The longed-for twilight

General Watie of the Cherokees

The Cherokees were one of the Five Civilized Tribes who were forced to move to Indian Territory (present day Oklahoma) from their home in the Southeast in the 1830s. When the Civil War began, they tried to stay cleat of the whites' family quarrel. Pressured to take sides, however, they finally signed an alliance with the Confederacy in 1861, and one of their leaders, Stand Watie, became colonel of the Cherokee Mounted Rifles in the Confederate Army.

His command fought at Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge, and in many skirmishes in Indian Territory.

When the majority of the Cherokees rejected the Confederate treaty in 1863, Watie led the pro-southern minority and remained in the army, becoming the first Indian brigadier General. He did not surrender until June 23, 1865, more than two months after Lee's men laid down their arms.



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(See Captivity on Page 20)



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Little Dick West

Outlaw

(From Page 4)

They were driven off by the store's owner and a few townspeople, but they took about \$20,000 in merchandise with them.

The gang's last robbery occurred in April 1895, when it held up a Rock Island train near Dover. The train carried a safe with \$50,000 Army Payroll inside. However, the outlaws were unable to open the safe so they just relieved the passengers of their valuables—mostly cash and jewelry.

With hundreds of lawmen and bounty hunters on the trail looking for the Wild Bunch bandits, it was



Bill Doolin

only a matter of time before they started to get results. On April 4, 1895, Tulsa Jack

Black was killed near Ames by Deputy U.S. Marshals Will Banks and Isaac Prater.

On May 2, the Dunn

bounty hunters shot and killed Bittercreek Newcomb and Charlie Pierce in Payne County. Little Bill Raidler was shot and captured in September by Deputy U.S. Marshal Bill Tilghman.

More of the outlaws were either killed or captured the next year. Bill Doolin was captured by Deputy U.S. Marshal Bill Tilghman on January 15, 1896. Doolin had been soaking in a hot spring in Eureka Springs, Arkansas. Doolin later escaped with Dynamite Dan Clifton and on August 24 was killed in Lawson, Oklahoma Territory by a posse member.

Red Buck Waightman was killed in March near

(See Outlaw on Page 11)

Shootout in El Paso

Gunfight

(From Page 1)

moved to Texas and fought the Comanche with the Texas Rangers. After leaving the Rangers, he shot an opponent in a pistol duel, then boldly walked over to watch him die. The next year he wounded several adversaries in a brawl, but was shot himself. In 1878, Stoudenmire participated in a vicious melee over ownership of a herd of cattle in which two members of the opposing faction were killed and another badly wounded. Matters would not change

after Stoudenmire's arrival in El Paso.

On April 14, 1881, four days after pinning on his badge, Stoudenmire watched as sullen crowds of Mexicans and Americans glared and shouted at each other over the recent murder of two Mexicans. While the new marshal was eating a late lunch, Constable Gus Krempkau was confronted by John Hale and George Campbell, a pair of hard-drinking trouble-makers who considered Krempkau a friend of the Mexicans. Words were exchanged, then Hale triggered a bullet into Krempkau.

As the wounded man staggered, Stoudenmire pulled his revolvers and ran into the street. Stoudenmire fired at Hale, but the bullet went wild and fatally wounded a Mexican bystander.

Hale ducked behind an adobe pillar, but when he stuck out his head to peer at Stoudenmire, the marshal sent a bullet crashing into his

brain. Campbell, who had recently threatened Stoudenmire, saw Hale die, and his whiskey courage vanished. He backed into the street, waving his pistol and shouting, "Gentlemen, this is not my fight!"

By now, the dying Krempkau had produced his revolver, which he emptied at Campbell. The first bullet broke Campbell's right wrist, and as he scooped up his fallen six-gun with his left hand, another of Krempkau's slugs tore into his foot. Stoudenmire turned on Campbell and pumped a bullet into his stomach. Campbell clutched his belly and accurately gasped, "You big son of a bitch, you've murdered me."

Marshal Stoudenmire had to shoot another assailant three nights later. There were other fights, and he was killed during a vicious shoot-out in 1882. But none of his gunfights were as wild as the 1881 battle that left four men dead in EL Paso.

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The End of Cattle Kate

The lynching of Ella Watson, aka “Cattle Kate,” and Jim Averill near Independence Rock, in Wyoming Territory, was an example of vigilante bravura in the West. It earned Watson the dubious distinction of being the only woman ever hanged in Wyoming.

The events that preceded this particular incident began on October 29, 1880, when Averill filed a claim on choice grazing land on the banks of the Sweetwater River in Carbon County. The land was used regularly by three large outfits, the UT, the Bar 11, and the Hub and Spoke. Over the years, Averill had opened a general store and become the area’s postmaster. He often registered his opinions on the conflicts between cattle barons and ranchers in editorials written

for the *Casper Weekly Mail*.
Blasting the barons in print was not enough for Averill. Rumors flew that he dabbled in the rustling trade.



As new cowboys arrived in the area to help with the bustling cattle business, Averill decided to expand his operations by hiring Ella as a cook at his store. There are some reports that Watson was actually a

prostitute, but those may have been stories put out by the cattle barons to discredit her and Averill.

On March 24, 1888, Watson filed a claim for some land about a mile from Averill’s operation and soon began building a small cabin and a large corral.

