

# Report form for east Multnomah County historical societies' annual report to the OHS Levy Oversight Committee

**Reporting for FY 2014 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014)**

<b>Your name and role:</b>	Dorothy G. Douglas, President	
<b>Historical Society you represent</b>		
<b>Name of organization:</b>	Gresham Historical Society	
<b>Contact information for organization:</b>	Dorothy G. Douglas <a href="mailto:dgdouglas39@hotmail.com">dgdouglas39@hotmail.com</a>	
<b>Reporting for levy funds</b>		
<b>Total levy funds received:</b>	<b>\$37,500.00</b>	
<b>Date(s) levy funds were received:</b>	8/01/2013	\$32,410.67
	1/31/2014	\$18,750.00
	<b>Balance FWD 5/31/13</b>	<b>\$18,750.00</b>
	Levy Funds 8/01/2013	\$18,750.00
	Levy Funds 1/31/2014	(\$22,500.02)
	Payroll & Payroll Services -	(\$1,180.00)
	Building & Maintenance -	
	Security System	
	Landscaping	
	Operations	(\$6,000.00)
	Operating Account	
<p>Details for how levy funds have been spent and/or budgeted for:</p>		
<b>Ending Balance 5/31/14</b>		<b>\$40,230.65</b>

Summary of how levy funds are helping your organization "protect the collection of Oregon history documents and artifacts, and public access to those." (taken from ballot language for Measure 26-118)

OHS Levy Funds have helped to make the Gresham Historical Society a major place for learning and historic research in our community. Our visitor count to the museum from May 21<sup>st</sup> 2013 to May 21<sup>st</sup> 2014 is to date 2,965. These are some of the programs we are presently working on:

Our Saturday volunteers have organized our "people" files, which will now be easier to search and access

We are working to create a database of our clipped newspaper archives so we will have a searchable digital record of our archives

Work is being done on cataloguing our library books

Our collection continues to be photographed and entered into the Past Perfect program

We have been given the complete microfilm copies of The Oregonian from the beginning of the newspaper up to 2013

The Vernonia library has given the Historical Society their microfilm projector for use in our research library

We continue to publish our quarterly newsletter

Every Saturday we are offering walking tours of Historic Downtown Gresham and every other Sunday tours are given of the Historic Gresham cemeteries

Summary of how levy funds are being spent in a manner reflective of Multnomah County's diverse cultures.

The Gresham Historical Society has done extensive research on our multicultural history. I am attaching copies of Gresham's Multicultural History Exhibit pamphlet along with the front page article in the "Gresham Outlook" featuring this exhibit and a page from the "Visitors & Summer Fun Guide" promoting the History Museum.

**Anything else you want the Levy Oversight Committee to know?**

The Levy funds have enabled us to serve our community in many ways that we would have otherwise not been able to accomplish. We continue to grow our membership, our visitor count and our service to the community thanks to the funding we receive from the Levy.

Thank you,  
  
Dorothy G. Douglas, President

Gresham's  
Multicultural History Exhibit



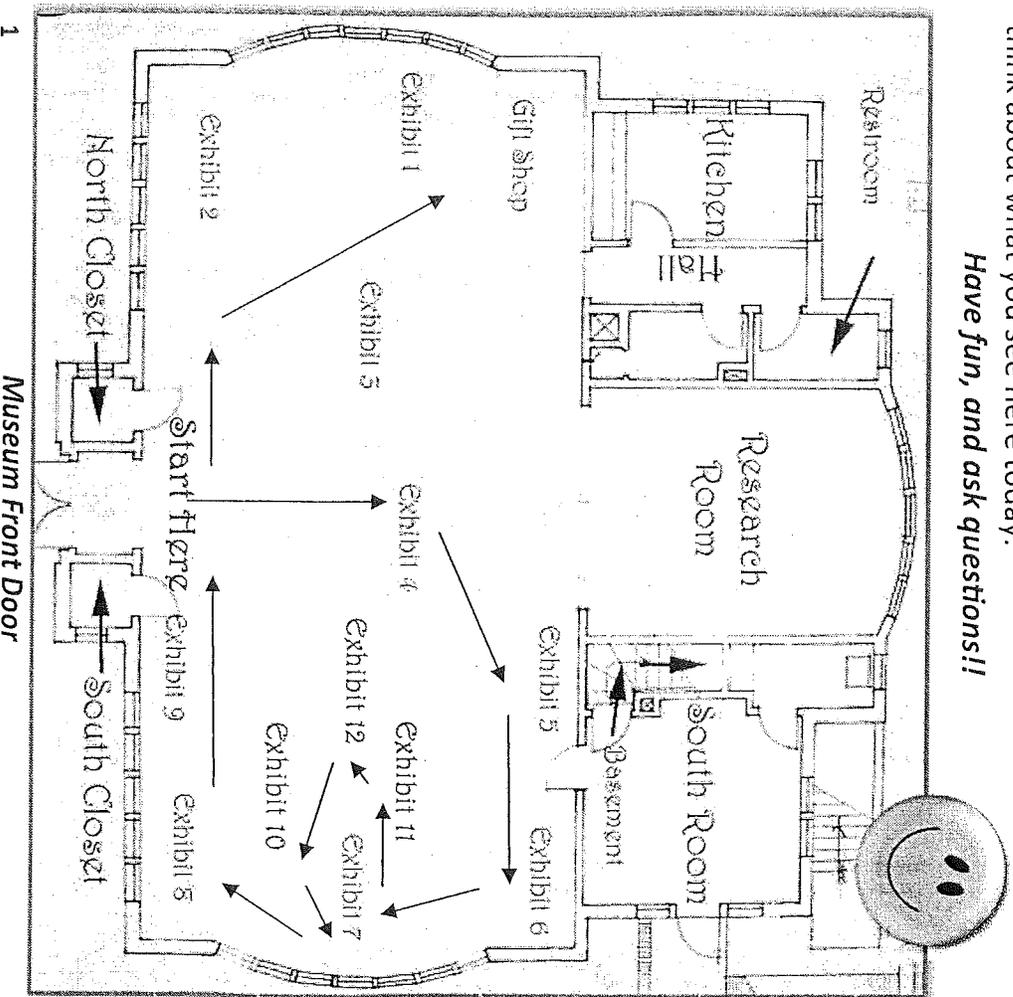
Gresham Historical Society

# Welcome to the Gresham Historical Society

We're *very happy* you stopped by today to learn a bit about Gresham, the surrounding area, and about the wonderful kaleidoscope of cultures that make up our community!

There is a lot to see here, and plenty of information displayed along with the artifacts. **You** can help us do our job of preserving and protecting these artifacts by respecting and not touching the exhibits. The purpose of this guide is to help you remember and think about what you see here today.

*Have fun, and ask questions!!*



## Look around you . . . .

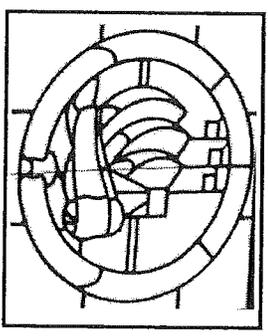
This lovely red brick building, dedicated in 1913, was a Carnegie Library, named after Andrew Carnegie, a man that immigrated to America from Scotland as a young boy. He provided funds to help pay for the building of many libraries around the country.

