



A Fresh Face

Meet volunteer
Kelsy Hatfield
See p. 5

Finding the Family Ties

Discover a wealth of resources at DHM
See p. 2



The Homesteader

Deschutes County Historical Society Newsletter—NOVEMBER 2024

Chili Feed Fundraiser 41ST ANNUAL

NOV. 8 & 9TH
11 AM - 3 PM
AT DESCHUTES HISTORICAL MUSEUM

CHILI, PIE, HOT BEVERAGES, & RAFFLE TICKETS FOR PURCHASE
MAKE A DONATION OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Deschutes Historical Museum **BARLEY BEEF** *Millie's Secret Recipe*

Time for Millie's Chili November 8-9 11 am to 3 pm

We are pleased to welcome everyone back to the museum's traditional fall fundraiser, started by Millie Chopp and continued for decades by Susie Penhollow. Join the next generation of Rastovich descendants as we celebrate the museum with food, music, and fun raffle items.

Supported by local businesses and member donations, this year's raffle includes Wild Birds Unlimited, Oregon Feed and Irrigation, Mt Bachelor Resort, Wanderlust Tours, The Deschutes Public Libraries, The Old Mill District, Newport Market, Trader Joes, Savory Spice, Wine for a Year, and more!

Raffle tickets are
\$1 each
6 for \$5
25 for \$20



You can only buy tickets at the Chili Feed and Raffle, November 8 & 9 from 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., but winners need not be present at drawing. Proceeds support DCHS programs throughout the year.

Researching Family History: The Deschutes County Historical Society Has the Primary Resources You Need

By Brad Lemmon



This article is being published jointly in the Deschutes County Historical Society's *Homesteader* newsletter and the Bend Genealogical Society's *Distant Voices* newsletter. The Bend Genealogical Society (BGS) started as part of DCHS, and then became its own organization in 1992. BGS maintains a mostly general-purpose genealogy library at Rock Arbor Villa's Williamson Hall, but there are also some Central-Oregon-specific books there. Rock Arbor Villa is a retirement community behind Jake's Diner that was developed by Eddie Williamson. Eddie operated a Bend Chrysler dealership at the corner of Wall Street and Greenwood Avenue from the 1930s until the 1970s. Over the years, Eddie's daughter Margaret Ann "Meg" (Williamson) Cole has been a generous supporter of both DCHS and BGS.

This article discusses resources DCHS has at its downtown Bend Museum useful for doing Central Oregon genealogical/historical research (either on your own or as requests made to museum staff and volunteers). Some of these resources may give genealogists ideas about information they could request from historic societies that exist in places where their ancestors lived.

Family and Subject Files – Stored in file cabinets on the first and third floors, there are about a thousand Family Files, mostly on prominent people and families from around the county. The papers usually contain clipped articles and sometimes include personal reminiscences written by children or relatives. There are also hundreds of Subject Files co-located with the Family Files. These cover



things like timber railroads, the Pilot Butte Inn, and the Old Mill District.

City Directories and Phone Books – Bend, Redmond, Prineville city directories circa 1940-1990 (plus a few earlier ones from the teens and twenties). Besides individual and business addresses and phone numbers, many of the directories list people's professions. These can fill in a lot more location detail than once-a-decade census records.

Maps – The types of useful maps are too numerous to list, but some examples of excellent ones are:

Sanborn Insurance maps of Bend (1917, 1920, and 1928). These list business names and types. Since the maps were created for insurance purposes, building materials are also noted.

Bend city planning maps by Robert Gould (circa 1910-1940). These show neighborhood plats, businesses, timber tracts, railroads, and irrigation canals.

Bureau of Land Management maps that were annotated by Gale Ontko (circa 1960-1990). Caves, pictographs, old trails, graves, and city dumps are examples of things he noted. These maps are copies of the originals and were recently donated to the museum by Don and Judy Hoiness.

County Histories – These cover many subjects. As an example, *History of Education in Deschutes County*, contains the location of all the small school districts in the area, and the

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Deschutes Historical Museum

129 NW Idaho Avenue
Bend, OR 97703
Open Tuesdays-Saturdays
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
541.389.1813

www.deschuteshistory.org
info@deschuteshistory.org

Museum Staff:

Kelly Cannon-Miller, Executive Director
Vanessa Ivey, Museum Manager
Rebekah Averette, Collections Manager
Tracy Alexander, Membership Officer
Michelle Patrick, Visitor Services



2024 DCHS Board of Directors:

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Karen Green, Vice President
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Adrian Bennett, Past President

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Tony DeBone, Greg Fulton,
Erik King, Brad Lemmon, Liz Rink, Glenn
Voelz



Complete minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors are on file with the Museum office.

