

DOWNLOAD PDF ALL IN THE FAMILY, SOME VANISHING AMERICAN MILITARY HISTORIES

Chapter 1 : Wild Westing - Wikipedia

Few people know of this graveyard beside the highway east of Fort Des Moines where headstones mark the burial place of colored, Indian and white men who died for America in the civil war, Spanish American war, World War I, and World War II.

There are similar creepy stories from places like Japan , but the United States of America has no shortage of eerie tales of the undead lurking around its darker, dustier corners. Below you will find tales that have inspired fear across the land of the free and the home of the not-so-brave. Maybe read this one with the lights on. That is fairly weird, even by poltergeist standards. Like a total creeper, the dude is like, "Please get in my car, strange girl. The generally accepted version of the story is that Mary was a girl walking home from the Oh Henry Ballroom after her boyfriend was a jerk to her and then while on Archer Avenue, she was hit by a completely different jerk who subsequently drove away and left the poor girl to die and be a ghost forever. There have been a number of attempts to identify Mary with one of the thousands of residents of Resurrection Cemetery, but forget it, Jake. Faceless Gray Man of Pawleys Island Getty Images The good news is that not every ghost wants to scratch up your body or spook you out in your car and make you think twice about helping a stranger. At least one ghost has been known to actually save lives and has done so since The Gray Man is typically described as having no face obviously and sometimes no legs, and dressing like a gray pirate. Basically his deal is that he shows up when a hurricane or other severe storm is about to hit, and if you see him, you will be protected from the storm. The Gray Man came to national attention in after appearing on Unsolved Mysteries when a couple claimed that the Gray Man saved their house from Hurricane Hugo after they waved at him on the beach. Cottage City Poltergeist Getty Images While the name "Cottage City Poltergeist" might not ring any bells, you might be familiar with the book it inspired and its movie adaptation: The boy was ultimately moved to a hospital in Saint Louis, where a number of Jesuit priests performed an exorcism, during which more strange stuff happened. The boy seemed cured afterward, so the priests felt confident in their diagnosis of demonic possession and the Doe family converted to Catholicism, so score one for the church. In a case of petty, weird person hair-splitting, however, there are a number of experts in fake things, including J. Abraham Lincoln Getty Images The majority of ghosts on this list are famous as just that: Okay, just keep reading anyway. Numerous heads of state have been shocked by the ghost of Lincoln in the last years, including Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands " who fainted after opening the door to find Honest Abe standing there " and Eleanor Roosevelt, whose dog used to bark at the ghostly Emancipator. But maybe the best story is that of Winston Churchill, who once stepped out of the bathtub and walked into the bedroom to reportedly see Abe standing by the fireplace. Completely naked and ashing his cigar, Churchill quipped, "Good evening, Mister President. You seem to have me at a disadvantage," after which Ghost Lincoln reportedly vanished to the ethereal plane, presumably to see if Ghost John Wilkes Booth could blast that image out of his brain. The Lutzes moved into their home in Amityville after the house had remained empty for over a year following the murder of six members of the DeFeo family by Ronald DeFeo, Jr. Soon, weird stuff was happening, like voices yelling at priests, flies swarming in the house even in winter, cold spots and unpleasant smells, vivid nightmares, a rotating crucifix, physical attacks on the family, and appearances by a freaky pig monster named Jodie, among many other experiences that led to the Lutzes abandoning the house and leaving their possessions behind. Further evidence of skullduggery is the involvement of Ed and Lorraine Warren , the charlatans whose con artistry is the inspiration behind such popular but still totally fake films as The Conjuring and Annabelle. The Warrens investigated the house in and took a series of infrared photographs, including the super-famous yet fabricated photo of a "demonic boy" in a doorway. But all this chicanery has not stopped the Amityville haunting from making an impression on the American psyche, as evidenced by the classic status of the film and its one dozen sequels and remakes. But today, the Lemp family is better known for pretty much all killing themselves and filling their house up with ghosts. Four members of

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the Lemp family's father William J. Anyway, the mansion is an inn and restaurant these days and it hosts numerous ghost tours, capitalizing on its reputation as one of the most haunted houses in America. The Greenbrier Ghost The Greenbrier Ghost is the only ghost in America on record whose testimony was successfully used to convict her own murderer. This sounds like the plot to an episode of The Ghost Whisperer, but it actually happened. In 1862, she married a weirdo drifter named Edward Shue, who totally killed her. To prove it, Zona turned her head completely around until her ghost face was backwards. This strategy backfired, because if anyone in history has ever believed in ghosts, it is definitely West Virginia hill people from the s. Rosna Two things you need to know about Charles B. In 1862, Kate and Margaret Fox, ages 12 and 15 respectively, managed to leverage their ability to make their toes pop on command into international celebrity. They did this by claiming that the popping sound was actually a supernatural "rapping" that they first attributed to the devil, whom they called "Mister Splitfoot. Rosna, a traveling peddler who had been murdered and buried in their basement. Developing a system of communication with the late Mr. Rosna via knocking, the Fox sisters became the most famous supernatural rapping act in American history, outstripping even such claimants to the title as Blaze Ya Dead Homie. Their celebrity led to the emergence of Spiritualism in America, a belief system in which people look to spirits for guidance. In fact, the cemetery is so overflowing with haints that many visitors report nearly getting run off the road that runs by the cemetery by phantom vehicles. On nights of the full moon, she can be found wandering the graveyard carrying a baby, or apparently sometimes in the full daylight sitting on a tombstone, as in this famous photo by the Ghost Research Society from

