



## Student Protests

*An iconic image from  
Bend's past explained  
See p. 2*

## Remembering Leon Devereaux

*We say good bye to a  
Central Oregon hero See p. 3*



# The Homesteader

## Deschutes County Historical Society Newsletter—February 2021

**Webinar consists of three,  
one-hour sessions at  
11:00 a.m. on Fridays,  
February 12, 19, and 26  
Free to DCHS Members**

### **February 12: Breaking the Code: An introduction to the Public Land Survey System**

We will start with getting organized, sharing helpful resources, basic homestead history, and an introduction to the Public Land Survey System (PLSS).

### **February 19: Navigating the General Land Office (GLO) Records**

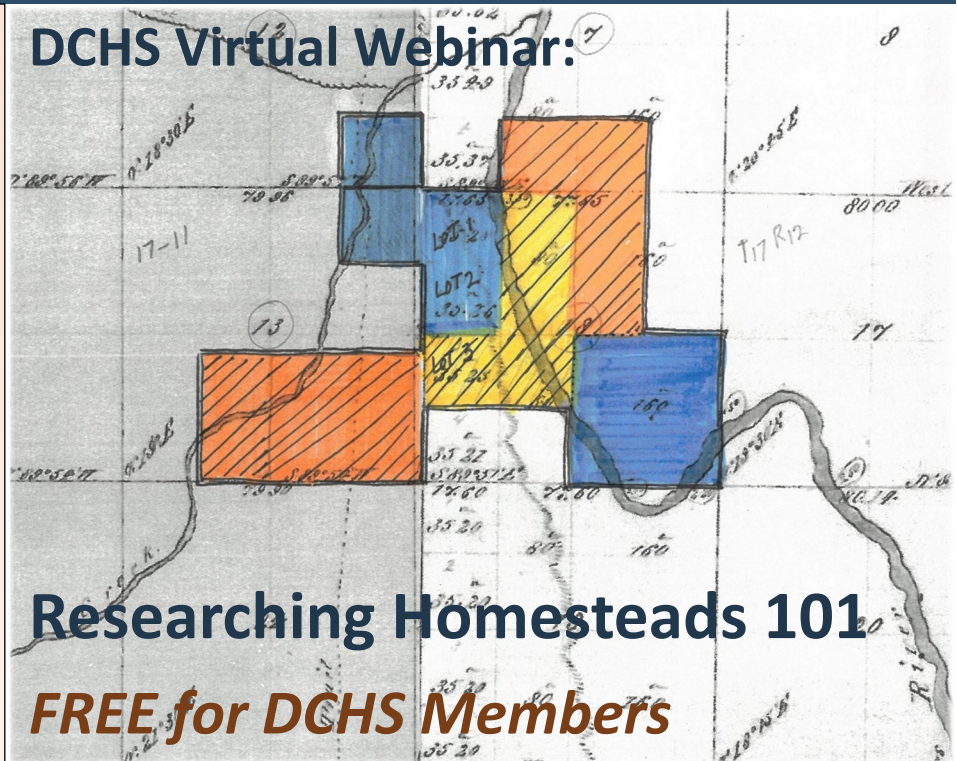
It's time to put the PLSS into practice as Vanessa walks you through the Bureau of Land Management's GLO records. Discover where to find property deeds, original survey plats, field notes, and other fascinating information about the property you are investigating.

### **February 26: Where to Go Next...**

This week we will wrap up by exploring the county assessor's office and touch on other useful resources; newspapers, maps, Earth Point, and DOGAMI Lidar Viewer.

***Each session will include time for  
live Q & A***

## DCHS Virtual Webinar:



## Researching Homesteads 101

***FREE for DCHS Members***

Have you heard stories about your family's homestead and wondered where it was? Or you own property and would like to learn more about the history of your land? Join Deschutes Historical Museum Manager Vanessa Ivey for our first webinar series, **Researching Homesteads 101.**

Learn how to decipher the code of Public Land Survey System, and what local online resources can help in your quest. Using examples from Deschutes County, Oregon and Payne County, Oklahoma, Vanessa will show that the process of uncovering property history isn't such a mystery when you know the steps to follow. This webinar is designed for beginning genealogists or homeowners researching their property.