Continued from P. 2— Researching Family History

administrators and teachers at each school.

Newspapers – The museum has paper copies of the *The Bend Bulletin* from 1909-2019, *Bend Pilot* from 1940-1950, *Bend Press* from 1915-1918, *Central Oregon Press* from 1918-1926, and *Free Press* from 1932-1940. I've seen references to two other Bend-area newspapers, the *Deschutes Echoes* and the *Mid-State Sun*. 1902-1904 *Deschutes Echoes* are available at oregonnews.uoregon.edu. I have never seen paper or on-line examples of the *Mid-State Sun*. *The Bend Bulletin* is available on-line at newspapers.com and oregonnews.uoregon.edu from 1903-1965, and it is available from 1995-present on the Bulletin's website (must be a subscriber to access). As far as I know, *Bulletins* from 1966-1994 can only be viewed at the museum. The museum has a paper index of *Bulletin* articles that covers 1903-1974 (the index is also on-line at deschuteslibrary.org).

Yearbooks – Bend High School (circa 1917-1980). There are small numbers of other schools including Mountain View High School, University of Oregon, and Oregon State University. There are also copies of the *Pine Murmurs* magazine that was published by Bend High students in the 1930s.

Major Industry Publications – There are many of these, but two of the most significant are the Brooks-Scanlon *Pine Echoes* (1919-1968) and the Shevlin-Hixon *Equalizer* (1919 – 1931). There is an index for the *Pine Echoes* articles.

Cemetery Records/Maps – there are multiple cemetery books, including five booklets that were produced by BGS around 20 years ago. A lot of cemetery info is now on-line at FindAGrave.com and billiongraves.com, but many of the BGS books contain cemetery maps that are not available anywhere else.

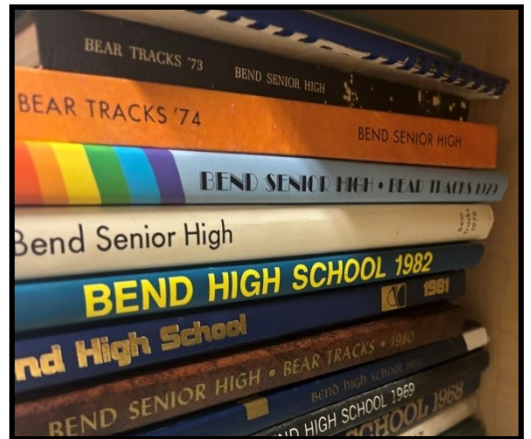
Probate Record Index – this index goes from 1917-1960 and gives case file numbers. The actual probate files can be examined at the Deschutes County Courthouse. Knowing the case file number makes it easier for the clerks to find the correct file.

Property Files – These are property records in five filing cabinets on the third floor that contain research done on 3104 properties in Deschutes County. Indexed by address and by historic name, they can contain photographs, city directory listings, newspaper clippings, plats, maps, and property records. These are county files generated by the land use planning department dating back to the earliest historic property surveys in the late 1970s. These files have been digitized and are also available through the DIAL access portal of the Deschutes County website.

Past Perfect – The museum's collections database contains a description of the museum's approximately 75,000 items categorized into objects, photographs, archives, and books. It can be searched using the computer in the library of the museum. To look at any of the actual items requires the assistance of a museum employee by making an appointment. Some of the photographs in the database are available to search and view on the museum's external website. Each item in the database also has a paper Deed of Gift associated with it. If there are no privacy concerns involved, museum employees may share this info, which sometimes leads to useful clues for further research.

Various Finding Aids - Some examples are: a Table of Contents to 137 boxes of Brooks-Scanlon records, an index to *Oregon Historical Quarterly* articles, an index to DCHS *Yesteryear* articles (various historic subjects), and an index to the last 40 years of DCHS *Homesteader* articles. There is also a paper Deschutes County timeline containing 1818 entries compiled by John Frye that covers pre-historic time until 2008.

