



HARBOR HISTORY MUSEUM

What's New at Harbor History Museum

Harbor History Museum Calendar at a Glance

- May 7 [Gig Harbor Literary Society](#)
- May 9 [Entertaining the Troops in Wartime:
The Early History of Armed Forces Radio](#)
- May 18 [Gigging up the Museum](#)
- June 4 [Gig Harbor Literary Society](#)
- June 13 [Labor Wars of the Northwest:
The Struggle That Defined the Region](#)

Greetings from Harbor History Museum



May 1954 | Photographer: James Bashford | Harbor History Museum Collection #BUS-390-NGH

Big Mike, a Black Angus steer, was kept in a pen in front of Finholm's and valuable prizes were given to those who correctly guessed his weight. The "new" look of Finholm's was completed the year before in 1953.



Museum Hours: *Now On Summer Hours*

- *Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*
- *Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

Current Exhibits

Bomber Boys: Portraits from the Front
Closes June 2, 2019

BOMBER BOYS

Portraits from the Front



Harbor History Museum is pleased to host "Bomber Boys: Portraits from the Front," a traveling exhibition. Featuring a series of striking photographs reproduced from a secret stash of World War II images, ephemera, and a diary from 1945, the exhibit highlights the combat, captains, crew, and camp life of the 445th bomb squadron of the 12th Army Air Corps stationed mainly on Corsica and in Italy.

"This amazing collection was found when my sister and I were cleaning out the hayloft of our horse barn in Gig Harbor, Washington," says Museum Director Stephanie Lile. "Dad never talked much about the war and never seemed to want to, so finding the box of dusty old photos and a diary was a huge surprise." Lile and her four siblings felt the collection was too special not to share. In fact, she has spent the last 10 years researching and cataloging the collection, an adventure that took her both to Italy and Arizona to fly in a historic B-25.



Portraits of "The Captains."

The exhibit features portraits of the "boys" who flew B-25 bombers in the Mediterranean theater. Some of them are known, like Wellnitz and Keith B. Lile-the tail gunner whose collection these images came from, but many are not. One of the curator's hopes in presenting this exhibit is that as the show travels, people will recognize some of the men depicted. Some of the men in the portraits were identified by notes on the original prints and their stories are revealed through an exhibit element called The Game of Fate.

"Bomber Boys: Portraits from the Front" will be on view until June 2, 2019.



The flight and ground crew of S***house Mouse, a B-25 that flew more than 100 missions in the Mediterranean Theatre. The mice on the side of the plane represent each mission the plane survived.

"Intimate Forest" Series by Mary McInnis

Closes June 2019



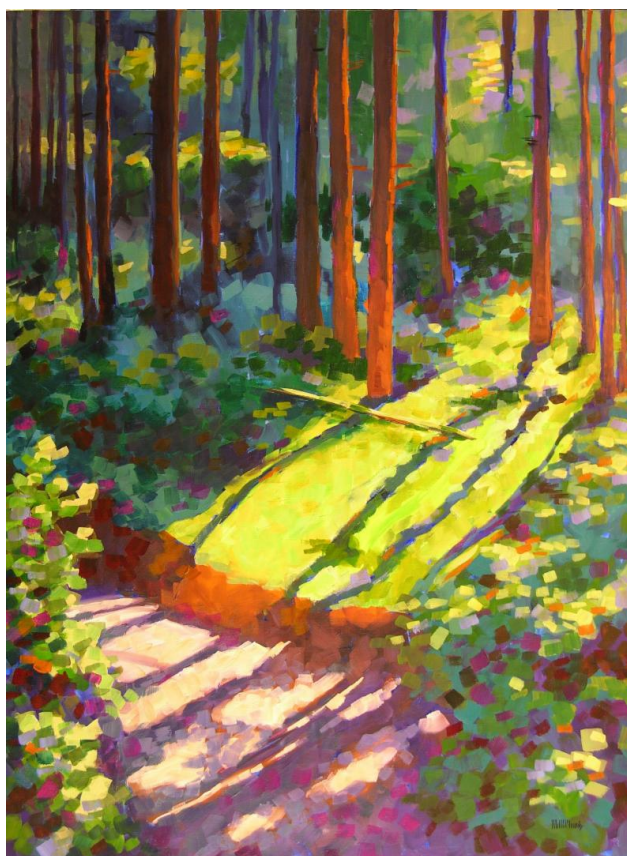
"Canopy"