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Chapter 2 : The Wisconsin Historical Society Family History Collections | Wisconsin Historical Society

In America, a child goes missing every 40 seconds in the United States. Up to , children a year disappear without a trace and every day, approximately people are reported missing. To the horror of family, friends and often the world, many of them are never found. Where they are and what happened to them often remains an unsolved mystery.

Vanishing hitchhiker Save The vanishing hitchhiker or variations such as the ghostly hitchhiker, disappearing hitchhiker, phantom hitchhiker is an urban legend in which people travelling by vehicle, meet with or are accompanied by a hitchhiker who subsequently vanishes without explanation, often from a moving vehicle. Variations A common variation of the above involves the vanishing hitchhiker departing as would a normal passenger, having left some item in the vehicle , or having borrowed a garment for protection against the cold. In such accounts of the legend, the garment borrowed is often found draped over a gravestone in a local cemetery. Other variations reverse this scenario, in that the hitchhiker meets a driver; the hitchhiker later learns that the driver is actually an apparition of a person who died earlier. One popular variant in Hawaii involves the goddess Pele , travelling the roads incognito and rewarding kind travellers, other variants include hitchhikers who utter prophecies typically of pending catastrophes or other evil events before vanishing. Classifications Beardsley and Hankey The first proper study of the story of the vanishing hitchhiker was undertaken in 1943 by American folklorists Richard Beardsley and Rosalie Hankey, who collected as many accounts as they could and attempted to analyze them. Stories where the hitchhiker gives an address through which the motorist learns he has just given a lift to a ghost. Stories where the hitchhiker is an old woman who prophesies disaster or the end of World War II; subsequent inquiries likewise reveal her to be deceased. Nine of the samples fit this description, and eight of these came from the vicinity of Chicago. Beardsley and Hankey felt that this indicated a local origin, which they dated to approximately Stories where a girl is met at some place of entertainment, e. The uniformity amongst separate accounts of this variant led Beardsley and Hankey to strongly doubt its folkloric authenticity. Stories where the hitchhiker is later identified as a local divinity. Beardsley and Hankey were particularly interested to note one instance location: Kingston, New York , in which the vanishing hitchhiker was subsequently identified as the late Mother Cabrini , founder of the local Sacred Heart Orphanage, who was beatified for her work. One of their conclusions certainly seems reflected in the continuation of vanishing hitchhiker stories: The hitchhiker is, in the majority of cases, female and the lift-giver male. The driver asks person at the address about the rider, finds she has been dead for some time. Often the driver finds that the ghost has made similar attempts to return, usually on the anniversary of death in automobile accident. Often, too, the ghost leaves some item such as a scarf or traveling bag in the car. The legend of Saint Christopher is considered one of these, and the story of Philip the Evangelist being transported by God after encountering the Ethiopian on the road Acts 8: Goss also examined some cases and attributed them to hallucination of the experiencer. Historical examples have their origin in folklore tales and urban legends. Modern cases often involve conflicting accounts that may well be the result of exaggeration , illusion or hoaxing.

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Chapter 3 : Vanishing hitchhiker | Revolv

While Lincoln commuted most of the sentences, on the day after Christmas at Mankato, military officials hung 38 Dakotas at onceâ€”the largest mass execution in American history.

The best of The Saturday Evening Post in your inbox! I am going to fight this to my last breath. To paraphrase Charlton Heston, they can have my checkbook when they pry it from my cold, dead hands. I agree with all of those side note: Lost Monkey The weirdest story this week comes from Minneapolis. No one knows how it got in there, or why it stayed in there and died, but Robbinsdale, Minnesota, mayor Regan Murphy might have the answer. They left it on the escalator and ran out of the store. As it learns more and more about you, it can anticipate what you want or need, and even encourage you to text your friends or post on social media. This will be the perfect companion in a world where we no longer have signatures. Are you Team MayoChup or should we call it something else? Let us know your thoughts! Andre the Giant is a new documentary on the famous wrestler, who died in He had big hands. She was the author of several books and a champion of literacy and AIDS research. She died Tuesday at the age of He also helmed Ragtime, The People vs. Larry Flynt, Hair, and Man in the Moon. He died Friday at the age of He was also an acclaimed magician and made several appearances on Cheers and Saturday Night Live. He died Monday at the age of He died Tuesday at the age of Lee Ermey was a veteran character actor whose early career in the Marine Corps served him well in his many roles as military leaders and other serious types. He died earlier this week at the age of The Next Generation, and dozens more. He died earlier this month at the age of Jean Marzollo was the author of the popular I Spy books for children. She also wrote several books for adults. Marzollo died last Tuesday at the age of Best and Worst of the Week Best: Far be it for me to say something against museums, but do we really need a Museum of Selfies? Is the taking of more selfies something we actually want to encourage? Luckily, the museum is only a limited thing, running until May Besides, we already have a permanent museum of selfies. Items include letters, postcards, and even menus from the dining room. Strange Burgers I know that the warm weather will eventually arrive, and when it does, it means that cookout season has begun. I assume you already know how to cook a cheeseburger. How about something a little â€”weirder? Maybe the tarantula burger would be better with some MayoChup on it. Lots and lots of MayoChup. Become a Saturday Evening Post member and enjoy unlimited access.