Doing genealogy probably makes one a better local historian and researching local history probably makes one a better genealogist. So, if you are only doing one or the other, consider a little "cross training."



New Frank T. Johns Material at DHM

By Nate Pedersen

Long-time DCHS members and History Pub enthusiasts may recall my 2013 lecture on Frank T. Johns, the Oregonian and Socialist Labor Party (SLP) candidate for President in 1924 and 1928. Johns tragically died in Bend in 1928 during an early campaign visit. While giving his stump speech in Drake Park, Johns heard cries for help from the nearby Deschutes, and subsequently dived into the frigid April waters attempting to save a boy who had fallen into the river. Both Johns and the boy drowned, in a tragedy recounted on a historic marker embedded on a granite boulder near the spot of the fateful events in Drake Park. Johns's fatal heroism that day led to a posthumous award of the Carnegie Medal.

As part of its ongoing attempts to interpret and share the history of Johns, DCHS is proud to announce the recent acquisition of unique materials connected to Johns and his family.

Charles V. Emory of Norfolk, Virginia initially collected the donated material while writing a biography of Johns that he later abandoned. Emory gave the material to Dr. H. Herbert Sennett, Ph.D. of West Palm Beach, Florida, who was writing a screenplay about Johns' presidential campaign and death in Bend in 1928. The donation was made by Dr. Sennett on behalf of both men.

Frank T. Johns was born in 1889 in Sunbury, Pennsylvania. As a young man, he made his way West, initially to Spokane, Washington in 1911, where he married Ruth Noble, the daughter of a local minister. Seven years later he moved to Portland, Oregon, where he worked as a carpenter. Johns also became heavily involved in the activities of the Socialist Labor Party, a Marxist group inspired by the Russian Revolution of 1918, that campaigned for the organization of the working class into powerful industrial unions with worker-controlled means of production. The party was distinct from the Social Party of America (made famous by Eugene Debs) and had a small, but enthusiastic group of supporters.

As Johns's involvement in SLP politics deepened, he began giving regular lectures in Portland about SLP principles and ran, unsuccessfully, for Congress from Oregon's Third Congressional District in 1920 and 1922. In 1924, Johns was selected by the SLP as the nominee for president, a scant 200 days over the minimum required age of thirty-five. Johns campaigned in working-class neighborhoods around the country, eventually earning 28,633 votes (roughly 0.1 percent of the turnout).

Johns was again nominated as the presidential candidate for the SLP in 1928, when he fatefully campaigned in Bend, Oregon on May 20th of that year on the first stop of his national tour. While giving a political speech in Drake Park, Johns heard the cries of Jack Rhodes, a young boy who had fallen into the Deschutes River a little upstream. Johns removed his overcoat and dived into the water to try to save Rhodes. While he was able to reach the boy, Johns was not able to push him back to shore before both were overwhelmed by the icy current of the Deschutes River. Johns's widow and his two children were awarded a Carnegie medal, and its accompanying endowment, for his final heroic act.

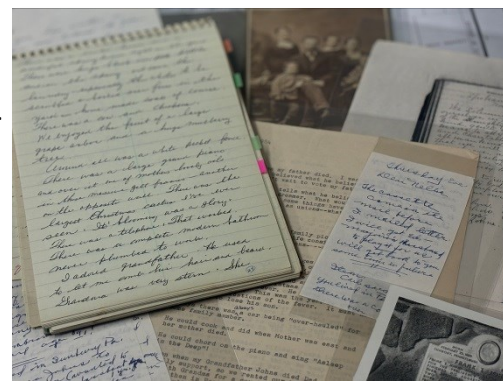
Included with the Johns donation are both primary and secondary research materials connected to Johns's life. Highlights include a collection of letters and notes from Johns's daughter Margaret, and sister, Nellie, as well as original family photographs, and a notebook that Nellie used to write down her memories of Johns and his family. Also included with the collection is a copy of *The New Republic* from March 16, 1918 on the history of the Russian Revolution, which was influential on Johns's political thinking as SLP principles were modeled after the Marxist revolution in Russia. Photocopies of articles from *The Weekly People* (the official newsletter of the Socialist Labor Party) with information about Johns, photocopies of Johns's carpenter licenses, and a 1991 letter from the secretary of the Socialist Labor Party help round off this important addition to DHS's collections.

