WESTSIDE STORY:
Digitizing Historical Newspapers of Phoenix’s West Valley

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IN THIS PRESENTATION

Learn about the history of the communities as reflected in their newspapers.

Learn about how librarians can use these and other digitized newspapers to assist library patrons and researchers.

Learn where to find resources for continued research.
BACKGROUND ON NDNP

National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP), a partnership of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress.

Competitive grant program for states to digitize 100,000 pages of historical newspapers that are in the public domain from the state (through 1963)

Digitized newspapers hosted and publicly available through Chronicling America (https://www.loc.gov/collections/chronicling-america/)

Over 20 million pages now available.
BACKGROUND ON ARIZONA NEWSPAPER DIGITIZATION

5TH NDNP grant for Arizona

Partnership between the State Library of Arizona and the University of Arizona Libraries

110 newspapers from Arizona now on Chronicling America covering 1859 – 1963

Last grant (2017-2019) prioritized digitization of newspapers from diverse communities
ELECCIONES PRESIDENCIALES DE MÉXICO!

Venta de 2045046 Metros
Cuadrados de Terrenos en
Nogales y Cercanías

Las Personas
Interesadas Ya
Pueden Ocurrir

NOGALES, Son. Díaz 5 —
Díez el Necostte, diario de
Nogales, Sonora

Pedirán Aquí La
Ciudadanía
De las 40 personas de di-
versas nacionalidades que
graduaron en la clase de ci-

CURRENT GRANT AWARD, 2022-2024
FOCUS ON INCLUDING NEWSPAPERS THAT:

increase racial, ethnic, and linguistic representation including Spanish-language newspapers, those published by African American communities, those published by or for indigenous communities

were published in the Arizona-Mexico borderlands

were published in mining and agricultural communities
Buckeye Valley News, 1912-1935

Buckeye Valley News & Buckeye Review, 1935-1950
HALF ARIZONA'S FARM LAND TO BE IN COTTON

With planting actually started in some sections, it appears Arizona’s farmers are going to put in at least 500,000 acres of cotton in 1951. That means the extraordinary situation of half our farm land in one crop.

No one seems to have any clear idea of the amount of long staple cotton that will be planted. Apparently the goal of 50,000 acres, necessary to meet government production requests, will not be met.

Labor

Labor continues to hold first place in the thoughts of all farmers. With just enough labor available at the moment it appears we may be very short of choppers. As everyone knows the picker problem appears serious. Growers already have placed orders with the Arizona Cotton Growers Association for several thousand Mexican National cotton pickers.

Westside Enterprise
March 9, 1951

Newspapers published in major cotton-growing areas in Arizona

Agricultural and environmental news

Labor news
Information about people for genealogy and local history research:

- birth, marriage, & death announcements;
- school awards;
- club and church activities;
- comings and goings;
- and more!

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**REBECCA CATHERINE WALLS**

Rebecca Catherine Walls was born Feb. 19, 1877, at Whitt, Texas, with James Pate and Jane Sullivan-Pate, as parents. She came to Arizona in 1896 and located near Liberty on July 8, 1896. She was married Dec. 25, 1892 to Frederick Walls and raised a family of seven boys and two girls, all graduating from the Liberty school.
Fashion historians and researchers may find a wealth of contemporary stories to spark their curiosity. This is one example of a cotton bag (or “feed sack”) sewing contest. The tradition of making clothing from cotton bags is well-known to many people in rural communities dating back to at least the 19th century in the US.
The Agua Fria Farm Workers Community was a migrant workers’ camp based in Avondale established by the FSA.

Another newspaper, *The Desert Sentinel*, was published in Avondale in the early 1940s by the community of Agua Fria.
Contemporary recipes can be found regularly in newspapers, which may evoke feelings of delight or disgust.

**LUNCH BOX**

**POTATO CANDY?**

Yes, you heard right—potato candy. And it's a treat that should brighten up any breadwinner's lunchbox. Of course by the time you have added coconut and the other good things in the recipe given here, the result might more appropriately be called Coconut Fruit Drops. They're loaded with health values—and economical, too. No more throwing out leftover mashed potatoes with a standby like this. Add some to the next lunch you pack, or serve them at your next party.

**COCONUT FRUIT DROPS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>1/4 cup hot mashed potatoes</th>
<th>1 1/2 cups shredded coconut</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 teaspoon melted butter</td>
<td>Dash of salt</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 1/4 cups (1/2 pound) sifted confectioners' sugar</td>
<td>1/4 teaspoon grated lemon or orange rind</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1/2 teaspoon vanilla</td>
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Mix potatoes and butter together in bowl. Add sugar gradually and beat until thoroughly blended. Add vanilla, salt, coconut and grated lemon or orange rind. Drop from teaspoon onto waxed paper. Let stand until firm. Makes about 2 dozen drops.
DEMO OF CHRONICLING AMERICA
SELECTED RESOURCES

- Chronicling America
- Arizona Memory Project
- Mexican and Mexican American Press (UA Libraries)
- Library news databases

Governor Invites Airplane Builders To Come to Arizona

Gov. Sidney P. Osborn has addressed a letter to the Secretary of War, Secretary of the Navy Director of Production Management William S. Knudsen, and to every airplane manufacturer working on government contracts a letter setting forth Arizona's advantages as an airplane manufacturing center. The letter follows:

"My dear Mr. Knudsen:

News dispatches from Washington some days ago quoted the Honorable Jesse H. Jones as stating that he intends to provide one billion dollars of RFC funds for building plants for the 500-Bombers-a-Month program. These factories, the news articles said, were to be government-owned but leased to private companies for operation.

On the assumption that such new plants as may be constructed will be located at points convenient to raw materials, at a safe distance from possible coastline attack, in favorable climate for economical all-year operation, and in localities which offer a potential sufficiency of electrical power, I am writing this letter to call attention to the many advantages presented by Arizona sites in this connection.

This state has almost unlimited natural resources in raw materials of nearly every description which go into manufacture of heavy goods, all of them easily accessible by rail and road. It has, in addition to its existent supply, an almost limitless potentiality of cheap hydro-electric power through new developments like Boulder Dam along the Colorado River and other streams."
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The National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress.
CONTACT US

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