If you look above the tall windows you will see some smaller ones with designs. These designs are of colophons. A colophon is the trademark of a publisher. The designs in these windows were made with glass pieces divided by lead strips. They are called 'the Colophon Windows'.

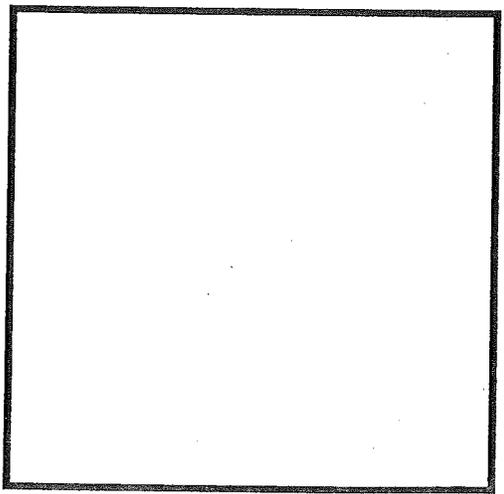
*Look carefully.*

*What things can you see in the window designs?*

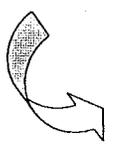
- An owl?       A flower?
- An anchor?     A turtle?
- A woman?       A ship?



★ If you visit the Gresham Library, you can see copies of these windows.



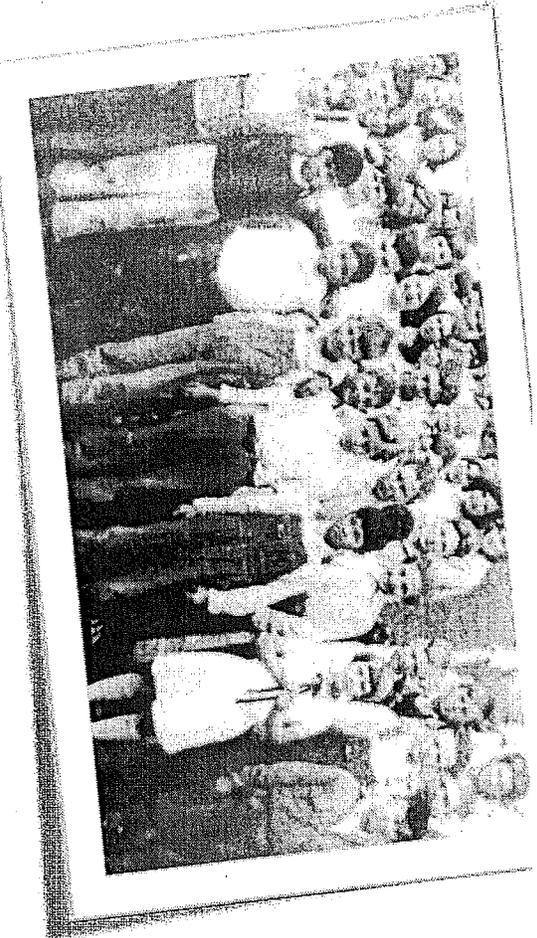
Draw your own colophon window here



## Founding of Gresham [Exhibit 4]

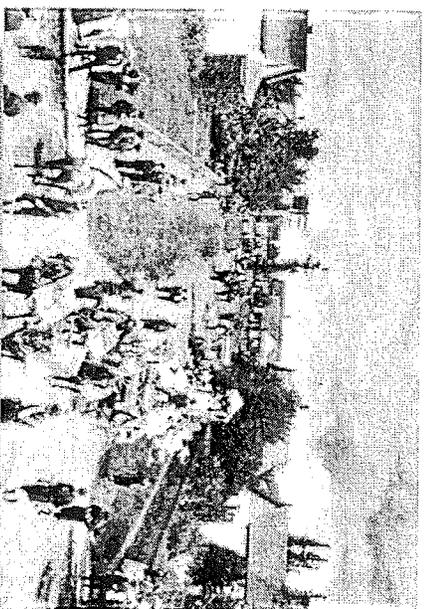
How about we go have a look at the types of things you and I might have had, and the clothes we might have worn if we lived in Gresham around 100 years ago. (Walk to the center exhibit)

This is part of a photograph of a group of children standing in front of the Gresham Elementary School. Why do you think some of the children are wearing overalls? Where do you think they lived?



100 years ago, children living on farms and in small towns worked with their parents doing chores in the home and on the farm. They would help with tending the animals, the garden, and the crops; they would fetch wood for the woodstove, and water from a well or creek for washing and cooking, because there was no indoor water. They didn't have as much time as you to play and when they did, most of it was done outdoors.

In this exhibit you can see not only photographs of some of the first families to settle in this area and their homes, but also different tools used in daily life back then. There are some for the house and kitchen, some for the lumber industry, which was an important part of the economy then, and also a tool that a farmer used with his oxen to plow the fields.

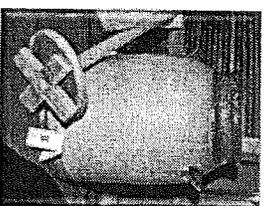


4th of July Parade down Roberts Avenue, 1907

The town of Gresham didn't receive its name until 1884 even though pioneers had been living here much longer. A local business owner by the name of Benjamin Franklin Rollins felt that there would be more business in the area if there was an official post office. He wrote to the US Post Master General requesting that a US post office be built here, and in exchange for promptness, offered to name the town after him. The Post Master General's name was Walter Quinton Gresham! **Just think – Gresham might have been called Quinton!!**



