

Bothell Museum Sentinel

"Not your usual newspaper"

Spring 2026

Issue 17



Bothell Historical Museum

Celebrating the History of Bothell and Northshore



Kiyoko Kanaya, who attended Bothell schools.

Spring Social

Saturday, March 28th, 1:30 PM, Lytle House

At this semi-annual meeting, museum Director Kenneth Doult will present *Behind Barbed Wire: A Bothell Family's Story of Incarceration during WWII*.

Come learn about the Kanaya family, their lives in Bothell, and how they were suddenly uprooted from their homes in 1942.



Schoolhouse Finds

These objects can be found in an enclosed display case in the Schoolhouse. Why? And what is their significance?

When preparations were made to move the Schoolhouse from Main Street to the park, these objects were found underneath the structure. The variety of objects

and the preservation of paper labels is curious.

These were displayed for a visit by a special group of middle-school-age students. Their story is on page 3.

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Connect with us! Got a question? Want to support the Museum by joining? Email BothellMuseum@gmail.com with your questions or to get an application form.



Bothell Historical Museum
Opening Doors To Bothell's Past

Supported by your contributions and ongoing support from ...



Meet Kenneth Doult, BHM's first Executive Director



In his own words...

My name is Kenneth Doult and I am thrilled to be the new Director of the Bothell Historical Museum! Growing up in Massachusetts, I developed a deep love of lighthouses and tall ships which drew me into the world of museums at an early age. My career has spanned working as an archeologist for the State of Maryland, a Ranger for the National Park Service at Tule Lake National Monument and Manzanar National Historic Site, and most recently the Director of the Shoreline Historical Museum. I am passionate about community-led design through anti-racist practices and am eager to be a part of connecting people to local history. When I am not at the museum, you can find me playing ukulele, juggling (sometimes ukuleles), and looking for meaningful connections wherever I go!

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 Gibbons, Gibbons, Breyse, Pat Pierce
 Programs & Events: *membership, marketing, & volunteers*
 Keeney, Breyse, Gardner,
 Thivia Ganesharaja, Ron Green
 Facilities: Larry Gibbons, Lemeshko, Fullmer

Interest Groups

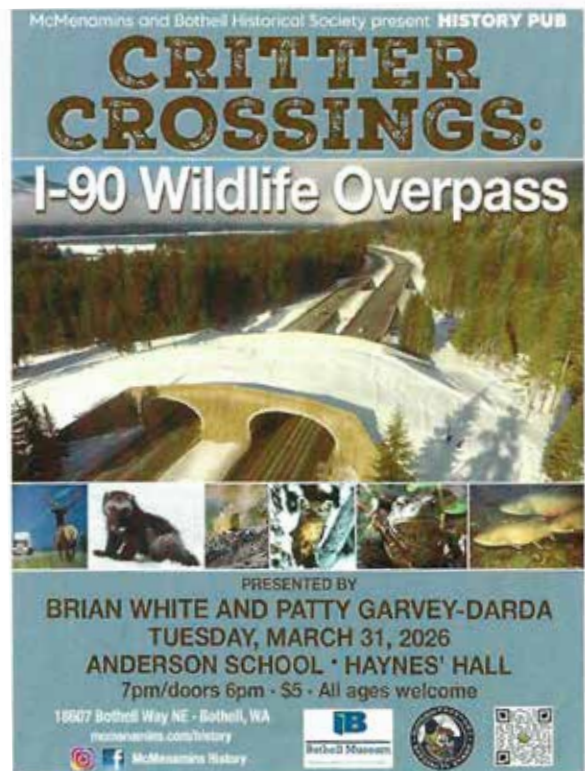
Docent LeadMichael Lemeshko
 Newsletter EditorSusan Gardner
 Past Perfect Leadopen
 Photographer Thiviya Ganesharaja
 Treasure BoxesMary Anne Gibbons
 Fashion, Textiles Leadopen
 School Leadopen
 Webmaster Ron Green

Board and Committee members can be contacted at BothellMuseum@gmail.com.