During the following year, Averill and Watson grew bolder. One stockman found 20 of his maverick cattle at Watson’s place before she ran him off at rifle-point. A “get tough” attitude was voiced at local smokers. An editorial in the July 13, 1889, *Casper Weekly Mail* hinted that the court’s failure to convict thieves might result in “stockmen taking the law into their own hands.” Rancher A. J. Bothwell decided to do just

(See Lynching on Page 15)



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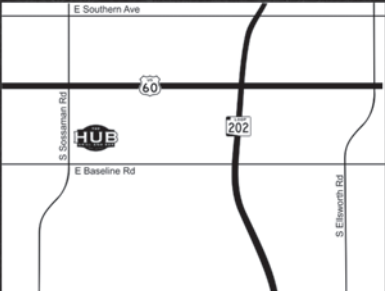
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No Let Up for Earnhardt
at Phoenix NASCAR Race





Dale Earnhardt's crew gets the #88 car ready for the race
while Dale Jr. talks to the press.

For Dale Earnhardt, Jr. and the #88 car, there was no let up after his historic second win at Daytona the previous week. Earnhardt took second place in Sunday's NASCAR race at Phoenix International Raceway, just a short distance behind Kevin Harvick and the Stewart Haas #4. Harvick, clearly the class of the field all weekend, took the lead on lap 74 and held it the rest of the way except for a quick pit stop near the end of the race. He held off Earnhardt through several late race restarts for the win. Earnhardt said following the race that Harvick had been about two tenths of a second faster than anyone all weekend.

For the most popular driver in NASCAR, 2014 is falling into place in all the right ways with Earnhardt Jr. leaving the Phoenix race with the points lead for the first time in many years.

For race fans, it was some of the best racing to take place at the track in years on one of the worst weather weekends in the Phoenix area in months. The Saturday Nationwide race was stopped by rain with thirty-two laps remaining leaving Kyle Busch the winner of that event.

NASCAR returns to Phoenix for the always-thrilling semi final race of the season November 10. Make your plans now to attend.



At left, Kevin Harvick narrowly beats Dale Earnhardt, Jr. to the finish line.
At right, race winner Kevin Harvick.

125 Years Ago in the Old West

March 2, 1889

The last of the Indian claims are settled, as Congress transfers the unassigned lands in Indian Territory into the public domain. With the passage of the Springer Bill, the territory will be opened for colonization.

• An Atlantic and Pacific train is robbed of its express box in Canyon

Diablo in Arizona.

• Kansas becomes the first state to pass legislation regulating trusts.

March 9, 1889

Ben White is inaugurated as Montana's last territorial governor.

March 13, 1889

Montana's last territorial legislature adjourns in Helena.

March 15, 1889

Yuma County is established in Colorado.

March 16, 1889

"Buffalo Bill's Band, or Cody to the Rescue," by Julius Lewis, begins serialization in the *Banner Weekly*.

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Little Dick West

Outlaw

(From Page 8)

Arapaho, Oklahoma Territory, by a Custer County posse. Dynamite Dan Clifton was captured in June 1896, but later escaped with Bill Doolin. Clifton was later killed by Deputy U.S. Marshals near Checotah, Indian Territory.

With most of the Wild Bunch Gang either killed or captured, Little Dick moved on. He went off and joined another bunch of outlaws that became known as the Jennings Gang. At first the new gang consisted of only five men—Little Dick West, Al and Frank Jennings, and the O'Malley brothers, Morris and Pat. Except for Little Dick, the other men were inexperienced and raw amateurs. In fact, the Jennings Gang eventually became known as the most inept outlaw gang on the western frontier. It was a disaster from the very beginning.

The bandits started their criminal activities by attempting train robberies, but in almost every instance, the robbery would end in failure. During one train robbery, the outlaws blew up a train car only to find that

there had been no money in the train's safe. The disappointed outlaws watched helplessly as the train disappeared into the gloom of the night.

Al Jennings, the gang leader, decided to try something different in robbing a train. He stood in the middle of the tracks and tried to flag down an oncoming train by waving a lantern and a red flag. The train engineer probably figured something was not quite right so he kept his hand on the throttle. As the train roared toward Jennings standing between the rails, the bandit chief was forced to leap out of the way.

The next attempt to rob a train was another disaster. Al and his brother Frank tried riding their horses next to a fast-moving Santa Fe train. They fired their six-shooters into the air in an attempt to get the engineer to stop the train. The engineer just leaned out the window of the engine and waved a friendly hand at

(See Outlaw on Page 19)



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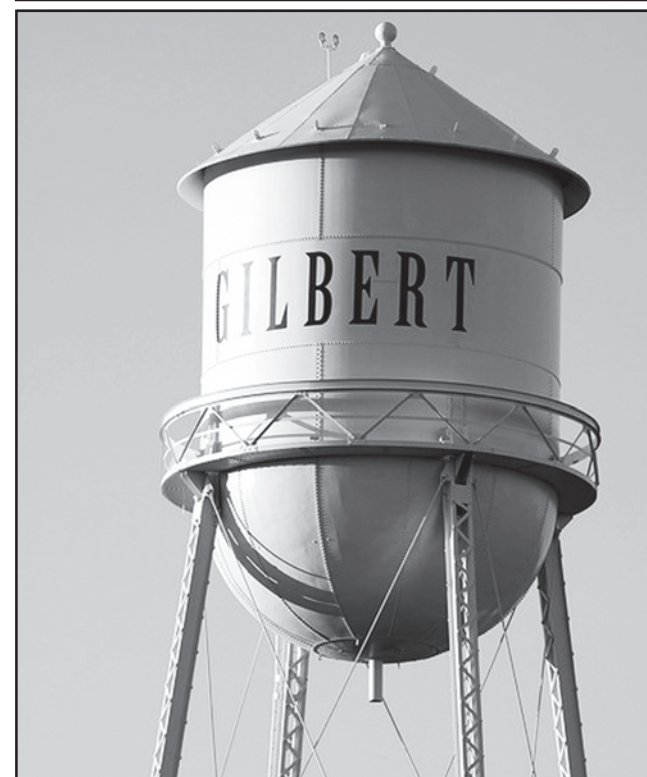
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Marcus Ellsworth and his sister Julie Clement founded Actor's Youth Theatre in 2003. For the past eleven years Actor's Youth Theatre has trained youth ages 18 and under to perform in Classic Plays and Broadway Musicals. The troupe, formerly of Mesa, is now making their home at the new Tuscany Theatre in Gilbert, Arizona.