Benjamin Franklin Rollins



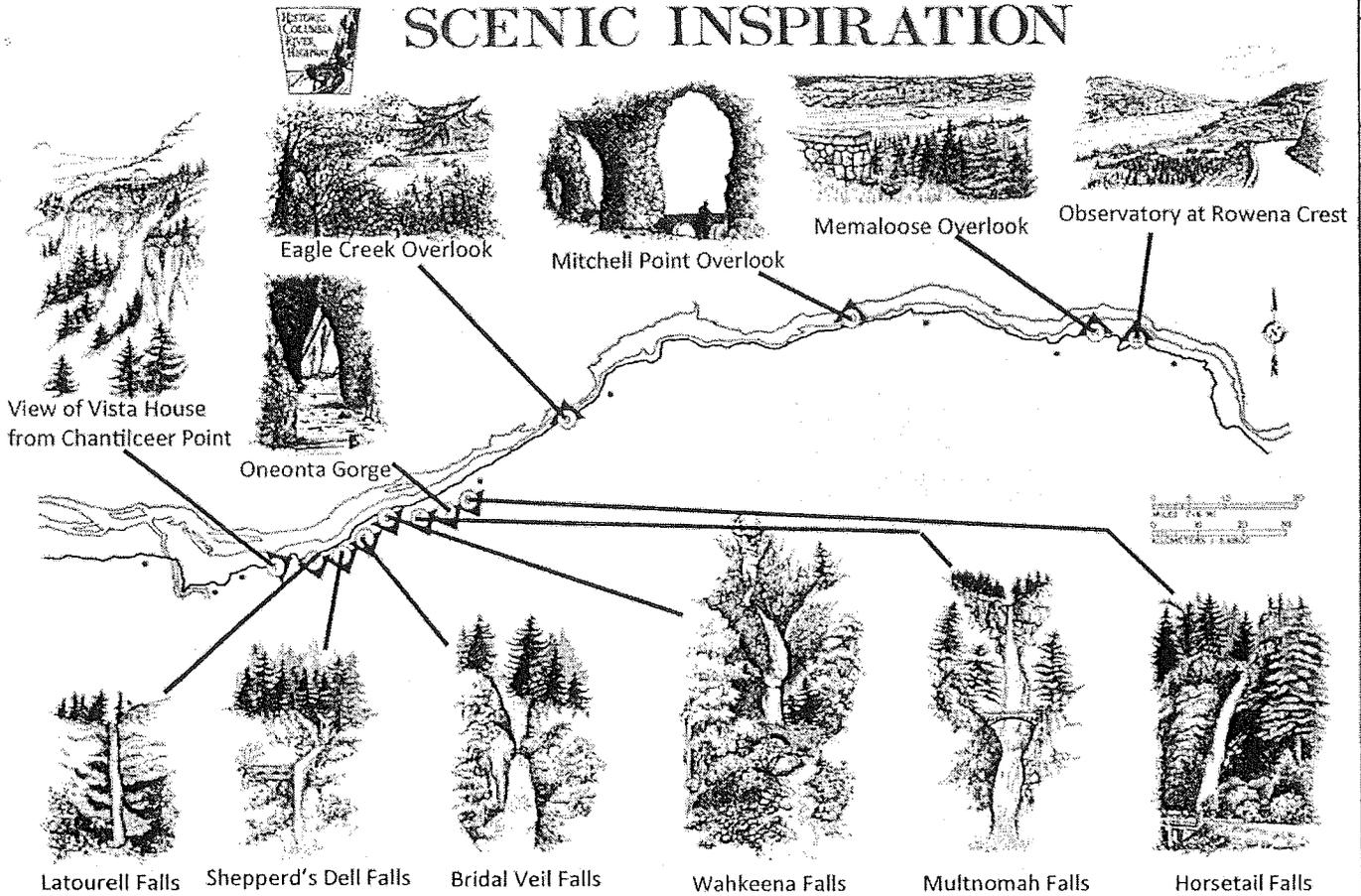
Butter churn

Timber branding iron



# Historic Columbia River Highway – views along the way . . .

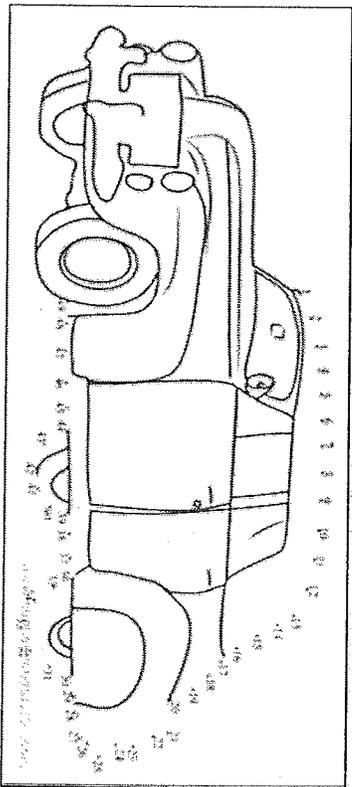
## SCENIC INSPIRATION



### Historic Columbia River Highway [Exhibit 5]

In Troutdale, not far from this museum, is the beginning of a remarkable road designed and created under the direction of 4 men who achieved a great feat of engineering: Samuel Hill, who saw the potential for building a road that would bring the city people out in their automobiles to see the beauty of the Columbia River Gorge; Samuel Lancaster, an engineer, designed the road to hug the cliff-face and tackle the rugged terrain; John B. Yeon volunteered to be the Roadmaster, paid \$1 a year, to supervise the construction, and Simon Benson provided the necessary funds, and used released prison workers, called 'Honor Men' to tackle the obstacle of building the road around Shellrock Mountain.

It took 9 years to complete the road, including 18 bridges and 7 viaducts, 2 foot bridges, 3 tunnels, and more than 70 miles of road. It was the first major paved road in the Pacific Northwest.



Below is a link to a short film from the Ford Educational Library, of the Columbia River Highway dated around 1917. Look for the old style cars and clothing. Can you see some waterfalls?

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=U52QY27mv8s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U52QY27mv8s)

## Chinook People

[Exhibit 6]

Before the arrival of early pioneers, the Gresham area was a heavily forested land, dotted with swamps, and surrounded by a Boring Lava Field. Although it appears that no-one was settled here, the people of the **Clackamas**, **Multnomah**, and **Wasco tribes** – all part of the Chinook people - lived along the Columbia River and may have used this area for hunting, foraging for food or passing through when traveling for trade.

The Clackamas tribe lived where Oregon City now stands; the Multnomah lived on the eastern end of Sauvie's Island (which was called *Wappato Island*), and the Wasco tribe lived on the south bank of the Columbia River near The Dalles and Celilo Falls.

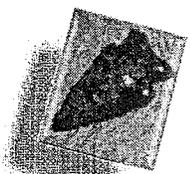
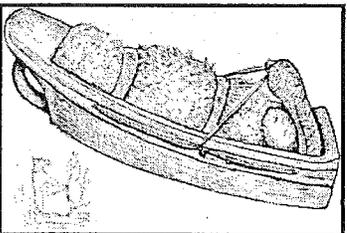
The Chinook people were a resourceful people, living off the land. They were expert fishermen using various techniques to catch fish. They also hunted elk, deer, and bear, using the meat for food and the animal skins and pelts for clothing. The Multnomah Tribe used cedar bark to make skirts and wore shells for decoration. They paid attention to the seasons to know when it was time to find the right berries, camas and wappato roots, and when the salmon, sturgeon and smelt fish were plentiful.

All of the tribes were considered 'Flathead' Indians – because parents would fix a wooden board across the brow of their babies, applying pressure over time to flatten their skulls. The result was considered a mark of identity, distinction, and superiority.



**Name 4 ways people try to change the way they look today?**

**Does it change who they are? What's your favorite way to change the way you look?**



Westward expansion brought early settlers to the area. Unfortunately they brought with them diseases such as smallpox and malaria, causing many members of the tribes to die from exposure to these diseases. By the 1850s the tribes were forced to surrender their land to the US Government and were moved onto reservations: the Clackamas, and the last survivors of the Multnomah tribe were sent to the Grand Ronde Reservation; and the Wasco were sent to the Warm Springs Reservation where surviving members still live today.



One native of the Multnomah tribe, remembered by older Gresham area residents, was Chief John, also called "Indian John". They said he lived to be 120 years old! He was remembered for living in peace among the area's settlers. He and his wife helped on the Wilkes farm and watched over the family home and cattle when the Wilkes family was away traveling.

Annie Wilkes remembers eating lunch down by the spring on school days where Chief John would tell tribal stories, such as the one about the big fight between the gods 'Mt. Hood' and 'Mt. Saint Helens' that 'knocked down' a natural bridge across the river that his people, the Multnomah tribe, had traveled.

**Be sure to check out the two stories in our exhibit – about how Chief John saved the settlers during the Indian wars of 1856, and the story of the legend of Multnomah Falls.**

## African American Immigrants

[Exhibit 7]

The first African Americans started arriving in Oregon in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Most of them migrated from the southern states, some as free men hoping the west would provide more opportunities and freedoms than the south, while others came as slaves, traveling with their owners.