McMenamins History Pub Talks

BHM partners with McMenamins to present history pub talks. Several great suggestions have been made and forwarded on to McMenamins' historian. Email us, BothellMuseum@gmail.com, if you have suggestions for regional history foci...however tenuous! Who knows? It could lead to an intriguing rabbit hole.

The talks are on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) at Haynes Hall where you can enjoy and beverage and even dinner.



Mark Your Calendars

Spring Social, Saturday, March 28
1:30 PM, Lytle House,
Park @ Bothell Landing

See the cover page for a description of the program. You'll also learn the latest Museum news and have a chance to explore volunteer opportunities.

Opening Day, Sunday, April 5

The Museum will be open every Sunday, 1-4 PM, from April through October. Other opportunities include private tours, City events at the Park, and other days as determined by Kenneth's schedule.

Docent Training

Saturday, April 11, Hannan House

- general: 1-2:30 PM
- school tours: 2:30-4 PM

Would you like to know more about the Museum's three buildings, then share that knowledge with the public? Being a docent is a learning experience that never stops. Visitors come from near and far, curious about the buildings and their content that reflect days gone by. Be a part of that! All docents, experienced and novices, are encouraged to attend to get updated information and share new ideas. (School tours generally take place in May & June.)

A personal experience: Docent training is a starting point with a brief overview of each building and a notebook with more information to digest. But when you interact with visitors, they and you become curious about specific aspects in each of the buildings. Some inquiries can immediately be researched via the internet...or the catalog number associated with most objects can be looked up in the office files. By these means, your knowledge base is increased. But visitors also have also contributed to that knowledge. In the Hannan House, one noted that the handle of the cast-iron-pan-cleaning mesh in the kitchen was shaped to scrape stubborn bits from a pan's surface.

And, as described in a previous Sentinel, the Victrola and art above it in the living room led to conversations with visitors about HMV connections in India and the UK.

Being a docent is an extremely enriching experience. You should try it!

Petals on the River, Sunday, May 24
12:30 PM, Park @ Bothell Landing Bridge

This annual event will be held on Sunday of Memorial Day weekend. Departed friends and memorial donations to the Museum in the past year are honored in this ceremony. Flower petals from participants and the Bothell Florist are released from the bridge onto the Sammamish River which float gently towards Lake Washington. Everyone is invited.

**Team
Work**



In October, the Museum was contacted by a parent group supporting their middle-school-aged students in an FLL Challenge, the oldest of three age levels. Teams of students engage in research, problem-solving, coding, and engineering—building and programming a LEGO® Education SPIKE™ Prime robot that navigates the missions of a robot game. *They also participate in a research project to identify and solve a relevant real-world problem.*

This year's theme was Archeology...to understand more about Archeologists' work: the pain points, challenges, opportunities, and to identify a real world problem that the kids could tackle (either to improve an existing solution or invent something).

The Northshore FLL team wanted to work on a local project about how museums preserve and share historical artifacts to address:

- **Curation Crisis** (storage & preservation of archeological artifacts)
- **Solution:** Digital preservation toolkit—use 3D scanning, QR-linked records, or VR museum access.

The team and their parents visited the Museum for an



in-depth look led by Collections volunteers Pat Pierce and Mary Anne Gibbons (in photo).



Bothell's Swedish Cemetery... a Project to Celebrate 250 Years

For the nation's 200th birthday celebration, Museum members created a quilt depicting 30 aspects of Bothell's history.



To celebrate this year's 250th birthday, the board has set its sight on restoring Bothell's Swedish Cemetery in collaboration with the City which owns it, and volunteers.

The project was inspired by a young man who visited the Museum last summer and asked about its status...one of the many take-aways of the docent experience. (He also played a gorgeous rendition of the Titanic theme on the living room piano.)

One of the BHM Society's founding members, Sue Kienast, summarized its early history. "The Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Johannes Church in Bothell was established in 1893. In 1900, Charles Erickson donated one acre from his homestead along what became the south side of NE 191st Street for use as a cemetery. The first burial was in 1901, at which time permission was given for indigent burials, usually in unmarked graves. There may be as many as 100 gravesites but only seven have stone markers. Between 1891 and 1907, just 25 burials with corresponding birth and death dates, are on file with King County records. There may be additional unconfirmed burials including additional family members of the recorded families, early loggers, and children."

