

# THE FRIENDLY GAZETTE

May 2020 | [www.fhfg.org](http://www.fhfg.org)



**06**

RECOGNITION-  
3 HOMES RECEIVE  
PLAQUES

**10**

A LOOK AROUND  
THE OREGON RAIL  
HERITAGE MUSEUM

**13**

DEALING DRUGS IN  
FOREST GROVE

**14**

THE HATFIELD  
MYSTERY





# Table of Contents

- 04 LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT
- 05 SUMMER & FALL EVENTS
- 06 RECOGNITION—Plaques awarded to three historic homes
- 09 FUN TIMES AT THE OLD TRAIN STATION
- 10 A LOOK AROUND THE OR RAIL HERITAGE CENTER
- 12 MUSEUM TREASURES
- 13 DEALING DRUGS IN FOREST GROVE  
Whether quack or cure, druggists have a long history in Forest Grove.
- 14 THE HATFIELD MYSTERY  
In November 1912, women won equal suffrage in Oregon and Myrtle Hatfield was living in Forest Grove.
- 18 CORONA VIRUS JOURNALS—A living history project you are invited to join!
- 19 PARTING SHOT



ON THE COVER: The Mary Rose Sawyer House which the Forest Grove Historic Landmarks Board has described as "one of the more ornate houses of any style in Forest Grove," received its FHFG plaque this February. Learn some of the history of this beautiful residence and that of two others plaque awardees starting on page 6 in this issue.



**The Old Train Station  
1936 19th Ave,  
Forest Grove, OR 97116**

## *May events & Open Hours are on hold for now.*

We sincerely hope you enjoy this issue of the FHFG newsletter. We decided to freely share this issue to spread enjoyment to our community during these unusual times. The FHFG newsletter, produced quarterly for decades, is a treasured benefit of membership packed with fun and interesting reading.

This month, read the account of a local Suffragette who suddenly and mysteriously died. Was it foul play? Some thought so, but as you'll read, we likely never will know. Also, learn the history of drugs in our community... the helpful kind!

Are you as intrigued about the history of our community as we are? If you are not already a member, we would love for you to join us! Find details at [www.fhfg.org](http://www.fhfg.org).

— B. Schaffer

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mary Jo Morelli, President  
Gary Eddings, Vice President  
Eddie Glenn, Treasurer  
Martha Khoury, Secretary  
Don Skinner, Museum Manager  
Eva Guggemos  
Skip Buhler  
Terri Erskine  
Megan Havens  
Marcus Hazelett

### **NEWSLETTER Writers & Photographers**

Skip Buhler  
Melody Haveluck  
Megan Havens  
Jim Hilsenkopf  
Mary Jo Morelli  
Brenda Schaffer  
Cheryl Skinner  
Don Skinner  
Cherie Savoie Tintary

Newsletter Designer/Editor: Brenda Schaffer

Printed by Gann Bros. Printing, Forest Grove

# Letter from the President

by MARY JO MORELLI, FHFG PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

I hope you are all being safe and staying well in these uncertain times! Please do all you can to protect yourself and others from this pandemic virus that is affecting lives around the world.

We have amazing people in this organization who are rising to the occasion for our members and our community. I will not attempt to list all who continue to maintain FHFG as a community while also contributing to the larger community—setting up venues for connecting and recording this time in our lives.

You likely heard that the FHFG Annual meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday, May 13 has been POSTPONED. All Officers and Board members have agreed to remain in their roles until it is safe and appropriate to schedule a meeting. We hope that we can hold the Annual Meeting as part of our Summer Membership Picnic. The date for that is tentatively set for Sunday, July 12. We will keep you informed on those details!

I want to thank Lisa (Amato) Casten for her years of dedication to producing an outstanding newsletter! She took it from a cut and paste format to a beautifully designed publication that took us to a new level as an all-volunteer organization!

Additionally, I want to welcome Brenda Schaffer as our new Newsletter Editor! Brenda has been part of the Forest Grove community for a number of years and has offered her expertise in publishing to keep us on track and moving forward.

Speaking of moving forward... Over the past several years we have been transitioning as an organization. We have a lot going on as a small not-for-profit! Your Board of Directors makes tremendous efforts to move Friends forward and position us for great things in the coming years!

We are currently facing some new challenges and are reviewing ways to best utilize our resources for the ongoing commitments to the Old Train Station Museum, the A. T. Smith House, and fulfilling our Mission as Friends of Historic Forest Grove.

Yes, there have been some changes in membership costs and transitions of events. The Board always keeps our stated Mission in mind and appreciates the support of our members and the community! Forest Grove is a special place and we are making history in these difficult days in 2020. Look for articles in this publication that offer you each an opportunity to be part of recording history today!

Be Well and Stay Safe,

Mary Jo Morelli  
President, FHFG

# Summer & Fall Events

to mark on your calendar!



OCT  
24

**VINTAGE QUILT SHOW**  
This fall don't miss our Vintage Quilt Show. It's a feast for the eyes—just about the time you might enjoy a cozy quilt in the evenings! The event is chaired by Carol Drew.

