

It wasn't Cornelius at the start, but Benjamin Q. Tucker's land claim on which he settled in 1845. His claim joined the Catching claim on the west, McLean claim on the east, Solomon Emerick claim on the south and the H.H. Hendricks claim on the north.

There may have been some sort of trail across this place as people traveled east to west between Hillsboro and Forest Grove locations. In 1852 the County Surveyor, Israel Mitchell, was directed to survey a road from "a tree from the edge of Hillsboro up the valley to the Yamhill County line". It was the County's second road and was accepted as such September 7, 1852. It was not much of a thoroughfare, but it directed traffic.

Mr. Tucker disposed part of his holdings to Mr. Haines, who in turn sold to Mr. Montgomery, who sold to William Halsey and his wife. Part of this land they called Free Orchards from the number of fruit trees already there; the portion just east of Forest Grove was known as Fruit Vale.

So history of Cornelius began before the date of incorporation. The settlers were out numbered by the red man five to one. It was not uncommon to have bear or deer within a few yards of the pale faces homes and often the scream of a panther frightened the children.

The first flour mill was at Oregon City which took three or four days to reach. Usually the settler would return home with a two bushel sack of wheat which the family would try to stretch over a six month period; diet consisted of wheat, milk and game.

Fire was still a problem...matches were prized above gold. If there were no hot coals it would be necessary to secure some from a neighbor probably over a mile away.

One of the first common interests of the settlers was schooling for their children. In 1851 the first districts in Washington County were established by Rev. Horace Lyman, a Congregational minister, teacher at Pacific University and our first County School Commissioner. West Union was the first district established and Cornelius was number two. These districts were very large; the Cornelius district included much of what is now Forest Grove. The eastern boundary was Dairy Creek. Mr. Lyman received \$50. per month salary.

The first schoolhouse was a small log affair on the banks of the Tualatin River. Sol Emerick gave use of the land and logs for the building. A log house 12 x 14 ft., there were strips of muslin greased with lard pasted over the holes cut as windows. Seats were of split logs..there were no desks. Charity Marsh was the first teacher.

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In the 1860's another log schoolhouse was built near the county road on land purchased from Dan Phillips who had bought the western half of the McLean land claim. There was a stipulation in the deed that "should the land cease to be used for school purposes" it was to revert to the grantor of the deed. This building served as a school for a number of years, and the first Sunday School was organized there by Joseph Hoberg, a circuit riding Methodist minister assigned to Hillsboro, Farmington, Cornelius, Columbia Academy and Tualatin Academy in Forest Grove. This log building burned one night and Mr. Phillips reclaimed the land.

In 1877 a tract of land 250 square feet was purchased from the Halseys and a three room building was built where the present Cornelius Elementary is located.

Travel remained extremely difficult and word that a railroad might come west brought hope to the small communities.

In 1871 Mr. Holladay was forcing the railroad up from Portland and by the end of 1871 the line had reached Free Orchards. Ben was head of the East Side Company (East Side and West Side Railroads..so called for their locations relative to the Willamette River) vieing for favors from Oregon Legislature. In a campaign regarded as an Oregon lobbying landmark, Holliday bought a riverboat and turned it into a private yacht to fete lawmakers. A very wealthy and influential man, Ben had a way of discovering wealthy men in other places to assist him in his plans. (Aggravated at slow acceptance in either Hillsboro or Forest Grove Holliday's railroad bypassed both cities as far as possible.)

It may have been through the influence of Mr. Holladay that the Halseys deeded a tract of land to the public in September 1871.

The first depot on the railway line was placed at Cornelius across the tracks from Col. Cornelius' warehouse. It housed the Post Office (est. Dec. 18, 1871) and Telegraph Office. It was said the best telegraph operators were placed here. George Shaw was contacted and arrived from New England to operate the connection between San Francisco and seattle.

The name of the area was changed to Cornelius possibly since he was the most widely known citizen. He built not only the warehouse, but a home and store where almost anything from medicine to farm machinery could be purchased. He operated a creamery and kept an eye on his farm which totaled more than 1500 acres. One was a dairy farm with 100 fine dairy cows. He built the first silo in Washington County; owned two sawmills, one on Dairy Creek just west of Hillsboro, and the other in the upper part of Scoggins Valley. Taking a prominent part in school affairs he also aided building the Meth.Church where he served as superintendent of the Sunday School. Col. Cornelius had come to Oregon on the infamous "Lost Wagon Train", served in wars, was elected to State Legislature in 1856 where he served 20 years, was president of the Senate in 1866.

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The thing that brought the greatest change, not only to Cornelius but to the surrounding country, was the coming of the railroad. A turn table was put in so engines on freight and passenger trains could be turned for the return trip to Portland. It was the end of the line for some time.

Mr. Holladay planned to establish the City of Cornelius as the county seat of Washington County. Land was set aside for that purpose. However, while Ben was east in Washington D.C. on business, the people of Hillsboro finagled to get the courthouse into their city. Mr. Holladay was furious!!

For years people from Hillsboro, to ride the train to Portland, had to ride a hack to Cornelius or Reedville in the morning and return to their homes by hack at night.

The railroad brought sadness to some homes as four persons were killed on the tracks: a small girl, killed on the turn table; a small boy crushed by a freight car; an elderly man driving a horse hitched to a buggy was struck and killed at a crossing, and a transient peddler was run over.

A freight train was wrecked east of town when the engine struck a fat cow wandering along the track. Her fat spread along the rails causing the cars to buckle when the engineer applied the brakes. Groceries of all sorts were scattered along the track and a race horse had to be rescued from an upended car.

