



To celebrate 225 years of Lancaster newspapers, we present this weekly series of 52 front pages from throughout our history. Many feature events that would shape the course of world history. Some feature events of great local importance. Still others simply provide windows into the long-ago lives of Lancaster County residents. Make sure to check in every week, and enjoy this trip through time with LNP.

1969

Today's Chuckle
Returned vacationers are being asked the same question: "What was on strike where you were?"

LANCASTER NEW ERA

Metropolitan Lancaster U. S. Census 278,359

Local Weather
Gradual clearing tonight. Low 66 to 72. Partly cloudy Tuesday with a chance of afternoon or evening showers or thundershowers. High 80 to 87.
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92nd Year—No. 28,576 METROPOLITAN EDITION LANCASTER, PA., MONDAY EVENING, JULY 21, 1969 Price 10c—Daily Home Delivered 60c A Week

MEN WALK ON MOON

2 Astronauts Blast Off Safely From Lunar Surface, Head Home

Spacemen Hit Paydirt, Get Big Rock 'Bonanza'

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — The Apollo astronauts struck paydirt in their prospecting on the moon.
Their luck especially was in finding a great variety of different rocks, which could tell much about the moon's age and origin.
They saw a curious purple rock and perhaps put it in one of the two treasure chests they are bringing home.

Microscopic Life?
And they cored out a five-inch deep sample of lunar soil that "looks moist," a suggestion there might be water and so perhaps microscopic life beneath the moon's surface. But the moist, dark appearance could simply be from light packing of fine particles of material, cautions David McKay, geologist of the Manned Spacecraft Center.

They found the crust of the moon much harder than numerous geologists and astronomers expected they would. It took work to dig out two core samples and to plant the American flag.

They found rocks that look like basalt, born of volcanoes, and rocks resembling biotite, a dark colored mica that usually contains two to four per cent water. They found the surface dusty, getting their boots coated cocoa brown with it.

Set Up Seismometer
They set up a seismometer which soon was recording moon tremors, although these might be only from the footsteps of the astronauts, especially when they cavorted on the desert-like moon like kids in a playground.

If the moon still shimmies after they leave today, scientists think the ultra-sensitive instruments can tell them if the quakes come from volcanic activity, or hits by meteorites.

Incredibly calm most of the time, the astronauts performed well their role as good observers specially trained in geology.
Medically, their excursion showed the moon to be not so fearful a place as cautious planners had had to paint it.

Quick Adaptation
The men surprised doctors and others by their quick adaptation to the moon's low gravity. Their energy expenditure in their tasks was within the limits shown in their earth training, said Dr. Willard R. Hawkins, a flight surgeon.

Once, Neil Armstrong's heartbeat rose to 160 per minute, but this was called not critical, and Clifford



Astronauts Neil Armstrong, left, and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. place an American flag on the surface of the moon Sunday near the lunar lander that brought them to the moon's surface. This picture was received at Goldstone tracking station and released early today at Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

American Flag Placed on the Moon

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Explorers Found Bleak, Rough, Desolate World

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Two Americans blasted off from the moon today, reaching the relative safety of lunar orbit and leaving their footprints in the lunar dust and in the history of man.
It was the first time anything had ever rocketed away from the moon.

Neil A. Armstrong and Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. immediately began pursuing the command ship, orbiting 69 miles above the surface with astronaut Michael Collins at the controls.

'Beautiful, Smooth . . . Quiet Ride'
"Beautiful. Very smooth," Aldrin commented as Eagle took off from the moon. "A very quiet ride. There's that one crater down there."
"We've a little bit of slow wallowing here," he said later.

"Shutdown," he called out as the engine stopped. "Great," mission control said and reported Eagle in a near-perfect orbit ranging from about 11 to 54 miles high.

Off On a 3 1/2 Hour Chase
They had to catch Collins in a 3 1/2-hour chase to get back to earth. Their lunar vehicle was not built to take them home.

Collins was spring-loaded to speed to the rescue if something should go wrong with the lunar taxi called Eagle.

"Roger, understand we're No. 1 on the runway," Aldrin said minutes before the blastoff.