TBA

**SUMMER PICNIC & ANNUAL MEETING** We had hoped to host our Annual Picnic for members in mid-July as usual. We had hoped to include our Annual Meeting which had been postponed from May. At this time, we are holding off until further notice. Stay tuned—we will keep you informed as plans are updated.



## Did you know...

You can support FHFG in ways that won't cost you a dime!

amazon smile

BottleDrop  
GIVE

benevity

facebook

Fred Meyer  
community rewards  
Where shopping & giving unite

By specifying FHFG as your charity of choice, Fred Meyer and Amazon will donate a portion of what you spend with them. FHFG also receives credit for your recyclables such as bottles and cans you drop off at local Oregon Bottle Drop if you use of our convenient blue charity bags which can be picked up at the Old Train Station. Or give through your employer using the Benevity program. You can also set up a birthday/event fundraiser on Facebook and specify FHFG as the recipient. For details on how you can help, check out [www.fhfg.org/giving](http://www.fhfg.org/giving).

# Recognition

## FHFG awards plaques to three outstanding Forest Grove historic homes

Our Historic Property Recognition Committee takes great delight in helping community residents discover the rich histories behind their historic homes. The committee presents homeowners with a historic home plaque and a bound notebook detailing the specific history of their home and property. Committee members are: Jim Hilsenkopf, Melody Haveluck, Carol Hilsenkopf, Joyce Sauber, Carol Taylor, Skip Buhler, Carol Drew, and Ginny Carlson,



### Ca. 1875 Wm. & Sidna Kane House

This charming example of Italianate architecture was built by William Kane, an architect who learned his trade in Muscatine, Iowa. He and his wife Sidna—the daughter of Benjamin Cornelius—had lived for decades near North Plains, farming and building, before settling in Forest Grove in 1872 to raise their children. They purchased all of Block 14 in Forest Grove from James and Mary Imbrie in May of that year, at which point William began work on this architectural gem. Other homes on Block 14 bear the mark of Kane's hand, and his knowledge of various architectural styles, such as the neighboring Sawyer House, and homes on 19th Ave.

At least four of the Kane's six children were raised in this house, and their youngest son Frank—a bank cashier before being elected mayor twice—lived in the house after his parents passed away. The House was later home of Gaston wood dealer George Wise and his family, who lived here over 50 years.



At the time of his death in 1915, William Kane's building talents were widely known throughout Washington County. Other buildings that Kane constructed include: the Washington County Courthouse (1852), Central School in Forest Grove, and The West Union Baptist Church near North Plains.

Today, the Kane House is home to Helvi Smith, her son Arlo, and Helvi's Art Studio.

### 1891 *Mary Rose Sawyer House*

Mary Rose Tompkins was born May 29, 1866 to William M. and Sarah J. Tompkins in Cornelius, Oregon. She was the second of four girls and two boys in this early area farm family. At the age of 25 in 1888 she wed Damon E. Sawyer of Yamhill, but the marriage didn't last very long. In 1891 Mary bought the home just north of local builder William Kane who owned all of Block 14. It is believed that Kane had constructed this wonderful example of a Queen Anne Cottage Style home next to his own. She lived here for three years before she married Dr. Charles F. Miller, a local Druggist. Coming from a prestigious family that included his father and brother who both served in the Oregon State Legislature, Miller was successful in his own right, owning a thriving drug store in Forest Grove. Mary sold this house to Estelle Price in 1901. Over 119 years and five owners later, Jeanne Junk is the proud owner of the Mary Rose Sawyer House which the Forest Grove Historic Landmarks Board has described as "one of the more ornate houses of any style in Forest Grove."



### 1904 *Sarah Jane Pollock House*

Sarah Jane Pollock was born on October 6, 1838 in Manheim, New York. In her early twenties, she was married in Oakland, California to Col. Robert Pollock, a US Army officer who was stationed nearby. Later, they moved as he served in Arizona and Washington states, during both the Mexican and Civil Wars, and was engaged in many Indian campaigns all over the West. After reaching the mandatory retirement age, the Pollocks with their six children, settled on their farm in in Cornelius. Later Robert's failing health caused them to move to Portland where in 1901, he died at the age of 81.



**Continued on next page**

## Continued...

The following year, Sarah bought Lot 2 of Block 14 from William Kane. In April of 1904 she had this American Foursquare home built. When she died in December, her will was contested as having been written under improper influence. After a long trial, her six living children inherited her estate, and they sold their shares in the home to their sibling Dr. William Myers Pollock, a Forest Grove dentist. He continued to live in the house until his death in 1925. His wife Marie sold the Pollock House to Alice W. and F. E. Bushnell on January 21, 1929 but they resold it two months later to William Guyton. In 1934 William married Miss Genevieve Shearer. They operated a milk processing business behind their home known as the Guyton Dairy for the next 30 years. Over the years they made many improvements to the interior of the home. In 1983 they



sold the property to the present owners Lynne and Andy Magner who are the owner operators of Miracle Sign Company which is located in the building that

housed the Guyton's creamery. The Magners have upgraded the electricity and furnace, and remodeled the kitchen and upstairs bathroom. They added a fireplace and changed the back sleeping room into a master bedroom. After adding wainscoting and crown molding, the interior received new wall paper and paint. For over 40 years they have shown loving care and attention to this beautiful home which presents such a wonderful historic presence to all who pass by.