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the theatre. It has been a labor of love!

The siblings have now formed "The Black Mustache," an old-fashioned melodrama company that also performs at the Tuscany Theatre. The Black Mustache was created to continue the legacy of the Ellsworth family melodramas.

The Tuscany Theatre, located at 861 N. Higley Road, Suite 105, Gilbert, Arizona, has been open since December of 2013.

The new venue includes a unique stage, which is up close and personal, and they also have a rehearsal space/classroom, a backstage area, a vocal room and a lobby.

There is an ongoing fundraiser at the theatre with the sponsorship of seats. People interested in supporting the arts in Gilbert can "buy" seats for \$100.00 and the theatre will put the sponsor's name on a plaque on the seat.

For more information on upcoming shows or even if you are interested in getting involved, please visit the website at www.tuscanytheatre.com or e-mail: info@tuscanytheatre.com

For ticket information call 480-907-7050. The hours of operation are Monday - Friday 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Saturday 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Closed Sundays.

Biscuits Restaurant In Gilbert - Down Home Cooking at its Best

Biscuits Restaurant expanded into Gilbert in January of this year. You can easily taste that they live up to their name. The fluffy biscuits under the chicken ala king will bring back memories of the home cooking of your youth. Even if you've never been anywhere near a farm. The first Biscuits opened in Ahwatukee in 2010 and quickly picked up a "Best of Ahwatukee" award in 2011. The menus for both locations are the same, serving breakfast and lunch every day, staying open until 8:00 p.m. on Fridays for their scrumptious Southern-style fish fry.

Biscuits owner Lloyd Milton has done a magnificent job of remodeling both the interior and exterior in a country farm home/barn theme. Between the down home atmosphere, the pleasant staff, and the delicious food, you'll grade them an A+. You'll want to return again and again to sample the varied menu selections and genuine down home flavor.

Biscuits is located in Gilbert at 1235 N. Gilbert Road, in front of the Sam's Club.



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Exhibition Dates: March 8 - April 16, 2014
Free and open to the public

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Monday, March 17 • St. Patrick's Day

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Saturday, March 22 • 30 Yr. Celebration

4:00 pm Music: Reign 'n Country

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Walter Brennan

Actor

(From Page 3)

top-billed lead in *Swamp Water*, a drama directed by Renoir and featuring Walter Huston.

In the 1941 *Sergeant York*, he played a sympathetic preacher and dry goods store owner who advised the title character played by Gary Cooper. He was particularly skilled in playing the hero's sidekick or as the "grumpy old man" in a picture. Though he was hardly ever cast as the villain, notable exceptions were his roles as Old Man Clanton in the classic 1946 film *My Darling Clementine* opposite Henry Fonda, the 1962 Cinerama production *How the West Was Won* as the murderous Colonel Jeb Hawkins, and as Judge Roy Bean in *The Westerner*, for which he won his third best supporting actor Academy Award, in 1940.

In the 1950s, he starred in the ABC television series *The Real McCoys*, which costarred Richard Crenna, and Kathleen Nolan. The comedy about a poor West

Virginia family which relocated to a farm in southern California ran on ABC from 1957-1962, before switching to CBS for a final season as *The McCoys*. Brennan appeared in several other movies and television programs, usually as an

gunfighter son, James, with his grandson, Jeff, played by Dack Rambo. After the series went off the air in 1969, Brennan continued working in both television and feature films.

Film historians and critics have long regarded Brennan as one of the finest character actors in motion picture history. While the roles he was adept at playing were extremely diverse, he is probably best remembered for his portrayals in movie Westerns, such as trail hand Nadine Groot in *Red River* and Deputy Stumpy in *Rio Bravo* both directed by Howard Hawks. He was the first actor to win three Academy Awards. He remains the only person to have won three Best



eccentric "old-timer" or "prospector." He also made a few recordings, the most popular being "Old Rivers," released as a single in 1962 by Liberty Records. Brennan starred as wealthy executive Walter Andrews in the short-lived 1964-1965 series *The Tycoon*. In 1967, he starred in another series, *The Guns of Will Sonnett*, in which he played a man in search of his

Supporting Actor awards. However, even he remained somewhat embarrassed as to how he won the awards. In the early years of the Academy Awards extras were given the right to vote. Brennan was extremely popular with the Union of Film Extras and since their numbers were overwhelming, each time he

(See Actor on Page 24)

G-Bar-G Golf Tourney to Benefit Relay for Life

The G-Bar-G Lounge in Mesa is hosting their 11th annual Relay for Life cancer society golf fundraiser on Sunday, March 23rd.