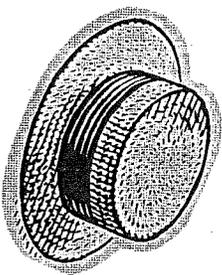
Even though Oregon was declared a non-slave state it also chose to ban black people from the state altogether. Oregon's 1857 constitution included exclusion policies against blacks and other minority groups (mainly Mulattos, and the Chinese), denying them the right to own property or businesses, as well as the right to vote.

Even after the Civil War amendments were passed and African Americans were allowed access to Oregon, there was widespread prejudice and social exclusion. Businesses displayed signs, denying not only service to black people, but also any job opportunities, making it extremely hard for educated African Americans to find careers in Oregon. Instead they were relegated to service jobs such as waiters, barbers and railroad workers.

The refusal of whites to serve blacks led to opportunities for black-owned businesses such as barbershops, ice-cream parlors, candy shops, restaurants, pool halls, and night clubs; however it wasn't enough to support the black population and there was high unemployment.

In Gresham's early days of the 1900s, long-time residents remember that there were only two African American gentlemen living here at the time: Charley Rivers, and Mr. Wilson. Not much is known about them other than Charley was a handyman - available for hire for any number of chores or tasks, and that Mr. Wilson was remembered as a shoe-shiner.

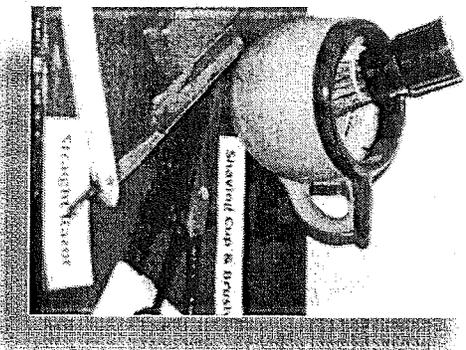
Can you spot Charley Rivers wearing a straw hat in 2 pictures in the display?



With the start of World War II an estimated 25,000 African Americans moved to Oregon to help with the war effort, but despite their skills, still only the lower level of jobs were available to them. With high unemployment and continuing prejudice after the war, the population again deflated. Gresham has never had a large African American community, although it has grown in recent years.

### Just a few well-known African Americans associated with Oregon:

**George Fletcher** (1880-1973), great bronco rider and rodeo star  
**W.D. Allen** (died 1906), entrepreneur, Portland's Golden West Hotel  
**Moses Harris**, in 1844 led one of the largest immigrant wagon trains to Oregon and helped rescue two other wagon trains lost in the desert of Central Oregon  
**William (John) Livingstone**, arrived in Oregon a slave, died in 1912, a highly respected pioneer with 180 acres of land in Eastern Oregon and an estate, valued at today's rates, of \$366,000  
**Clara Peoples** – recognized as the 'Mother of Juneteenth' - bringing to Oregon the celebration of emancipation of African Americans in the US  
**James DePriest** (1936-2013) – former director of the Oregon Symphony  
**Dr DeNorval Unthank** (1899-1977) – the only black doctor in Portland in 1931, recognized as an untiring activist in humanitarian efforts  
**Fred Jones** – former NBA player from Sam Barlow High School, Gresham



## Hispanic Immigrants

[Exhibit 11]

The first immigrants from Mexico, Central and South America started arriving in Oregon in the mid-1800s searching for gold and to serve in the militia during the Indian Wars. By the late 1800s, Mexican cattle herders, called vaqueros, were playing a major role in developing Oregon's livestock economy.



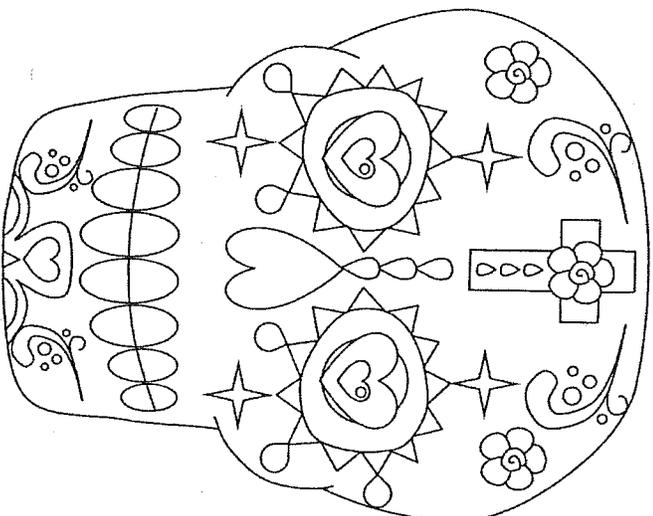
*Vaqueros in full regalia, Portland Rose Festival, 2012*

## FUN FACTS

... the Spanish introduced the horse to the Americas, and the American cowboy originated from the Mexican vaqueros.

In 1942 and 1947 the major Hispanic immigration came as a result of the *Bracero* program (also known as the Mexican Farm Labor Program). Around 15,000 workers were recruited to work on farms in Oregon, replacing those who had entered the US armed forces, or gone to work in industry, keeping the US citizens fed through their efforts. By the 1950s many had settled in Hood River, Woodburn, Independence, St. Paul, and Eastern Oregon.

After settling, many switched from farm labor to cannery, construction, rail-road work, and as seasonal harvesters. By the 1960s many had their own businesses and their children were speaking English as their first language. It wasn't until the late 1980s that many of the immigrants began to settle in the Gresham area, forming communities around relatives and neighbors who shared common origins and traditions. Today, we see many famous Hispanic immigrants in the world of politics, theater, film, science and medicine, and the positive influence of the Hispanic culture in music, food, and festivities.



Can you color this calavera?

See Exhibit 11 to read about Frank Escobar – an ingenious, well-known and well-liked, early 1900s resident of Gresham.

One festival, called *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) which is held on October 31<sup>st</sup> - November 2<sup>nd</sup>, is a time to remember beloved friends and family members that have died. For Hispanics, death is accepted as a part of life and not to be feared. One of the traditions for this day is to brightly decorate calaveras (skulls) made from clay, or sugar, and to write the name of a beloved family member or friend on top of the calavera.

21 CAN YOU FIND ALL OF THESE WORDS and THINGS IN THIS PUZZLE  
AND IN THE MUSEUM?



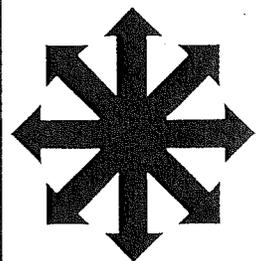
All these names and words from the museum can be found in this puzzle.

Look carefully because the puzzle words go up, down, side to side, backwards, and diagonally.

- Chinook Indians
- Multnomah
- African American
- Swedish
- German
- Hispanic
- Russian
- Japanese
- Red Cross
- Air Force
- ration books
- photographs
- waterfalls

- Clackamas
- arrowheads
- toolbox
- Dala horse
- cuckoo clock
- molcajete
- Matreshka dolls
- teacups
- Army
- Marines
- Carnegie
- maps
- cars

- Wasco
- baskets
- Charley Rivers
- Oregon Posten
- Lederhosen
- Corn husks
- spoons
- paper fans
- Navy
- Purple Heart medal
- Colophon windows
- Ox yoke
- saw



## Japanese immigrants

[Exhibit 12]

The first Japanese immigrants arrived in Oregon between the years 1885-1952. Born in Japan, they were called the *Issei*, meaning the 'first' generation. Originally they came across the Pacific Ocean, in search of jobs with the railroad. However, by 1909 one quarter of all Japanese in Oregon were farm laborers, called *buranke katsugi* (which means 'blanket carriers' - due to the few possessions they carried with them). Others had been able to open small businesses; for that same year there were 97 Japanese American businesses in Portland - including restaurants, barbers, grocery stores, bath houses, hotels and boarding houses.

A large portion of the Japanese Americans became farmers, just as they had been back in Japan, and to be successful here they grew the labor-intensive crops that the local farmers ignored. By 1920, local Japanese farmers in Gresham-Troutdale occupied 90% of the strawberry, 50% of the raspberry, and 30-40% of the loganberry fields and more than half of the vegetable gardens.

When Pearl Harbor was bombed in 1941 and America declared war on Japan, President Franklin Roosevelt signed an Executive Order forcing people with Japanese heritage to move away from coastal areas into ten internment camps because the government did not trust their loyalty.

Japanese Americans had to leave their homes, possessions, and businesses, and travel to desert areas where they were locked into camps behind barbed wire and armed guards. There, each family had one room with very little privacy and shared a bathroom with many other people. They even had to make their own furniture out of scrap wood.

This was very hard for them to do because they had done nothing wrong, and knew they were loyal to the United States. In the camps they worked together to make strong communities and to help their children have as normal a life as possible. They organized and ran schools, held classes for adults, had social groups, sports and cheerleading teams, and turned many acres into vegetable gardens.



The Japanese Americans born in the US were called *Nisei* (second generation) and many of the young men enlisted in specially created, segregated army units. The most famous one was the 442nd Regimental Combat Team that fought in Europe. For the unit's

size and length of service, they were the most highly decorated regiment in the history of the US army. They were awarded more than 18,000 individual decorations for bravery, 9,500 Purple Hearts and seven Presidential Distinguished Unit Citations, including 21 Medals of Honor.

At the end of the war the Japanese Americans were released from the camps. Many continued to experience racism and prejudice and did not return to their hometowns. Our government has apologized for this injustice, and continues to honor and recognize the many contributions of the Japanese Americans.

### Internet Links of Interest:

The Japanese word *Gaman* means patience; endurance; perseverance. *The Art of Gaman* is about art created by people in the camps from scraps of materials and found objects.

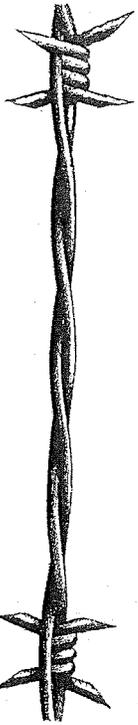
[www.californiamuseum.org/art-gaman-arts-crafts-japanese-american-internment-camps-1942-1946](http://www.californiamuseum.org/art-gaman-arts-crafts-japanese-american-internment-camps-1942-1946)

and

<http://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/online/gaman/index.cfm>

442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team Historical Society

<http://the442.org/home.html>



## Russian Immigrants

[Exhibit 10]

So far there have been three periods when Russians have immigrated to the United States. The first was at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The most recent group began in 1988, which is when the first Russian immigrants arrived in Oregon.

A large number of immigrants in this latest group were religious refugees, mostly Jewish and Evangelical Christians, seeking religious freedom. In Russia, the dominant religion is Orthodox Christianity and people not of that faith were being persecuted and imprisoned due to their religious beliefs. Many of those in this latest group had sponsors in Portland and Woodburn areas - friends who invited them to leave Russia and offered to support them while they become settled in this country.

А Б В Г Д Е Ё Ж Э И  
К Л М Н О П Р С Т  
У Ф Х Ц Ч Ш Щ Ъ  
Ы Ь Э Ю Я

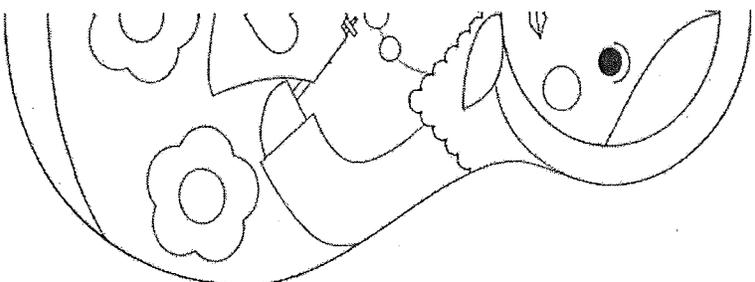
Russian Cyrillic  
Alphabet

Russian  
Family Names

Мама	Мамы	Папа	Dad
Сын	Son	Дочь	Daughter
Бабушка	Grandma	Дедушка	Grandpa
Брат	Brother	Сестра	Sister

A number of Russian Americans in this area work in car repair trades, and construction. Some have attended Portland Community College and Mount Hood Community College to learn new occupations. Others are already highly educated and skilled, such as doctors, teachers, and engineers. Due to language and licensing procedures, many have pursued another trade or occupation. In doing so, they have contributed to, and helped to build our multi-cultural community in Gresham.

In the beginning, Russian refugees came to North Portland, and later they began to move into East County where housing is cheaper and living expenses are lower than in Portland.



Can you finish the Matreshka doll?

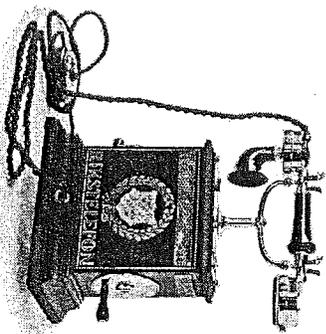
## Swedish Immigrants

[Exhibit 7]

'Second-stage' immigrants are those that immigrate from one part of a country to another - like the Swedish people who began coming to Gresham and the Powell Valley area as early as 1875, with the largest groups arriving in the late 1880s and 1890s. They came from Midwest states like Kansas and Minnesota, attracted by a land that reminded them of home and the opportunity for familiar activities to hunt, fish, and to be farmers and loggers.

The community grew, but Sweden was a long way away from Oregon and the Swedish people felt cut-off from their homeland because nothing was written about it in the local newspapers, and if ever it was, it was written in English which was not helpful to the immigrants who spoke little to no English. In 1908, F.W. Lonegren published the *Oregon Posten*, a Swedish newspaper for Oregon. It contained articles about the various Swedish communities and was a way for them to feel connected to one another and less isolated. A popular publication with the community, it was published from 1908 to 1936.

*Back in the early days of Gresham, newspapers and letters and perhaps the telephone were ways the immigrants stayed in touch with each other.*



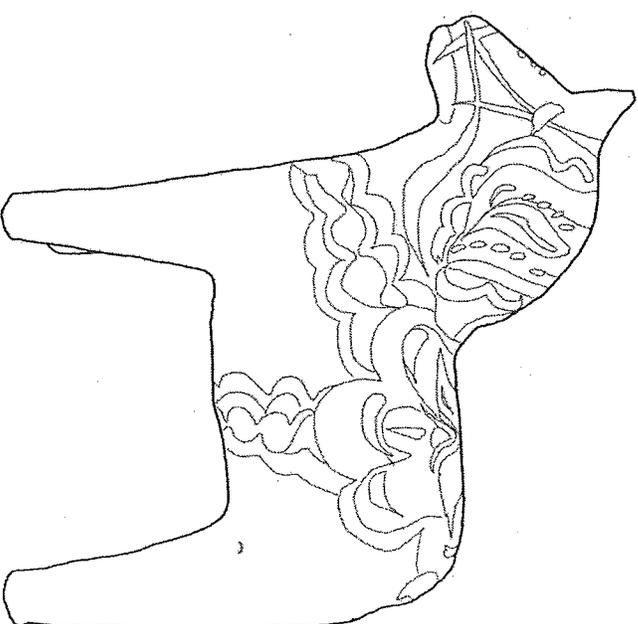
1896 telephone from Sweden

In 1875, N.F. Palmquist traveled from Kansas to Oregon and settled in the Gresham area; he was joined the next year by his brother. They must have spread the word about how good this place was because more Swedes followed. Forming the first Swedish colony in Oregon, they referred to themselves as 'The Clan'. By 1910, around ten thousand Swedish-born residents were living in Oregon.

The Swedes in Oregon found success running sawmills, working as builders and carpenters, in bakeries and railroad shops. They established the first pear orchards in the state. In Gresham, many of the families established dairy farms or cultivated fruit and berries. Emanuel Hospital in Portland, founded by Swedish immigrants, was another great contribution to this community.

Some of the Swedish families in Gresham included the Palmblads, the Salquists, the Palmquists, the Andersons, the Gustafsons, the Steffansons, and the Unises.

*A traditional Swedish craft, the wooden Dalecarlian horse, or Dala horse as it is also called, is carved following a design that is about 150 years old originating in the Swedish province of Dalarna.*



## German Immigrants

[Cases 27-28]

Like the Swedish, most of the German immigrants that came to Oregon had already been living in other parts of the US but came here looking for better farming land or jobs with the railroad. Large groups came in the 1880s from New York, Ohio, Wisconsin and Missouri.

They were a very industrious and hard working people who were skilled farmers and that helped them to survive in difficult times. They were also carpenters, bakers, brewers, merchants, and railroad workers.

Religion was an important part of German culture, and when they first came to Gresham they would meet for their church services in the homes of different families. Later, after they became more established in the area they were able to build churches.

One church was called the Zion United Church of Christ and they conducted their services in the German language. However, when

World War I came, the people of the city were uncomfortable with the use of the German language in the services and the town council asked the church to only use English in their services, and to fly the American flag on their building. By 1930, only the Christmas and Easter services were still held in German.

In 1931 they built the building next to this museum and although it still stands, it is no longer a church.

### *Some of the old German family names in Gresham:*

**Metzger** – Jacob Metzger was an early builder of many homes in Gresham. His home can still be seen on Powell Blvd – it is now the *Truffie Hunter Restaurant*

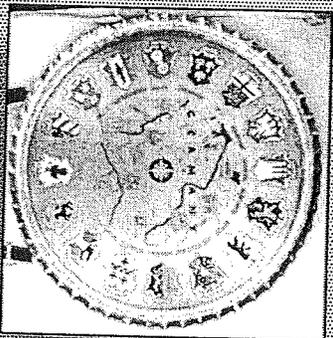
**Giese** – Ernest Giese became one of Gresham's many farmers  
**Linneman** – John Linneman became a farmer and his family adopted and raised a baby girl who grew up to become the first woman postmaster

**Dietl** – the Dietls started *Dietl Sanitary Meat Market* in Gresham, in business from 1917 to 1958. It was known as the "Salami Mecca of the World".

**Look for this item in the display. Cross out the words that do not apply.**

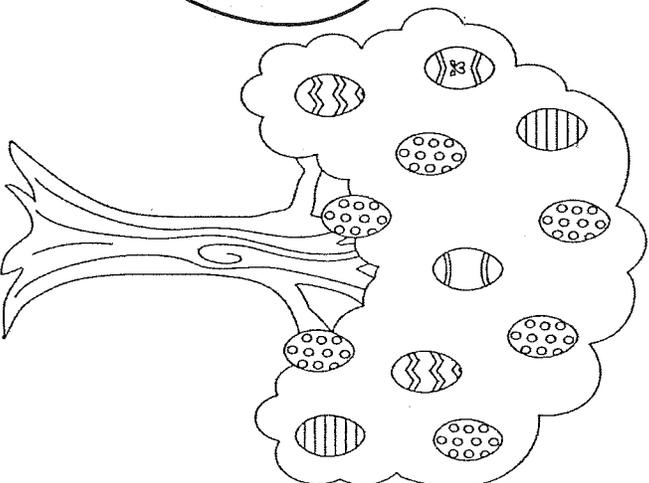
It looks like it is made of clay/glass/metal/paper? Would you use it for a wheel/hairbrush/dinner plate/display?  
Do you think the person who owns this item bought it/made it/dug it up in the garden?

Look closely – how many crests are there? Can you see any animals?



**FUN FACT**

A German tradition, becoming more popular in the US, is the hanging of Easter eggs in trees and bushes.



# Gresham's Servicemen

[Exhibit 8]

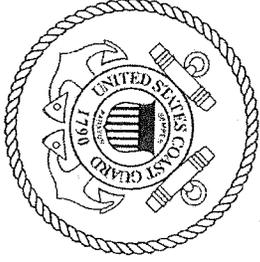
There is a rich history of the people from Gresham and surrounding areas serving in the armed forces. When there is a time of conflict and countries go to war many people feel that the best way that they can serve their country is to join the Army, Air Force, Navy, or Marines. Two other ways to help were by joining the Red Cross who helped to rescue and give aid to those wounded in the conflict, and at home, the women helped by stepping in to do the jobs left by the men who went to war.



AIR FORCE



ARMY



COAST GUARD



MARINE



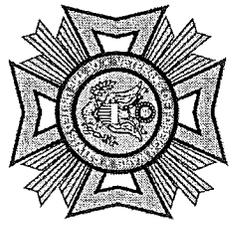
Both men and women served, and by the end of WWII there were 288,000 women in the armed forces. In our exhibit you will see 6 different uniforms : one for each service, a woman's Red Cross uniform, and a nurse's cap and cape. *What else can you see?*

On display is the story of Mr. Robert 'Bob' Jennings, of Gresham, who was killed in action during the war along with the Purple Heart medal that was awarded to him in recognition of the great sacrifice he made.



NAVY

# Veterans [Exhibit 8]



When veterans of the Spanish-American War (1899) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) returned home wounded and sick, they found no medical care or pensions, and they were left to care for themselves. They created what was originally called the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States - an organization that ensured:

- ◆ That returning servicemen and women would get the medical help and support they needed
- ◆ That all veterans would receive full educational opportunities
- ◆ That proper cemeteries and records were created and maintained for their burial

Membership in the organization grew quickly from 5,000 in 1915 to 200,000 in 1936. Today, there are nearly 2 million members. Now known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), they continue strong in their efforts to support those that serve their country, and to give back to their communities.

<http://www.vfw.org/Common/About-Us/>

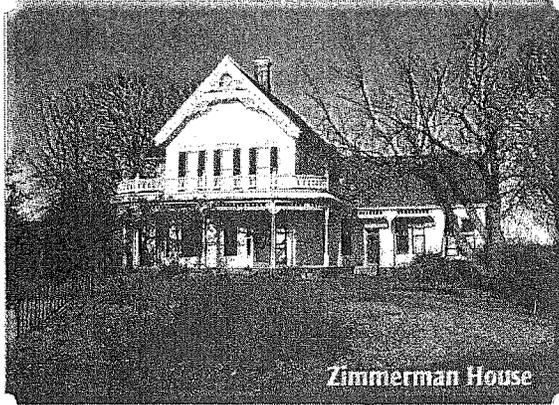
The Gresham United Post 180 formed on March 20, 1945 and merged with the Fairview, Rockwood, and Troutdale posts in 2002.

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
 United Post 180 Gresham  
 150 W Powell Blvd  
 Gresham, OR 97030-7002  
<http://www.vfwpost180.us/>



# MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & HISTORIC SITES

• **Zimmerman Heritage Farm and Heslin House Museum:** The 1874 Historic Zimmerman House Museum, 17111 N.E. Sandy Blvd. in Gresham, is open the third Saturday of each month from noon to 4 p.m. Reservations can be made for private group tours. The 1893



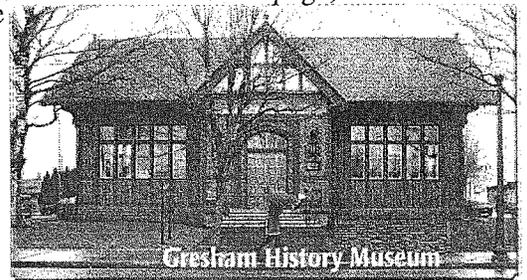
Zimmerman House

Heslin House Museum, 60 Main St. in Fairview, is open the third Saturday of each month from noon to 4 p.m. Both historic homes are complete with furnishings, photos, exhibits and more. The Heslin tour includes a visit to Fairview City Jail. For information, call 503-261-8078 or visit frwhs.org.

• **The Gresham History Museum,** 410 North Main Ave., was founded in 1976 by a group of volunteers dedicated to preserving the history of Gresham and the surrounding area. A new exhibit recently opened on early inhabitants and settlers to the area titled, "Kaleidoscope of Cultures: The Peoples of Gresham." The exhibit includes

detailed research and artifacts from the Native American tribes in the area as well as settlers from Russia, Sweden, Africa, Germany, Japan and Spanish language countries in Central and South America. Auxiliary exhibits include "Gresham's Servicemen" as well as exhibits on antique cameras, musical instruments, toys and more. For more information go to [greshamhistoricalsociety.org](http://greshamhistoricalsociety.org), call 503-661-0347 or email [greshamhistorical@gmail.com](mailto:greshamhistorical@gmail.com).

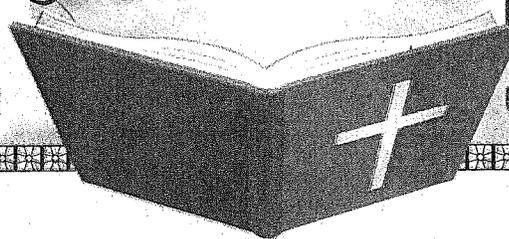
*(Museums, Galleries & Historic Sites continued on next page)*



Gresham History Museum

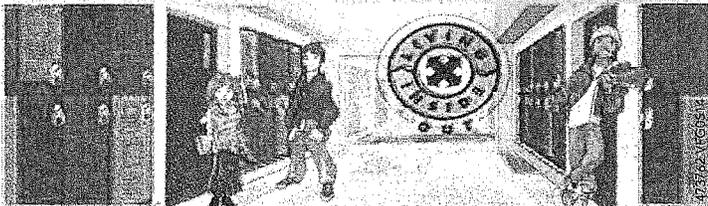
## Vacation

# BIBLE



# SCHOOL

**Kid's Summer Experience: August 11-15 6-8:45 pm**  
**Mountainview Christian Church - Gresham, OR**  
**Free! Kids ages 3 thru 4th grade**  
 Register online at: [mycclive.com](http://mycclive.com) or call 503-492-1200



5 nights of live music, drama, sports and hands-on activities that will challenge kids to live "inside out" like Jesus did!

### SMITH MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# 2014 VBS NOAH & THE ARK

**JULY 21-25**  
**9:00 a.m. Noon**  
**Ages PreK-5th Grade**  
**Cost: Donations accepted**

**2420 NE Fairview Ave**  
**Fairview, OR**  
**Registration forms:**  
[SmithMemorialPres.org/vbs](http://SmithMemorialPres.org/vbs)  
**Or call: 503-667-6800**

473740 VFG0514



greshamchamber.org | 503-665-1131



Visitor Information  
for all things East County, Mt. Hood,  
Columbia Gorge and beyond

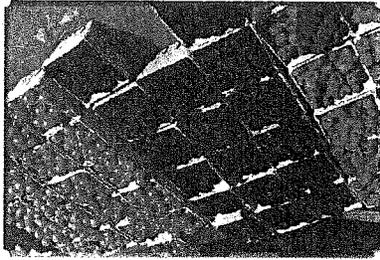
- Free city maps
- Travel brochures
- Visitor guides
- Relocation packages
- Bicycle information and maps

(Museums, Galleries & Historic Sites continued from previous page)

• **Caswell Gallery:** Rip Caswell is a world-renowned local sculptor who specializes in nature-inspired wildlife and figurative bronze sculptures. His work is displayed throughout Oregon and the world. Local examples of his work include the twin steelhead sculpture across the street in Mayors Square and the salmon on Troutdale's Centennial Arch. The gallery is also home to Ali Peret Jewelry Studio Designs. Stop by to watch Caswell sculpt a monument, see Peret work on his jewelry designs and browse the gallery, which features the work of local artists. Caswell Gallery is at 253 and 255 E. Historic Columbia River Highway in downtown Troutdale. For more information about Caswell, call 503-492-2473 or visit [caswellsculptures.com](http://caswellsculptures.com).

• **Troutdale Museums:** The Troutdale Historical Society maintains three small but unique museums, all within walking distance of each other that highlight the area's past. The Depot Rail Museum features railroad artifacts. The Barn Museum exhibit, "What Went By," illustrates the history of Troutdale from its beginning as a city in 1907 until its centennial celebration in 2007. The Harlow House — built in 1900 by the son of Troutdale's founder, Capt. John Harlow — always has unique displays such as a collection of vintage hats and ruby glass. Contact the Troutdale Historical Society at 503-661-2164 or visit [troutdalehistory.org](http://troutdalehistory.org).

• **Sandy Historical Museum:** Come see the museum, "Where history never gets old," to learn about Sandy's history. Created by the Sandy Historical Society, the museum features photos, maps and artifacts showing how



• **Gresham Saturday Market.** This market opens for its inaugural season Saturday, May 10 in the K-Mart parking lot at Northwest Burnside Road and Eastman Parkway. The market will be open from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Saturday. About 50 vendors have signed up and will offer farm-fresh produce, flowers and handmade arts and crafts. For more information or to get application to be a vendor, contact the market at 503-912-4112 or [mail@gSATmarket.com](mailto:mail@gSATmarket.com).

## OPEN AIR MARKETS

• **Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum:** This museum showcases the regional history of Mount Hood including natural history, history of winter sports, mountain climbing and the Mt. Hood National Forest. The museum, information center and gift shop are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. Located at 88900 E Highway 26 in Government Camp.

Sandy became what it is today, all for free. The gift shop offers informational books and locally made art. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. Call 503-668-3378 or email [sandyhistorical@sandy.net](mailto:sandyhistorical@sandy.net) for more information. Located at 39345 Pioneer Blvd.

(Open Air Markets continued on next page)

PAMPLIN MEDIA GROUP



YOUR TOWN. YOUR PAPER.

# Raiders win big to stay in first

Reynolds fires up the bats for a 14-1 win

See SPORTS, Page B1

Serving all of East Multnomah County

# OUTTWO

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2014

THE EAST COUNTY LEADER IN NEWS FOR 108 YEARS

GRRESHAW

ISSUED TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

# FINDING THE RICH CULTURE OF EARLY GRESHAM



Curator Christy Weaver adjusts an Air Force uniform, part of the military display at the Gresham Historical Museum. An ornate tea set and a tea cozy doll are part of the Russian display in "A Kaleidoscope of Cultures: The Peoples of Gresham," a new exhibit at the Gresham Historical Museum. (Top)

# Museum: Gift shop is updated

■ From Page A1

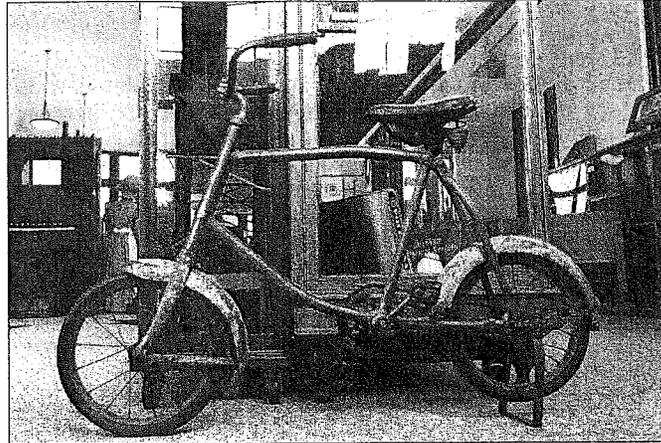
months to prepare the exhibit and reopened in mid-February.

Each section of the cultural exhibit features artifacts in display cases and posters with details on each group. Museum volunteers also recorded video scripts to accompany many of the exhibits.

The exhibit tells how Lewis and Clark encountered the Clackamas Tribe in 1805 when the tribe's population was estimated at 1,800 people. By 1851, the tribe numbered only 88 people and in 1855 it was forced to sign a treaty ceding its land to the government and forcing tribal members to move to the Grand Ronde reservation on the Pacific coast, where some descendants still live.

The Wasco Tribe was centered around The Dalles and Celilo Falls, while the Multnomah Tribe lived mostly on Sauvie Island. By 1910, the Multnomahs were mainly extinct due to the ravages of smallpox and malaria, the exhibit states, and also were forced in 1855 to move to the Grand Ronde reservation.

From the exhibit on the Japanese, visitors learn that the first generation Japanese immigrants came to Oregon between 1885 and 1952, many arriving in California or Washington and then making their way to Oregon.



OUTLOOK PHOTO: JIM CLARK

This antique bicycle was left on the porch of the Gresham Historical Museum, wrapped in black plastic. The curator and volunteers still don't know who left it.

Those early immigrants found that work was scarce, but found employment working on the railroads after the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 created a labor shortage.

**“By 1904, Japanese berry and vegetable farms emerged and by 1920, local Japanese farmers in Gresham-Troutdale occupied 50 percent of the raspberry acreage, 90 percent of strawberry acreage, 30 to 40 percent of loganberry acreage and 60 percent of all vegetable and truck gardens.”**

— Exhibit text at Gresham Historical Museum

“By 1904, Japanese berry and vegetable farms emerged and by 1920, local Japanese farmers in Gresham-Troutdale occupied 50 percent of the raspberry acreage, 90 percent of strawberry acreage, 30 to 40 percent of loganberry acreage and 60 percent of all vegetable and truck gardens,” the exhibit states.

But the exhibit also tells the story of the problems encountered by the Japanese caused by such legislation as the Oregon Alien Land Bill, the Alien Business Restriction Law, the Asian Exclusion Act and additional hardships caused by the

incarceration of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Visitors to the museum will learn that early Hispanic immigrants came to the Gresham area from Mexico, Central America and South America in the mid-1800s to search for gold and serve in the volunteer militia during the Indian Wars in southern Oregon. In the late 19th century they played a major role in the development of the state's livestock economy.

Black settlers first immigrated to the area on the Oregon Trail in the early to mid-19th century, according to the exhibit, some as slaves, some of their own free will, with most coming from southern states.

"Some came as free men hoping the West would provide more opportunities and more freedoms than the South, while others came as slaves, immigrating with their owners," says an excerpt from the audio recordings. Oregon banned slavery in 1844, but the provisional government included exclusion policies in the state's constitution.

"These policies included denying the right of suffrage, the right to own property or make contracts or the right to reside in the state," the audio states.

Russian immigration occurred in waves, starting in the early 1900s, then after World War II, another wave in 1988,

and the latest from 1992 to 1996. Many Russian immigrants came here because of religious persecution, according to the exhibit, and the audio talks about both their contributions and difficulties in American society.

"Many (Russian) immigrants come highly educated with applicable skills while others have enrolled at local community colleges to learn new occupations," the exhibit states. "An unfortunate fact is that many highly educated immigrants, some arriving as doctors, teachers or engineers, are not able to transfer or make use of their skills due to language and licensing barriers."

Swedish immigrants arrived in large numbers in the 1880s and most were second generation Swedes who came from other states.

"Many came west in search of fertile farm land, while others were drawn to Oregon because the landscape reminded them of home," the exhibit states, and in Gresham, many Swedish farmers ran dairy farms or grew berries.

"In 1875, N.F. Palmquist traveled from Kansas to Oregon, settling in the Gresham area. In the following years he would be followed by his brother and many other Swedish immigrants. Together these immigrants formed the first Swedish colony in the state," the exhibit says.

Like the Swedes, Germans who came to Gresham were mostly second-generation, and had little money to buy land but were hard-working and found work as carpenters, bakers, brewers, merchants, farmers and railroad workers, according to the exhibit.

The cultural exhibit isn't all that's new at the museum, said Dorothy Douglas, president of the Gresham Historical Society, raising her voice over the noise of workers as they installed new front doors.

"Replacing the old doors is very expensive and we're accepting donations," Douglas said. "The old doors were very old and we couldn't open them any more." Anyone who wants to contribute can go to [www.greshamhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.greshamhistoricalsociety.org).

The gift shop also has been redone, with history books, art works, prints, old yearbooks, Christmas ornaments, decorative boxes, commemorative cups, games and notecards for sale.

Douglas said the museum has many old photographs and patrons can purchase copies up to 13 by 19 inches.

The museum's military exhibit also has been expanded, as has a photography exhibit that includes folding cameras, box cameras and stereoscopic

photography. Other exhibits tell of the founding of Gresham and the building of the Columbia River Highway.

In addition to exhibits, the museum hosts school groups and leases the exhibit area for lectures or small groups.

Douglas said most of the artifacts in the museum came from local people, but one recent addition, a small boy's bicycle with hard rubber tires that is obviously very old, was left anonymously.

She said she would like to know more about where it came from and its history, and hopes someone will come forward.

"We've had it for two months and tried to find out who it belongs to, who left it," she said. "I can't tell you except that it came to us in a black bag."