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Chapter 4 : The most famous ghosts in American history

Military records are an important part of American history, and can assist with local history and genealogy, providing detailed information that may not be obtainable through other methods.

Visit Website The reasons for this racial genocide were multi-layered. Settlers, most of whom had been barred from inheriting property in Europe, arrived on American shores hungry for Indian land—and the abundant natural resources that came with it. Even more fundamentally, indigenous people were just too different: Their skin was dark. Their languages were foreign. To settlers fearful that a loved one might become the next Mary Campbell, all this stoked racial hatred and paranoia, making it easy to paint indigenous peoples as pagan savages who must be killed in the name of civilization and Christianity. Below, some of the most aggressive acts of genocide taken against indigenous Americans: The Gnadenhutten Massacre, Captain David Williamson ordered the converted Delawares, who had been blamed for attacks on white settlements, to go to the cooper shop two at a time, where militiamen beat them to death with wooden mallets and hatchets. Ironically, the Delawares were the first Indians to capture a white settler and the first to sign a U. Many treaties negotiated U. Battle of Tippecanoe, The decision by Indiana Territorial Governor and later President William Henry Harrison in to attack and burn Prophetstown, the Indian capital on the Tippecanoe River, while Tecumseh was away campaigning the Choctaws for more warriors, incited the Shawnee leader to attack again. This time he persuaded the British to fight alongside his warriors against the Americans. An inter-tribal conflict among Creek Indian factions, the war also engaged U. Early Creek victories inspired General Andrew Jackson to retaliate with 2, men, mostly Tennessee militia, in early November In desperation, Mvskoke Creek women killed their children so they would not see the soldiers butcher them. As one woman started to kill her baby, the famed Indian fighter, Andrew Jackson, grabbed the child from the mother. Later, he delivered the Indian baby to his wife Rachel, for both of them to raise as their own. The subsequent treaty required the Creek to cede more than 21 million acres of land to the United States. A painting depicting the Trail of Tears, when Native Americans were forced by law to leave their homelands and move to designated territory in the west. Despite being assailed by many legislators as immoral, the bill finally passed in the Senate by nine votes, 29 to 17, and by an even smaller margin in the House. Established in the midst of another and a superior race—they must necessarily yield to the force of circumstances and ere [before] long disappear. After a raid of nearby white farms for food turned into a deadly encounter, Dakotas continued raiding, leading to the Little Crow War of , in which settlers, mostly women and children, were killed. President Lincoln sent soldiers, who defeated the Dakota; and after a series of mass trials, more than Dakota men were sentenced to death. While Lincoln commuted most of the sentences, on the day after Christmas at Mankato, military officials hung 38 Dakotas at once—the largest mass execution in American history. More than 4, people gathered in the streets to watch, many bringing picnic baskets. The 38 were buried in a shallow grave along the Minnesota River, but physicians dug up most of the bodies to use as medical cadavers. Sand Creek Massacre, On November 29, , a former Methodist minister, John Chivington, led a surprise attack on peaceful Cheyennes and Arapahos on their reservation at Sand Creek in southeastern Colorado. His force consisted of men, mainly volunteers in the First and Third Colorado Regiments. Plied with too much liquor the night before, Chivington and his men boasted that they were going to kill Indians. Cheyenne Chief Black Kettle had tied an American flag to his lodge pole as he was instructed, to indicate his village was at peace. When Chivington ordered the attack, Black Kettle tied a white flag beneath the American flag, calling to his people that the soldiers would not kill them. As many as were massacred, mostly women and children. Two, the women and children offered little resistance. Three, the Indians are bewildered by our change of policy. Burial of the dead after the massacre of Wounded Knee. Ironically, just over years later, the resilient American Indian population has survived into the 21st century and swelled to more than 5 million people.

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Chapter 5 : The Lucas Countyan: The vanishing Fort Des Moines Post Cemetery

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Up to , children a year disappear without a trace and every day, approximately people are reported missing. To the horror of family, friends and often the world, many of them are never found. Where they are and what happened to them often remains an unsolved mystery. In most cases, criminal investigators can piece together a series of events that led to their disappearance and, with dedication and skill, can track the disappeared down. But what about the people who seem to disappear into thin air, leaving no traces as to where they went, leaving investigators and the public baffled? Many of these people are adults who have no known enemies and who have never exhibited any signs that they would leave. They simply vanish with no signs of struggle or violence, as if they never existed. Some of their stories leave chills down your spine while others simply perplexed the world. Where did they go? Where they ever found? And if not, will their long-standing cases ever be solved? She never told the public the events that surrounded her disappearance, nor did she ever offer any reasons. However, Page was not kidnapped, nor was she murdered. For three decades during her disappearance, she was never photographed. She led a life that included marriages, poverty and mental illness and died in at the age of In , at a workshop in New York City, he developed a lens camera and filmed moving sequences. His work with cameras and film was before the work of the famous inventor Thomas Edison. One day in , while traveling in France to visit his brother, Le Prince mysteriously vanished from a train bound for Paris. He was never seen again. Some theories that explain his disappearance include suicide, assassination and accidental death by drowning. Amidst the Mexican revolution in , Bierce travelled by horseback across the Rio Grande. It was there he completely vanished, leaving the world mystified. However, Bierce was known for his brooding and depressing literature: Suicide cannot necessarily be ruled out. In his last letter, he wrote: If you hear of my being stood up against a Mexican stone wall and shot to rags, please know that I think it is a pretty good way to depart this life. In December , Christie left the town of Surrey in her car. Not long after, and not far from her home, her car was found teetering over a cliff. But Christie was not in the car, nor was she anywhere near the scene of the accident. She had vanished without explanation. Over police and volunteers searched for her, but she could not be found. Thankfully, after horrifying not only her family but thousands of concerned citizens, she was found 11 days later in a hotel room. She has rarely spoken about why she disappeared, and why she did it in such a way that would suggest she might have been killed. Even today, there is no explanation of what happened to the crew. The trip from Western Samoa to Fakaofu in the Tokelau Islands should have taken no longer than 48 hours. But the ship never arrived. No distress messages, foul play, or violence were suspected to have occurred on board. Finally, five weeks later, the ship was found adrift without crew or cargo. After a panel of commissioners reviewed the evidence of its disappearance, they concluded that there was nothing that could conclusively explain the fate of the crew. She became even more famous because of the events surrounding her mysterious demise. In , she and her navigator disappeared into thin air while flying over the Pacific ocean. No radio messages before or during the disappearance have ever been confirmed as being sent by her. According to new research, over half of the sent messages are confirmed as not having come from her at all. There are many theories about her disappearance, the most obvious of which is crashing at sea albeit due to mysterious causes. The others theories include capture by the Japanese military and landing on an island to eventually die without ever being located. The bomber vanished from the sky and no wreckage or debris was ever found, even after extensive investigations. Despite exhausting searches, the plane, crew and nuclear payload was never located. The crew was pronounced dead.

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Chapter 6 : Military Records | Service Records | Ancestry

All 72 Wisconsin counties are represented, some are online but hundreds of printed community histories are in the Library. Learn more about the scope of our Local and County Histories Collection. Or see our Local and County Histories Research Tips.

Does that make the war a mistake? Reiner thinks so and he wants to credit the only journalists who got the story right. It plays like an urgently scribbled editorial that aims to grab your attention as you read the morning paper instead of an hefty book that aims to be the official history of some bygone era. I made the movie because I felt that the American people were not getting the truth in the leadup to the War in Iraq. We mentioned this in the movie. If the government says something, the press has only one question to ask: I felt that the American press had not gotten to the truth as to why we were going to War in Iraq. I came upon the story of these four journalists from Knight Ridder News, who basically got every single story right in the runup to the war. Unfortunately, the truth that they uncovered could never break through. It never got through to the public. And yet, we wound up going to war anyway. There should always be a real reason why young people are asked to put their lives on the line. The Iraq War was only a generation after Vietnam. The media should have learned a lot of hard lessons from how they covered the conflict in Southeast Asia. Why do you think they forgot those lessons so quickly? Back in the days of Vietnam, the country was caught up in a fervor of communism supposedly taking over the world. When I was a kid, I remember doing these duck and cover drills, where we had to jump under our desks for fear of a nuclear bomb hitting. That was a big fear that spread throughout our country and throughout the world. The idea that there was a country that was going to be turning communist at the time was scary to a lot of people. Vietnam fought on the side of the Americans during the second World War. And we promised them after the second World War that they would get their independence from the French. The point is, we were swept up in this fear of communism. They have to be dispassionate. They have to look at things through a cynical eye and a skeptical eye to get to the truth. Luke Tennie in "Shock and Awe. He was sent to Afghanistan to fight against the influences of the Taliban, which allowed Al Qaeda to exist inside of Afghanistan. The mission was to find the Taliban and take out Osama Bin Laden. He becomes an anti-Iraq War guy. He came from a military family, everybody had served in his family. How do you go about getting a movie like this funded? The only way to get them financed is through independent financing and finding people who are willing to step up and be part of something that they feel is important. We could see what was going to happen, we knew this was not going to be a cakewalk, as it was described by the administration, and that we would be greeted as liberators and that the war would pay for itself and all the other lies that were told to us. We knew that this was going to be a bloody experience. Actually my wife and I, who are two of the producers, put our own money into it because we thought it was important that people understand how critical it is that American people get told the truth. Good policy cannot come out of lies. Well, I can understand that. Can you handle the truth? Well, an interesting counterpoint is that you made "A Few Good Men," one of the most beloved movies in the military community. Well, the thing about "A Few Good Men" is that when we first had the script and we first started to make it, there was a lot of pushback from the military because they felt that we were showing the Marine Corps in a bad light. First of all, the movie was based on a true story that actually happened down in Guantanamo Bay. That showed that the military would police and would adjudicate their own. I thought that was a very positive way of looking at the military. Ultimately, it came out to be a very positive statement about the military because it said that the military had certain standards that were not going to be undermined by a few bad apples. I see myself as a patriot and I try to uphold everything that the flag stands for. That First Amendment gives us that right, so you can make that choice. Like many Americans, Senator Ted Cruz loves this movie. I love the fact that generations hand it down to their kids and they still get a kick out of it. That makes me feel great. Your last film was a biography of LBJ. How has the business changed for making movies like that and "Shock and

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Awe"? You have to really cobble together finances from different places to make it work. Even some of them that have been very successful. Those are the kind of movies you see. They do it for a lot less money than they would normally get for a studio film. They want to be part of that story, so you can get a lot of good actors who try to balance out doing the superhero films with doing some films that have a little bit more weight to them.

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Chapter 7 : How to Write a Family History (with Pictures) - wikiHow

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Gunsmith George Suiter leans over his workbench, engrossed in intricate metal work. Bright sunlight pours in a large window, and he sees clearly the parts he is fitting together. He has more than thirty years of gun-making experience, but this is unexplored territory. Suiter is reproducing an eighteenth-century swivel gun. Used by wealthy Europeans, swivel guns had two barrels, set one atop the other. One barrel has a smooth interior and fires pellets for hunting birds and other small game. The second barrel is rifled, which means it has spiraled grooves cut into its interior. The grooves make the bullet spin as it heads toward a target, which increases range, stability, and accuracy. This barrel is for big game. To make that choice, a marksman flipped a metal tab to unlock the barrels. He turned the appropriate barrel to the top, locked it in place with another flip of the tab, and fired. Projects like the swivel gun always are under way in the small Historic Area shop between the Capitol and Francis Street. Another gunsmith is reproducing a long-rifle used by frontier hunters and Indian fighters. It combines their production talents with a mission to educate visitors. Wallace Gusler, master of the gun shop, has been essential from the start. He arrived in to get the operation going. He was twenty then. A self-taught gunsmith from Southwest Virginia, he had built his first muzzleloader, a pistol, six years before without instruction. My father had a percussion, muzzle-loading rifle made about One day, I started cleaning it and got intrigued with how it worked. This led me to make my first pistol. I tried to copy one I had seen in Antiques Magazine. I made parts and salvaged some springs from a Model T. The pistol worked, and I even used it for squirrel hunting. To learn more, he talked with local gunsmiths, read, and began repairing antique weapons. He connected with a growing network of firearms enthusiasts interested in shooting and collecting old American weapons. He applied on the strength of his knowledge and his talents as demonstrated by the high-school rifle. Master Blacksmith John Allgood and Gusler worked together, accumulating tools, information, and skills during the s. It was a difficult, time-consuming operation. He soon understood the words of an old gunsmith who had told him that the process required "a big fire and three crazy men. The shop also made a boring machine and a rifling machine to groove the barrels. That year, Gusler used them to construct his first rifle fabricated entirely of hand-made parts. It established the shop and launched its program. Two gunsmiths have become a staff of six: Everybody is familiar with eighteenth-century firearms technology. Overwhelmingly, civilian and military weapons of the period in Europe and America were flintlocks. The name refers to the ignition system, which relied on a piece of flint set in a movable cock. The cock fell when the trigger was pulled. The flint struck a piece of steel, creating sparks. The sparks fell into a gunpowder charge in an external pan. The powder ignited the main charge in the barrel by passing through a small hole in the barrel. In s Virginia, the flintlock system was used on all military muskets, which were smoothbores, and on civilian arms, which included fowling pieces, trade guns, and rifles. The fowling piece probably was the most popular civilian arm of the day. Men liked them for their versatility. Hunters could load them with small lead balls for birds and other small game. They also could use a single large ball or several smaller ones-buckshot-for large game like deer. The long fowler was a variation of the fowling piece. It was heavy and big, and designed to kill as many waterfowl in a shot as possible. The trade gun was a smoothbore. It was a simple, inexpensive piece made in Europe for use in America. The rifle was, in comparison to fowling pieces and smoothbores, highly accurate at long distances, and well suited to the frontier. The mix is intriguing and demanding. Consider the three major components of all guns in this period: This was the firing mechanism. It included a trigger, an external powder pan, a hammer, springs, and other small internal parts. Making the lock required mechanical skill and steady hands. Each part, every screw, was handmade and required forging, filing, and fitting. This was the wooden part of the weapon. It held the barrel and firing mechanism, and allowed a shooter to grip and to steady the weapon. Stock makers of the s used well-seasoned

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hardwoods like curly maple. The stock could be plain or ornately carved. The firelock and the barrel had to be carefully fitted into the stock. Stock making required woodworking skills of a high order. The barrel was the long tube through which the bullet passed. Barrel makers began work with a flat wrought-iron bar. This was forged into a tube by heating, hammering, and fusing with flux. The tube was bored with a reamer for a uniform interior. The barrel was tested, or proofed. That involved firing the barrel with four times the normal amount of gunpowder. This was done at stationary stand, and barrel testers used a fuse to clear the area. If the barrel could withstand this without exploding, it was ready to use. Colonial Williamsburg gunsmiths can perform all the work required, but most eighteenth-century guns were not made by a single man producing all the components for a single weapon. Most guns in North America came from Europe where they were assembled from parts built by subcontractors who spent their lifetimes making one or two parts, such as barrels or triggers. This approach allowed European gun makers to keep production steady and costs low through economies of scale and the division of labor. This manufacturing system, particularly in Great Britain, reflected the evolution from a rural to an urban society. It also was the beginning of interchangeable parts and assembly line production which characterized the Industrial Revolution. The market for wool was strong. So, sheep production grew. It was more economical to move people off farmland and use it for sheep," Suiter said. There, they also picked up work skills and could specialize in specific tasks for various producers. This trend had an impact on gun making, which needed many components. In London, during the s, twenty-one trades were involved in gun production. One part of a home, for example, might be used exclusively for making springs used in firing mechanisms. In the end, all parts were sent to a central facility where complete weapons were assembled. Small parts makers tended to live close to gun assembly shops, creating vibrant and economically close-knit communities. American gun makers could not compete with the efficiency or scale of this system. Colonial gunsmiths typically did repairs rather than production. They often took on non-gun related tasks, applying their blacksmithing and mechanical skills to whatever job came along. In peacetime, this seemed to be the case in eighteenth-century Williamsburg. Among the other gunsmiths were William Willis and John Brush. Colonial gunmakers, however, could and did control one niche in the North American market. That was rifle making. The American long rifle grew from these roots to meet frontier needs and conditions. The conventional wisdom has been that these rifles were made exclusively in Kentucky and Pennsylvania. The long rifle was the weapon for the frontier. Its long range allowed hunters to take large game, such as deer and elk, at a distance. A marksman could hit targets at two hundred yards. Powder and shot were short on the frontier, and long rifles let hunters get food with one round, reducing the ammunition they needed to buy and to carry. Many Americans have never held or fired a pistol or a rifle and lack knowledge of their functioning and capabilities.

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Chapter 8 : Family Histories, Journals & Biographies

Some census records include information on military service. The , , and U.S. Censuses included questions about military service, and the Veterans' Schedule is available for states alphabetically beginning with Kentucky (partial) through Wyoming, and the District of Columbia.

Vanishing race[edit] In the late 19th and early 20th century, public expositions portrayed Native Americans as a "vanishing race. During the Progressive Era of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, there was an explosion of public interest in Native American culture and imagery. Newspapers, dime-store novels, Wild West shows, and public exhibitions portrayed Native Americans as a "vanishing race. American and European anthropologists, who represented a new field, historians, linguists, journalists, photographers, portraitists and early movie-makers believed they had to study western Native American peoples. Many researchers and artists lived on government reservations for extended periods to study Native Americans before they "vanished. Russell and John Hauser. During the Progressive Era, U. Progressives agreed that the situation was serious and that something needed to be done to educate and acculturate Native Americans to white society, but they differed as to education models and speed of assimilation. Reformist progressives, a coalition led by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Society of American Indians and Christian organizations, promoted rapid assimilation of children through off-reservation Indian boarding schools and immersion in white culture. The Society believed that theatrical shows were demoralizing and degrading to Indians, and discouraged Indians from "Wild Westing. Here, the American and European public could see and hear some of the first Americans, not as curiosities, but a people with vibrant culture. Wild West shows were " dime novels come alive. Visitors could stroll through model Indian tipi "villages" and meet performers; available for purchase were crafts from women artisans, and autographed postcards, photographs and memorabilia from famous Wild Westers. Chief Iron Tail was one of the most famous Native American celebrities of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Professional photographers circulated his image across the continents. Cody used his influence with U. Buffalo Bill treated Native American employees as equals with white cowboys. Wild Westers received good wages, transportation, housing, abundant food, and gifts of cash and clothing from Buffalo Bill at the end of each season. Wild Westers were employed as performers, interpreters and recruiters. Men had money in their pockets and for their families on the reservation. Female performers were paid extra for infants and children, and supplemented wages by making and selling Lakota crafts. Wild Westing offered adventure and personal time, and performers traveled to the great cities of the world. Sobriety and good conduct was required. Performers agreed to refrain from all drinking, gambling and fighting, and to return to his or her reservation at the end of each seasonal tour. Shows hired venerable elder male Indians to appear in the parades to ensure that young men acted with appropriate behavior when visiting host communities, and rules were self-policed by traditional Oglala Lakota chiefs and former U. Chief Flying Hawk was a veteran of Wild West shows over 30 years, from about to Wild Westing was very popular with the Lakota people and beneficial to their families and communities. It offered a path of opportunity during a time when people believed Native Americans were a vanishing race, whose only hope for survival was rapid cultural transformation. It offered a safe haven for Lakota leadership after the Sioux Wars and for famous Native American prisoners of war. The touring also offered freedom six months each year from the degrading confines of government reservations. Wild Westing was an act of passive resistance to oppressive Bureau of Indian Affairs policies. Shows generally toured from late spring to late autumn, paralleling the traditional buffalo hunt season. Lakota dancers in the present day credit Cody and the Wild Westers for preserving dances that were otherwise suppressed. The Lakota easily adapted to historical reenactments of the traditional practice of continually reenacting their history in dance and rituals. By this means, the exploits of the warriors were indelibly inscribed upon the collective consciousness of the oyate, or nation. Wild Westers at times performed programs that dramatized the very battles, raids and massacres in which the men had participated as warriors. Inter-marriage was not uncommon

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and many performers settled in Europe, some traveling with other shows and circuses. Between daily performances, Wild Westers played games such as ping pong and dominoes, which they had adopted during European tours. Performers were permitted to freely travel by automobile or by train, for shopping, sightseeing, visiting friends, attending parties and gala events. He believed Indians to be equals to whites, and allowed Indians to be Indians. He believed Native Americans would observe modern life and different cultures, acquire new skills and customs, and change at their own pace and terms. Geronimo was one of the most famous Wild Westers. Wild westers educated the American and European public about Native American history and culture. The Wild Wester community was a diverse group, including U. Chief Iron Tail was the most famous Native American of his day; a popular subject for professional photographers, he had his image circulated across the continents. This popular perception in the United States and Europe was created by Lakota performers in their historic reenactments of the Sioux Wars; demonstrations of Lakota horse culture and equestrian skills; and ceremonial dancing, cooking and music. Over 10, Native American children from tribes attended Carlisle. Carlisle evolved beyond an industrial trade school. Nearby historic Dickinson College provided Carlisle Indian School students with visiting professors, access to the Dickinson Preparatory School "Conway Hall" and college level education. Students excelled at music, debating, journalism and sports, and were offered internships and a summer outing program living with white families and earning wages. The Carlisle Indian Band performed at world fairs, expositions, parades and every national presidential inaugural celebration until the school closed. The Carlisle Cadets at arms marched in parades. The Carlisle Indians were a national football powerhouse in the early 20th century and competed and won games against Harvard, Pennsylvania, Cornell, Dartmouth, Yale, Princeton, Brown, and Army and Navy. In , the Indians posted an 11â€”1 record, which included one of the greatest upsets in college football history. Thorpe scored all the points for Carlisle, a touchdown, extra point and four field goals. Attending Carlisle is considered by some Native Americans like going to Yale, Princeton or Cambridge, and the family tradition of Carlisle alumni as "Harvard style" is one of pride and stories of opportunity and success. Luther Standing Bear was taught to be brave and unafraid to die; he left the reservation to attend Carlisle and bring honor to his family. Luther was hired as an interpreter and chaperon for seventy-five Indians. He also performed as a skilled horseback rider and dancer. Wild Westing and the Carlisle Indian School were portals to education, opportunity and hope, and came at a time when the Lakota people were impoverished, harassed and confined. The entourage consisted of 97 Indians, 18 buffaloes, 2 deer, 10 elk, 10 mules, 5 Texas steers, 4 donkeys, and horses. Goings, the recruiting agent for Buffalo Bill and other Wild West shows at Pine Ridge, was a Carlisle alumnus and Wild Wester with experience as a performer, interpreter and chaperone. Since , Wild Westing has been family tradition with several hundred Pine Ridge families. Wild Westers from Pine Ridge enrolled their children at the Carlisle Indian Industrial School from its beginning in until its closure in They wanted their children to learn English, trade skills and white customs. But it was their only chance for a future. Pan-American Exposition of During the Progressive Era , from the late 19th century until the onset of World War I, Native American performers were major draws and money-makers. Millions of visitors at world fairs, exhibitions and parades throughout the United States and Europe observed Native Americans portrayed as the vanishing race, exotic peoples and objects of modern comparative anthropology. In contrast, Carlisle students were portrayed as a new generation of Native American leadership embracing civilization, education and industry. The fight for the image of the Native American began when Reformist Progressives pressured organizers to deny Buffalo Bill a place at the Columbian Exposition of in Chicago, Illinois. Seventy-four Wild Westers from Pine Ridge, South Dakota, who had recently returned from a tour of Europe, were contracted to perform in the show. Cody also brought in an additional one hundred Wild Westers directly from Pine Ridge, Standing Rock and Rosebud reservations, who visited the Exposition at his expense and participated in the opening ceremonies. Exposition organizers assembled Wild Westers representing different tribes who portrayed Native Americans as a "vanishing race" at "The Last Great Congress of the Red Man", brought together for the first and last time, apparently to commiserate before they all vanished. Organizers wanted their exotic people to be

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interpreted by anthropologists in a modern scientific manner portraying contrasting images of Native Americans. A model Indian School was placed on top on a hill so Indians below could see their future as portrayed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. On the other side, Indian boarding school students displayed their achievements in reading, writing, music, dancing, trades and arts. Leading the group was Geronimo, in full Apache regalia, riding a horse also in war paint. It was reported that: First began in Wild West shows, Pow-wow culture is popular with Native Americans throughout the United States and a source of tribal enterprise. Wild Westers still perform in movies, pow-wows, pageants and rodeos. Some Oglala Lakota people carry on family show business traditions from Carlisle alumni who worked for Buffalo Bill and other Wild West shows. First began in Wild West shows, Pow-wow culture is popular with Native American throughout the United States and a source of tribal enterprise. Americans and Europeans continue to enjoy traditional Native Americans skills; horse culture, ceremonial dancing and cooking; and buying Native American art, music and crafts. There are several on-going national projects that celebrate Wild Westers and Wild Westing. Oberly explained in "He also made souvenir bows, arrows and canes; and signed photographs for twenty-five cents. Anthropology Goes to the Fair", , p. Women served important community roles in camps backstage. Cody and Salsbury often purchased goods at wholesale prices and sold the goods to Indians at cost, allowing them to create souvenirs for tourists. Show Indians created and sold goods to museums, collectors, and customers across Europe and the United States. The number of police chosen depended on the number of Indians traveling with the show each season, a usual number being one policeman for every dozen Indians.

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Chapter 9 : 10 Of The Most Mysterious Disappearances In History | TheRichest

The Vanishing Hitchhiker (or variations such as the ghostly hitchhiker, the disappearing hitchhiker, the phantom hitchhiker or simply the hitchhiker) story is an urban legend in which people traveling by vehicle meet with or are accompanied by a hitchhiker who subsequently vanishes without explanation, often from a moving vehicle.

Click here for the real life Iraq War story behind American Sniper. The haphazardness of death The second time Luna escaped death, it was the result of a random switch. Normally, he says, he traveled as the lead gun truck, but that night, his colleague Morciglio had offered to swap, saying: Luna remembers seeing the light flashing from further back in the convoy. Hours before the departing unit was due to leave, a soldier was waiting in line at the Post Exchange at the base, when he was hit by a mortar round and killed. Here, he took it day by day, never certain whether his luck would be any better than that of the man who came before him. In six years, it had given him an education, a sense of self and a purpose. But when a good friend died in circumstances Luna saw as needless, he knew it was time to move on. Read about another Iraq War soldier in a support role who became the first Native American woman to die on the front lines for the U. After enlisting at 18 and spending time in Germany and South Korea, he had returned to the U. He had just finished his last university final for the semester when his sergeant rang and told him to gather his things. They were headed overseas, he told Luna. Overseas is a pretty big place. He told them to keep him in their prayersâ€”his mother is a Methodist ministerâ€”but to worry about him as little as they could. Despite the name, they were well within the line of fire: Jessica Lynch, the first female American prisoner of war, was part of the Quartermaster Corps, which helps supply fuel, food and other services. Military police is among the most dangerous of these positions. The challenges of becoming a unit Many members of the New York City-area National Guard who should have joined Luna did not make it to Iraq, he says, citing personal emergencies or health problems. So, when they failed to fill two companies with people from the metropolitan area, the Army assembled soldiers from all over the state, from wildly different backgrounds and circumstances. His neighborhood was diverse and working classâ€”a place where you grow up vigilant, liberal and street smart. At first, there were many cultural clashes. From the get-go, he says, their sergeant drilled them with one message: No one in the team should die needlessly. Some things were bigger than politics. When they made the difficult transition from day to night missions, many of the older men in their squad needed a chance to adjust to a new schedule and recoup. Even for Luna, then 25, it was a challenging switch. But the command wanted a team of three men, each aged 40, to head out that night without a break or an opportunity to recalibrate. One of them was a close friend. Luna remembers talking to him that night, before he headed out. Their return home to Brooklyn was imminent, and they discussed all the things they wanted to do when they got back. That evening, there was a rollover accident. The driver seems to have passed out in a moment of exhaustion on his hour shift. When they hit a barricade, the vehicle rolled over. Luna was beside himself with griefâ€”that they were so far along in the tour, and that his friend had died for such a silly reason. When they came home, Luna says, his heart was no longer in it as it once had been. Now, it was time to go back to them. While taking classes at Brooklyn College-CUNY on his return, he tried to process the enormity of the things he had seen and experienced with help from a therapist on campus. Some things were easyâ€”like knuckling down and doing as many papers as he could. Others, like riding the subway, brought back painful memories. He remembers meeting people who had saved lives but were terrified by college courses; or people who, after being in the highly regimented army environment, found an unstructured college system unnavigable. In either case, Luna showed them where to go. Now, he lives with his wife and their two young daughters in New Jersey. In three and a half years in the role, he has helped Bergen become the first county in New Jersey to eliminate veteran homelessness. We strive for accuracy and fairness. Twice a week we compile our most fascinating features and deliver them straight to you.