What is it about art and the creative process that causes one to spend an entire life pursuing creative outlets of various kinds: drawing, painting, photography, stagecraft, handcrafts, music, even creating a living space for troll dolls and harnesses for toy horses? This has been Mary McInnis' life pursuit.

McInnis' "Intimate Forest" series is a selection of oil paintings that depict scenes of hiking trails and light-filled woods of the Pacific Northwest and beyond. She has been creating these scenes for several years as they initially grew out of her work with soft pastels.

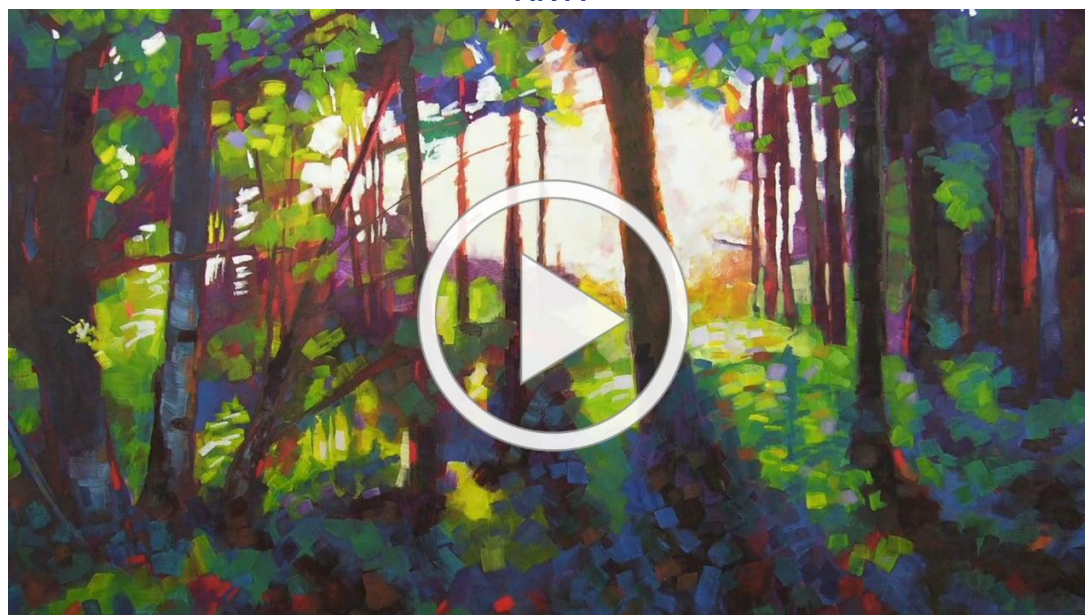
McInnis had an early interest in art and explored various creative outlets including stagecraft, music and choral work, film and photography, as well as drawing and painting through high school and into college, culminating in a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting at the University of Washington in 1987.

"Intimate Forest" is currently on view in the Harbor History Museum Lobby Gallery.



"Gold Creek Trail"

CLICK THE VIDEO BELOW TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MARY MCINNIS' ART:





Ca. 1940 | Photographer: James Bashford | Harbor History Museum Collection #2779

This wooden structure, entitled "The Narrows," was photographed during the construction of the 1940 Tacoma Narrows Bridge. It explains that on May 20, 1792, Capt. George Vancouver directed Lt. Peter Puget and his crew to set off in two open boats and navigate the turbulent waters of the Narrows Passage and explore the southern sound. As a result, Vancouver named the waters "Puget Sound."



It's Time to Hunt for Round Rocks!

The sunshine has returned and you know what that means...
It's time to start hunting for round rocks!