From my perspective as a historian who has researched Johns's story, these materials are a valuable addition to DCHS's collection and will be very helpful for later scholars who wish to continue expanding on the research into Johns's life and times. Further, these new materials will complement existing DCHS collections on Johns, which have been generously supported by donations from Johns's family descendants, particularly Phil Mickel of Prineville, Oregon. A highlight of the material already in the Johns collection at DCHS is the Carnegie Medal awarded to Johns's family after his death. With this combination of material, DCHS is poised to become the premier research institution for material on Johns and his presidential campaigns in 1924 and 1928.

DCHS greatly appreciates Dr. Sennett and Mr. Emory for their generosity in supporting DCHS's mission by donating these materials. Readers looking for a more in-depth history of Johns, his life, and his presidential campaigns, may wish to review my Oregon Historical Quarterly article "Comrade Johns: Oregon's Socialist Presidential Candidate," published in the Winter 2015 issue and freely available online at: <https://www.ohs.org/oregon-historical-quarterly/>



"The Isaac Newton Johns Family taken just before they left Pennsylvania. Front row: Martha, mother, dad. Back row: Frank, Carl, Paul"



VOLUNTEER CORNER

Kelsy

Hatfield

By Rebekah Averette

This month's volunteer corner highlights Kelsy Hatfield, a volunteer who does it all!

Kelsy first visited the museum a little over a year ago when she asked to interview me about archival work for her graduate program. After connecting over our mutual love of museums and all things history, I was delighted when she reached back out a number of months later asking about volunteer opportunities.

Kelsy has become a valued and versatile volunteer, doing everything from leading group tours to cataloging artifacts to assisting with marketing for the annual chili feed. She even applied for and received a scholarship to attend the Oregon Museum's Association Conference in Coos Bay with me just a few months ago!

Although she already possesses a Bachelors in Nursing, Kelsy is currently pursuing a Masters of Library and Information Sciences. She is hoping to marry science and history and work as a medical librarian or within a museum archive.

People who meet Kelsy are struck by her vibrant personality, energy, and thirst for knowledge. The thirst for knowledge is something she has always possessed, and Kelsy spent her youth alternating between going on wild woodland adventures and burying her nose in books for hours on end. Her love of reading continues and she provides wonderful book recommendations! Hosting trivia, which she does twice a month at Crosscut, is the perfect fit for someone who loves learning.

Kelsy is an Oregon native, but is relatively new to Central Oregon. She was born in Astoria, but because of her father's work in the Coast Guard, Kelsy lived in six different states before she turned ten. After that, her father was stationed in Novato, California where he was able to stay until retirement. Kelsy stayed in California and received her undergraduate degree at University of San Francisco, after which she went to work for Medtronic as a Physician Relations Specialist. Although it was a solid job, she realized that it wasn't her dream career. Longing to pursue a path that would allow her to connect a passion for community connection and literature, Kelsy decided to pursue an MA in library science. COVID forced her company to let workers go remote, so she had already made the move from the hustle, bustle, and foggy weather of the Bay Area to smaller, sunnier Bend. Kelsy was accepted into a program that would allow her to complete her degree online.

Outside of her academic pursuits, Kelsy is active and outdoorsy. She enjoys trail and road running with her dog, Sybil. A second dog, Albus, doesn't enjoy running, but does enjoy going on long hikes with Kelsy and Sybil. She also loves cruising the town on her bike during nice weather, and enjoys cooking and baking when the weather is a bit chillier. She is still an avid reader and possesses a particular love for the fantasy (the Old Kingdom series by Garth Nix and the Bloosworne Trilogy by John Gwynne are favorites) genre, which might be an inspiration when she plays her regular D & D game with a group of friends.

If Kelsy could paint a picture of the next 20 years she hopes it is a life filled with laughter, travel, good wine, a fulfilling career path, time in the ocean, lots of dogs, and lots of joy. Her main goal in life is to pursue and sustain happiness, and she hopes that whatever path she takes in life will help her fulfill this goal.