**Please remember FHFG  
when planning your estate**



**Your legacy gift will help us complete our projects that need to get done, such as additional work on the AT Smith House.**

Get in touch to discuss how your legacy gift could benefit FHFG.

**info@FHFG.org**

**(503) 992-1280**

(We'll return your call within 24 hours)

## At the Old Train Station

By Don Skinner,  
Museum Manager

**W**ell, things have come to a complete shut down at the OTS.

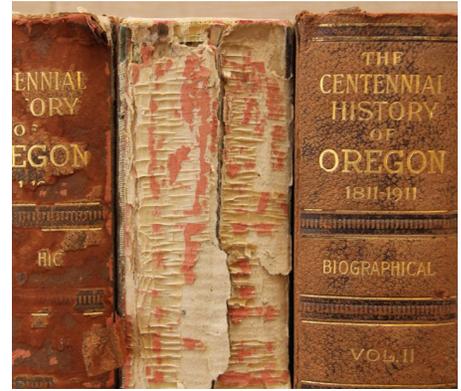
We were in the middle of getting the Pharmacy display up and running when everything came to a halt. The OTS is presentable but there is no one to present it to.

We also have a plan to place a Forest Grove map in the hallway showing where most, if not all, of the Service Stations were located. There were over 20! Do you know where they were located? We do. I remember the Texaco station on the corner of 21st and Main where Diversity is now located. There was a Richfield station on A Street tucked in behind where Wells Fargo is now. Possibly the first station was located across Pacific Ave. from Theater In The Grove (Star Theater/Grove Theater). I remember stopping there when it was a Chevron station and you could get 100+ octane gas. A high performance engine would really wake up with a tank full of that stuff! Now it's a parking lot.

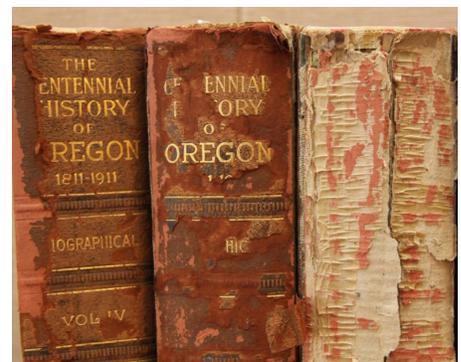
A subject we'd like to have investigated is Lincoln School and Lincoln Park. We have pictures of early Lincoln School, later pictures of the Lincoln fire and the plans for Lincoln Park. I know, way back when, there were two baseball diamonds north of the school grounds and swimming pool. I know one ball field had wooden bleachers and, if I remember correctly, a ticket booth and snack bar. Anyone care to work on this project or add to the memories I have?

While the OTS remains closed for now, my wife Cheryl and I dropped by to check on the building. While we were there I picked up the 1979 through 1981 boxes of News Times negatives so I could spend some quality time at home entering the information written on the envelopes onto a spreadsheet for a future resource.

We are eager for things to get back to normal, whatever that will be in the future, so we can get back to having more fun times at the OTS.

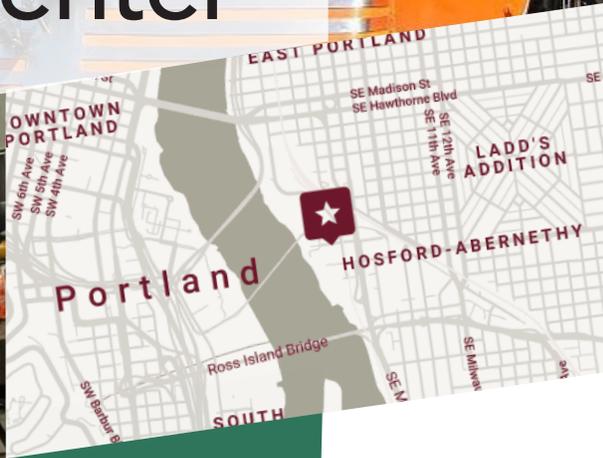


Do you have curious old apothecary items you wish to donate or loan to the museum for the new display?  
Contact Don at:  
[OTSmanager@fhfg.org](mailto:OTSmanager@fhfg.org)





# A Look Around the Oregon Rail Heritage Center



Tune in to the Talking Steam Trains Podcast—episodes all about the ORHC and steam trains.