The Round Rock Competition was created in 1951 by C.E. Shaw, a popular Gig Harbor figure who was always looking for ways to have fun. Shaw had become well known for entertaining Gig Harbor with Rooster Races in the 30's and 40's. Now you can join the fun and enter your own round rock.

Last year, we received a record **48** entries!

The concept for the contest is simple. Participants search for the roundest natural rock they can find and submit it to the Harbor History Museum. Submissions are accepted between July 19th and August 1st, 2019. The winners of the Round Rock Contest will be announced at the HHM Vintage Fair on August 10th, 2019. Cash prizes will be awarded to the five rocks judged to be the most perfectly rounded rocks. For the complete Contest Rules and Regulations please visit our website.



Official 1951 Round Rock Contest Promotional Image

State Fully Funds Heritage Capital Projects

With the passage of the 2019-21 state budget, Washington state has fully funded its Heritage Capital Project Fund, a competitive grant program that funds projects throughout the state. Ranked in the top five of 36 projects, Harbor History Museum will receive a \$100,000 matching grant over two years. This prestigious grant will support our capital campaign to complete the *Shenandoah*, enclose the Maritime Gallery, and create engaging exhibits.

Every dollar donated to the Capital Campaign can serve as part of the required 1:1 cash match. So, every dollar you donate has double the impact.

Please share our good news with your friends and family, and help us keep the campaign dollars flowing so we can reach our \$2 million goal by 2022!

For more information on the campaign, please visit [Project 224606](#).



Donate

Your contribution to the Harbor History Museum truly matters. Direct your gift to exhibits and collections, educational programs, the capital campaign, our endowment, or any area of greatest need. Thank you for your support!



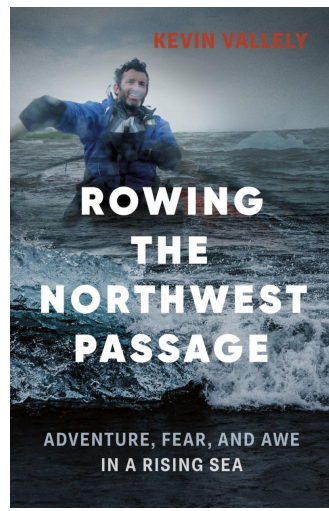
MUSEUM EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Want to learn more about upcoming programs and events at the Harbor History Museum? Check out the details below and then call 253-858-6722 ext. 5 to reserve your seat or use the Museum's [Buy Tickets](#) page to purchase tickets. Seating is limited!

[Gig Harbor Literary Society](#)

Tuesday, May 7, 2019
6:00 - 7:30pm
Free Program.

The May meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 7th at 6:00 p.m. at the Harbor History Museum. The book for our May meeting is *Rowing the Northwest*

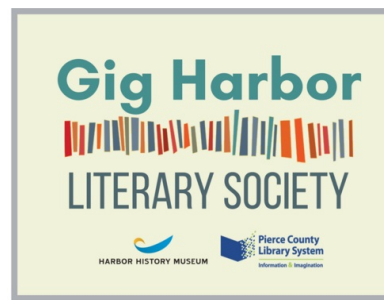


In this gripping first-hand account, four seasoned adventurers navigate a sophisticated, high-tech rowboat across the Northwest Passage.

One of the "last firsts" remaining in the adventure world, this journey is only possible because of the dramatic impacts of global warming in the high Arctic, which provide an ironic opportunity to draw attention to the growing urgency of climate change.

Along the way, the team repeatedly face life-threatening danger from storms unparalleled in their ferocity and unpredictability and bears witness to unprecedented

changes in the Arctic habitat and inhabitants, while weathering gale-force vitriol from climate change deniers who have taken to social media to attack them and undermine their efforts.



To view the Literary Society Spring/Summer Lineup, please click [HERE](#).