A fiery burst from a small engine propelled Armstrong and Aldrin off the moon at 1:54 p.m. EDT, ending man's first exploration of another celestial body.

They had camped at the base named Tranquility for 21 hours 38 minutes, raising the banner of their nation above it and fulfilling a dream of the ages.

In Low Lunar Orbit After 7:18
Seven minutes 18 seconds after the liftoff, Eagle's cabin section settled into a low lunar orbit. The bottom half of the vehicle, with the landing legs, served as a launching pad and was left on the moon.

The command ship, Columbia, and Eagle, had worked in close radio harmony as the critical firing neared. Precisely 69 seconds after Collins flashed over the landing site, Armstrong and Aldrin took off.

By the time they reached orbit, Columbia was 300 miles ahead and the chase was on.
Armstrong and Aldrin were to execute several intricate maneuvers, triggered by engine firings, to close the gap and catch its fleeting target.

Link-Up Due at 5:32 p.m.
Linkup was scheduled for 5:32 p.m.
After a rest period, the astronauts plan to light up the big command ship engine at 12:57 a.m. Tuesday to start the quarter-million-mile journey back to earth. Splashdown is scheduled at 12:51 p.m. Thursday in the Pacific.

Just hours before Eagle departed, the moon received another visitor. Russia's unmanned Luna 15 landed in the Sea of Crises, 500 miles from the

ENGLISH OBSERVATORY SAYS
Luna Lands on Moon 500 Miles from Apollo

JODRELL BANK, England (AP) — Russia landed Luna 15 on the moon's surface today, 500 miles from where America's Apollo astronauts were preparing to take off on their journey back to earth, Jodrell Bank Observatory reported.

Signals picked up at the giant radio-telescope here indicated that after four days of moon orbit the unmanned probe landed on the moon's Sea of Crises.

Jodrell Observatory, headed by 55-year-old Sir Bernard

Lovell, stood by for any sign that Luna itself might be preparing to return to earth.

Of John G. Davies, Lovell's aide, said at 12:35 p.m. EDT: "Luna has landed."
The last signals received from Luna were "appropriate to a soft landing," he added.

MOSCOW SOURCES
Unofficial sources in Moscow had predicted when Luna 15 took off July 13 that it would attempt a remote-controlled lunar landing to retrieve a sample of moon

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AFTER CAUTIOUS 1ST STEPS

Astronauts 'Bounce' On Surface of Moon

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — They took their first steps onto the moon cautiously, like prudent boys testing the first ice of winter on a country pond.

When first they walked, they walked carefully and slowly, leaning forward, plodding heavily like tired old cops on a beat in Staten Island.

Faster With Confidence
As they acquired confidence, they walked faster, now with a slow bounce in the one-sixth gravity of the moon. And then they ran and their stride was longer than on earth and their shoes seemed suspended off the strange lunar surface, with something of the floating quality of figures on slow motion film.

When they were still, they seemed very still, as if frozen, and they leaned forward like puppets to be at a lunar form of attention when the President spoke to them from earth.

All the while, the earth was "bright and beautiful" above them. In this first incredible day of an incredible new era one needs to repeat that: the earth was above them.

Surface Pocked and Leathery
In the distance, the lunar surface looked pocked and leathery like the back of a dead alligator. Closer up, it looked like rubble, like earth leveled roughly after a disaster, dead.

They looked ghostlike on the soundless, airless, mostly colorless moon. Over the curving horizon, only one and a half miles away on a planet smaller than earth, there was the blackness of space and infinity. The foreground was starkly lighted by the sun and the men and their vehicle cast long shadows. It was dawn on the moon and a dawn in the history of man.

Neil Alden Armstrong, formerly of 601 West Benton St., Wapakoneta, a town in Ohio, a state in the United States, a country on the planet earth, extended his left foot onto the moon.

'One Small Step'
"That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind," he said. The first words were fine. History would be content.

Now for the scientists: "The surface is fine and powdery. It adheres like charcoal to the soles of my shoes. You go down only about an inch."

And for the doctors: "There seems to be



Astronaut Neil Armstrong makes the first step on the moon.

Collects Rock Samples
And for the geologists and the biologists and the others seeking the age of the solar system and the secret of life he immediately began collecting "contingency" samples of rock. "Contingency" in case he had to leave in a hurry.