No sooner was the railroad in operation than a survey for a wagon road was made from Cornelius to Astoria. It started in the eastern edge of Cornelius, went out through Schefflin, Mountindale, Buxton and Vernonia. The survey was completed to Astoria November 15, 1873 and covered a distance of 90 miles. It was part of a plan for a wagon road from Oregon City to Astoria.

For several years Cornelius was a village without power to control drinking, fires or stock running at large. Cattle and horses, roaming through the village pasturing along the streets and lying to rest in the shady spots along the sidewalks, also kept people awake nights by the jangling of the cow bells. Most of this disturbance was checked when the town incorporated in the spring of 1893. Officers elected were:

J.R. Miller, Mayor
George Graham)
Tom Talbot) Councilmen
J.W. Cornelius)
J.W. Clark)
A.J. Wilkes, Treasurer
W.W. Phillips, Recorder
L.G. Wiedowitch, Marshall

The first council meeting was held May 5, 1893 and after that they met often. All served without salary although, after long debate, the marshall was paid \$2.50 a month for patrolling the streets until 9 PM each night, lighting the councilroom fire, making arrests and looking after the jail and prisoners.

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The city fathers had some weighty problems to solve. Meeting in the hotel for some time, they contracted for a building of a jail containing a council room and two cells. A transient, put in jail to sober up, set his bed on fire and burned to death. No one knew his name or where he was from.

Adjoining the jail the council enclosed a yard with a high board fence for impounding stray animals. An ordinance provided for charges to feed the culprits: \$1 for horses; 75¢ for cattle; 50¢ for hogs and 25¢ for sheep. A shed was attached to the side of the jail for use of the fire department.

The fire department equipment consisted of a hook and ladder wagon with a dozen leather buckets swinging from the side. This had to be pushed or pulled around town by hand. A small fire bell gave the alarm. (Years later, during the 1930's, the bell which was rung to warn of fire was also used to announce 9 PM curfew. One of the Challacombe brothers rushed to re-ring the bell to get fire aid and died of a heart attack. A siren system was installed as soon as available.)

A laborer turned in the alarm one day and when firemen reached the house they found the lady who lived there running around in her yard with a pan of apple butter she had been cooking. She was trying to find a safe place to put the pan instead of turning in the alarm herself.

When the city was incorporated, the saloons were put under a \$400 a year license fee. If their patrons were unable to control themselves they too came in for a fine. An ordinance stated a simple drunk might be fined from \$2.50 to \$5 if he "hallowed, fought or raised a row" the fine would be raised to \$50.

The saloons had to close at midnight on Saturday night and could not open before 4 o'clock in the morning. Fights were not confined to inebriated citizens. Someone slapped the mayor after the lights went out following a council meeting. No one saw the slapping but all heard it. One man had his neighbor arrested because he made a practice of chopping wood before breakfast.

Revenues from city fines, taxes and saloon license fees provided funds for city improvements. Streets were graded, wooden sidewalks laid.

Another ordinance settled the dispute concerning noisy cow bells: bells were required to be removed from the cows by 8 PM at night and should not be put on again before 4 AM in the morning.

The city invested in land for a park filled with young oak trees and decided to hold a celebration on July 4, 1894. They made great preparations and let out all concessions to the highest bidder. They hoped to make money from their venture, but when expenses were paid they had only 40¢ left with which to buy stationery for use of the council. Echo James won \$5 for her Independence Day address.

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The Cornelius post office had been established in 1871 and was located in the railway depot several years, later moving to a store building. Elsie Cornelius was acting postmistress until Sarah Montgomery's official appointment by the Postmaster General. Sarah's daughter, Drusilla Crance, succeeded her mother as postmistress on Sarah's retirement. continuing the office in their home.

Star Routes had been established. Carrying mail on routes was not an easy task as muddy roads and high water made trip long and difficult. One star route carried the mail to the outlying post office of Blooming. Calvin Bailey was postmaster there. John Van Lom, who lived at Centerville, had a star route from Cornelius to Mountindale. When rural routes were established Van Lom had rt. 1, to the north, and Albert Bunning had rt. 2 to the south.

There were few, if any, mail boxes then....families hanging a bag of heavy cloth or oilcloth from the arm of a post along the roadside. Postage was two cents a letter to anyplace in the United States and stamp designs seldom changed. Postcards became a fad and many were sent; some card collectors trying for a postcard from every state. These postcard albums remain highly collectable.

When the City was incorporated there was four doctors and a traveling dentist. The first doctor to set up an office was Dr. Clark Smith, a Methodist minister who had served as a medical missionary in Africa. He was proprietor of a drug store here and also served as County School Superintendent. Dr. Smith was a surveyor as well and surveyed a large tract of land near Timber for the U.S. Government.

Other doctors were DR. Gessnor and DR. Ernest Everest who also had a drug store.

Several fraternal organizations flourished for a time. The Odd-Fellows was the first lodge, but their equipment was lost in the fire over the McNutt store as flames from a set fire swept through the building. The store had been robbed and to cover the robbery the burglars set the conflagration.

Knights of Pythius met for more than three years, then united with the lodge at Forest Grove. Woodmen of the World flourished for a time, and later the Neighbors of Woodcraft.

Cornelius had many small enterprises: a winery, cider mill, pickle factory, juicery, two creameries, three saw mills, three warehouses, blacksmiths, general stores and drug stores.