There have been past endeavors to maintain the cemetery, including an Eagle Scout project to create a sign, and Kienast and Robert Beckstrom spent years keeping the undergrowth at bay.



Swedish Cemetery
Workparty
April 22, 10 AM
9525 NE 191st St.

Join Museum members and volunteers to clear brush—already initiated by the City—and gently clean the existing headstones led by Michael Lemeshko.



Board president Michael Lemeshko has prepared an extensive "wish list" that has been shared with the City.

- signage
 - fencing
 - monument with names of known individuals buried therein*
 - entrance and parking improvements
 - research and documentation, perhaps including ground-penetrating radar
 - community outreach to raise awareness and support for ongoing maintenance
- * As research perhaps identifies additional known burials, a QR code will direct one to the Museum's website which will be updated with any new information.

Wish List ...

- ...docents!
- ...data entry volunteers *using Past Perfect*, a historical database [Google it to provide additional info].
- ...*stipend sponsor* for above volunteer(s).
- ...*pro bono attorney*...help on projects including the Swedish Cemetery initiative.
- ...*researchers*!

Early History Focus

Hannan House Bathroom

...what does it tell us about Bothell's early days?

As a docent, one explains that the upstairs bathroom used to be a bedroom, perhaps the son Almon's [going by Dick later in life]. Now it is a repository for those items that we identify as belonging in today's bathroom (or at the barbershop!).

But water was still needed to complete one's daily chores. Wells were one of the sources of water for the residents of Bothell. Reportedly, the Hannan House had a hand pump in the kitchen to provide water. This would have been plumbed to a well. Rumor has it that a water tower at the Hannan House supplied the first water on Main Street via a water tower on their property.



William Hannan and daughter Gladys with a view of many of the out-buildings.

The water tower would have been atop a well from which water would have been pumped into a tank. Before electricity, this might have been accomplished by a small windmill.

Alfred Pearson, his wife, and two children emigrated from Sweden. They purchased 40 acres from Columbus Greenleaf and in 1905 Pearson organized the Spring Hill Water Company. Pipes were laid to supply ten families south of the Sammamish River. Later the company incorporated, larger

mains were laid, and a tank was provided so that eventually 235 families were served and 80,000 gallons of water were pumped every 24 hours.

The water was conveyed by wooden pipes. Conveyance to downtown Bothell was via pipes hung under the 102nd Avenue bridge.

Bothell's population exceeded the State threshold to be a city of 1,500 in 1960. Bothell's sewer system was completed that same year, and the water system was switched from local wells to the Tolt pipeline, operated by Seattle Public Utilities

When the house was built in 1893, pitchers and basins provided a simple means to wash one's hands, face, and sometimes feet. These were typically placed on a washstand that might have a mirror and a rod for hanging towels, as well as drawers for the items now found in the bathroom. The dirty water would likely have been thrown out the window.



Spring [Norway] Hill tanks today



Antique washstand



continued from previous page

Rarely mentioned is the outhouse, a necessity in the early days. One of the out-buildings on the Hannan property was likely an outhouse. (Today's equivalent might be the porta-potty.) The concept of septic systems, whereby wastewater is flushed into an outdoor buried tank, arrived in the U.S. in the mid-1880s and were prolific in the 1940s.

Chamber pots in bedrooms eliminated the need to visit the outhouse at inconvenient times. These were emptied into slop buckets. Although it's been said that the youngest member of the household got to empty the slop bucket into the outhouse, the stairs make this an unlikely scenario.



Chamber pot and slop bucket in the master bedroom

The Hannan House was occupied into the 1960s; Almon lived there into the '50s. Clearly the modern conveniences were embraced which now allow the Museum to display items that were otherwise tucked away in a washstand. Many have stories of their own. We start with a handwritten note that, at one time, sat on a shelf near three straight-edge razors.

Mr. A. C. Carter crack shot resident of Bothell now 86 was among the posse who fought the combined younger bro's & James gang. Killed and captured all but Jesse James. Jesse James lost ^{his} razor which Carter picked up.