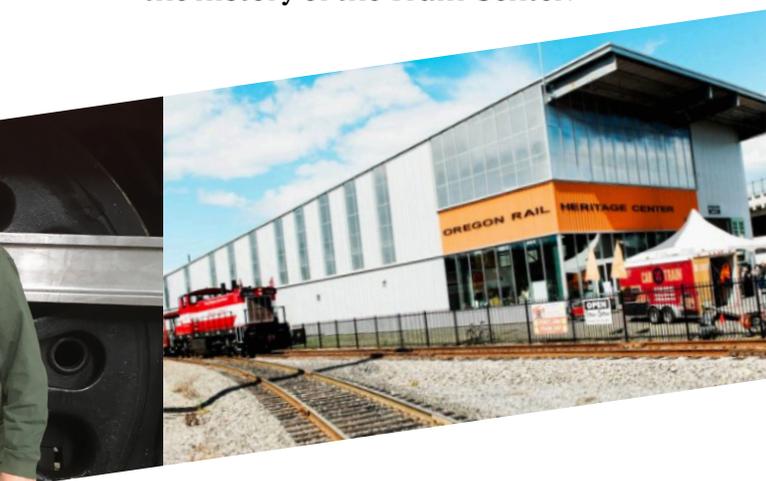
On the ORH website at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/u55xavd>

Story and Photo of Sophie and Matthew  
**By Megan Havens**  
All other photos  
courtesy of the Oregon  
Rail Heritage Center

**O**n the last weekend before Corona virus pushed us into isolation, my husband and I met our daughter and granddaughter at the Oregon Rail Heritage Center. While we could have taken the MAX line from Hillsboro, across the river to Tilikum Crossing, we opted to drive. Parking for the Heritage Center is easy and located just beyond the huge OMSI parking lot, underneath the overpass.

We arrived first and were met by a cheerful volunteer wearing a vest covered in patches and badges—all related to trains and train travel. Volunteers were full of information and stories. Without exception, they radiated a love of trains and train lore.

Since my husband shares their passion, he cheerfully jumped right in asking questions about the trains on-site and the history of the Train Center.



For me, the oil smell of the machine shop reminded me of childhood visits to various machine shops with my father. I immediately lapsed into a nostalgic mood—the kind that means I'm going to tell stories about the past.

When our daughter and six-year-old granddaughter arrived, we took them on a tour of the old trains. Granddaughter and grandad are pictured above. There are several old engines and a few “cars.” My husband explained the technology, and we both told her stories of riding on trains “back in the old days.” We probably told a few too many stories, but we tried to be funny and entertaining! We were lucky to be there when visitors were allowed to walk through an old caboose, and I told my granddaughter

about how my great-grandfather was a mail guard on a train. He got to ride in the caboose and sort the mail. My mother told me that he got to carry a gun, but I'm not sure I believe that part of the story.

We also walked through a train that had sleeping cabins and a dining lounge. My husband and I both have memories of long train trips as young children, and the layout and style of the old train brought memories back for both of us. My most enduring memory is of being about three years old and traveling from my grandparents' home in Kentucky to our home in California with my mother and little sister. My sister became sick on the train, and they thought the illness might be measles. They quarantined the three of us in a small cabin away from everyone else. I have a very clear memory of my mother walking back and forth in the small space trying to calm my crying sister who was little more than a baby. I remember being very irritated that my sister wouldn't stop crying and let me sleep. I can only imagine how my mother was feeling.

After spending an hour or so at the Heritage Center, we took the recommendation of one of the volunteers and crossed the tracks to have lunch at the Mt. Hood Brewing Company, Tilikum Station. They have two old train cars that they use for dining rooms. We ate pizza in a dining car! A perfect ending to an outing with the grandparents.

The Oregon Rail Heritage Center is free to visit, but of course, is temporarily closed. They do ask visitors for donations to help support their work. You can read more about what they do at their website <https://orhf.org>.

### *Once long ago...*

A Chicago, Illinois law once prohibited eating in a place that was on fire. After much discussion, a 1912 amendment exempted dining cars on steam trains.

A Gary, Indiana ordinance once prohibited anyone from attending a movie house, theater, or riding on a public streetcar within four hours of eating garlic.



# OTS Treasures

Curious Items from the Museum Collection



by CHERYL SKINNER

I'm excited to share some of my favorite treasures in the Old Train Station museum with you. I decided start this new column with an item some people may not think of as a "treasure". It is old, black, tarry and kind of gritty looking, but I think it's a treasure because it shows us another example of how our ancestors improved their lives...

The item is a wooden water pipe. Actually, it's called a wood stave water pipe.

When I first saw it and learned what it was, I was amazed because I'd never stopped to think about what came before metal pipes. I guess I just thought metal was the first. Maybe some of you have never thought of it before either since it's so easy to turn the tap handle and water flows into your sink.

The water pipe section we have at the OTS was donated by Rick Hendrick, of the Hendrick

Bus Company, that furnished school buses for Forest Grove. It had been stored in the rafters of their "bus barn" (which was located on Cedar Street between 22nd Ave. and 23rd Ave.)

Here's what we know about early water in Forest Grove:

The first water system in Forest Grove was constructed in 1895 and was privately owned by E.W. Haines. Water was pumped from Gales Creek near the present Light and Power building on South B Street to a water tower that was located on A Street between Pacific Avenue and 21st Avenue. The stored water was used primarily for fighting fires and some irrigation.

In 1908 the city acquired water rights on Clear Creek, in the Gales Creek area, and laid wood water pipe from Clear Creek to a concrete reservoir on Buxton Hill. The wood pipes were 10 foot long fir logs bored through to make a ten-inch hole. The logs were then wrapped with wire, tarred and rolled in sawdust.

In 1927 the wood pipe was replaced with twelve inch wood stave pipe—the style we have on display at the OTS. This pipe was made from wood slats that fit together, bound with steel wire and coated with tar. This type of wood stave pipe was laid throughout Forest Grove and the last section in use was replaced with modern pipe in 1969.