**[CLICK HERE To register](#), or call 541-389-1813 for registration assistance**

# A Picture Tells a Story

by Sue Fountain

*On September 29, 1921, the students of Bend High School went on strike in support of the principal, Mark A. Paulson, who had been fired by the school board.*



I have seen this photo of students on strike many times in books and articles about Bend history, and my impression was that it was mostly a lark for the students. They appear to be having fun, holding hands as they weave through downtown. The caption says that they were striking in support of their principal, who had been fired.

I came across this photo again recently, and I began to wonder why he was fired, and why the students were so incensed that they left school in protest. Searching through the *Bend Bulletin* archives, I found that Mark Paulson, the high school principal, was fired for insubordination and failure to maintain proper discipline. But I was curious to learn more about these charges and the students' response.

What I found is that it all led back to football. The school board wanted Mark Paulson to fire the new football coach, Frank Rockwell, for incompetency. However,

Rockwell also taught science at the high school, and there was no objection to him as a teacher, so Paulson refused to fire him. Meanwhile, the school board sent to Baker High School for George Dewey, who could serve as a coach and teacher. When Dewey arrived, though, Paulson would not let him in the school building.

For the three previous years Charles Erskine, a local attorney, had coached the Bend High School football team. The team liked him and wanted him to return as their coach, but Erskine was not sure he could, because he was busy with his practice, and the coach was supposed to be a member of the teaching faculty. But the team said they would refuse to play for Dewey and would turn in their jerseys if he was hired.

Digging deeper into the newspaper articles, I found that in addition to being upset about the coaching situation, the students didn't think it was fair that their principal

- Continued on page 5



## Deschutes Historical Museum

129 NW Idaho Avenue  
Bend, OR 97703  
Open Tuesdays-Saturdays  
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
541.389.1813

### Museum Staff:

Kelly Cannon-Miller, Executive Director  
Vanessa Ivey, Museum Manager  
Rebekah Averette, Collections Manager  
Tracy Alexander, Membership Officer



### 2021 DCHS Board of Directors:

Sue Fountain, President  
Adrian Bennett, Vice President  
Jane Williamson, Secretary/Treasurer  
Marsha Stout, Past President

### Board Members:

Mike Berry, Mark Capell, Paul Claeysens,  
Tony DeBone, Beau Eastes,  
Dan Ellingson, Greg Fulton,  
Karen Green, Andrea Hunnell-DuPree,  
Loren Irving, Heidi Kennedy, and Susie Penhollow



Complete minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors are on file with the Museum office.

[www.deschuteshistory.org](http://www.deschuteshistory.org)  
[info@deschuteshistory.org](mailto:info@deschuteshistory.org)



# Saying Goodbye to Leon Devereaux

**August 26, 1923– January 21, 2021**

Leon Devereaux was the kind of guy that warranted the creation of the phrase ‘they broke the mold when they made him.’ So many words can describe him, but genuine is perhaps the most comfortable fit. A big heart and a joyous laugh, in many ways he personified the storybook rural boy makes good life.

Leon was born in Bend August 26, 1923 and grew up in a budding city full of possibility. He graduated from Bend High School in 1941, and like many graduates of 1941 across the country, the entry of America into World War II derailed many plans and took him far from home. He flew a Corsair F-4U in 40 combat missions; his WWII heroism from the decks of the U.S.S. Shangri-la the stuff of movies, complete with a crash landing. On his return home, he married the graceful Marian Mowry and had three children; they were married 74 years.

He worked for Brooks-Scanlon for 38 years, was elected to city council, and served as mayor in 1968.

Leon served as a board member and president of the Deschutes Pioneer Association and served on the board of the historical society from December 2004 to December 2009. He worked volunteer shifts at the front desk of the museum, welcoming visitors to learn about his hometown. He was a steady, gracious presence with enthusiasm for preservation. He would try and answer any question we threw at him, and if he didn’t know the answer, he often knew who else we should ask.

In his 97 years, so much changed. Not just in Deschutes County, but the world, too. Leon wanted us to chronicle those changes, save the stories of our shared past and pass them along—not in an effort of nostalgia, but to inform new residents and shape the future. To ensure that no matter if the size of Bend was 15,000 or 115,000, it was important to him that a sense of pride in a place and community could provide for them as it did for him. We, the DCHS family, are so grateful to have known Leon and learned from him.



*Above: 1941 Award Winning Track Team, Leon Devereaux 3rd from right; Right: Leon's Senior portrait from the 1941 Bend High School "Bear Tracks" yearbook*



*Above: The flag was flown at half staff at a memorial service held for Leon Devereaux at the Veteran's Memorial Walkway on January 29 (photo by Sue Fountain). Right: Leon Devereaux, photo courtesy of the Bend Bulletin.*



### VOLUNTEER CORNER

## Boddie

By Rebekah Averette

This month, the Homesteader is highlighting longtime Collections Department volunteer Kim Boddie! Kim has lent his photography expertise to the Deschutes Historical Museum (DHM) for over five years. Kim photographs incoming artifacts in the third floor photography studio and uploads them into our online catalog. He also systematically checks the catalog for older artifacts that have never been photographed and adds them to the collection. It is an essential and time-consuming job; we are thankful that he enjoys it.

Before Kim volunteered at DHM, he was a longtime volunteer at the High Desert Museum. For many years Kim was a Birds of Prey interpreter, handling a variety of raptors, giving presentations and participating in outreach programs. Fellow volunteer Muriel Carbiener recruited Kim to photograph museum artifacts there, thus beginning a long and illustrious career in volunteer artifact photography.

Kim has been interested in photography nearly all his life and is an avid bird photographer. Although he began photographing birds as a child, his photography really took off after he retired in 1997. Kim travels throughout Central Oregon and further afield, always returning with a cache of beautifully captured photographs.

In addition to volunteering at the museum, Kim volunteers for the Audubon Society, conducts raptor surveys in the Christmas Valley and Fort Rock areas, as well as fall hawk migration counts.

Kim was born in Boston (but he is an Atlanta Braves fan), and spent his younger years in Massachusetts and Connecticut. After graduating from high school, he attended Colorado State University in Fort Collins, earning a degree in Forest and Range Management. He worked briefly in Big Horn, Wyoming, before joining and serving in the Army for three years. After attending Officer Candidate School at Ft. Lewis, Kim served in Vietnam as a Supply Evacuation Officer, essentially finding and repairing damaged tanks and trucks for further service.

Following his military service, he married his sweetheart, Carolyn. She is a native to Puyallup, Washington, and Kim met her during training at Ft. Lewis. The couple has two children, Garth and Erin, and four grandchildren. During his long and distinguished career with the U.S. Forest Service, Kim and his family lived and worked in Colorado before making their way to Oregon to be closer to Carolyn's parents. His work with the USFS has seen him work as a Snow Ranger, fight fires, as well as work in wildlife and grazing. Locally, he worked on the Deschutes National Forest Planning Team and spent his last two years before retirement as the Forest Budget and Finance Officer.

Volunteering isn't the only thing that keeps Kim busy in retirement. He has traveled extensively throughout the US, participating in 13 Elderhostel trips and many road trips of his own design. He completed the "Oregon Bike Ride" five times, has been on numerous white water rafting trips, skis (downhill and cross-country), and used to fish frequently. Kim and his wife are also kept busy spending time with and helping raise their four grandchildren.

We are so lucky to have the talents and experience of Kim Boddie at the Deschutes Historical Museum!



## We Want Your Year Books!

Thank you to Leslie Olsen for her donation of the first four Summit High School annuals! This donation is just in time for celebrating Summit High's 20th year of operation.

