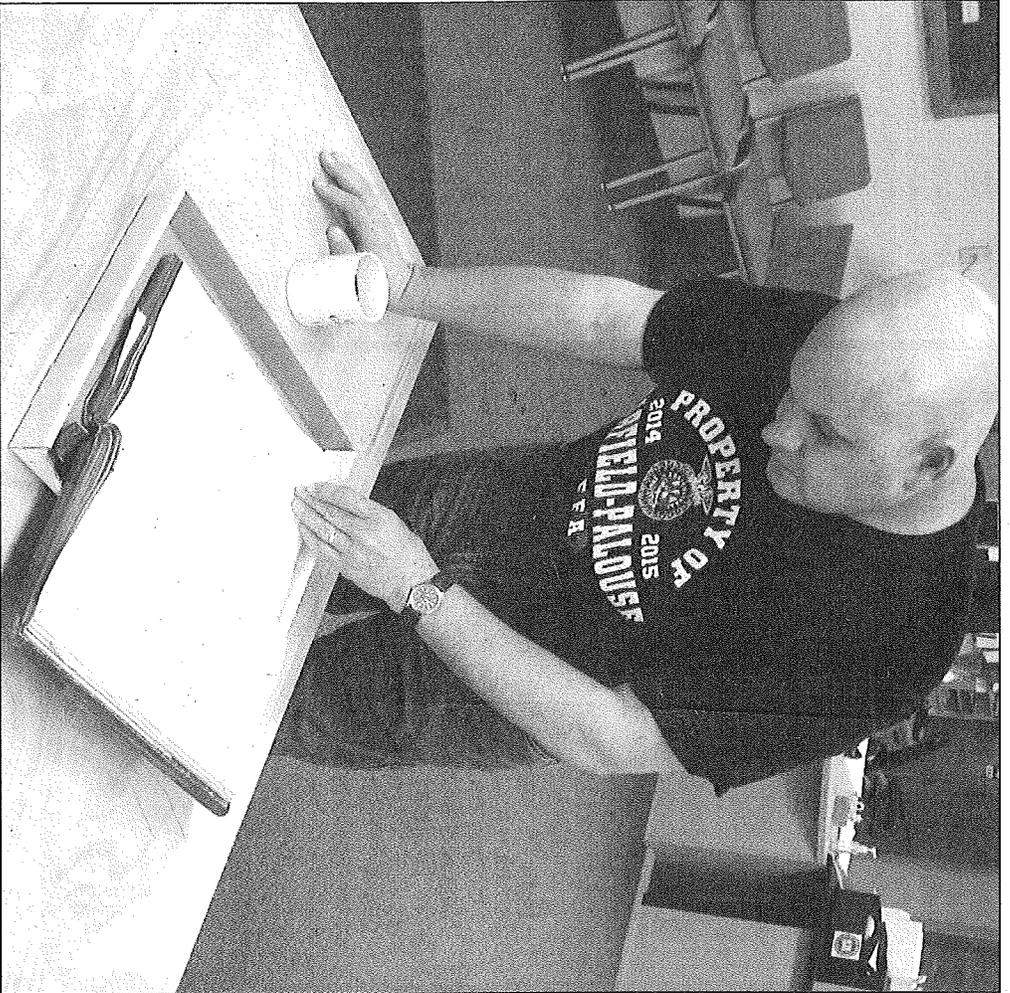


Missing Palouse minutes book from 1915-20 surfaces



Palouse Clerk-Treasurer Mike Bagott looks through a long-missing volume of the town's city council minutes from 1915-1920. A woman in Wichita, Kansas, called city hall earlier this month to say she had it.

BY GARTH MEYER
Gazette Reporter

It was the city's one missing volume.

A Palouse City Council meeting minutes compilation for 1915-1920 had been missing for as long as anyone could remember. It was the one hole in the city records that go back to 1888.

Then, two weeks ago, the phone rang at city hall.

It was a woman in Wichita, Kansas, who said she had a bound records book from Palouse, Washington.

She told Deputy Clerk Ann Thompson that she found it among items of her ex-husband's stepfather which were moved to Kansas from Sedro-Woolley, Wash.

"It just looked like too important a record to throw away," said DonaMarie Goldsmith. "I really didn't feel right about throwing it away."

Ken Kester died in Sedro-Woolley four years ago at age 82. At the time, his stepdaughter arrived from Alaska and told Goldsmith's ex-husband, Michael Goldsmith, what he could take.

"He had to come home and pack it real quick,

because we were in the process of moving," DonaMarie said.

They were headed to a fifth-wheel trailer and a pole barn in Gifford, Wash., a town of a half-day post office on Highway 25 at Lake Roosevelt.

Michael Goldsmith, the now ex-husband, brought the boxes from Sedro-Woolley and stored them above the pole barn's living area and in a 20-foot car hauler.

DonaMarie, who retired from Boeing in 2011 after 27 years as a manufacturing engineer and project manager, separated from her husband in November. She then moved to Kansas, where her daughter lives.

After moving into her own apartment in Wichita in January, she slowly started unpacking.

"I opened a box up, and was looking at (the volume). It had a lot of data, a lot of information," she said. "I thought, it's gotta be important to somebody."

Inside the cover, the inscription of the manufacturer read, "John W. Graham & Co. of Spokane." The first page showed handwritten Palouse, Wash., city council minutes from Oct. 20, 1914.

Goldsmith soon went on-line and sent an e-mail to Whitman County.

"I sent it to whoever it was at the head of the county," she said. "I went to the top office, that might be interested in it."