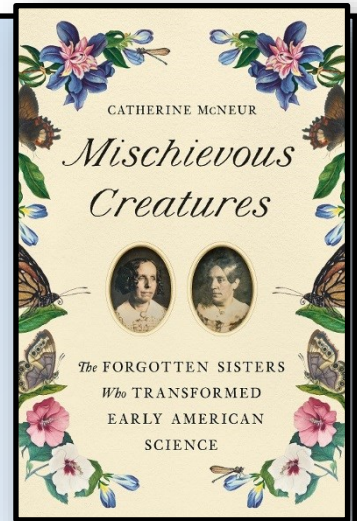
November History Pub

Mischievous Creatures: The Forgotten Sisters Who Transformed Early American Science

*Presented by Catherine McNeur, Professor of History at
Portland State University*

Tuesday November 26, 2024

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., Presentation at 7:00 p.m.



In her new book, *Mischievous Creatures*, historian Catherine McNeur uncovers the forgotten lives and work of the sisters Margaretta Hare Morris and Elizabeth Carrington Morris, who were at the center of scientific conversations and debates in the nineteenth century. Margaretta, an entomologist, was famous among her peers and the public for her research on 17-year cicadas and other troublesome insects. Elizabeth, a botanist, was a prolific illustrator and a trusted supplier of specimens to the country's leading experts. At this talk, McNeur will discuss the research involved in recreating the Morris sisters' lives and the many ways that they have been erased from the history of science in the centuries since.

Catherine McNeur is the award-winning author of *Mischievous Creatures: The Forgotten Sisters Who Transformed Early American Science* (Basic Books, 2023) and *Taming Manhattan: Environmental Battles in the Antebellum City* (Harvard University Press, 2014). She is a Professor of History at Portland State University where she teaches courses on environmental history, public history, and the history of food.

Reservations required, \$5 per person www.mcmenamins.com/events/



Historical Haunts Retires in Style

2024 was a wonderful year for the Deschutes Historical Museum's Historical Haunts of Downtown Bend walking tours, celebrating their 15th season with sell-out tours both Friday and Saturday.

With a chill in the air and foliage washed in the colors of autumn, tours wound their way around Bend's downtown district led by the history museum's knowledgeable volunteers. "90% history, 10% paranormal, and 100% fun,"

Vanessa Ivey, Museum Manager shares with a big grin across her face. Running 26 tours over two nights, the museum hosted over 400 attendees. "Everyone is having a great time, even the pumpkins are smiling," announced Ivey.

This year, the museum added a little extra fun to their walking tour. Bookending the one-hour program was a little living history with Ivey and Staci Louie, a museum docent, dressed in period clothing. Louie schooled attendees of the story of Reid School as a teacher from the 1920s. Ivey, shared tales of the Tower Theater and the Thompson building wrapped in faux fur representative of the 1940s. Together they brought the history of Bend's early community alive, pulled, if only for a brief moment, from its ethereal past.

"This tour has evolved over fourteen years, bringing the history of Bend to a wider audience in a way that had not been done before, and spotlighting the work of the Deschutes County Historical Society. We had no idea how the event would be received that first year, and never dreamt it would last as long as it has," expressed Ivey.

"We are grateful for the support and the enthusiasm from our community, who embraced what we started and helped it grow into what it has become. Thank-You."



Celebrating Ruth Burleigh

March 25, 1926—October 25, 2024

A book should be written about Ruth Burleigh, whose life spanned a century of remarkable changes since her birth in 1926. Born and raised in the logging camps of Oregon's coast, Ruth reveled in a childhood adventuring outdoors. She graduated from Eugene High School, attended University of Oregon, then completed training to become a medical technologist at Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland. Her choice to move to Bend in 1946 is where her life's story and the story of Bend intertwine and can't be separated. She intended to stay a year or two. Meeting local firefighter Van Burleigh changed her plans. The two married in 1948 and shared years of adventures. Their family grew to include three boys who were raised camping, hiking, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors just as she had as a child.



Van died in 1977 right as Ruth began her civic and governmental career. She served on Bend City Commission from 1974 to 1986 where in 1978 her fellow councilors elected her the first woman mayor. In 1985 she was elected the first woman president of the League of Oregon Cities. Among the important tasks tackled during her tenure was growth beyond Pilot Butte and modernizing Bend's infrastructure to keep up with growth, specifically upgrading the city's sewer systems. Ruth worked in the laboratory at St. Charles until 1991 and continued on call with the Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Prineville from 1991-1999.