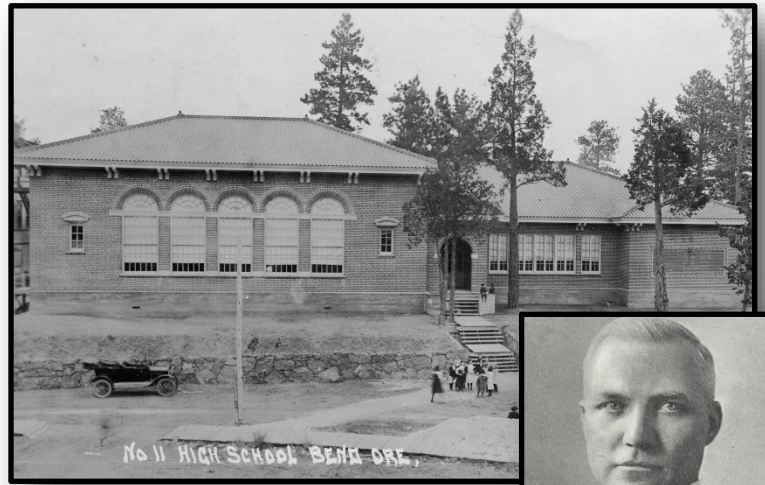
Did you know that we have a growing collection of high school annuals? We are missing many—especially those from La Pine, Redmond, and Sisters High Schools, as well as those from the 80s forward. Please call us if you are interested in donating yours!





*Continued from P. 2— A Picture Tells a Story*

was fired for standing up for what he thought was right. So 300 Bend High School and Junior High students left school in protest and walked through town with their hands joined. As they serpentine through the streets, they chanted, "We want Paulson and fair play!" That afternoon, 200 students returned to class, but the next morning they were met with picketing students in front of the school, trying to deter them from entering. Dee McRoberts, student body president, addressed the crowd and continued to call for a reinstatement of Principal Paulson. McRoberts and the editor of the school paper, Thomas Going, were suspended and asked by the acting school principal to resign their positions. Charles Erskine spoke to the students and explained that Paulson and Rockwell had legal recourse, so the students should end their strike. Most students returned to class.



*Above: Bend High School at its former location on the block north of Kearney Avenue, between Harriman and Hill Streets.*

*Right: Professor Paulson, Principal of Bend High School*



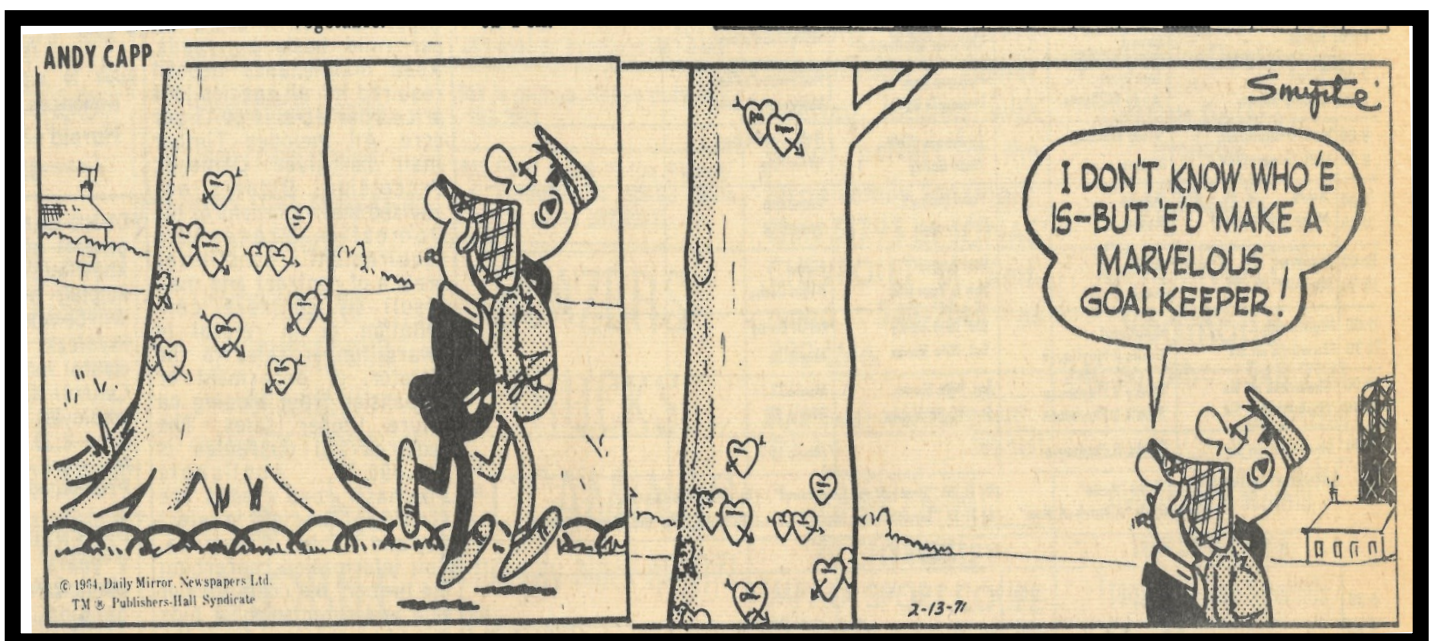
It took many weeks before there was a final hearing on the matter. What looked like a harmless protest by students for a few hours turned into a long ordeal. For two months the arguments continued, with meetings of concerned parents and citizens who claimed that the school board was at fault. On November 3, 1921, the newspaper reported the final decision: Principal Mark Paulson was dismissed. Charles Erskine (*left*) remained as coach for that season.