The 4-person scramble will be held at Apache Creek Golf Course in Apache Junction. The cost is \$70 per person with a shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. The event includes golf, range balls, cart, gratuity, and luncheon to follow at the G-Bar-G Lounge. Activities include a chance to win a Harley with a hole-in-one, top team prizes, door prizes, raffles &

lots of fun. Additional meal tickets are available for non-golfers for \$7.00.

Sign-up forms and more



info are available at the G-Bar-G Lounge, 5324 E. Main St., Mesa, Arizona (480-985-

4381). Hole sponsorships are still available and include signage provided at the hole and recognition at the awards ceremony. All donations, door prizes and gift certificates are appreciated.

At Relay For Life events, communities across the globe come together to honor cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against a disease that has already taken too much. The funds raised truly make a difference in the fight against cancer!



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Cattle Kate

Lynching

(From Page 9)

that, shortly after 50 of his stock appeared among Watson’s herd. On the afternoon of July 20, 1889, he rode with six cowhands to Cattle Kate’s place. Her 14-year-old stable boy watched in horror as Kate was loaded into a wagon, swearing and kicking as she went. Bothwell and his band then galloped to Averill’s property and picked him up.

As they would later testify, the members of the self-appointed posse meant only to “throw a scare” into their adversaries. The wagons traveled about four miles to Spring Creek Gulch. Suddenly, Jim Buchanan, one of Averill’s men who had trailed them, opened fire on the group. Kate yelled, “Shoot the bastards, every on of them!”

Buchanan was driven off with return fire. Then almost as an afterthought, the group completed what it had set out to do. Amateurs at proper execution, Bothwell and his men tossed the first rope over a low branch, put the noose around Averill’s neck, and then pushed him off a large rock. As he kicked and writhed, slowly strangling, they grabbed Cattle Kate and

did the same to her.

When law enforcement officials arrived at the gully the next morning, they found the bodies, according to the *Mail*, “swaying to and fro by the prairie flowers across the plains.” “A Cattle Thief and His Paramour Swing from a Cottonwood Branch,” read one account, and another professed that “The Man Weakened But the Woman Cursed to the Last.”

No charges were ever brought against anyone. The witness, Buchanan,

disappeared, returned briefly, and then vanished for good. The stable boy died of Bright’s disease. A grand jury was dismissed on October 14, 1889, having failed to issue an indictment because of lack of evidence.

Recalled one old-timer, years after the fact: “This was a horrible piece of business, more especially the lynching of the woman, and in many ways indefensible; yet, what is one to do? Just sit still and see your property ruined, with no redress in sight?”

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Humor

Murphy was selling his house and put the matter in an agent’s hands. The agent wrote up a sales blurb for the house that made wonderful reading. After Murphy read it he turned to the agent and asked, “Have I got all you say there?” The agent said, “Certainly ye have...Why do you ask?” Murphy replied, “Cancel the sale...it’s too good to part with!”

Quote

“In order to find his equal, an Irishman is forced to talk to God.”—Stephen Braveheart

Proverb

A good laugh and a long sleep are the best cures in the doctor’s book. —Irish proverb

Breakfast With Joe

St. Pat’s Day is next week. I meet Joe for our regular Saturday morning breakfast at the Little Mesa Caf . Says Joe, “I think I only have green socks to wear, that is if I still have two of them. I think my wife made my favorite green shirt go away. She’s been threatening to for years. Gotta wear green though, bad karma not to.” Joe continues, “When I was a kid my aunt took me to a St. Patrick’s festival at our church and I won a button that said ‘Kiss Me I’m Irish.’ I wore that button all day...All those kisses! Geez! Wish I’d been older!”

“How old were you?” I asked. “Oh nine or ten,” Joe answers, “Wonder what happened to that button...”

Everybody is Irish one day each year. It’s a fun, good humor day, celebrated around the world. Melodies of Irish tunes fill the air; *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling*, *Danny Boy*, and *An Irish Lullaby* bring a tear to many. Restaurants and pubs serve some of their best meals of the year.



Some facts about St. Patrick’s Day

According to the U.S. Census Bureau:

“Had many a fine St. Patty’s Day as I remember,” says Joe. “Good eats, drink, song. Why not? Might as well have some fun with it. Hey, I’m Irish too!”



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Ishi the ‘Stone Age Indian’

By the first decade of the 20th century, Euro-Americans had so overwhelmed the North American continent that scarcely any Native Americans remained who had not been assimilated into Anglo society to some degree.

On August 13, 1911, townspeople in Oroville, California, noticed a Native American man wandering about, apparently lost and starving. The man seemed largely unfamiliar with white ways and spoke no English. Authorities took the mysterious Indian into custody for his own protection. News of the so-called “Stone Age Indian” attracted the attention of a young Berkeley anthropologist named Thomas Waterman. Gathering what partial vocabularies existed of northern California Indian dialects, the speakers of which had mostly vanished, Waterman went to Oroville to meet the Indian. After unsuccessfully attempting words from several dialects, Waterman tried a few words from the language of the Yana Indians. Some were understandable to the Indian,

and the two men were able to engage in a crude dialogue. The following month, Waterman took the man, now named Ishi, to live at the Berkeley University museum, where their ability to communicate gradually improved.