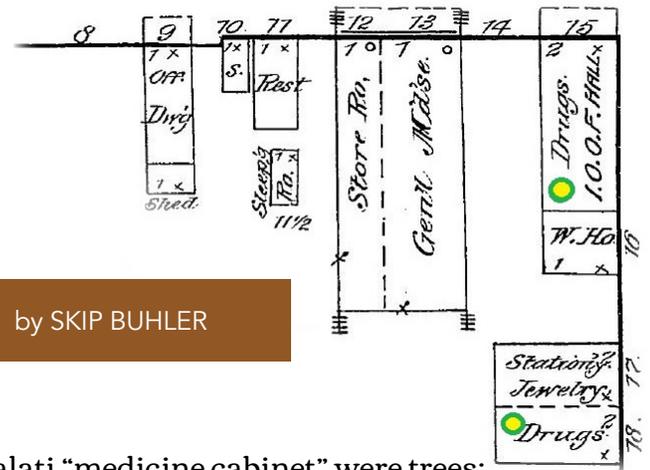
It's pretty amazing to me that some of this was still in use that late in Forest Grove history.



# Drug Dealing

## in Forest Grove

Medicine and its Early Practitioners.



by SKIP BUHLER

**A**t this time of heightened awareness of the critical role of doctoring and medicine in society, Forest Grovers are repeatedly reminded of the fundamental importance of the local pharmacist in our lives. The person dispensing the medicine has always played a crucial part in any functioning, healthy society, and whether it was your medicine man, shaman, apothecary, chemist, or druggist, the local pharmacist was at once a friend, a healer, and a powerful civic voice and change agent.

The earliest known inhabitants of the area—the Atfalati Kalapuya—harvested their medicine from the forest and field, drying and storing roots, leaves, bark and buds of specific plants, then carrying them in bags on their seasonal migration around the Tualatin Valley. According to scholars, some of the staple plants in the

Atfalati “medicine cabinet” were trees: Douglas Fir and Red Cedar. The pitch, bark and bud tips from Douglas Fir were used for their healing properties. The bark of the Red Cedar was boiled for an antiseptic. Its buds helped sooth toothaches and alleviated chest congestion. Sadly, the various medicinal choices were no match for the illness that would ultimately decimate their population: malaria (The bark of South American Cinchona tree, from which Quinine is derived, would not find its way to the Northwest in time to prevent malarial deaths here). Even after the arrival of euro-American settlers to the Northwest, medicines remained natural, plant-based and often mixed with alcohol. As part of their training, European and East Coast physicians treated patients with herbs and tonics, learning to compound early derivations of “drugs” we use today.

The presence of “druggists” in early Forest Grove is evident. The 1884 map of Forest Grove, made by the Sanborn Company, shows two Drug shops (one very close to the future Goff Pharmacy location). Later maps show Forest Grove often had three drug shops on Main Street. The term and the job title “Druggist” at that time was the norm. Every town’s Main Street in the US was adorned with magnificent signs of every size celebrating their “Drugs.” Drugs weren’t demonized to the degree they are today; however, there were social and church leaders outspoken against the selling of narcotics and alcohol used in medicinal elixirs. Because of Forest Grove’s dominant religious community, and its influence in city government,



Hines Drugs, near Main and 21st. ca. 1915. From "Images of America: Forest Grove," by Lisa Amato, Mary Jo Morelli, and Friends of Historic Forest Grove. San Francisco: Arcadia Publishing, 2010.k, p.54. Top, right: NW corner of Main and Pacific, Forest Grove, OR. Sanborn Map, 1884.

**Drugs Continued on page 16**

# The Hatfield Mystery

## Suffrage & Forest Grove

by CHERIE SAVOIE TINTARY

**M**yrrtle Evalyne Pease Hatfield was born in Newton, Iowa in 1873. She moved with her parents to Albany, Oregon in 1899. In 1905 she started teaching. At the same time she became corresponding secretary for the State Equal Suffrage Association. She taught two years in rural districts followed by three years in public school at Mount Tabor. After five years she left teaching to take a job with the Boys and Girls Aid Society. She traveled the state looking after neglected children often living under harsh circumstances herself.

The suffrage movement started in Salem and Albany in 1870. By the time Myrtle was involved, a new modern way of canvassing for Votes for Women was in use. Since she traveled the state for her work, she spoke about the movement wherever she was.

Myrtle was one of Abigail Scott Duniway's delegates in Tacoma, Washington to help them with suffrage. Duniway was the keynote speaker. The newspaper headlines read, "Fists are shaken; hats Disarranged."

In her book *Path Breaking*, Duniway wrote, "The smoke of the battle of 1910 had hardly cleared away before Miss Pease met me at my house, where she and I together prepared the full text of clause in the state constitution, to enfranchise women which is now part of the fundamental law."

Myrtle married Charles L Hatfield, a retired merchant, on October 4, 1911, and they moved to Forest Grove, living adjacent to her parents in the spring of 1912. She was a member of the Forest Grove Women's Club.

FOREST GROVE WOMAN WHOSE SUDDEN DEATH STARTED INVESTIGATION.



