

Weston Library Page

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August 2025 Volume 19 Issue 8

An Ice Cream Party in August What Could Be Nicer?

The Library is hosting an ice cream party Friday, August 15th, in celebration of the end of the Summer Reading Programming for this year! In the park at 1pm, join us for 3 flavors of ice cream, 3 different toppings, and 3 different sauces! Don't worry, we will still accept reading log bookmarks and hand out prizes until September, and the drawing for grand prizes takes place September 5th!

What's Happening?

August Calendar:

8/5 Library Advisory Board Meeting 5:30 pm (Library)

8/15 Summer Reading Program Elliott Park Ice Cream Party 1:00 pm (Elliott Park)

8/21 Novel Readers 2:30 pm Beyond All Dreams by Elizabeth Camden (Library)

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm Crafternoons

Fridays at 10:00 am Preschool Storytime



New Books at the Library

The Buffalo Train by Robert Vaughan & James Reasoner.

The Librarians of Lisbon by Suzanne Nelson.

Elmer Kelton's The Familiar Stranger by Steve Kelton, John Bradshaw.

How To Age Disgracefully by Clare Pooley.

The Patch by John McPhee.

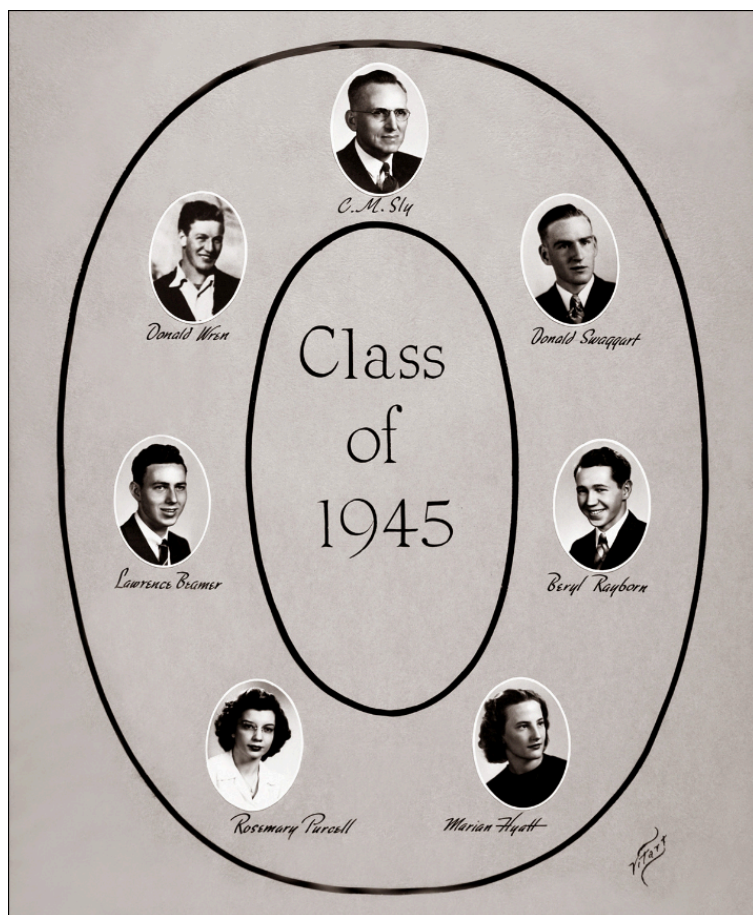
El Menonita Zen by Carlos Velázquez.

That Librarian : the Fight Against Book Banning in America by Amanda Jones.

Bone of the Bone : Essays On America by a Daughter of the Working Class, 2013-2024 by Sarah Smarsh.

Squanto : a Native Odyssey by Andrew Lipman.

To Die For by David Baldacci.



Weston High School Graduating
Class of 1945
Hold That Tiger



Chehalis

Chehalis was a small black pacer*. In 1895 he was winning races in Sacramento, causing his manager Frank Frazier to turn down an offer of \$5000 for him from a Los Angeles breeder. In 1897 at the state fair in Salem, he trotted a mile in 2:05 1/2, his record speed was 2:04 1/4. He was finally sold in 1898 for \$7500, which doesn't seem like a huge rise in price for a record breaker. In 1922 he was home in Pendleton again, and still pacing his mile at a top speed of 2:12. He was small and slim and quick, a pretty little horse, with a distinctive head and ears.

Frank Frazier was his owner and driver. He bought Chehalis as a two-year-old for \$600, sight unseen, and had him shipped out on the train. Imagine his surprised horror at the appearance of the little horse: short, round, looking like a sheep. He was too little for the shafts of the \$25 used sulkey** Mr Frazier found for him. And yet, there was something about that potbellied little horse, and that something was speed. They immediately became involved with a telephone pole on Water Street, and Chehalis went to train with a professional in Walla Walla. Then they tried a trainer back in Vancouver. Then they just gave up and brought him home to Pendleton to train with Frank Frazier. Chehalis had become beautiful at last, coal black, no socks, with a tiny white star high up on his forehead, and with a grace and athletic ability that allowed him to move like a machine on the track.

Frank was married to Katie Webb, and they decided clear back on their honeymoon that they would become racetrack people. Katie Frazier supported all Frank and Chehalis every step of their race journey. She was with them in Denver, Detroit, Buffalo, Cleveland, Columbus, Hartford, Boston. Chehalis ran 60 races, and won 31. He placed in all but six of those races. He was a speedy little guy. The day he won the world record in pacing, he broke that record by 3 whole seconds, unfussed and unbothered, ears up and moving as though he floated for two miles. After Boston, Katie became ill. Frank sold Chehalis to an east coast racing conglomerate because he didn't want to travel on the racing circuits without Katie. They were both very upset to sell the little horse, Katie thought Frank died of the heartbreak two years later. Chehalis went on to be the father of a large family of trotters and pacers.

We have a historical photograph in the library of a man in a horse-drawn carriage. The horse seems to be all black, no stockings, small star on the forehead. His curved ears are cocked forward with interest, his face is very pretty. Is it Chehalis? I don't know, he is very similar in appearance to other photographs of that athlete. I like to think it is.

**A pacer races by moving the left legs together and the right legs together. They have to train with special hobbles.*

***Sulkeys are those little racing carts that look like the horse is sitting on the driver's lap.*