Waterman eventually learned that Ishi was a Yahi



Indian, an isolated branch of the northern California Yana tribe. He was approximately 50 years old and was apparently the last of his people. Prior to European contact, the Yana population numbered approximately 3,000. In 1865 Ishi and his family were victims of the Three Knolls Massacre, from

which approximately 30 Yahi survived. Cattlemen killed about half of those survivors and the remaining Yahi escaped and went into hiding for the next forty years. Eventually Ishi’s mother and other companions died, and Ishi wandered alone until he reached Oroville.

The word “Ishi” means “man” in the Yahi dialect. Ishi’s real name was never known, because in his society it was taboo to say one’s own name. Since he was the last member of his tribe, his real name died with him.

For five years, Ishi lived at the Berkeley Museum. He and Waterman became close friends and he spent his days describing his tribal customs and demonstrating his wilderness skills in archery, woodcraft, and other traditional techniques. He learned to understand and survive in the white world, and enjoyed wandering the Bay Area communities and riding on the trolley cars. Eventually, though, Ishi contracted tuberculosis. He died on March 25, 1916, at an estimated age of 56. His body was cremated according to the customs of his people.

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Originally developed around 1750 by settlers of German descent in Pennsylvania, the Conestoga wagon served for over 100 years as Americans' main form of freight transport. Large (up to 28 feet long) and heavy, the Conestoga had an unusual, boat-like shape, with a floor that dipped towards the middle and up at each end, ensuring barrels and bales would not tip out when going up or down hills. Another distinctive feature was the canvas bonnet, the frame of which sloped forward and over the wagon's rear, protecting its goods from rain. Carrying up to five tons of cargo, the Conestoga was pulled by teams of up to eight large draft horses.

The Conestoga wagon's robust build made it popular for settlers moving west in the early nineteenth century and for traders along the Santa Fe Trail. Even when the railroads crossed the continent, the Conestoga and other covered wagons remained the standard rural freight carrier until the internal combustion engine revolutionized transport.

Because the Conestoga proved too cumbersome for the Oregon Trail, a derivative, the so-called Prairie Schooner, evolved. Less than half the size of the Conestoga, the Prairie Schooner was about 12 feet long and four to five feet wide, and could be easily dismantled.

Kiss Me, I'm Irish!

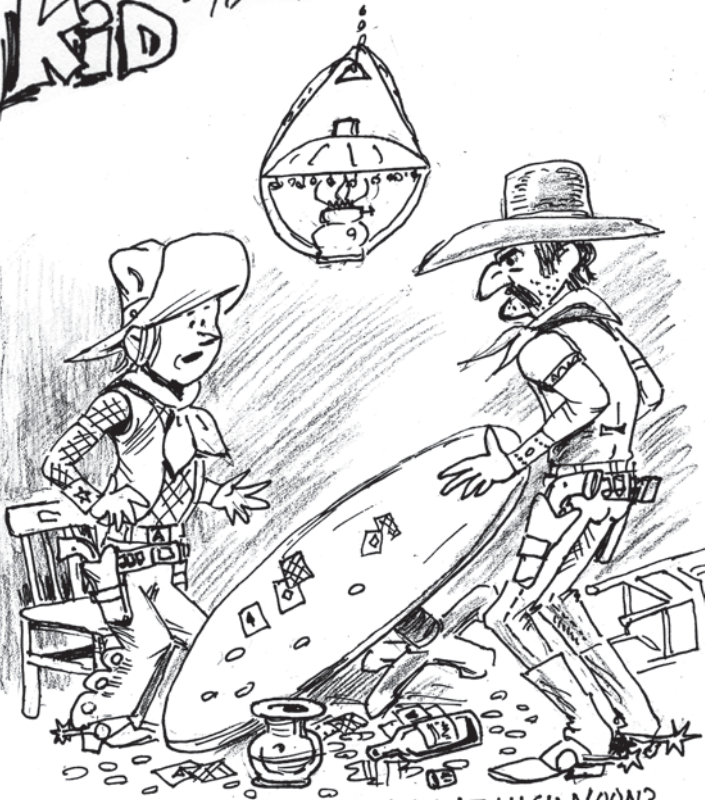
Joe Six Pack
(From Page 16)

known the world over for having driven the snakes from Ireland. Different tales tell of his standing upon a hill, using a wooden staff to drive the serpents into the sea, banishing them forever from the shores of Ireland. One legend says that one old serpent resisted, but the saint overcame it by cunning. He is said to have made a box and invited the reptile to enter. The snake insisted the box was too small and the discussion became very heated. Finally the snake entered the box to prove he was right, whereupon St. Patrick slammed the lid and cast the box into the sea.

*The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place in New York City on March 17, 1762, not in Ireland. In modern day Ireland, St. Patrick's Day has traditionally been a religious occasion. Falling during the Christian season of Lent, prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waved and people would dance, drink and feast on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage; hence the traditional St. Patrick's Day meal of Corn Beef & Cabbage here in the U.S. In fact, up until the 1970s, Irish laws mandated that pubs be closed on March 17th. Beginning in 1995, the Irish government began a campaign to use St. Patrick's Day to showcase Ireland to the rest of the world. Each year close to one million people take part in Ireland's St. Patrick's Festival in Dublin.

This St. Patrick's Day I'll be wearing green. I'll probably hoist a toast or two and sing a song. If I'm lucky my best gal will give me a kiss or two. Hey, I'm Irish...

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SALOON

Little Dick West

Outlaw

(From Page 11)

the two would-be train robbers and kept the train moving at full throttle. The Jennings brothers finally had to stop when their poor horses became exhausted.