MRS. MYRTLE HATFIELD.

**MRS. MYRTLE HATFIELD  
DIED---CAUSE UNKNOWN**

**CASE INVESTIGATED BY CORONER'S JURY**

**Was Apparently in Excellent Spirits Short  
Time Before Found Gasping for Air-  
Services Were Held Tuesday.**

In November 1912, women won equal suffrage in Oregon, becoming the 25th state to ratify the 19th amendment on January 13, 1920. This year is the 100th celebration.

The evening of March 14, 1913, Mrs. Clinton Pease found her daughter gasping for breath shortly before dying. Myrtle's death was so sudden, it prompted an investigation for which a jury had to be called. In the Morning Oregonian of March 22, 1913, Mrs. Joseph Lee

remarked that Mrs. Hatfield had said a few days before that she was afraid to remain alone with her husband.

A week later they decided the cause of death was unknown, and that her heart had ceased to beat. Dr. F. A. Bailey of Hillsboro assisted by Dr. Yenny of Portland and Coroner Barrent concluded that there was no foul play involved.

Abigail Scott Duniway lauded Hatfield's good name and deeds saying, "[For her] quiet, tactful work among the voters throughout the state, we are more deeply indebted today for enfranchisement than to any other agency in all our ranks." Hatfield was also deeply missed in her new town of Forest Grove.

*Author Cherie Savoie Tintary thanks Rebecca Vetkos and Samantha Swindler for helping to locate newspaper articles. Photo from The Oregonian.*



## FHFG Financial Summary YTD (through March 31, 2020)

FHFG Fiscal Year runs from May 1- April 30.  
For a full financial statement, contact [treasurer@fhfg.org](mailto:treasurer@fhfg.org)

RECIEVED	YTD
Financial Donations	\$10167
Memberships	\$3665
FHFG Events	\$4256
Amazon Smile Program *	\$21
Benevity*	\$505
Bottle Drop Program*	\$600
Fred Meyer Rewards*	\$6
Misc Revenue	\$64
<b>YTD Income</b>	<b>\$19,284</b>

Other Giving	YTD
Scholarship Fund Donations	\$5,100
Gifts-in-Kind Received	\$4,028

EXPENSES	YTD
OTS Operational Expenses	\$4,055
ATS Operational Expenses**	\$1,400
Membership Events	\$2,605
Fundraising Event Expenses	\$1,203
General Expenses	\$8,292
FHFG Programs	\$289
<b>YTD Expenses</b>	<b>\$17,844</b>

\* On page 5, learn how you can contribute through these programs at no cost to you.

GRANTS RECIEVED	AMOUNT RECEIVED	AMOUNT SPENT THIS FISCAL YEAR	AMOUNT REMAINING
2019 CEP ATS Paint Grant	\$5,050	\$3,068	\$0
2019 CEP HRT Grant	\$864	\$864	\$0
2019 Kinsman ATS Pest Grant	\$20,000	\$0	\$17,025

## Drugs Continued...

there was always tension, and fairly regularly that tension escalated into outright hostility.

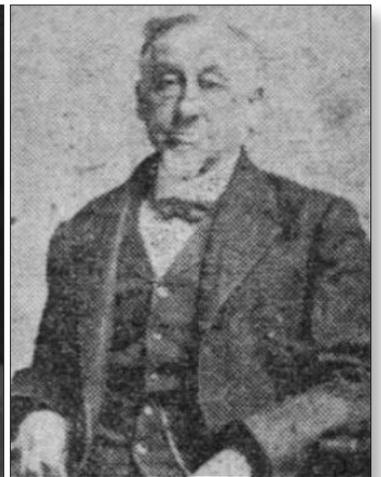
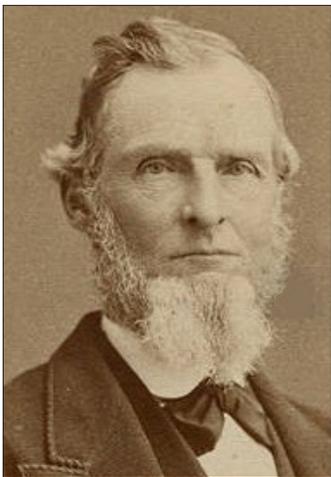
While information is lacking on the very earliest apothecaries in Washington County, we may assume the early physicians, though not advertising drug-administering abilities, nevertheless prescribed remedies for ailments. Two of the earliest doctors in Forest Grove—Wilson Bowlby and William Geiger—certainly treated patients with all manner of tonics and salves, though they didn't advertise that fact, at least not at first. The 1867 Pacific Coast Directory cites these two men, as well as F.A. Bailey who worked mostly in Hillsboro, as physicians, without noting their apothecarial skills. The 1870 Census notes these aforementioned doctors, and includes a new individual to the profession: Dr. William Henry Saylor.