Her non-profit service is legendary, including leading the charge for a taxing district to save and fund her beloved Deschutes Public Library, the foundation of Hospice of Bend, and serving on the committee to adopt vote by mail in Oregon. Her involvement and memberships over the years also includes Allied Arts, the Deschutes Historical Society, the Bend Garden Club, the Bend Chamber of Commerce, The Dorotheys Book Club, the Ladies' Dinner Club, the Hiking Club, and the Food Pantry Leadership Team at Nativity Lutheran Church. She was named Pioneer Queen by the Deschutes Pioneers Association in 2013. Her approach to public service was based on one simple idea, which she expressed in an interview about helping to start Hospice of Bend: "There was a need in our community that wasn't being met, so I worked with others to create a solution." That was how she approached everything—with honesty, straight talk, collaborative leadership, and a desire to make her community better.

The greatest joy and source of pride in Ruth's life was her family. She is survived by her sons Bill Burleigh (Debbie) of Eugene, Glenn Burleigh (Gail Tague) of Bend, and Tim Burleigh (Jamie) of Madras; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, her husband Van Burleigh, and Dave Brown. Plans for services are pending.



Remembering Janine "Nene" Cannon

October 31, 1946-September 27, 2024

DCHS staff remembers a beloved volunteer, Janine Cannon. She grew up in West Linn, Oregon, graduating from West Linn High School in 1964. She attended Lewis and Clark College and worked part-time for one of her professors then studied in Washington, D.C. during her junior year. She completed her degree in Political Science in 1968 before marrying her husband of 56 years, William Cannon of Nyssa, Oregon.

Janine valued civic service and worked for Congresswoman Edith Green in her Portland offices before relocating to Lakeview, Oregon. Janine served many years as the Lake County Planning Director, then with the Fremont Winema National Forest, the Town Planner for the Town of Lakeview, and the Information Administration Officer for the Bureau of Land Management before retiring in 2018. After moving to Bend, she volunteered at the Deschutes Historical Museum assisting with membership record keeping, maintaining family files, and proofreading the *Homesteader* newsletters.

She believed strongly in democracy and the right to vote for the candidate of your choice. In lieu of flowers, her family encourages you to vote in the upcoming election.

Memorials

Janine Cannon

Tracy Alexander
Ted and Joyce
Kesterson

Tributes

Ralph C. Curtis

Jean Curtis

Terrance H. Foley

Steven Foley

Preserving Veteran's Stories: Interviewers Needed

Central Oregon Community College is participating in the Veterans History Project, an effort by the Library of Congress to collect and preserve the firsthand recollections and oral histories of U.S. military veterans. Congress established the Veterans History Project in 2000 to record and preserve oral histories so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand what it means to serve.

This new collaboration involves COCC's Veterans Program, COCC's journalism program and volunteer community partners such as retired Willamette University sociologist Linda Heuser. During the winter 2024 term, COCC students have captured these important stories, interviewing Vets in Central Oregon whose stories will be submitted to the ever-growing collection at the Library of Congress.

COCC is expanding its participation in this important project, training more students to conduct and record interviews. The Veterans Program will recruit veterans interested in sharing their own oral histories. Journalism students will continue to conduct interviews and contribute to this important collection. Central Oregon veterans from WWII to the present are eligible to participate and anyone in Central Oregon 15 years or older can be an interviewer.

If you have questions, if you're a veteran who would like to be interviewed, or if you're someone who would like to be an interviewer, contact COCC's Veterans Program at vetservices@cocc.edu or 541-383-7215. Interviewer training will be provided.

For more information about the Veterans History Project or to explore the personal accounts of other veterans, go to: <https://www.loc.gov/vets>

LEARN MORE AT THE CHILI FEED: Linda Houser will be on hand at the chili feed at the museum to discuss the project and how you can get involved.



Mark Your Calendars

NOVEMBER

- 8 & 9 CHILI FEED AND RAFFLE**
11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Deschutes Historical Museum
- 11 THE 23rd ANNUAL VETERAN'S DAY PARADE**
11:00 a.m. Downtown Bend
- 26 HISTORY PUB: MISCHIEVOUS CREATURES: THE FORGOTTEN SISTERS WHO TRANSFORMED EARLY AMERICAN SCIENCE**
Presented by Catherine McNeur, Professor of History at Portland State University
McMenamins Old St. Francis; 700 NW Bond St., Bend
Father Luke Room, 7:00 p.m., doors open at 5:30 p.m.
[Reservations required, \\$5 per person](#)
- 28 CLOSED FOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY**



featuring
BARLEY BEEF