Attendees are welcome to bring an appetizer or dish to share with fellow bibliophiles. The Museum will provide complimentary non-alcoholic beverages. Enjoy a drink while you talk books? You are welcome to BYOW (Bring Your Own Wine). Library staff will lead the discussion. Materials will be available for checkout at the [Gig Harbor Library](#), as well as for purchase online at [Barnes and Noble](#) and [Amazon.com](#).

This event is FREE and open to the public. Seats are limited; RSVPs are encouraged. To RSVP or for questions, please contact Zachary Sokolik, Marketing & Events Coordinator, at marketing@harborhistorymuseum.org or 253-858-6722.

["Entertaining the Troops in Wartime: The Early History of Armed Forces Radio"](#)

Thursday, May 9, 2019

6:00 - 7:00pm

Free for Members. RSVPs requested.



As a complement to the "Bomber Boys: Portraits from the Front" exhibit currently on display, we are excited to welcome back audio historian and broadcaster, John Jensen for another Humanities in the Harbor presentation on Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

During World War II, the War Department realized very quickly the need for keeping up the morale of America's fighting forces abroad. One of the most effective and beneficial ways was through the launch on May 26, 1942 of a world-wide radio network called the Armed Forces Radio Service that would beam not only the popular programs of the day heard stateside, but specially made programming aimed at appealing to our servicemen and women. Stepping forward to contribute their time and talent during that period were many of Hollywood's biggest motion picture and radio stars such as Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Jack Benny, Dorothy Lamour, Lucille Ball and a host of others.

See and hear once again through original audio and rarely seen film clips the still powerful messaging that emerged from that dramatic time in American history. John Jensen shares rarely heard stories and anecdotes from Hollywood's war effort, and shows examples of one of the most effective and successful forms of communications that was used to entertain, educate and inform our men and women in uniform during the war.



A former San Francisco broadcaster, John Jensen has been an avid collector of music, movies, and radio broadcasts of the 1930s and 40s. Early fascination led to employment as general manager of KMPX, a radio station devoted to playing the music and radio broadcasts of those years. He produced a world-wide radio

broadcast honoring the US Navy 200th Anniversary, starring Bing Crosby, Mel Blanc, and other radio stars from the 1940s. In 1992, he directed the 50th Anniversary Salute to Armed Forces Radio broadcast, heard world-wide. As an audio historian, he has provided research and assorted media to filmmakers, such as Jack Haley, Jr., Frances Ford Coppola, and George Lucas. He recently retired as senior director of public relations for World Vision. Since then he has been lecturing at various venues throughout the Puget Sound area on the Great Depression era and World War II.

Humanities in the Harbor is held at the Harbor History Museum, 4121 Harborview Drive, Gig Harbor, WA 98332.

Admission is \$5, but **FREE** for Harbor History Museum members. RSVPs are encouraged as seating is limited. Tickets may be [Purchased Online](#) or at the front desk of the Museum. Members are encouraged to RSVP as seating is limited.

RSVPs and questions may be directed to Zachary Sokolik, Marketing & Events Coordinator at Harbor History Museum at marketing@harborhistorymuseum.org.

[Gigging up the Museum](#)

Saturday, May 18, 2019
9:00am - 12:00pm
All Extra Hands Are Welcome.



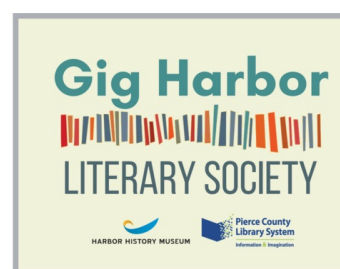
The Downtown Waterfront Alliance's 5th annual spring clean up, Gigging up the Harbor is all set for the morning of Saturday, May 18, 2019. This is a great opportunity for folks in the community to roll up their sleeves and help spruce up our beautiful downtown.

Here at the Museum there are lots of ways to get involved and help out! We'll be working hard on everything from cleaning the Maritime Gallery to landscaping in the parking lot. The Downtown Waterfront Alliance will host a volunteer appreciation lunch at the conclusion of the event.

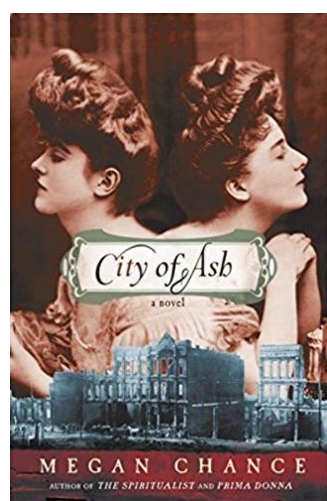
Want to help out? Please email Tim Young, Volunteer Coordinator, at education@harborhistorymuseum.org.

[Gig Harbor Literary Society](#)

Tuesday, June 4, 2019
6:00 - 7:30pm
Free Program.



Our June meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4th at 6:00 p.m. at the Harbor History Museum. The group will be discussing *City of Ash* by Megan Chance.



When the great Seattle fire of 1889 leaves them with nothing to lose, two very different women discover a mutual passion for revenge.

Chicago socialite and art patron Geneva Langley has brought scandal to her family for the last time. Her latest and boldest act of immodesty is too much for her father to bear, and he banishes her to Seattle, along with her scheming, ambitious husband, Nathan. Seattle is a far cry from Chicago—the streets are muddy, the society backward, and Ginny feels stifled and alone.

Despite her considerable talent, Beatrice Wilkes is an actress whose dream of being a leading lady is fading rapidly. She can't believe her luck when a new production gives her a chance at stardom, but Geneva Langley seizes the opportunity for her own and unwittingly crushes Bea's last dream.

The two women engage in a fierce battle for center stage, but the great Seattle fire, which ravages the city, changes their fates and plans. In its aftermath, Ginny and Bea see an opportunity to change their lives: but it would mean banding together to enact a truly wicked plan. Their dark and perilous alliance will set them on the path to either redemption or damnation.

To view the Literary Society Spring/Summer Lineup, please click [HERE](#).

Attendees are welcome to bring an appetizer or dish to share with fellow bibliophiles. The Museum will provide complimentary non-alcoholic beverages. Enjoy a drink while you talk books? You are welcome to BYOW (Bring Your Own Wine). Library staff will lead the discussion. Materials will be available for checkout at the [Gig Harbor Library](#), as well as for purchase online at [Barnes and Noble](#) and [Amazon.com](#).

This event is **FREE** and open to the public. Seats are limited; RSVPs are encouraged. To RSVP or for questions, please contact Zachary Sokolik, Marketing & Events Coordinator, at marketing@harborhistorymuseum.org or 253-858-6722.

[Labor Wars of the Northwest](#)

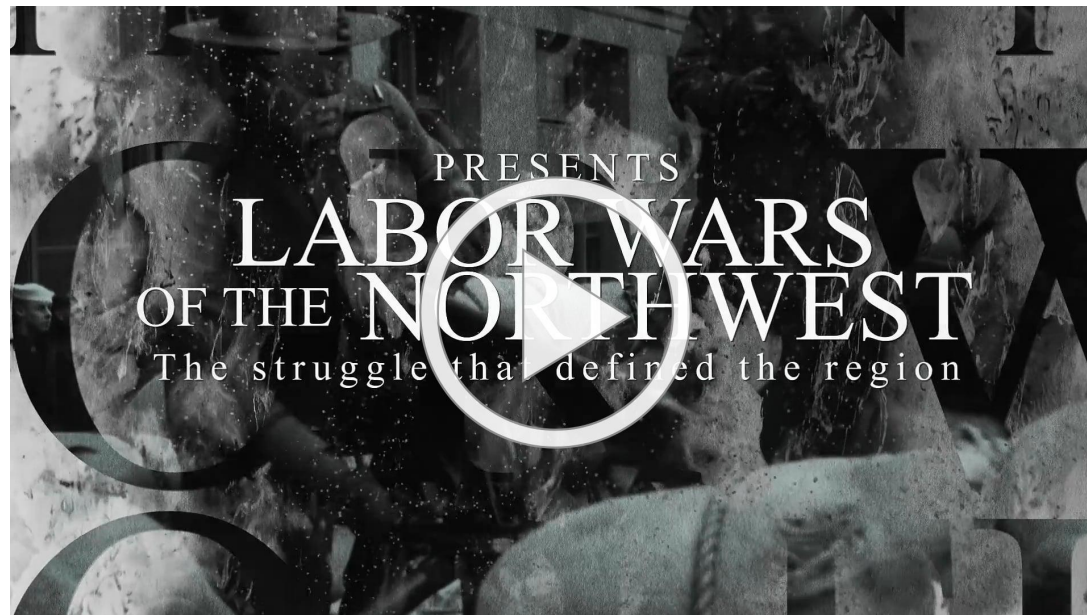
Thursday, June 13, 2019
6:00 - 7:30pm

Free for Members. RSVPs requested.



Humanities in the Harbor, a monthly series that explores unique and engaging topics for the Gig Harbor community, will continue in June as we welcome back author, historian, and documentarian David J. Jepsen.

On Thursday, June 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., Jepsen will screen his recently released documentary film on the labor history of the Pacific Northwest, *Labor Wars of the Northwest*. The documentary debuted February 2nd at the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI) as part of the city's week-long commemoration of the Seattle Generation Strike centennial.



Labor Wars of the Northwest Trailer

Labor Wars of the Northwest chronicles the cauldron of discontent, radicalism and violence that permeated the region in the early decades of the twentieth century. Following the arrival of the railroads in the 1880s, tens of thousands of workers migrated to the Northwest for jobs in logging, mining and fishing. But instead of steady work, they found poverty-level wages, crushing hours and dreadful conditions. By examining this conflict in the context of a decades-long struggle, *Labor Wars of the Northwest* shines new light on tragedies like the Everett Massacre (1916), the Seattle General Strike (1919) and the Centralia Massacre (1919).

The one-hour film will be followed by a 30-minute discussion and Q&A.

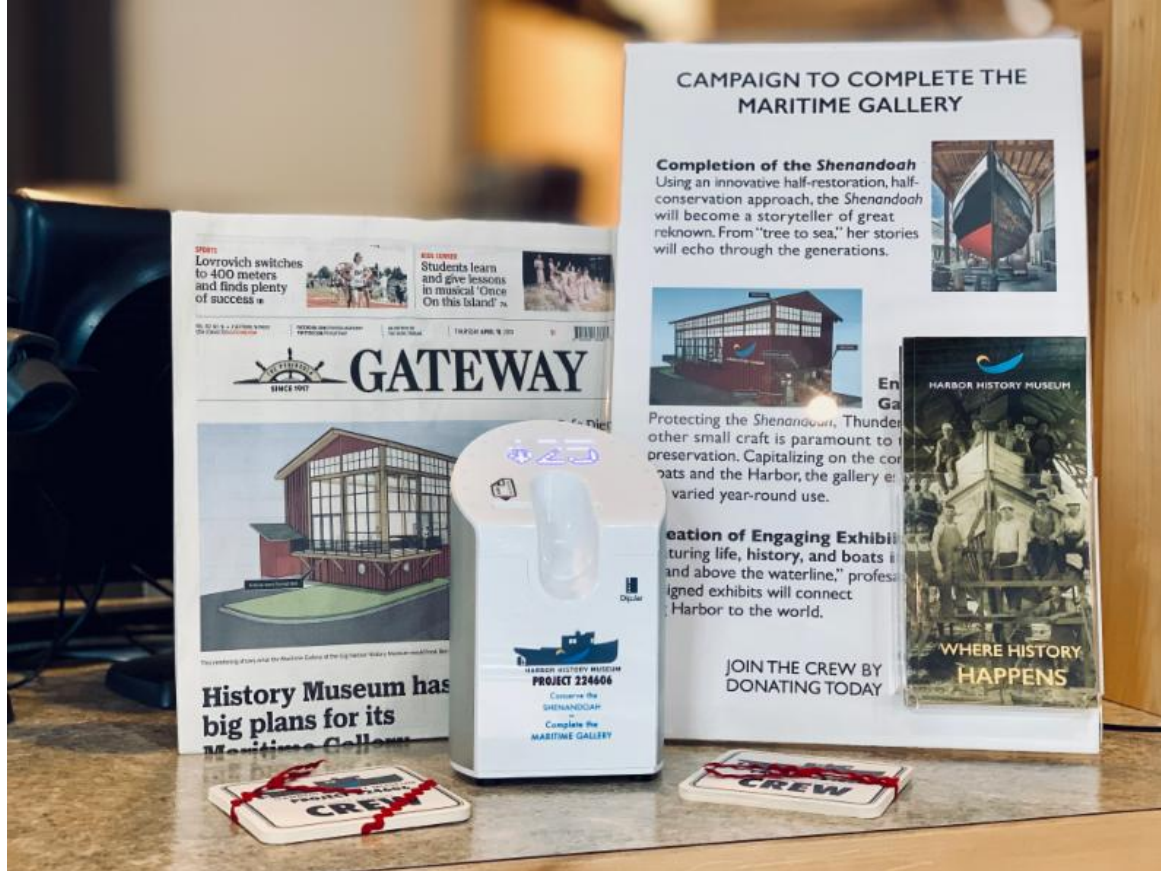
Admission to Humanities in the Harbor is \$5, but **FREE** for Harbor History Museum members. Tickets may be Purchased Online or at the front desk of the Museum. Members are encouraged to RSVP as seating is limited.

RSVPS can be made by emailing Zachary Sokolik, Marketing & Development, at marketing@harborhistorymuseum.org or by phone at 253.858.6722 ext. 5.



MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS

A New Way to Contribute to Project 224606



Project 224606 DipJar

You may have seen the recent article in the *Gateway* about Project 224606, the Museum's Capital Campaign to enclose the Maritime Gallery, complete the *Shenandoah*, and create engaging new exhibits. Or perhaps you came by the Museum and saw this little white machine at the front desk and wondered what it was.

In an effort to make contributing to the Capital Campaign as easy as possible, we've found an option that doesn't require pledge cards or tablets... This "little white machine" is actually known as a DipJar. Next time you are at the Museum, all you have to do to make a donation is simply dunk your card in the DipJar and you've magically contributed \$25 to our Capital Campaign! There's no limit to how many times you can make the plunge to show your support!

And of course, if you cannot physically make it in to the Museum to experience all the joy that is our DipJar, you can always donate via our website:

[Donate](#)

For more information on the campaign, please visit [Project 224606](#).



Museum Mercantile Product Spotlight

You might think it's too late to grow all your favorite vegetables from seeds, but warm May temperatures have made the soil perfect for sowing. Stop by the Museum Mercantile and grab your favorite 100% Organic, non-GMO Vegetable, Herb or Flower Seeds for your garden!



Book Your Next Private Event at the Museum



Located in the heart of the harbor, the Harbor History Museum is the perfect location to host your next gathering. Sit down for a board meeting or workshop in our Resource Room. Celebrate a birthday in the bright, art-filled Lobby Gallery and Courtyard. Or, book the entire facility and invite all of your friends to dance the night away!

For more information about Museum rentals, contact Rob Wood, Facility Rentals Coordinator, at facilityrental@harborhistorymuseum.org or fill out the rental inquiry form on our website at harborhistorymuseum.org/private-events.



Give a Little Every Time you Shop

amazonsmile

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support the Harbor History Museum every time you shop, at no cost to you. Find us listed as **Gig Harbor Peninsula Historical Society**. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to the Harbor History Museum. Thank you!

Mission and Vision

The mission of the Harbor History Museum is to create opportunities to experience the heritage of the greater Gig Harbor communities. We do this by collecting, preserving, and sharing the rich history of this area. Our vision is to be the cornerstone that provides a gathering place and a sense of identity for our community.

Harbor History Museum
4121 Harborview Drive
Gig Harbor, WA 98332
253-858-6722
www.harborhistorymuseum.org