A graduate from Willamette University, Saylor was the first Forest Grove physician to advertise in the local newspapers as a “druggist,” with an office located at the “Drug Store,” according to newspapers. Some small ads from late 1873 mention “Dr. Saylor’s drug store,” and in an 1874 ad, Saylor was cited as the proprietor of “Forest Grove Drug and Book Store,” which sold “drugs, medicines, perfumery, paints, oils, glass, books, etc.” His store was located where the Nixon Building is (Bites Restaurant today), and he and his wife Phoebe lived on the northwest corner of what is now Main and 18th Ave. The doctor

was a beloved member of the community, as was his wife Phoebe Wing Saylor, who was “Preceptress” at Pacific University for several years. After Phoebe died in childbirth, in late January 1875, Dr. Saylor, who was obviously distraught, made plans to sell his property and seek further study elsewhere—the infant daughter was cared for by William’s parents in McMinnville.

In the Summer of 1876, Dr. Saylor was on his way to Bellevue Medical college in New York, though still listed in the Pacific Coast Directory as Forest Grove’s only proclaimed “Druggist.” Dr. Wilson Bowlby filled the void and monitored the shop, filling patients’ prescriptions in Saylor’s absence. Bowlby had served as both State senator and representative right after arriving in the Grove around 1860, and had deep political connections. As a doctor and the only druggist in town, he came to know everybody intimately. When Saylor returned from New York in August, and decided to resettle in Portland, the shop was rechristened “Bowlby’s Drug and Book Store,” described as “the only drug store in Forest Grove... conducted in a way suitable to the respectable and temperance people of the Grove.” Isaac Meyer was the store’s first pharmacist, and during his tenure, the temperance people seemed to approve of his job.

Born in Bavaria in 1833, Meyer dabbled in real estate after arriving to the Grove



Left to Right: Dr. Wilson Bowlby, from Pacific Univ. Dr. Bowlby's Drug Store, ca. 1886, from Five Oaks Museum, Hillsboro. Dr. William H. Saylor, from Men of the Pacific Coast (1902-03), p.616. Isaac Meyer from The Oregonian, 10-31-1909.



Interior of Brisbine's City Drug Store. From the Washington County Hatchet, 12-16-1897.

around 1855, and was briefly engaged in the mercantile business with Alanson Hinman—thanks to his cousin Isaac Kohn, who helped get him established—before advertising his pharmacist credentials. He seems to have worked for Saylor before the Doctor moved to Portland. In the 1880 Pacific Coast Directory, he is listed as “Druggist and Real Estate,” a strange but recurring combination among these characters. He and Bowlby were close partners, and apparently good friends. This same year, Bowlby and Meyer reopened the drug store, after a fire in June 1878 wiped out several of the Main Street businesses including Saylor’s old shop. The new corner location—where the US Bank building is today—became a social hub for several decades. As the main pharmacist at Bowlby’s, Meyer, known as “Uncle Ike,” “carefully compounded prescription drugs at all hours.” Though his income from pharmacy is little known, Meyer made a fortune in real estate, and apparently gave much of it away to charity.

Around 1888, Edgar M. Ward, the son of another local physician, Dr. D.W. Ward, opened “Ward’s Drug Store.” Like Meyer, Ward dabbled in numerous professions, including the lumber industry, and even managed a lumber yard in town for a spell. After renaming the business “City Drug Store,” perhaps to distinguish it from Bowlby’s shop, he ultimately sold the shop

to a colleague and sportsman friend, John A. Brisbine. A newspaper ad of Brisbine’s City Drug Store shows the well-stocked interior, with chemists compounding drugs before a wall of bottles. Brisbine was operating the Store for most of the 1890s, before moving to Portland and working as a traveling salesman for the wholesale drug company of Blumauer-Frank.

Around 1888, Meyer also moved to Portland, and Bowlby had to find a replacement pharmacist. Now called “Pioneer Drug Store,” Bowlby had gone through a series of pharmacists, including George Stinchcombe, and Dr. W. Cole, while he continued his physician and surgery practice upstairs. Meanwhile, other merchants attempted to join the profession, only to fold within a year or two: Alvin C. Brown and William Masters had a short-lived drug shop in 1884. C. W. Ransom was briefly the proprietor of what he called “New City Drug Store” in 1888—where the Holroyd Building is today. Ransom was also an actor and singer, and appeared, ironically, in a temperance comedy “Little Brown Jug.” E.C. Hughes and George Patterson’s drug shops are listed in the 1889 city directory; and A. B. Thomas, who would go on to become a major merchant and orchardist in the Grove, got his start as a druggist here in the early 1890s, before joining John W. Caples in the mercantile business.

**to be Continued in the next issue...**

*We'll pick up with this continuing history in the next issue. In our current climate, it's a good reminder to always be aware of what you're consuming for your health. Support your local doctors and pharmacists. Oh—And that reminds me...time to call and renew my prescription.*

*Most of the data is drawn from University of Oregon's "Historic Oregon Newspapers" Website.*

# Corona Virus Journals ~ A Living History Project

## We invite you to participate!

**F**riends of Historic Forest Grove thinks we are living through one of those time periods that becomes history. As historians, we take special interest in that. We want to encourage everyone in Forest Grove to keep a journal of their experiences. We have posted prompts on our Facebook page and when it is all over and everything is back to normal, we will let you know how to add your journals to the FHFG archives. This will reveal a town's thoughts and perspectives to future historians. Imagine—a whole town recording their experiences for posterity! "

What have some people written?