On October 29, 1897, the gang robbed a store in the town of Cushing in the Indian Territory. They got away with a lousy \$15 in cash. The gang's bungled robberies and disappointing holdups discouraged Little Dick. He decided to bid adios to his companions in crime and rode off to the south.

It wasn't long before federal marshals and local law enforcement officers closed in on the rest of the bandit gang and broke it up. The Jennings brothers, as well as the two O'Malleys, were captured and thrown into jail. Little Dick, however, eluded capture.

It was Marshal James F. "Bud" Ledbetter of Muskogee who tracked down the Jennings brothers. He found them hiding under a blanket in a covered wagon in Indian Territory. When the marshal ordered them out of the wagon they meekly surrendered. That was the end

of the Jennings Gang.

Meanwhile, Little Dick was leading a lone-wolf existence. He had no friends and lived by himself out on the range. He did occasionally drop in on men he knew at various ranches. He asked them for food or supplies before moving on. He became like a wild animal, never staying in one place for more than a day. He always slept outside, never under a roof.

Herman Arnett, who had known Little Dick when they both worked as cowboys for

the Halsell Ranch, now had a small spread near Guthrie. When Little Dick rode up and asked Arnett for a meal, Arnett was obliged to aid the outlaw. His wife, however, wanted nothing to do with the hairy little man. She tried to get her husband to tell him to leave. Little Dick stunk badly because he was desperately in need of a bath and there was something about his cold eyes that frightened her.

Because Little Dick

(See Outlaw on Page 22)

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Wyatt Earp Loses His Job

Born in 1848, Wyatt Earp was one of the five Earp brothers, some of whom became famous for their participation in the shootout at the O.K. Corral in 1881. Before moving to Tombstone in 1879, however, Wyatt had already become a controversial figure. For much of his life, he worked in law enforcement, but his own allegiance to the rule of law was conditional at best.

In 1870, residents of Lamar, Missouri, elected Wyatt town constable. He did a good job as constable, but within a year his wife died of typhoid and he began wandering about the West. Not long after, Wyatt was arrested for stealing horses in Indian Territory, and he fled to Kansas to escape prosecution.

In 1873, Wyatt joined his older brother James in Wichita, Kansas, the rowdy cattle town that was the northern terminus of the Chisholm Trail. Wyatt again pinned on a badge. At first, it appears that he worked for a private security force employed by local saloons and businesses to keep order, but Wichita Marshal Michael Meagher hired him as an official city policeman by 1875.

Wyatt soon proved to be a daunting police officer. He knew how to use his Remington pistol, and he kept his skills sharp with frequent sessions of target practice. However, Wyatt also liked the Remington because it had a strap that made it an effective club: whenever possible, he preferred to pistol-whip his opponents rather than shoot them. He was also a formidable fistfighter. His friend and fellow law officer, Bat Masterson, later recalled that, "There were few men in the West who could whip Earp in a rough-and-tumble fight."

During the next year, Wyatt again proved his mettle as a law officer, but his political skills were less refined. In April, Wichita held an election for city marshal. An opponent named William Smith challenged Wyatt's boss, Michael Meagher, for the office. On April 2, Smith made several disparaging remarks about Meagher, and Wyatt took offense. Wyatt confronted Smith and beat him in a fistfight.

Although Meagher won reelection, he was unable to save Wyatt's job. A Wichita commission decided that Wyatt's violent behavior was unacceptable and did not rehire him as a police officer. As the town newspaper conceded, "It is but justice to Earp to say he has made an excellent officer," but the young lawman had to learn to control his passions and play the political game.

The Oatman Girls

Captivity
(From Page 6)

at length sent its earliest stray beams along the distant peaks, stole in upon our sand-bar camp, and gradually lifted the darkness from our dreary situation. As the curtain of that burdensome night departed, it seemed to bear with it those deep and awful shades that had rested upon our minds during its stay, and which we now began to feel had taken their gloomiest hue from the literal darkness and solitude that has a strange power to nurse a morbid apprehension.

"Before us, and separating the shore from us, was a part of the river yet to be forded. At an early hour the teams were brought from the valley-neck of land, where they had found scant pasturage for the night, and attached to the wagon. We soon made the opposite bank. Before us was quite a steep declivity of some two hundred feet, by the way of the road. We had proceeded but a short distance when our galled and disarranged teams refused to go. We were again compelled to unload, and with our own hands and strength to bear the last parcel to the top of the hill. After this we found it next to impossible to compel the teams to drag the empty wagon to the summit.

"After reaching the other bank we camped, and remained through the heat of the day intending to travel the next night by moonlight. About two hours and a half before sunset we started, and just before the sun sank behind the western hills we had made the ascent of the hill and about one mile advance. Here we halted to reload the remainder of our baggage.

"The entire ascent was not indeed made until we reached this point, and to it some of our baggage had been conveyed by hand. I now plainly saw a sad, foreboding change in my father's manner and feelings. Hitherto, amid the most fatiguing labor and giant difficulties, he had seemed generally armed for the occasion with a hopeful countenance and cheerful spirit and manner, the very sight of which had a power to dispel our childish fears and spread contentment and resignation upon our little group. While ascending this hill I saw, too plainly saw, (being familiar, young as I was, with my father's aptness to express, by the tone of his action and manner, his mental state,) as did my mother also, that a change had come over him. Disheartening and soul-crushing apprehensions were written upon his manner, as if preying upon his mind in all the mercilessness of a conquering despair. There seemed to be a dark picture hung up before him, upon which the eye of his thought rested with a monomaniac intensity; and written thereon he seemed to behold a sad afterpart for himself, as if some terrible event had loomed suddenly upon the field of his mental vision, and though unpropheesied and unheralded by any palpable notice, yet gradually wrapping its folds about him, and coming in, as it were, to fill his cup of anguish to the brim."

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Chapter 2:
Nineteen Apaches approach them, profess friendliness
In the next issue
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Arizona’s First Gold Rush

The first placer gold rush in Arizona occurred in 1858, when rich sands were found on the banks of the Gila River just east of its junction with the Colorado. Gila City mushroomed at the site, and crumpled in 1864, when the placers became washed out. Its 1,200 miners then moved up the Colorado River to La Paz, where gold had been discovered in 1862 by the famous trapper and scout Pauline Weaver.

Weaver, whose gravestone on the old capital grounds in Prescott reads, “Pioneer, Prospector, Scout, Guide, Free Trapper, Fur Trader, Empire Builder, Patriot,” was born in 1800 in Tennessee. The son of a pioneer father and a Cherokee mother, he went west as a young man and joined the Mountain Men, spending years in trapping and trading pelts. It was 1831 before he reached the area of Arizona as an agent of the Hudson’s Bay Company. In 1847, during the Mexican War, he guided the Mormon Battalion from the headwaters of the Gila River across the deserts into California. For the next few years he lived on a ranch in

California, but in 1833 he disposed of his property and began prospecting in Arizona, then a part of the Territory of New Mexico. His discovery of placer gold on the Colorado River precipitated the rush to La Paz.

In the camp which emerged overnight, everything was confusion and excitement. Packing boxes served for furniture and for coffins, card games were played with nuggets as stakes, and drinking water was hauled in from distant springs and sold for two dollars a gallon. Dry diggings away from the river were supplied with water carried in rawhide bags by pack animals. During the seven years that La Paz flourished, both as a gold center and as a river port, \$8,000,000 was washed from its sands and many large “chispas,” or nuggets, were found in the pans with which the miners washed the gravels.

From 1852 until the completion of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1878, clipper ships and steamships brought cargoes to Puerto Isabel at the mouth of the Colorado River in Mexico. There, light steamers reloaded the freight and started

upstream to Yuma, Ehrenberg, La Paz, and Hardyville, at the head of navigation, 337 miles from the Gulf of California. Since murderous attacks by Indians made overland shipment of gold and silver to the East a hazardous procedure, ore was shipped down the river to Mexico instead. Early in the Civil War the government realized that it was sending large amounts of valuable ore out of the country, and to rectify this leak it sent troops to La Paz and the other mining camps to protect freight shipments east through Indian-infested territory. When the new settlements of Prescott, Wickenburg, and Congress Junction sprouted in the Hassayampa Valley, La Paz became a supply base to which river boats brought cargoes and from which freighters hauled supplies to these inland settlements.

Then, during a spring rise in 1870, the river cut a new channel and left La Paz a mile inland. It was ruined as a port, and, since the placers were about worked out, La Paz began to fade. Ehrenberg, six miles downstream, became the new distribution center.



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1 tsp salt


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10 oz Cheddar cheese, grated

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Little Dick West

Outlaw

(From Page 19)

came to his ranch only occasionally, Arnett told his wife to be patient with the little cowboy. He was just down on his luck, he told her.

Little Dick usually put his horse in the ranch's barn and he and Arnett held their conversations in there. Even so, Mrs. Arnett was afraid that one of her neighbors might see the little man and alert the authorities.

The Three Guardsmen— Deputy U.S. Marshals Heck Thomas, Bill Tilghman and Chris Madsen—were at a loss as to the whereabouts of Little Dick. For months after the breakup of the Jennings Gang there was no trace of the dangerous gunslinger. Heck Thomas said he figured the little outlaw probably left the country and was most likely in Texas or Mexico. However, it wasn't long before they learned that Little Dick had been nearby nearly all of the time. He was reported seen at a ranch near Guthrie, only about 10 or 12 miles distant.

Eventually, a report about a little man with a drooping mustache had been seen at the Arnett place. The news reached the ears of the wife of the clerk of the U.S. District Court in Guthrie. From there the news was passed on to Marshal Nix.

Nix contacted Bill Tilghman and Heck Thomas and asked if the sighting might be the missing fugitive. They said the report certainly sounded like Little Dick. Nix ordered them to investigate and assigned two deputies to accompany them.

On April 8, 1898, Tilghman and



Deputy
Bill Tilghman

Thomas rode out to the Arnett Ranch with their deputies. They proceeded cautiously because they knew Little Dick's expertise with his pistols. The outlaw had a reputation as a fast draw and could shoot straight with either hand. They figured he would not let himself be taken alive and they themselves were at risk of being shot to death.

When they got to Beaver Creek about a mile from the ranch, they left their horses with their deputies and proceeded forward on foot to the ranch, cutting through an orchard behind the barn. Inside the corral, they saw a man grooming a horse with a currycomb and a brush. As the early morning sky brightened, they recognized the man as Little Dick.

"Hands up!" Tilghman called out.

The outlaw dropped the brush and comb at once and his hands went immediately to his guns. Tilghman and Thomas didn't give him a second chance. Their pistols shot true and Little Dick fell mortally wounded, his two Colt .45's still clutched in his hands.

The two marshals stepped forward to make sure the little man was dead. Tilghman bent down and picked up the brush and the currycomb.

"These were the difference," he said to Thomas. "If Little Dick hadn't lost a fraction of a second getting rid of these, he'd have down one or two of us."

With the death of Little Dick, the reign of the wild outlaw gangs that roamed the countryside of Oklahoma Territory ended. Now, a new century was about to begin.

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Lew Wallace

New Mexico Governor Wrote ‘Ben Hur’

Lew Wallace was born in Brookville, Indiana in 1827. He joined the army and served in the Mexican War and became the youngest general in the Union army during the War Between the States. After the war, Wallace served as the territorial governor of New Mexico. Over the next several years he became embroiled in the infamous Lincoln County War, even meeting face to face with one of the conflict’s leading combatants, Billy the Kid. This is all well documented and interesting stuff, but perhaps the most surprising thing about Lew Wallace was his other career as a novelist.

While he was governor, Wallace escaped the cares of his office by writing. By 1873 he published a sprawling romantic novel called *The Fair God, A Tale of the Conquest of Mexico*. The book sold well in both America and Europe at two dollars a copy.

Even before he went to New Mexico, Wallace had outlined a new adventure novel set in the Middle East during the early stages of Christianity. After much research, Wallace began writing the book at Santa Fe, working nights at the old Spanish Governor’s office, hand writing chapter after chapter.

When he traveled, Wallace always carried writing materials with him and whenever he had a spare moment he wrote. On a trip to Ft. Stanton during the Lincoln County War, Mrs. Wallace was fearful that the lamp on his desk at night made him an illuminated target for Billy the Kid. Mrs. Wallace was so fearful that in a letter to her son she wrote, “We should have another war with Old Mexico to make her take back New Mexico.”

The volume, titled *Ben-Hur*, was published on November 12, 1880. , The story of *Ben-Hur* unfolds against the backdrop of the

life of Christ. At first, the public was slow to take to the lengthy, 200,000 word tome, but soon *Ben-Hur* was hailed as a classic. In 1884, Wallace wrote in a letter to his wife, “General U.S. Grant told me today that he read it through word for word; that he began in the morning, not having read a novel in ten years before, and finished it next day at noon, after reading all night.”

The first stage production came in 1887, and in 1899 it was produced on Broadway in New York.

Wallace was there for the premier, which included two real chariots racing on a treadmill on stage. After the three hour and twenty-nine minute extravaganza the audience went wild. The adulation for Wallace and his work was tremendous. He even was induced to take a curtain call with the cast.

It was a fitting climax for a work that had been composed more than 20 years before and two thousand miles away in an ancient adobe palace in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Rail King James J. Hill

James J. Hill, the last of the great railroad builders, got his start as a clerk for a packet boat line in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1856. By the mid-1860s, he was operating a fuel company and a steamship line on the Red River. After wrangling financial backing he and three associates took over the bankrupt St. Paul & Pacific Railroad in 1878 and by 1893 had constructed the Great Northern Railway to Puget Sound in Washington State.

Meanwhile, he brought

in settlers, hired experts to aid wheat farmers and cattlemen, and helped develop the orchard and timber businesses in the Pacific Northwest. By the early 1900s he controlled one-third of the rail mileage in the West. Hill was a strange man. He could grab a shovel and help dig out a snowbound train, while sending chilled workers back for coffee in his private car; yet he fired a clerk simply because he didn’t like his name—which was Charles Swinburne Spittles.

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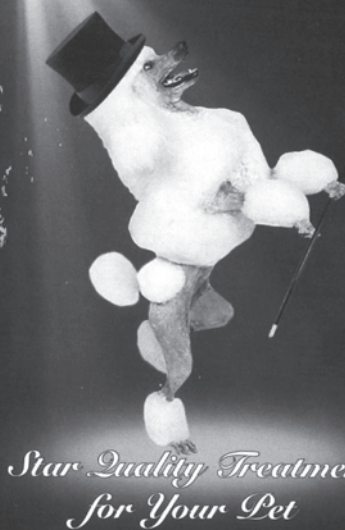
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Walter Brennan

Actor

(From Page 14)

was nominated he won. Though never described as undeserving of the awards he won, his third win was one of the catalysts leading to the disenfranchisement of the Extras Union from Oscar voting.

Unlike many actors, Brennan's career never really went into decline. As the years went on, he was able to find work in dozens of high quality films, and later television appearances throughout the 1950s and '60s. As he grew older, he simply became a more familiar, almost comforting film figure whose performances continued to endear him to new generations of fans. In all, he would appear in more than 230 film and television roles in a career spanning nearly five decades.

Brennan was politically conservative. In 1964, Brennan endorsed and made appearances on behalf of U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater, the Republican nominee that year. He supported American Independent Party candidate (and former governor of Alabama) George Wallace,

over Republican Party nominee and former Vice President Richard Nixon in the 1968 presidential campaign because he felt Nixon was too liberal. He also supported Ronald Reagan for governor of California.

For his contribution to the television industry, Walter Brennan has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame at 6501 Hollywood Blvd. In 1970, he was inducted into the Western Performers Hall

of Fame at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, where his photograph adorns a wall.

On his death from emphysema at the age of eighty in Oxnard, California, Brennan was interred in San Fernando Mission Cemetery in Los Angeles. His widow, Ruth, whom he married in 1920, lived to be ninety-nine and is buried next to him. They had a daughter and two sons.




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