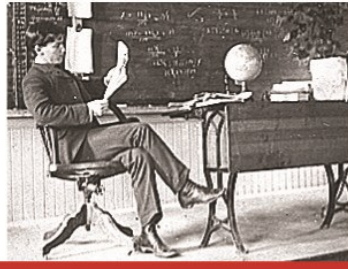


EASTSIDE HERITAGE CENTER



Connections for yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

HERITAGE REFLECTOR

Summer 2016

Volume XVI

Issue 2

Vision

To be a destination heritage museum and research facility that enhances community identity through the preservation and stewardship of the Eastside's history.

Mission

To steward Eastside History by actively collecting, preserving, and interpreting documents and artifacts, and by promoting public involvement in, and appreciation of, this heritage through educational programming and community outreach.

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Strawberry Tales

Since the strawberry was first discovered, the delectable fruit has been the epitome of summer. Often referred to as nature's candy, the strawberry, with its luscious red color, sweet taste and its perfect bite size is enjoyed by people of all ages and backgrounds.

Strawberries are a part of many American cities histories; Bellevue being one of them. By 1900, more than 400 people lived in Bellevue, many of them Japanese immigrants farming land that had been cleared of timber. Bellevue's first strawberry field was planted in 1904 at the corner of 102nd Ave NE and NE 15th Street by Sakutaro Takami.

By the 1920s, Bellevue had become known for its tasty strawberries, inspiring community leaders to create a regional celebration for the strawberry harvest.



Above: Newspaper clipping of 1939 Strawberry Festival royalty.

The first Strawberry Festival was held in 1925, and was held annually in June until it was cancelled in 1942 due to WWII. In 1987 the Strawberry Festival was revived by the Bellevue Historical Society as a single evening celebration. The Eastside Heritage Center brought the Festival back to its roots as a large-scale community event in 2003.

Strawberry Shortcake:

Along with strawberries, shortcake has long been a tradition of the Strawberry Festival. In the first years of the Festival, shortcakes were baked on site by volunteers. As the popularity of the Strawberry Festival continued to grow, this was no longer practical. In 1927 Fisher Flouring Mills stepped in with electric ovens and

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Above: Bellevue Main Street c.1925 decked out for the Strawberry Festival.

provided the staff to mix and bake the shortcakes, much to the relief of Strawberry Festival volunteers!

Getting to the Festival:

With the first Strawberry Festival being an unqualified success, Kirkland started caravans to the event. An excerpt following the 1927 Festival from the Kirkland-based *East Side Journal* reads:

"Led by a squad of state highway patrolmen, upwards of one hundred and fifty carloads of Kirklandites, with noisemakers of all kinds, banners, balloons, and all that goes to round out a festival occasion and with a screeching of horns, pour into Bellevue."

The last Kirkland caravan occurred in 1931.

The Strawberry Postmark:

In 1938, President Franklin Roosevelt established National Airmail Week (May 15th - May 21st) to celebrate the 20th anniversary of airmail service in the U.S. Each town was invited to create its own cachet - a commemorative design to mark the event printed or stamped on the envelopes mailed that week. Bellevue's choice was of course a strawberry, designed by Hewitt Jackson.

We could tell many more tales of the history of strawberries in Bellevue and the Strawberry Festival. The delicious berry is credited for putting Bellevue on the map.

The Strawberry Festival continues to be a community-wide celebration each June.

Today's festivities are tied to the region's agricultural roots, and include artifact demonstrations, a mini-museum and hands-on history activities hosted by Eastside Heritage Center.

Fresh strawberry shortcake is still a feature of the Festival, with the added element of shortcake eating contests! The Festival also includes live entertainment, food and vendor booths, a Classic Auto Show, a Touch-a-Truck event, and a Family Fun Area with pony rides, rock climbing, inflatables,



carnival games, mini-golf and more! Join us for the Eastside Heritage Center's 2016 Bellevue Strawberry Festival presented by BECU at Crossroads Park, June 25-26!

Recent Accessions

Thank you for your donations to the collection:

Joanne Matsumura - Eastside matchbook collection.

Anne Christensen - Girl Scout sweatshirt, Totem Lake Council.

Robin Savage - Blarney Hut Tavern jacket.

Kelsey Creek Farm - Daniel Fraser's cane, various agricultural items used on Kelsey Creek Farm.

Paul Davison - 3 scythes, used on the Hutchinson farm in Bellevue, c. 1920.

Karen Klett - 1960's era clothing patterns, Osterizer blender with hand sewn cover.



Above: Blarney Hut Tavern jacket, which belonged to the donor's father, a regular at the business. #2016.024.001

Dennis Pearce - Lake Hills Bell & Valdez promotional materials, and Skylark blue prints.

Diana Ford - News clippings related to Richard Schafer's Bellevue High School football career.



Above: 1938 Airmail Stamp designed by Hewitt Jackson.

Collections Corner

Sarah Frederick
Collections Manager

Exhibits

Our latest exhibits at the Winters House and at the Bellevue Library explore the origins of Bellevue's Strawberry Festival. Make sure to check out both exhibits before the festival weekend! The Bellevue Library exhibit will be up through the end of June, and the Winters House exhibit will be up through the end of July.

The very first Strawberry Festival was organized, in part, to celebrate the bountiful berry farms on the Eastside. While there may no longer be numerous farms in downtown Bellevue, Eastside farms are still growing food to feed our community. Many of these local farmers sell their produce at the various Farmers Markets in the area.

In the early twentieth century, farmers would sell their produce directly to their neighbors at roadside stands or in the local general store.

There were farmers of all types; from those who grew enough for their families in backyard plots, to larger farms that would ship produce all the way up to Alaska and into Middle America with the use of new refrigeration technology. You can learn more about the Eastside's agricultural heritage in Eastside Heritage Center's *From Farm to Table* exhibit at Crossroads Mall, which will run for the duration of the Crossroads Farmers Market 2016 season.

Keep an eye out for Eastside Heritage Center at the Crossroads Farmers Market held Tuesdays from 12:00pm -6:00pm. EHC will be at the market throughout June and the rest of the summer!



Above: The Kelfner Fruit Stand near 112th SE and Bellevue Way, advertising Island-Belle Grapes. The Kelfner Vineyard was located near 108th Ave and SE 8th Street. #2002.147.008



Above & Right: Local farmers selling their produce at the Crossroads Farmers Market.



Wish List

EHC is seeking the following donations:

For Care of the Collection

- HEPA vacuum for cleaning artifacts.
- Rolling garment rack to use when processing or repairing textiles.
- Chest freezer for treating and isolating artifacts.
- Archival scrapbooks, at least 14" x 14" x 3" in size.

For the Collection

- Photos, documents, ephemera from 1910-1920 related to lowering of the Lake Washington and the eastside communities affected
- Eastside materials from the 1970's to present day

- Materials from the Crossroads and Eastgate neighborhoods, any era, particularly photos
- Issues of the *Overlake Outlook* newspaper.
- Lake Hills Roller Rink or Skate King photos or ephemera

For use in the office

- Android or Windows tablet for use in off-site storage and at events.
- Self-healing (PVC) cutting mat for producing labels for exhibit and outreach activities.
- 2 Desktop Computers (2010 or newer) for use by EHC Volunteers.

To Donate Items:

Call: (425) 450-1049 or Email:

collections@eastsideheritagecenter.org

Eastside Heritage Center

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	Betty Ann Rizk	

In Memoriam

Mitsuko 'Mitzie' Hashiguchi, 1921-2016

A long time Eastside native, and friend of Eastside Heritage Center, Mitzie Hashiguchi passed away on May 9th, 2016.

Mitzie was a true Bellevue pioneer. Her parents emigrated from Japan in 1911 and settled in Bellevue. She was born in the Midlakes area, today referred to as Lake Bellevue.

She grew up in Bellevue with her six younger siblings, and attended Bellevue's Union S. High School, graduating in 1938.

Two year's after high school, in 1940, she married Mutsuo "Mike" Hashiguchi. Together they worked on a farm. In 1942, they were forced to relocate from Bellevue with their first son Lester, due to the Japanese American Internment of WWII. The family was sent to camps in Pinedale and Tule Lake, CA and Minidoka, ID.

After the war, Mitzie returned to the community she loved and went on to work for the Bellevue School District in the food service program for 26 years. She



Mitzie with her son Lester, c. 1940 .

and her husband contributed 18 years of leadership to the PTA, and helped found the Bellevue Boys Club in 1954.

Mitzie was a supporter of the Bellevue Historical Society, and in later years the Eastside Heritage Center. She became a member of the Japanese American Citizens League in 1941, volunteered at Children's Orthopedic Hospital, and was a charter member of the Bellevue Sister Cities Association. She received a number of awards for her services to the community, including the Community Bridge Builder Award in 1997 from the City of Bellevue.

Mitzie will be missed greatly, but her story will live on in the Eastside Heritage Center collection through her oral history, photos and other items donated over the years.



Above: 1998 Bellevue Japanese Girls reunion.

Education Corner

Jane Morton
Education Coordinator

Summertime is one of our favorite parts of the year here at Eastside Heritage Center. Not only is the weather warmer, but it is our busiest season for sharing the history of this region with the surrounding community. Our calendar is packed with hands-on history opportunities and events, which include the Bellevue Strawberry Festival and Heritage Programs at the 1888 Historic Fraser Cabin.

We have been doing both events for quite a few years now, and an activity that never gets old is the corn sheller. Dating back over two hundred years, the corn sheller was invented in 1815. Made of cast iron, the device is used to pull kernels off dried corncobs quickly and more efficiently than by hand.

Corn shellers were designed to make a farmer's life easier,



Above: participants at a Fraser Cabin program taking freshly pulled off corn kernels to put through the corn feed grinders.

and came in a variety of sizes, from hand-held devices to large self-feeding conveyor belt versions. Although a large-scale version would be fun to share with the community, it is not practical for public demonstration, and as such EHC uses a table-top version for our activities.

To use a corn sheller, one takes a whole dried corncob and feeds it through the cylinder shaped portion at the top of the device. Using the hand crank on the side, the corncob is then pulled through the metal-tooth grinds of the machine, which are used to pull the kernels off the cob. The



Above: corn kernels are pulled through metal grinders, and cranked by hand to make corn feed.

corn sheller is mounted on a table that collects the kernels as they fall. EHC also uses two converted meat grinders, mounted to the table, so that kids can grind the kernels down into corn feed.

It is always a pleasure to see children and adults alike take a turn at grinding the corncobs through the machine. To watch as their eyes light-up in amazement as the kernels are pulled off with a crank of their own hand.

Corn sheller machines were used throughout America, including right here on the Eastside. Using them today for

our public events helps us demonstrate the Eastside's agricultural roots. The device may not be recognized right away by a child, or maybe even a parent, but it can be the grandparent who sees the machine being used at an EHC event and thinks, "hey, we used that in my day!" A

connection is then made across generations. Perhaps a memory and personal story are shared. These connections are what embody the EHC mission, to

make connections for yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Does the corn grinder or other EHC hands-on history activity sound fun to you? Then consider volunteering with us and running an activity this summer! Other hands-on history activities include, canning and time capsule making, cow milking, butter churning, coffee grinding, and more!

Contact 425-450-1049 or education@eastsideheritagecenter.org to find out how to get involved.



One of EHC's table-size corn shellers used at public events.

Summer Programs

FRASER CABIN

HERITAGE PROGRAMS

Date & Time: Saturdays, June 18, July 16,
Aug. 20, Sept. 17
11:00AM-3:00PM

Location: Kelsey Creek Farm Park
410 130th Pl SE, Bellevue, 98005

At the historic 1888 Fraser Cabin, Eastside Heritage Center staff and volunteers will be presenting activities and interpreting the cabin that was built by the Fraser family over 100 years ago! Activities include agriculture, dairy, household tasks, log cabin construction, games and a scavenger hunt.

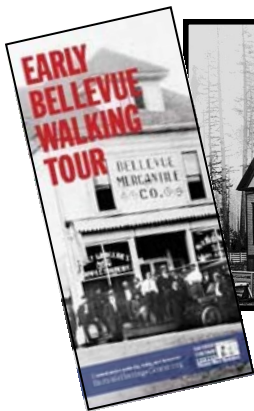
Presented in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services.

EARLY BELLEVUE WALKING TOUR

Date & Time: Thursday July 21 & Tuesday August 16
5:30PM-7:30PM

Location: Meet at Bellevue Downtown Park,
Main Entrance & Fountain on NE 4th St.

Registration: 425-450-1049 or
info@eastsideheritagecenter.org



Before glass towers defined the skyline and shoppers bustled across busy pavement, Bellevue was

a quiet town of dirt roads and scattered homes. The first settlers from Seattle began to drift across Lake Washington

in the 1860s. Discover the hidden history throughout downtown Bellevue on this Early Bellevue Walking Tour. Download a copy of the self guided tour brochure at

www.eastsideheritagecenter.org

Burrows Cabin

The Burrows Cabin is the oldest structure in Bellevue. It was built in 1883 by Albert Burrows, a civil war veteran, who came to Bellevue in 1882. Burrows claimed 160 acres of land on Lake Washington for his homestead.

In the spring of 1884, Albert Burrows donated land for the first School in Bellevue and helped to build the one-room schoolhouse (just south of present-day Chesterfield Park). Albert's daughter, Calanthia Burrows, was Bellevue's first teacher. In 1894, Albert became a member of the Washington State Legislature, but he died only a short time later.

today. It was moved again in 1946, to its current location off of 112th Ave NE. An addition was added to the cabin in 1956, which doubled the square footage.

The cabin suffered a fire in the 1970's, but the damage was only to the interior of the cabin, though at this time the original windows were replaced with modern single pane glass.

The current property owners, Ty & Terry Thorpe, are donating the cabin to the City of Bellevue, and this summer the oldest structure in Bellevue will be moving into a City Park to be preserved for future generations.



Above: The Burrows Cabin, from the Arnold and Ilene Torgerson Collection, EHC #2007.048.005.

The Burrows Cabin was originally located near what is now known as Burrows Landing, at the foot of SE 16th. A carpenter, Albert built the cabin himself. It originally measured 13 by 23 feet. In the 1930's the cabin was moved near where Bellevue Square is

Eastside Heritage Center looks forward to partnering with the Thorpe family and the City of Bellevue to preserve and interpret this iconic piece of our community's history.

Volunteer Corner

Volunteers have always been vital to the success of Eastside Heritage Center. Their passion and dedication has helped us to share the history of this region through a variety of programs, outreach events, and research services.

Earlier this year we announced that we dedicated the Volunteer of the Year Award in Karen Klett's name, in honor of her many years of service to the organization as a supporter, board member, and Volunteer Coordinator. Well, we thought it was high-time we chose an awardee and gave them a tremendous thanks!

2015 was a whirlwind year for EHC. We took on many new and exciting projects, but the most significant was the collections storage move of EHC's 60,000+ artifacts. Many individuals had a hand at helping with the move and we are excited to announce that the Karen Klett Volunteer of the Year Award will go to

the Collections Storage Move Team! We thank:

-Andrew Simeone
-Barb Williams
-Dani Jackson
-Dave Sherbrooke
-First Due Movers
-Juli Hawes
-Kim Radcliffe
-Paul Hahn
-Ray Higgins
-Simon Bomke
-Steve Williams
-Tim Johnson

Special thanks also to Collections Manager Sarah Frederick for leading the team and Lexi Roberts for her critical support.

Thank you and congratulations Collections Storage Move Team!



Each member of the Collections Storage Move Team received a t-shirt that read, "History is heavy, and I moved it!" on the back.

All Eastside Heritage Center

Members receive:

- Membership Card
- Quarterly Newsletter with historical features and program updates
- Invitations to exhibits and programs
- 10% discount on books and gift shop items

CATEGORIES:

Benefactor - \$1,000

Receives Steward Benefits, plus:
Honored at Annual Event

Steward - \$500

Receives Supporter benefits, plus:
Special publication
Curator's Tour of the collection

Eastside Heritage Center MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$1000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor \$100 |
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Supporter - \$250

Receives Organization benefits, plus:
Historic photo reproduction

Organization (schools, scout troops, etc) - \$100

Receives Contributor benefits, plus:
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Contributor - \$100

Additional benefits include:
Access to Archives fee waived

Family - \$40

Individual - \$25

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McDOWELL HOUSE (EHC Administrative Offices)

Visiting Address: 11660 Main Street, Bellevue, WA 98005

Tel: 425-450-1049

WINTERS HOUSE (National Historic Site and EHC Research Services)

Visiting Address: 2102 Bellevue Way SE, Bellevue, WA 98004

Tel: 425-452-2752

Hours of Operation: EHC Research Office Hours

Tuesdays, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Winters House Public Visiting Hours:

Tuesdays 10:00 AM-4:00 PM & Saturdays 10:00 AM-2:00 PM ; Closed Sun-Mon, Wed-Fri

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