The railroad depot grounds proved to be a stressful proposition for both city councilmen and station agents. Children loved to jump from trains while the trains were still in motion thus nearly giving the station manager heart failure. But to top things off, when winter rolled around and ground was white with snow, the city's youngsters amused themselves by throwing snowballs at train passengers. This finally came to a halt with the council taking firm action.

Small schools were being organized around where ever there were enough families to pay a teacher. (\$15 to \$25 a month often).

IOWA Hill district was organized January 16, 1878; Fern Hill, originally known as "Buckeye Hill College" became district 53 and was known by that name until Lou Mooberry, Nelia Aiton or Rose Kalsch suggested "Fern Hill" for the ferns that abounded. Fern Hill's first teacher was G.N. Hoopengartner in 1879-1880.

Many of the first teachers were provided with teaching certificates by taking a test which qualified them regardless of actual time spent in a classroom; undoubtedly most were dependent on the ability of their parents. Examinations were given in February, May, August and November. The grades each applicant received was placed on his or her certificate.

To receive a first grade certificate, good for one year, an average score of ninety percent (never below seventy) must be acquired. The score for a second grade certificate was lower than for first (80% - not below 60%); for third grade it was even lower (70% - not below 40%). Third Grade Certificates were good for one year; Second Grade Certificates were usable for two years, while first year certificates were usable for three years. Examinations were usually by essay and the examiners tried to be as lenient as possible.

Lester Mooberry quotes in his "The Gray Nineties"; A law book was part of school equipment and was usually kept by the clerk who was the only person in some districts who could read it. Some of the (school) directors, while good honest men, could not read English or sign their name in English. One director thought the teacher should keep the hours of a hired man, from seven in the AM till six at night".

It was not unusual for a teacher to provide curtains or something attractive for the classrooms. Some teachers were expected to carry water, stoke fires in stoves, sweep and handle all emergencies.

The smaller schools consolidated with Cornelius Elementary in 1944.

Not many years later, Cornelius schools were consolidated with Forest Grove (district 15) tho many students from eastern and northern portions of the area attend Hillsboro.

About 1907, John Thornberg and Tom Adams opened a bank which they later sold to A.S. Sholes and a group of local stockholders. (This bank went down in 1933 following the crash of '29, but all depositors were reimbursed.)

1908 saw a new building where the three room school had been. Now there were four classrooms - two grades to a class - with cloakrooms and an office. There was also a basement which provided furnace area.

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In 1908 the Oregon Electric came to Cornelius and Forest Grove. Holiday's railway remained the conveyance for passengers coming from south in the valley; people would ride Holiday's train to Cornelius, walk across town to the Oregon Electric station for the ride to Portland.

The Cornelius Women's Civic Improvement Club (shortly dubbed "the Civic Club") was founded in 1913 with initial intent to establish a home for the library which consisted of a 'few books donated' and dispersed from a pool room. The club did many helpful things for the community; aided people when in real need; bought eyeglasses for one; paid a doctor bill for another; were instrumental in getting hot lunches for school children. They also put on several plays which were very well attended and were a joy to those putting them on. There was space for a building between Alpha Hall and the small dwelling connected to Bunnings Hall. A Wood Cutting Bee was held to provide lumber for the library.

At least three newspapers flourished for a time...one, the CORNELIUS COURIER came to light when boards were removed from a house two blocks south of the Cornelius Hotel. Papers had been used as insulation but could not be removed from the wall without ruining the readability. The date of printing was 1879. The second paper was edited by a Mr. Farnsworth till he moved to Banks. The third closed shop after a time and went out of business. June specials advertised in the "CORNELIUS NEWS" of 1915: Aprons, 39¢, men's work shirts 37¢, Corsets 95¢, Boys' overalls (sizes 3 to 15) 39¢, sizes to 30 inch waist (value 65¢) just 49¢.

Other items from the "News" announced 'A long threatened collision between ball teams of Dairy Creek and Leiseyville took place Sunday. After playing five innings in the "remarkable time of five hours and fifteen minutes" Dairy Creek departed carrying the heavy end of a 22 to 1 score. Items listed under 'Belated Locals' included: Jitney dance at Hendricks' Hall Saturday night June 12; ice cream social and entertainment at the Blooming school Friday night, a number will attend from here.

Early 1920's - 30's

Radios and Airplanes held absolute fascination for the young adults. Crystal sets were created by nearly every budding enthusiast and as soon as Les Long began effort on Washington County's first home built plane helpers came in droves. Some aided in welding, some aided as 'gophers' or painters. The home-built motor called the "Long Harlequin Motor" used motorcycle engine pistons to create power for the very light aircraft. People from other countries came to see Les and George Long's different designs.

Commercial pilots, accustomed to more power and adequate fields did not adjust well when testing one of Long's planes. One pilot from West Coast Airlines, unable to lift off, brought the plane he was testing to an abrupt halt using a telephone pole as a stopper. The propeller was not usable but the body survived.....Pilot was uninjured.

There were years when many of our young people were called to service; each branch of the military was represented. There were good times when a son was home on leave and sad when he returned to camp. There were gold star mothers. There were also war brides brought to this area to begin new lives. Our community social life intensified to keep spirits up.

NEWS ITEMS.....

Sugar rationing stamps will be given out by the teachers of the local school soon. Residents of the area are asked to watch the local paper for dates.

The local firemen will give their annual dance at the Buckeye Pavilion Tuesday, March 17.

There will be a meeting of the Civic Club Thursday, March 19, in the social room of the Methodist Church at 2 o'clock. Roll call will be answered by your favorite radio program.

The Pot Luck club met at the home of Mrs. John Oppenlander last Thursday evening. The occasion was a surprise party for Mrs. Ole Olson.

Saturday night after closing hours prowlers tried to enter the Cherrie Nook. The lock was pried off the back door, but evidently they were frightened away as they did not enter the store. From the way the lock had been pried loose it looked as though it might have been the same tools used on the Cornelius Feed store when someone tried to enter it last week. The broke out the glass of the door and damaged the lock, but nothing was missing. They evidently were frightened away. Or were these just "practice runs"?

The Civic Club donated \$5 to the American War Relief fund for the Red Cross. Mrs. Don Englen would like some solicitors for this fund.

Ten of the local Boy Scouts with their leader, Leonard Melanson, attended the picture show "The International Squadron" at the Venetian theatre at Hillsboro.

FROZEN DEER FOUND

Frank O'Donnell recently found a big buck deer frozen in its tracks in two feet of snow on Saddle mountain. The deer was unable to travel in the deep snow and so was frozen standing up. O'Donnell was traveling on snow shoes when he ran across the animal.

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A new newspaper came to the citizens of the city.....
The CORNELIAN, weekly publication was sponsored by the merchants of Cornelius and published and edited by the Journalism Department of Pacific University had Board of Directors; Gene Hillis - Henry Hering - Joe Haynes.

The Cornelian received attention:

"The Cornelian, the only weekly newspaper in the state to be published by college journalism students received a two page spread in Easter Sunday's Northwest Magazine section of the Oregonian". Written by Ellis Lucia, graduate of Pacific University and city editor of the Washington County News Times, the article describes the Cornelian and it's methods of production. Lucia, a regular contributor to the magazine section of the Oregonian, is rapidly establishing a reputation as one of the most promising young writers of the period.

News Items:

A Rotary-sponsored calf chain, in operation five years in Future Farmers of America, has Percy Hillis as one of the members who got the chain going by buying a heifer calf for an FFA member. Walter Buckley, present owner of a chain calf, will show her as a yearling at the County Fair.

Charles F. Kreuger, junior in agriculture at Oregon State College, has been initiated into the OSC chapter of Scabbard and Blade national military honor fraternity.

The Takima campfire girls entertained the For-get-ne-not Blue Birds in honor of birthday week. The girls prepared two picture books to be left at the health office in Hillsboro. The older girls served refreshments. The Campfire and Blue-Bird groups exhibited their year's handwork at Hank's Market last saturday.

Charles Hornecker made history at Oregon State College when he became the first person at Oregon State ever to receive both the Alpha Gamma Rho and the Alpha Zeta awards for outstanding achievement in agriculture.

Hank's Super market showed prices up a bit from 1915: beef roast now 59¢; bacon jowls 27¢; Pork chops, lb. 59¢ and fryers lb. 53¢.

JoAnne Knox, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.G. Knox, was pledged last week by the Boxerettes, underclass women's honor society at Pacific University.

SCHOOL NEWS:

The Cornelius grade school five defeated North Plains last week in the Washington County grade school basketball tournament to take third place honors in the B League.

Melvin Hering brought a sweet potato to start a vine.

Jack Wilson wrote to Washington D.C. to see if we could get a nail, board or something as a keepsake left over from remodeling the White House.

The grade school presented the operetta "Tom Sawyer".

A tooth was lost by Marlin Rossback.

Billy Snook tells that his family has a new Dodge.

According to the March 5 broadcast on KOAC, Mary Louise Buchanan was honorable mention for her picture "Golden Cockerel".

Tom Hobbs reports there are two new pigs on his farm.

Billy Snook and Nancy Lockwood each lost another tooth last week.

The third grade enjoyed a birthday party given by Kathy Campbell celebrating her ninth birthday.

Janice Hester broke her finger in gym class.

Mumps kept Tommy Gaither out of school and out of our assembly programs.

Linda Campbell is back after having her appendix out.

Betty Sue Clites has started piano lessons.

Bruce Meeuwsen, Doris Davis and Carolyn Van dehey_ each lost a tooth last week.

Larry Reimers tells us he can tell time now.

We are learning to play softball and sometime soon we're going to have a game between the boys and the girls.

The class had a mental maturity test last Wednesday morning.

June 21, 1950: Mrs. Clara Finegan entertained the Civic Club with a pot luck at her home last Thursday. This was the last meeting of the season.

June 26: A 'Dream Come true for Susbauer Fuel Oil!' After a year's negotiation with the Federal Communication Commission a license has been granted for the use of two way radios in each truck. Tests have been made between Beaverton, Cornelius, Gaston, Laurelwood, Banks and Buxton with a high degree of success.

July 1950.....The loss of the city park became evident when, with no available park in their city, the Emanuel Lutheran Church held a pot luck picnic in the Forest Grove park. The Cornelius Methodist Church and Sunday School picnic was held at Shute Park in Hillsboro. The Lions Club sponsored a picnic for the Boy Scouts at Balm Grove. The Recreation Club also held their picnic at Balm Grove. The city fathers began to plan for parks!!

August 9, 1950

CAR VUE opening draws record crowd to Cornelius.

An estimated two hundred cars were turned away on opening night of the Car Vue Drive -In. Cars were lined up four deep to the gates and along the highway in both directions long before opening time; and the 550 car spaces on the 11 ramps were filled before the picture started.

Pony rides were a feature for the children who were also given gas filled balloons; Hillsboro Legion Post No 6 opened the ceremony; Mayor Munford of Cornelius, Mayor Seabold of Hillsboro and Mayor Hughes of Forest Grove spoke to the crowd. The Hill Billy Band entertained until the picture started, and Jimmy Nolan was on hand with his famous Irish songs.

The theater owners obtained the first pair of projector lamps and lenses of this type that have been shipped to the Northwest. The pair of lens cost \$650 in comparison to \$200 for the best in the older type. Visiting theater men and drive-in equipment men on the night of the opening stated this as the clearest and sharpest drive-in picture on any screen in the Northwest.

The projected screen is water-proof as are the microphones.

Entrance and exits are very convenient but the county road approach to the highway needing widening and grading.

Cornelius is proud to have in their community the most modern drive-in theater of the Northwest!

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The Firemen's Ball has been scheduled for St. Patrick's day. Tickets are \$1 per person.

The RECREATION CLUB was a remarkable boon to the citizens of the community. Formed during late 1940's the members included Mrs. Carl Hering who presented the outline of the year's social events: "The club plans to sponsor more square dances in the future; practice for the minstrel show has been in full swing for several weeks and will be presented in early April; all committees for the year have been chosen; ten dollars will be donated to the March of Dimes. All social events of the club are open to the public and parents are invited to bring the family for an evening of good supervised fun for all."

"The Minstrel Show proceeds go to finance the playground and play night recreation for the younger generation". The production for 1951 was under the supervision of Mrs. Lelia Kraemer, Mrs. Louise Hoffman and Mrs. Mary Harleman.

April 25, 1951

The CORNELIAN celebrated it's first anniversary as Western Washington County's most widely read newspaper. On the eve of the anniversary, it was discovered that a dimutive predecessor of the present publication was published in Cornelius more than ten years ago! Known as the "Home Town News" with the motto: "Items of personal interest for the people of central Washington County", the paper was comparable to the Cornelian in several respects. It was the brainchild of M.L. Kathan, Cornelius school teacher.

Never to rest on their laurels, the Recreation club had a 'Tug of War' membership drive. with the members living on the North side of town against those on the South side. All new members were to be brought to the next meeting. The losing side must treat the winners. A prize was given to the individual bringing the most new members. Members were not restricted to their own side of town in soliciting.

New zoning came to Cornelius in 1951. The ordinance defined each block as industrial, commercial or residential. Gene Tasker was appointed fire chief in other council business.

In 1935 Henry Hering opened his first grocery in the building previously housing the Cornelius State Bank but shortly became aware more space was needed and moved across the street to the Hancock building. (intersection of 12th and baseline). Living quarters were upstairs. (Henry's son, Raymond, told of doctor's papers etc which were left in the western part of the building). This building was razed and the new structure with refrigeration and locker space was built in 1949. Regrettably March 18, 1984 a fire starting in the locker area gutted the store and 'Hank' was forced to move ahead on his plans for a super market on the Tom Talbot property south across the highway from Cornelius Elementary School. The first ad for the new store was March 29, 1951. A salesman for a well known supplier made the statement: "Just look at Hanks....out in the middle of nowhere and doing more business than any two stores in the entire state!!!"

The Columbus Day storm of 1962 left a very lasting impression on all residents. Very few had experienced winds up to 110 mph. Everything loose, and many things tied down, were not in the original position when the tornado type wind abated.

Jim Harleman had been Cornelius city manager for 19 years, was civic spirited (his son Jerry quoted the 'city as the fifth child in their home') had taken an active part in all community activities. (Jim's main disappointment was the loss of election to build an addition to the city hall; and he had hoped to improve more streets.) To show appreciation for the 'above and beyond' duty Jim had performed, Heather Park south of Heather and west of 10th St. was renamed HARLEMAN PARK.

The rapid increase in population also increased the need for another school. District number two had been divided by the state, sending half of our students to district 15 and those east of 20th and north of Dairy Creek to Hillsboro. The new building was to be a starter school placed in South Cornelius environs.

Choice of names for the school was made by the Cornelius-Verboort Local School Advisory Committee after winnowing names from 23 suggestions. Rev. Wm. Bash of Emanuel Lutheran Church was credited with suggesting 'Echo Shaw' a pioneer 95 years of age and granddaughter of W.E. Smith, Washington County Judge, Lawyer and Methodist Minister.

The school was dedicated October 26, 1975 with Ellen Stevens as the principal. This was the first school to have both a woman administrator and be named for a woman.

A fire (probably caused by July celebration explosives) caused an evacuation of a 20 block area. The fire which started about 2 A.M. brought 70 to 80 fire fighters from six agencies. Owners of the flaming feed mill were on vacation and could not be reached. No other structures were close to the ignited building but fire spread to the roof of a house two blocks away. That fire was extinguished before damaging the rest of the house.

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Virginia Garcia Memorial Clinic

The Virginia Garcia Clinic was established to fill a great need for the migrant population and is accessible to others who might need medical aid. Opened in 1981, there are now 10 exam rooms, 4 full time doctors, 2 Phy. Assts., 8 registered nurses.....and two rooms lined with shelves of medical histories. Tho many of these histories may be for one appointment only, the amount of paper work gives proof of necessity.

Payment is on an 'ability to pay' basis. Dentistry is provided by a local dentist.

Mt. St. Helen's contributed to special 'cleanup' days for people in the Northwest as ash spewed over a wide area following the initial blast which felled trees, filled lakes and left an ash, weighting as cement when wet, over hundreds of miles. There were many fatalities from this eruption.

The idea of seeking Federal Block Grant funds for a Community Center originated with the citizens themselves. There was originally a great deal of support. The city council applied for approximately \$500,000 for the project.

To their dismay voters found the new Community Center was to be placed in the only large park the city owned.

Not having forgotten the loss of their only park to sub-division, people realized most of the existing land would be paved for parking and loss of land for recreational facilities would be deplorable. Questions about available land next to the selected site did not offer hope for a change in plans.

The city residents voted four to one against the acceptance of the Block Grant under these circumstances. The council withdrew their request for the finances.

Centro Cultural, Hispanic-American group, requested the grant and the County Commissioners approved.

Rev. Jose Jaime, in an interview with the Oregonian, said "Cornelius made a mistake in rejecting a half million dollars in Federal funds that belonged to them" "Now Centro will operate the facility".

An ordinance was passed, in 1984, that uniformed police must be hired to work at any public gathering where a group or individual serves alcohol. Two officers for gatherings of two to 200, an additional officer for every 100 persons after that. The ordinance was passed by the council following a series of shootings and stabbing at Centro Cultural. An amendment was made later to protect fraternal organizations licensed by the OLCC.

Centro Cultural at first carried the term "Community - Center" but gradually altered the name to only Centro Cultural. An offensive attitude toward city ordinances did not create a congenial atmosphere.

Under new administration, a more harmonious position is being taken by the residents of the community.

BOOSTER CLUB

The Civic Club was obviously for 'women only' so the leading business men of the City formed the Booster Club which aided youth in many worthwhile projects. Years later a few women felt they could benefit the Booster goals and requested admission. One fellow in particular was quite annoyed and stated the club would capitulate with women in attendance. The club remains active and the man objecting got even by insisting he be allowed to join the Civic Club. The women accepted his application gladly....and he became one of the biggest supporters .

OLD TIMERS PICNIC

The "Old Timers" picnic began at the home of Louise and Carl Hoffman as 'old' friends were visiting. Letters and phone calls brought 47 people the first year.....

People now return 'home' from several states. One couple returning from Calif. every year. Spouses are also welcome and help swell the ranks from 47 to near 200. Anyone who was here before 1950 is expected. It became necessary to form a committee which sends notices, readies tables, makes coffee, sets traps for bees (since Water Tower Park is famous for picnic bees rather than ants) and provides flowers.

The picnic is held the third Saturday in August. It's a potluck so 'bring a dish and tale to tell'!

CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Previously known as the Cornelius Business Association, decision to change the name to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE was voted upon and the newly established Chamber became active April 04, 1984.

The Charter list consisted of forty-six members dedicated to aiding the community. These members have been very active in the Blue-Berry Festival held annually.

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HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Historical Commission started with sales of boiling corn at the yearly festival. Kathy Redwine had succeeded in securing a spot on the National Register for the "Sholes House" in which she and her family resided. Since National requires open house once yearly, Kathy set up a tour of 'Bankers Row' and wine tasting. Everyone attending thought the price was too low (\$1 charged) and hoping the commission would repeat the tour again. The boiling corn had provided finances to pay for the wine so the affair was also financially stable.

The commission purchased a showcase to display historical artifacts or collections. Collections, with excellent explanations, have been of glass, old books, old toys, cameras (containing one 'spy' camera smaller than a similar camera at a museum display), wood and rocks.

A benefactor from Eastern Oregon provided us with the assay box hand made by Ed Schieffelin (Schieffelin - Cornelius road) of Tombstone Az. fame. There is also a heavy iron holder for hot coals when the wagons were leaving the camp site. Too, a wooden washing machine from a Hillsboro donor, this is on 'permanent loan' which is not usually accepted, but the commission just 'couldn't turn it down! There have been numerous small items (Margaret Hering gave the first donation, spice cans and blue bottles; besides talking her friend into parting with some very old - and rusty to prove it - ice skates.). Fire chief Ashley Jackson's old pictures and papers have been granted by his children.

Pictures received have been unusually acceptable and are kept in a bank vault with need for two of the commission to sign for access. Pictures have come from Peabodys, Chambers, Hulsman, Coussens, Heisler, Shaws, Herings, O'Rear, two anonymous; and pictures of the Cornelius mill from Evelyn Turk.

-- 1988 --

THE CITIZENS MADE A YEAR OF IT! AND RESIDENTS IN 1988 WENT 'ALL OUT' TO PROMOTE ENCOURAGEMENT FOR THEIR "BLUE BERRY FESTIVAL".....THE ACTIVITY THE BOOSTER CLUB AND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DIRECT ANNUALLY. NEWS ITEMS MENTIONED:

A "JAWS OF LIFE" FOR THE RESCUE UNIT WAS PURCHASED WITH FUNDS DONATED BY RESIDENTS. FUNDS ARE NOW BEING SOUGHT FOR A HEART MONITOR "HEART START 2000".

THE BEADWORK HOBBY, OF FIFTY YEARS, CREATED BY AN OUTSTANDING CAMPFIRE GIRLS' LEADER RECEIVED A LENGTHY COLUMN IN THE HILLSBORO PAPER. THERE WERE ALSO ARTICLES ON WOODCARVING ITEMS WHICH WERE PLACED ON DISPLAY IN THE CITY LIBRARY.

THE CITY LIBRARY AND CORNELIUS CIVIC CLUB CELEBRATED SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS OF DUAL ESTABLISHMENT: THE CIVIC CLUB BEING AN INITIATOR OF THE LIBRARY AS WELL AS HOT LUNCHEES FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN OF THE ERA. (MEMBERS OF THE CIVIC CLUB CONTINUE TO PURCHASE SHELVES FOR ADDITIONAL BOOKS.) AT A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE THE CLUB HONORED SIX PAST PRESIDENTS.

A WOODEN WASHING MACHINE WAS PUT ON PERMANENT LOAN TO THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION BY A HILLSBORO RESIDENT. A FORMER DEPOSITOR DONATED A BLANK CHECK FROM THE 1929 DEFUNCT CORNELIUS STATE BANK. OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS ARE ON DISPLAY AT HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETINGS OR WHEN EXHIBITS ARE PRESENTED BY THE COMMISSION.

THE YEARLY "OLD TIMERS' PICNIC" WAS WELL ATTENDED; NOW INCLUDING RESIDENTS LIVING IN THE CITY IN 1950!

THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION PRESENTED A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE CITY'S 'PROGENATOR', COLONEL CORNELIUS, TO THE MAYOR FOR PLACEMENT IN THE CITY LIBRARY. THE CITY CELEBRATING IT'S NINETY-FIFTH YEAR OF INCORPORATION.

METHODIST CHURCH - 1881

The Methodist Church was built in 1881. Before this time preaching services were held at the schoolhouse. Rev. Wm. Roberts from Forest Grove was holding a revival and drawing huge crowds, one of whom was Wm. Nester an atheist. Converted, Mr. Nester offered his ability as an architect. Money was raised and the church was built. (in 1921 through influence of A.S. Sholes, pres. of Crnls. bank and church member, remodeling was done. E.E. Brimmer of Portland was contractor. Changes were made, the spire of the church was removed, the clear story was taken off and the roof brought together. Many alterations were an advantage, but others were cause for much discussion and many tears. Remodeling completed, rededication services were held November 06, 1921).

ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 1882 - 1883

Pastor Doering was disappointed in efforts of several to start a pastorate in Cornelius; but, in 1882 a log house was offered in Blooming area....it was so successful meetings were held in various homes about once a month until the congregation outgrew all accommodations. In May 1882 members purchased church property of 18 acres for \$169. The constitution was signed July 2 and plans were made to build. The first little church was constructed at the cost of \$381.90.

The congregation from St. Paul's, Sherwood, was combined with Pastor Doering's charge in 1883. Rev. M. Claus accepted a call and was installed as pastor of St. Peter's, Blooming and St. Paul's, Sherwood in 1887. Roads were impassable and the installation was completed after a 16 mile walk through deep snow to Sherwood.

A parsonage was built in 1887. One half acre of property was loaned for a public school (school building is purchased from the district in 1893) and in 1904 a full curriculum parish school established. Since turn of the century many changes have occurred including much building besides; an inspiring new edifice for worship.

ST ALEXANDERS CATHOLIC CHURCH - 1888 (MISSION UNTIL 1971)

The land for St. John The Evangelist church was donated by Elizabeth and Valentine Franck. The church was built in 1888 on a hill south of Cornelius. In 1910 the congregation decided a move to Cornelius proper was desirable and a new parish hall was built on land donated by Alphonse Hendricks. Windows and the bell of the original structure were brought to the new location. The parish became a mission from the Forest Grove Church and the name became St. Alexander's. In 1971 the congregation wanted their own parish as the membership was growing and the request was granted.

In 1904 Pastor Buechler of Portland resumed mission work in Washington County, Dilley area. First worship services were conducted in the Seventh Day Adventist Church, later in the Dilley schoolhouse. Some of the families came from Blooming, Dilley and David's Hill. In the spring the congregation found Cornelius more centralized and on November 04, 1906 Pastor Buechler helped organize a new church. It was called Emanuel, God With Us. At first there was no building for worship but the Methodist Church learned of the problem and invited the new congregation to hold services in their church. The invitation was accepted; a building committee was appointed and on June 11, 1907 lots for the new church were purchased from Marcus Peterson. Wm. Behrman was contractor. The church was completed in 1908 and a small house was also purchased and moved to the church property for Sunday School use. For some years services were held in both German and English, but beginning in 1936 all services were conducted in English only. In 1977, after arrangements for the church building to be sold, a new edifice was constructed on the original site. The first worship service was held June 4, 1978, after having met in the parish hall during the interim.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS CHURCH

2175 S. Dogwood. Building established in 1991

NUEVO JERUSALEM CHURCH

1531 Beech. Originally Adventist Church; being remodeled.

CORNELIUS BAPTIST CHURCH

The Cornelius Baptist Congregation had been meeting at the school gymnasium for four years when in March 1977 the Lutheran congregation offered them the Lutheran building, then in use, providing they would pay \$500 for the new heating system that had recently been installed. They would also pay for moving the church to a new location. The transfer decided upon, the church was moved to its present site at 16th and Beech. Remodeling was also accomplished sidewalks etc. completed.

CALVARY PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

201 N 19th, the Calvary Pentecostal Church purchased the house once owned by "Ma" Vickers. The building has been extensively remodeled.

COMMUNTIY BAPTIST CHURCH EMMAUS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

860 N Adair. Approximately two hundred students attend school.

CORNELIUS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

423 N 10th St. Building is located on the Frank Hatch place just south of the Oregon Electric Line. Established in 1968 the congregation is celebrating it's 25th anniversary. Meetings were held in the grade school until construction could be completed and serevices held at the present site.

METHODIST CEMETERY - 1854

May 28th, 1887 by Quit Claim deed, W.C. Tupper , A.A. Russell and Wm. Leach, Trustees of Wapato Lodge No 40, IOOF of Oregon, did in consideration of One Hundred Dollars paid by T.R. Cornelius, David Wilcox and A.K. Miller Trustees of the M.E. Church at Cornelius Washington County Oregon convey unto T.R. Cornelius, D. Wilcox and A.K. Miller and to their successors in office, in trust for the M.E. Church all their right, title and interest to the following described parcel of real estate situated in Cornelius Precinct County of Washington State of Oregon to wit:.....

Hence the cemetery, just north of the bridge on what is now tenth street, begun in 1884 was transferred to the trustees of the M.E. Church. The Cemetery, named only "The Methodist Cemetery" through arduous effort and financial consideration on the part of several, is now an endowment cemetery

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CEMETERY

Church records show : "One acre for cemetery acquired from August Krause, 1884.

CATHOLIC CEMETERY - 1891

Land was donated to the St. John The Evangelist Church by Clement and Elizabeth Hulsman for use as a cemetery. The cemetery was located 'just down the road a bit' from the church.

Members of several pioneer families are listed here tho it has been some years since there has been an internment. The angels which guarded the entrance have been removed and a large cross is also gone. Other cemeteries, to the north, have been more accessible for the congregation and effort is being made to acquire historical status for this cemetery.

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CEMETERY - 1915

During the pastorate of Pastor C. Buechler it was realized a cemetery as well as the church property would be needed as the years passed. In 1915 a plot of ground just north of the Oregon Electric Rail, on what is now 19th Street, was purchased for \$305.

INSIDE LID OF ASSAY BOX IS INSCRIBED:

E SCHIEFFELIN
CORNELIUS OREGON

OFFERED AS DISPLAY BY:
C M ROOS
Formerly of Ontario Oregon

Several years ago, when my grandfather passed away, among his belongings was what appeared to be a set of gold scales encased in a box. Both box and scales hand made. On the inside of the box, barely legible is the name Schieffelin and under that Cornelius, Or.

My mother recalled my grandfather mentioning the scales had belonged to a prominent mining man. A couple of years ago I ran across them while straightening up stored boxes and my interest was renewed. I visited the library and discovered a gentleman by this name located the mine which created Tombstone, Az.

Not knowing the possible association I wrote the Washington County museum which confirmed a family of that name farmed in the Cornelius area. The report stated there were two or three boys in the family that ventured into mining and one of them was named Edward.

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Ed Schieffelin was struck by GOLD FEVER at an early age. At twelve he had run away from his father's homestead in Jackson County, Oregon to join the gold rush in Idaho which was soon over. When not yet twenty-five Ed became an Army Scout stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. It was during a scouting assignment he found pieces of "float" which led to his discovery of silver and the founding of Tombstone, Arizona!

The location of his discovery lay deep in Apache Country and he was warned the only thing he would find would be his tombstone. Despite the warning, Schieffelin quit his job, accumulated tools and supplies and returned to the San Pedro River and his discovery which he named Tombstone.

Through his years of travel he had become an expert on geology and mining techniques. He was confident his mine was rich, though others did not agree with him. Finally an engineer named R. Gird promised to back Schieffelin. Ed obtained the aid of his brother and the three set out for San Pedro in February 1878. The Tombstone ledge proved to be a shallow pocket, but Ed shortly found the mother lode which he called "Tough Nut"....Tough Nut eventually yielded \$75,000,000.00 (you will find it listed in encyclopedias). Around the entire dig, town of Tombstone soon sprang up and became the wild and lawless town so well known. Ed and Al left after earning their first million.

Ed prospected up the Yukon but finding no rich deposit went to San Francisco, married, built a house and tried to settle in the city. Dissatisfied, he left; journeyed back to Oregon and purchased a ranch near spreads owned by his brothers. He then outfitted himself with a buckboard and pair of white horses.

With team and wagon, the prospector drove up the South Umpqua River to Perdue (Milo) in Southern Oregon. Advised against taking a team up Coffee Creek, he drove up Days Creek and hiked over the ridge to Texas Gulch and Coffee Creek. Atop this ridge was interesting red quartz-like rock. It was several weeks before the red formation gave way to a ledge of gold bearing blue quartz.

Weekly, Ed walked seven miles down Days Creek to the Jackson Homestead to buy milk and eggs. On May 12, 1897 Mr. Jackson told his wife he was going up the creek to see about Schieffelin. Alarmed at the prospector's failure to pick up mail or food Jackson's anxiety increased as he realized no smoke rose from the cabin chimney. Jackson found the prospector on the doorstep, deceased for several days. He was slumped over crucible in which he had been crushing ore for assaying.

Jackson picked up the crucible, pushed the door open and poured water from a dipper into the crucible containing the crushed ore. Yellow metal took on fantastic fire and Jackson yelled "My God--he found it"!! even though there was no one around to hear. Burned beans on the cold stove and the dutch oven holding charred biscuits.....and nearby Schieffelin's diary and the final entry.....In Schieffelin's handwriting the words "FOUND IT AT LAST. RICHER THAN TOMBSTONE EVER HOPED TO BE."

Eff always thought his brother died of the effects of chemicals used in assaying. (The ore is believed to have assayed at \$2000 per ton.)

Ed was buried near his cabin and later remains were shipped to Tombstone for reburial as Ed requested in his will. Ed's wife and brothers searched for his mine.....as have so many since. The only possible clue was remains of a campfire where it was conjectured Ed had camped. No tools or supplies were ever found.