And Buzz Aldrin came down, the second man on the surface of the moon. And together they walked and ran like kids at recess and then like men with the responsibility of the ages they went to work.

They gathered rocks, they set up a foil panel to measure the solar wind, they installed a seismometer to probe the interior of the moon, they set up a small mirror to reflect laser beams from earth, to measure the quarter million miles between the two planets to an accuracy of six inches. And they planted the flag of their country on the still face of the moon.

Words from Mother Earth
Mother Earth kept reminding them of their time left on the moon with the calm

MOOD OF THE CITY:

Tired Lancastrians Proud and Thankful

By JEFF FORSTER
New Era Staff Writer

Lancaster awoke groggily this morning. She was not totally sure that what she had seen on the television screen last night was for real.

But it was. Man had finally set foot on something other than his own planet, and Lancaster's citizens went about their usual Monday work with the special knowledge that they had been witnesses to history.

AN 'INTOXICATION'
The liquor stores were closed by government proclamation, but the people had their own intoxicant: a small but significant invasion of the universe, a landing on our moon.

This morning, it was all they talked about. "God was with those boys. He always was, and always will be," said Mrs. Naomi Lawrence early this morning at Staufers' diner. "And they'll get back safely."

Mrs. Mary Adams and Mrs. Anna Miller, tending to Monday's wash at Charles' Self-



Don Bucher paints a triumphant moon slogan at the filling station where he is employed. Service Laundry on Orange Street agreed that Providence had a hand in the astronauts' success.

"When I heard that they

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MAN ON THE MOON

These were just some of the words used by Lancaster County residents July 21, 1969, less than a day after two Americans landed a lunar module on the moon for the first time.

Some had stayed up all night watching TV. Others waited until the morning to find out what had transpired.

For all, the moment seemed like a trance as they experienced a true landmark in human history. Those who saw it live witnessed astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin take their first steps onto the moon's surface at 10:56 p.m. July 20.

"It just doesn't seem possible that there are two men up there. I just don't know what else to say," Fruitville Pike resident Evelyn Bowman said to the Intelligencer Journal.

"I believe what I'm seeing," Frank Burns exclaimed to the Lancaster New Era. "But I simply don't comprehend it."

Like most residents on that Sunday evening, Burns had watched TV with his family at home, basking in the glow of human

achievement. To prepare for their late night, the Burns children, Ann Marie and Peter Thomas, had taken naps earlier in the day. And although she and her brother were still tired, Ann Marie spotted Armstrong as he descended the lunar ladder's steps.

"There he is!" she exclaimed, startling her family.

So many people were inside their homes that night that the streets of Lancaster were eerily empty. From 4 p.m. Sunday to 4 a.m. Monday, police did not report any arrests.

Suzanne Stahl, the evening supervisor at St. Joseph Hospital, reported that nearly every television set in the hospital was tuned to the moon landing. At the Host Farm Motel (then at 30 Keller Ave., now demolished), a Brigitte Bardot movie was stopped after the first reel so the audience could switch to watching Armstrong and Aldrin. After the pair's first steps were shown, the movie was continued.

Not every Lancaster resident was jazzed about the moon landing, however.

"It's very nice and interesting to watch, but I'm a little old to get excited over things like

that anymore," 74-year-old Edna Mull said to the Daily Intelligencer.

Some, such as bus dispatcher Charlie Reynolds, said the event had invigorated him enough to want to volunteer to go to the stars.

"Sure, I'll go for a ride. I was in the Air Force for 14 years, why not?" Reynolds said. "This is something people used to talk about 10, 15 years ago, and now it's coming true."

While city and state employees enjoyed Monday off thanks to the moon landing, most folks had to wipe the stardust out of their eyes and head to work. And many went knowing they had joined 500 million people in watching two of their own go farther than most could have ever imagined. Might future treks be possible?

"We're going to Mars next," said Don Burcher, who had hung a sign proclaiming "We're on: Moon or Bust!" at his filling station, shown on the page above. "It would take 10 years to send someone there. They'd have to send someone young, so we'd be sure he's alive when he comes back," Burcher said with a chuckle.