The bathroom holds a vast collection of items bathroom essentials. While many of the same items are used today, these are from times past.



Spanish-style mantilla combs or peinetas: by the 1830s, they were worn not only in Spain but by fashionable women throughout Europe and the USA. Originally of tortoise shell, combs in the late 19th century were frequently created from ox horn or celluloid.



Catalog No.	1768	BOTHELL HISTORICAL MUSEUM	DONOR	Museum
Acct'n No.			Address	
Original No.			Date of Entry	10-9-86
			Location	Bathroom
Name, Description, History				
RAZORS (2) STRAIGHT-IN ORIGINAL BOXES (6 1/2" x 1")				
1. Black Razor - Green + cream (Box "Spangenberg" Seattle, WA.)				
2. Maroon Box - (Vester Bros. NY) Creme Celluloid "Smooth Shaver" METEOR RAZOR WORKS Solingen - MADE IN GERMANY				



Sources for bathroom article:

- Squak Slough: 1870-1920, Amy Eunice Stickney & Lucile McDonald
- <http://www.simitras-exquisite-things.com>
- <https://www.si.edu/collections/snapshot/intricate-beauty>

Received from: Museum Phone: _____
 Catalog No. _____ DONOR: _____
 Act'n No. 1979 HISTORICAL ADDRESS: _____
 Original No. _____ Date of Entry 10-24-91
 Location Bathroom

Name, Description, History
Hand Clippers hand-operated chrome
1. size - 4 1/2"
2. size - 5"



On the shelf above: troches to soothe sore throats, Vicks test sample, zinc oxide adhesive plaster, DeWitt's Vaporizing Balm (does double duty), and Regulets—a modern laxative.

Humphreys Homeopathic Remedies

Frederick K. Humphreys (1816-1900), a homeopathic physician, founded Humphreys' Homeopathic Medicine Co. in New York City in 1853, manufacturing and selling 35 remedies that were advertised to treat a multitude of ailments (Humphreys 1910). His remedies were the first form of commercially available and effective homeopathic treatments, boasting an efficiency rate of five-sixths.

A mass spectrometry analysis of four of Humphreys Homeopathic Remedies identified sucrose and apigenin as primary components. Humphreys stated that he used sugar to prepare the remedies as "not to offend taste."

Humphreys' remedies contained the same basic ingredients for varying disorders. Although Humphreys' pills were primarily composed of sucrose, apigenin was also included as a basis for treatment in all ailments advertised. Apigenin can be linked to widespread medicinal value during Humphreys' time period. Modern studies have reinforced the use of apigenin in homeopathy, revealing anti-inflammatory, anti-bacterial, and anti-viral qualities. Humphreys' source was the mullein plant.

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10761-021-00637-0>



The back of the above container suggests the ointment aids in reducing pimples and blemishes, dandruff, thinning hair, red and rough hands, burns, scalds, cuts, wounds, and sores. Avoid sun exposure. "Best applied on rising and retiring. Read and preserve 32-page pamphlet herewith."



Catalog No. 7-10-20-77 DONOR Samuel
 Act'n No. 444 HISTORICAL ADDRESS 1417 Ave C St
 Original No. _____ Date of Entry 7-7-77
 Location Bathroom

Name, Description, History
4 - 2" Round pill bottles with original cork stoppers
and in cardboard containers: ① Common cold, ② Whooping
cough, ③ Influenza, ④ Pleurisy, ⑤ Bronchitis
(no pillbox bottles)

Collector M. J. L. Remarks, References, Correspondence _____
 Where Collected Museum
 When Collected July 77 Size Value _____
 1900-700 611 BOTTLES 75¢ @ 24 ea

Bob Gerrish

Our treasurer and Board member of many years, Bob Gerrish, passed away on Dec 31, 2025, after a two-month illness. We are deeply saddened and give our support to his family.

Bothell Historical Museum
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Bothell, WA 98041-0313



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The Bothell Historical Museum thanks our business members and partners for their support. If you would like to aid in the Museum's preservation and telling of Bothell's history, join us! For more information, email us at BothellMuseum@gmail.com

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