

### The Story of the Bell



I told this tale quite a long time ago, but I have been asked recently about it. I have also been told that it is now gone! Well, read on and get the real answer.

When I taught at Aragon Middle School, there was an old bell, mounted on the corner at Main Street. At lunch time, teachers sometimes stood there at lunch time. Yes, if you lived nearby you could go home for lunch, but that is another story. The reason the teachers stood there was to control the number of students across the street, mainly going to Barney's store! The well known grocery store where they bought (or stole) candy. Teachers limited the numbers to two or three.

The bell came from the 1904 school, which stood over on the same block facing Race. It originally housed all the grades, but later, when the town grew, a new High School was built on Main. Constructed in the 1930's it became the Elementary when the new High School was built on Santa Fe in the 50's. The old High School became the Junior High. The old elementary was torn down, and the bell which used to ring for the start of school, as well as other warnings, was mounted on the corner.

In the 60's, 70's, and 80's the junior high school changed considerably with new additions. The bell remained there until Aragon Middle School was fully modernized. When the latest building was added it included a nice new library. In the library, hanging from the framing of the skylighted ceiling is the refurbished bell.

In one week, a few weeks ago, twice I was informed that the bell was NOT there! I am assured by the staff at Aragon Elementary that it is still safely looking down. I cannot imagine anyone trying to get it down! When the new high school was built, and the old one became Fountain Middle School, Aragon changed to an Elementary. Now the middle school is in their grand new building.

# Pages of the Past

(1958 - Present)



### Sixty Years Ago (1961) JUST A ROOM FOR THE NIGHT...

Most travelers arrive at their overnight motel accommodations in cars. Not in the case of W.H. Higgins of Cheyenne, Wyo.! He arrived in his helicopter at the Ute Motel for an overnight stay, and then took off the next morning en route to California. (Fountain Valley News file photo)

### Fifty Years Ago (1971) SIGNS OF AUTUMN

Two Hereford cows and their blond cousin were photographed in 1971, chewing the cud by Old Pueblo and enjoying the fine fall weather. The trees in the background are described as cottonwoods. (Photo by Larson)



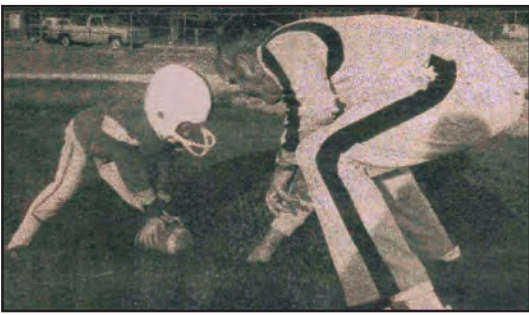
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### Forty Years Ago (1981) THE LITTLEST BRONCO

After watching the Denver Broncos win over the Lions, five-year-old Zacharia Bottomley showed his grandfather, Owen L. Bottomley, how the Broncos' defense pulled it off. (Fountain Valley News file photo)

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### Thirty Years Ago (1991) START YOUR...SNEAKERS!

Judy Christian, then mayor of Fountain, is shown testing the starter's pistol before the 9th Security Lions Club Fountain Valley Fun Run 10k race. (Photo by Geof Clark)



### Twenty Years Ago (2001) EXCITED FOR HOMECOMING

Mesa Ridge High School's 2001 Homecoming Court pose for a photo. Front row (from left): Gina Harris, Stephanie Luck, Kristen Felice, and Homecoming Queen Jennifer Villanueva. Back row (from left): Nick Orchowski, Rick Shewell, Mike Felice, and Homecoming King Jon Vails. (Fountain Valley News file photo)

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