*"I often joke at my wife about the sounds from the schoolyard. "Sounds like the little blighters are being chased by wolves." Exclusive of a few planned breaks throughout the school year that sound is a constant in our lives. Now silence reigns instead. For over 60 years this house has both absorbed and echoed back the sounds of schoolyard play: indeed, 62 years ago some of those noises came from us when my wife and I were both students there. Today, no sounds from the schoolyard, just the silent crows stalking the grass."*

*"Today I am most grateful for to have device to use to stay in communication with my family and friends. It makes me appreciate*

*the technology. Although there's always been the telephone as a way to reach out to those who aren't with you, now we have the technology to Facetime, text, use social media and still be aware of each other."*

*"Church was online again today. Last week we zoomed with St. Bedes. I was pleasantly surprised how many folks participated. As many as a usual Sunday, but they just did Morning Prayer, as opposed to a Eucharist. (I think Episcopalians have to have a priest or someone ordained to offer the elements.) We did our own communion afterwards."*

What will you write?

So, write by hand, type on your computer, draw pictures, work with a friend or a family member, paste images, paint pictures and otherwise record what is happening to you each day. And, hopefully, some participants will share their work with us on Facebook as well. While we are isolated in our homes, we can be social on social media. So let's go for it!

Visit [www.fhfg.org/journal](http://www.fhfg.org/journal) and create your journal entries, or keep your own hand-written journal and contribute a copy when next we gather!

1936 19th Ave  
(PO Box 123)  
Forest Grove, OR 97116  
503-992-1280  
[info@fhfg.org](mailto:info@fhfg.org)

**Friends of  
Historic Forest Grove**

Celebrating 30 years  
1989 - 2019



**Due to COVID-19, FHFG has temporarily closed the museum at the Old Train Station. Stay tuned for updates.**

[About Us](#) ▾ [Donate](#) [Participate](#) ▾ [Projects](#) ▾ [Events](#) ▾ [Community](#) ▾ [Resources](#) ▾

# Corona Virus Journal

A living history. Tell us your story. Help us to document what life is like

# Corona Virus Journals

Notes

Prompt: Introduce yourself.  
Where are you? How old are you?  
What do you do for work or fun?  
What is your life like right now?

Prompt: How is your life today  
different than it was in late  
February? How has the way you  
spend your day changed?

Prompt: Are you making hand-made  
masks? What are you doing to be  
careful? To be helpful?

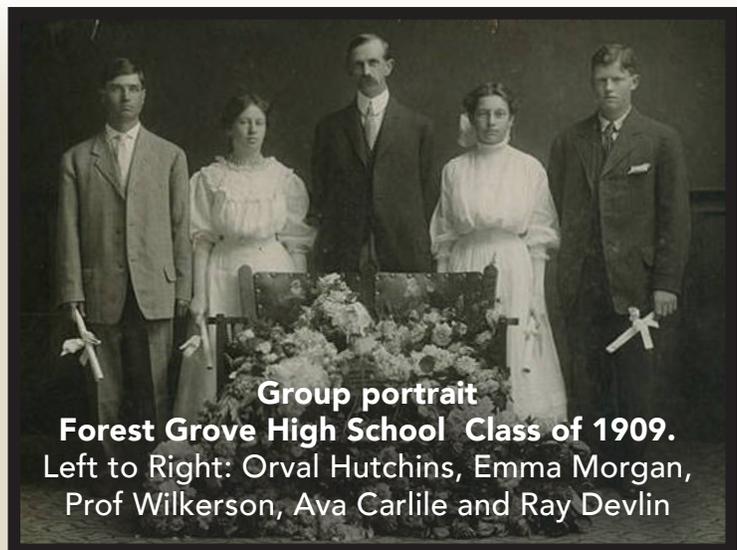
Prompt: Does it seem odd that the  
blooming flowers look so pretty  
while so many are worried?

Prompt: What books are you reading?  
Rediscovering any old favorites?

We give a huge  
**THANKS**  
to Eddie Glenn,  
our webmaster  
for building the  
online journal  
space!



Source: [heritage.lib.pacific.edu](http://heritage.lib.pacific.edu).



**Group portrait**  
**Forest Grove High School Class of 1909.**  
Left to Right: Orval Hutchins, Emma Morgan,  
Prof Wilkerson, Ava Carlile and Ray Devlin

# Help us tell the story...

Join us—become a member!

Volunteer—We need your help with handyman skills, social media, writing, research, hosting the museum and more!

Donate Items—Do you have some treasures that we might consider to enhance our museum and collections?

Donate Products & Services—Annually we hold auction fundraisers. Maybe you have something to contribute?

Contribute Funds—Our restoration projects take money and many grant opportunities require us to “match funds.” Your contributed funds go a long way!

Remember us in your estate planning—These gifts are what ensure we can continue collecting and preserving the history of our area into the future!

And **Thank you** because none of our work could continue without you!



FRIENDS OF HISTORIC  
FOREST GROVE  
PO BOX 123  
FOREST GROVE OR 97116

(503) 992-1280 (messages)  
info@fhfg.org  
www.fhfg.org

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED