

Tualatin in the Teens

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The decades that spanned the first part of the 20th century brought dramatic changes to America, as well as to other parts of the world. Henry Ford's Model T rolled off the first moving assembly line, making workers the servants of machines and forever changing the lives of people everywhere. President Woodrow Wilson enacted the personal income tax in 1913 and the Panama Canal opened in 1914.

In Tualatin, life was good. The Smith's sawmill and brickyard were doing a brisk business, local construction companies built homes to house the workers and their families, and the 1913 vote to incorporate the city passed by a slim margin.

Tualatin's Salem Brewery and the El Rey saloon re-opened, and the beer once again flowed like the Niagara. Wesch brothers Fred and John were more than happy to pony up \$800 for a liquor license.

Wooden sidewalks were built; street lights installed, and the new government set up business in the upstairs of the new brick store on Boones Ferry Road.

The 1900 Tualatin Grade and High School added extra rooms to accommodate more students, and a gymnasium was built as well as a primary addition.

Although the area was incorporated, in 1916 the federal government outlawed alcohol during the time known as prohibition. The taps were capped in the El Rey Saloon, which then became a pool hall. But alcohol was still consumed and locals say there were farmers who made lots of money in the "moonshine" business.

The Great War, which was supposed to end all wars, called many of Tualatin's youth to fight in Europe.

High School students were allowed to leave their classes to say goodbye to their brave friends at Tualatin's Oregon Electric train depot. Several Tualatin families experienced the horrors of the Spanish Flu which swept across the world in 1918.

By 1918 the war was over, and Tualatin's brave young men returned, their lives forever changed after their sojourn in Europe.

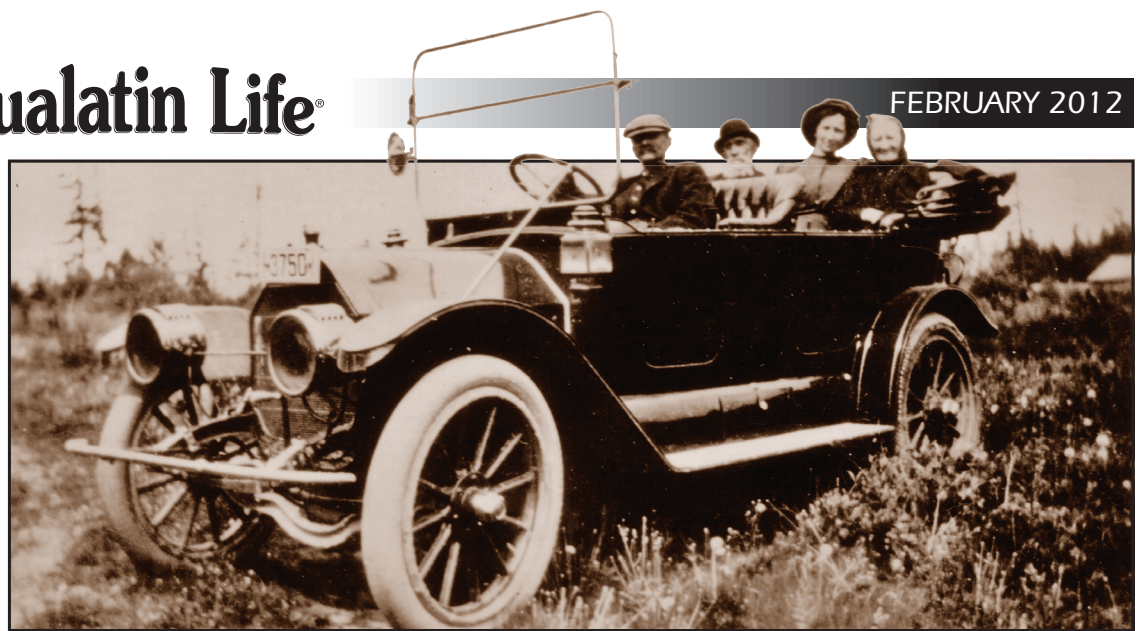
Now, how ya gonna keep them down on the farm, after they've seen Patee.



Loyce Martinazzi was born and raised in Tualatin and is passionate about Tualatin History. She is currently Master of Winona Grange, Co-Founder of the Tualatin Historical Society and Co-Author of *Tualatin... From the Beginning*.



The Oregon Electric Train depot was located close to the present WES station.



This car is reportedly the first to be seen in Tualatin, and was owned by the Henry Safferan family.



The old school around 1920.



Gravelling Boones Ferry Road in the teens.



Joe Byrom's dairy barn near Arikara and Boones Ferry Road. Joe had a team of horses harnessed up to take care of a chore. The boy is probably one of Joe's grandsons.



The Smith family lived in these well maintained homes along Tualatin Road, near the present City park.



The 1900 Grade School with a basement, two rooms up, and two rooms down. A primary wing was added as well as a gymnasium.