She was referred to Palouse. Goldsmith then located an e-mail address for mayor Michael Echanove. After not hearing back, she finally called city hall.

She was somewhat familiar with the town.

"I've heard of it; I don't know if I've ever been there," said Goldsmith, who was raised in Anacortes.

Once given the address, she put the book into a U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail box and sent it.

"The binding was already coming off," she said. "It was a hundred years old, last year."

"I'm glad it's back where it belongs. It's history."

Goldsmith, whose maiden name is Fournier, has an affinity for matters like this. Since the '80s, she has studied her family's genealogy, beginning with research work at the

continued on next page

... that are just under reporting. The IRS may be designed to ... the problem. In ... the IRS admitted that it wrongfully seized almost \$1 ... the longest on record took more than 6.5 years. ... the delay — during which the employer likely will ... increases the pressure on business owners to settle. Ultimately, the IRS reluctantly offers to give back part of the money — if the business owner forfeits the rest to the IRS.

DON C. BRUNELL is a business analyst, writer and columnist. He recently retired as president of the Association of Washington Business, the state's oldest and largest business organization, and now lives in Vancouver. He can be contacted at theBrunells@msn.com.

Missing

Seattle Public Library, reading short-hand records of a French priest to track her French-Canadian ancestry. It all may be part of a stroke of luck for Palouse. "I'd venture to guess that most people, in finding something like that, would have tossed it," said Mike Bagott, Palouse Clerk-Treasurer. "I think we're lucky in that it was her that came across it."

Kester died in Sedro-Woolley, but had lived in Bellingham and Santee, Calif., where he drove a local delivery truck. "It just turned up," he said, "how he got it or why," said his stepson Michael Goldsmith. "He wasn't a collector. He wasn't a reader."

Secretary of State's office has worked with cities store their historic records in the archives. In turn, archivist came to Palouse last summer to pick up the 14 volumes, which are now in Cheney, where they were first scanned for electronic files. The original volumes

Recently, the State "It will complete the city's history, as far as minutes go," said Deputy Clerk Thompson of the town's 15 volumes, 14 of which are now at the state archives in Cheney.

Just some of the items for sale:
 1981 MH2 Gleaner combine w/2 headers; 10' offset Case disk; 10' 12' Western rollers; 2-12' EZ Flow Spreaders; 2-12' IHC Rodweeder; 24' Kent Cultivator; 60' Inland Sprayer; 60' Pepin Harrow Hitch w/ Westfield 100-61 Auger; 2-12' JD DR Grain Drills, no hitch; 2-12' IHC 510 Grain Drills w/ hitch; 2008 Cultivator; 21' Doon hopper bottom grain trailer; Hilco chaff spreader; 1977 Kenworth act Ashland Scraper; 32' Case Cultivator; 80' McGregor Sprayer, new 1000 Commercial duty sprayer, 1974 bed & hoist; 1978 EZ JD 12' Ch...

... restaurant and The Spangle Grill & Saloon, starting at 6AM.
 Church 109 S. Mill St, Colfax accepted. Serving time 6:00pm.
Thurs., Feb. 26
 Colfax Golf Club Men's Club
 Dinner and Silent Auction. Guest presenter James May of Father's Network. SEL Event Center, Pullman, 5:30pm. Call 509-332-6561
 PNWA of Enginee funding proje Snake River Columbia River navigati tem exte

... that are just under reporting. The IRS may be designed to ... the problem. In ... dragnet entangles ...

... the longest on record took more than 6.5 years. The delay — during which the employer likely will have to borrow money to run the business and pay workers — increases the pressure on business owners to settle. Ultimately, the IRS reluctantly offers to give back part of the money — if the business owner forfeits the rest to the IRS, admitted that it wrongfully seized almost \$1 million from a veteran. Andrew ...

DON C. BRUNELL is a business analyst, writer and columnist. He recently retired as president of the Association of Washington Business, the state's oldest and largest business organization, and now lives in Vancouver. He can be contacted at theBrunells@msn.com.

Missing

"I don't know where he got it, how he got it or why," said his stepson Michael Goldsmith. "He wasn't a collector. He wasn't a reader." Goldsmith indicated that there were no other items like it among Kester's possessions. "It just turned up," he said, recently, in Washington.

have tossed it," said Mike Bagott, Palouse Clerk-Treasurer. "I think we're lucky in that it was her that came across it." Kester died in Sedro-Woolley, but had lived in Bellingham and Santee, Calif., where he drove a local delivery truck.

Secretary of State's office has worked with cities store their historic records in the archives. In turn, archivist came to Palouse last summer to pick up the 14 volumes, which are now in Cheney, where they were first scanned for electronic files. The original volumes

... restaurant ... starting at 6AM. Inland Harrows; 2-12' IHC Rodweeder; 24' Kent Cultivator; 60' Inland Sprayer; 60' Peppin Harrow Hitch w/ Cultivator; 21' Doon hopper bottom grain trailer; Hillco chaff spreader; 1977 Kenworth act. Ashland Scraper; JD V900 Subsoiler; JD 24' pea header; 1974 Commercial duty sprayer; 1974 bed & hoist; 1978 EZ Flow JD 12' Ch...

Just some of the items for sale:

... Church 109 S. Mill St, Colfax accepted. Serving time 6:00pm. **Thurs., Feb. 26** Colfax Golf Club Men's Club. **Sat., Mar. 7** Span... Dinner and Silent Auction. Guest presenter James May of Father's Network. SEL Event Center, Pullman, 5:30pm. Call 509-332-6561

PNWA of Enginee funding proje Snake River Columbia River term navigati Columbia Sha tem exte