We often talk about how we wish we had asked our parents or our grandparents more questions about their lives. This is one of those times when I wish I could ask my mother if she was in that crowd of students who went on strike. She would have been 13 at that time, and since the junior high students were included, she may well have been there. She certainly would have known all about it. It makes me wonder about what other stories or pieces of information we are missing. It's a good reminder to ask our elders about their lives and the history of our community. The museum staff always welcomes oral histories about Central Oregon.

## Memorials

**Leon Devereaux**

Lennard and Delane Sholes



*Bend Bulletin, February 6, 1971*



## To Our Members:

During a normal year we would be sending out an invitation to you for our Annual Meeting in February. As we all know, this is not a normal year. Due to COVID, the DCHS Board of Directors voted to cancel the 2021 meeting. So many sentences start with "Due to COVID," we are sorry to add one more.

It is always so enjoyable to get together with each other in February. We greet old friends, catch up on the news, and find out what the museum staff has accomplished during the year. Maybe by this summer we can plan some kind of gathering. At least by fall we should be able to count on the Chili Feed as a meeting spot.

For now, please be careful, and be sure to sign up for the COVID vaccine. Deschutes County is doing a great job with organizing vaccines for those who are 75 and older.

Hoping to see all of you soon,

*Sue Fountain*

Board President

## Celebrating Our Historic Parks

Two of Bend's most beloved parks, Shevlin and Drake, turn 100 years old in 2021. Bend Parks and Recreation District is celebrating these important milestones with a look back at the history of Shevlin Park and Drake Park. They will be highlighting how the parks continue to make memories for Bend residents and visitors today. It's hard to imagine our community without these two important places.

BPRD has created a [centennial webpage](#) to share stories and photographs of conserving, protecting, gathering, recreating, reflecting and working -- commonalities of Shevlin Park and Drake Park. They have kicked off their webpage launch with a reprint of Mike Berry's story from October, 2020 *The Homesteader* (volume 46, issue 10) on the creation of Shevlin Park. During the year, the Deschutes County Historical Society will continue to partner with BPRD on these two great milestones, sharing additional stories and historical resources.

The website will add first-person stories and memories of the parks, as well as schedule virtual and in-person activities and talks to commemorate the year-long celebration. Be sure to visit the site and sign up for email updates on upcoming talks and activities. We also encourage you to take the party to social media. If you have a favorite historic or family photo, share it on Instagram with the hashtag "#DrakeShevlin100years". For more information and to sign up, visit [www.bendparksandrec.org/DrakeShevlin100Years](http://www.bendparksandrec.org/DrakeShevlin100Years) or click on the link above.



## Mark Your Calendars

### FEBRUARY

- 12 RESEARCHING HOMESTEADS WEBINAR: BREAKING THE CODE: An Introduction to the Public Land Survey System  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- 14 OREGON'S 162ND BIRTHDAY
- 19 RESEARCHING HOMESTEADS WEBINAR: NAVIGATING THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE RECORDS  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- 26 RESEARCHING HOMESTEADS WEBINAR: WHERE TO GO NEXT...  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

See Front Page for more information about registration for the "Researching Homesteads 101" Webinar, free to DCHS Members

