



- 4 Day of the Dead 2018
  What makes a life worth
  remembering?
- 6 Calendar

  Keep up on what's happening

  with your historical society
- 8 Collections Corner
  A nod to canning in the
  Hayward area
- 10 The Walsh Building
  A peek into the history of a
  Castro Valley landmark

**AUTUMN 2018 VOLUME LVI, NO. 3** 







#### FROM THE DIRECTOR

Hi! I'm the new Interim Executive Director.

It is sort of strange to say that because in reality, I'm the longest term employee at HAHS (a woman never says the "oldest" employee!). I arrived to the modest HAHS building on Main Street in 2005 having come from a very large museum with a huge staff and budget. Coming to HAHS was both a culture shock and an adventure. HAHS was simple compared to the large place I'd worked before, where I had an office with a wall of windows. At HAHS I sat in the dark Archives with boxes and shelving stacked high behind my desk. I used to hope fervently that we didn't have an earthquake because those boxes would have fallen right on me.

But the work and the people made it all interesting and fun. Having grown up in the area and even having used the resources of the Archives when I was in college, I was in my element. In the years I've been here I have learned so much more about the history of the area and met many wonderful people. I've also seen HAHS grow and change.

I think any organization that is willing to make changes and try new things--whether it's in physical size, staffing, or programmatic offerings—means it's an organization willing to adapt to the needs of the community it serves.

HAHS has obviously changed a lot over the years I've been here. For one I no longer have boxes stacked over my head and I have a window in my office! But really the most important thing is that we are serving more people than we ever have in our 60+ year history. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to the Edward E. and Donna L. Martins Foundation, and Berty Nebenzahl and Ruth Talley for their generous donations to underwrite free admission and school tours for select schools that have made our visitor numbers surge.

We will continue to change and adapt. And that's a good thing.

But we will always need your help to continue to grow. Come in and see the exhibitions—Loyal Americans: Japanese American Imprisonment during World War II remains open until October 28 and Day of the Dead 2018 opens September 29. Please leave comments about what you see in the Museum, make a donation, and spread the word about us.

—Diane Curry, Interim Executive Director



#### HAYWARD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# [Venues]

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### HAHS MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE

Historical and cultural exhibits and events plus a children's gallery, museum store, and cafe! Open Wed - Sun, 10AM - 4PM.

22380 FOOTHILL BOULEVARD, HAYWARD





#### McCONAGHY HOUSE

A lovingly preserved 1888 Eastlake style Victorian. School tours available. Open the first weekend of the month, 11AM-4PM. Tours at the top of the hour, last tour at 3PM.

18701 HESPERIAN BOULEVARD, HAYWARD





#### MEEK MANSION

Built in 1869 by William Meek. Located on nearly 10 acres.

17365 BOSTON ROAD, HAYWARD





#### SAN LORENZO PIONEER CEMETERY

Final resting place of over 2000 residents from politicians to paupers and Hayward area pioneers.

HESPERIAN BLVD. & COLLEGE STREET SAN LORENZO

3

# Day of the Dead 2018

Day of the Dead/ Día de los Muertos at its core is a celebration of life. It's about remembering deceased loved ones and honoring their lives.

Traditionally, Day of the Dead is celebrated in Mexico, Central America and much of the United States on November 1 and 2. Elements of the celebration date back to the Aztec civilization. It centers around the idea that on these two days, the distance between the dead and the living is the shortest, allowing the spirits of loved ones to visit this plain of existence. It is the job of those still alive to make the spirits feel welcome. Family graves are cleaned and decorated, special foods are prepared, and families build welcoming altars to their loved ones using items familiar to the honored person such as photographs, clothing and other personal items.

This year's Day of the Dead exhibition focuses on the big moments in life, not just death but also such events as weddings, the birth of a child, graduation, a great job, or a special vacation. It's those many special moments combined that make up the story of the person we remember during Day of the Dead.

Many local artists have contributed works celebrating this theme and Day of the Dead in general. Come see the exhibition on view in the Community Gallery from September 29 through November 25.













#### **Shop Talk: Return of the Dead**

Be sure to stop by and check out the latest Day of the Dead merchandise. We have a nice selection of imported goods to browse, including maracas, votive candles, handmade paper mache figurines and ornaments, genuine leather coin purses, festive market bags, Day of the Dead themed mugs, and more.

Show your support for Día de los Muertos and HAHS! As a special limited time offer, all purchases of at least \$30 or more will receive your choice of commemorative HAHS glassware! Don't forget! All HAHS members receive 10% off in our store! Not a member? Sign up today at the front desk or online at haywardareahistory.org/membership.



#### Family Program: Día de los Muertos

Día de los Muertos is a traditional celebration that honors our connection to loved ones who have passed on. Join us at the museum for a family-friendly program to celebrate the ways that our family and friends can stay in our hearts forever.

The theme of this year's celebration is "Big moments" – the memorable times in our lives that can make life worth celebrating. For kids, these moments are often smaller and more intimate than you would think – learning to ride a bike, making a new friend, or going out for ice cream with a grandparent. Taking time to notice and remember these precious moments can help kids feel more connected to family members, even after they're gone.

Join us for a community celebration of this rich tradition. Children will decorate paper-maché skulls to take home, create silly skeletons, and enjoy other crafts and activities.

We hope you will join us in this joyful celebration of life! The program will take place at the HAHS Museum of History & Culture on Saturday, October 20 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.



## Autumn events & Programs @ Hahs



22380 FOOTHILL BOULEVARD, HAYWARD



Toddler Time is a family program geared toward children ages 1-5 years and their caregivers. Together, we learn through games, crafts, songs, and stories. Older siblings are always welcome. Toddler Time takes place on the second Thursday of the month from 10:30 - 11:30 AM. \$5 suggested donation.

#### Our World and the People In It

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Around the neighborhood or around the world, join us for crafts and stories that reflect our many cultures, and how we are connected.

#### Halloween

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

Craft a spooky spiderweb, and join us for stories, songs, crafts, and fun! Don't forget to wear your costume!

#### Bugs

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Explore butterflies, caterpillars, all kinds of creepycrawly friends - make a coffee-filter butterfly, or a googly-bug-eyed headband for dramatic play!



#### Family Program: Días de los Muertos

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM \$5 Suggested Donation

Prepare for the *Días de los Muertos* (Days of the Dead) celebration by creating crafts to help celebrate the lives of loved ones who have passed. At this familyfriendly program, we will be creating paper-maché sugar skulls to paint and take home, as well as other crafts and activities.



18701 HESPERIAN BLVD, HAYWARD

#### Visitas Guiadas en Español

DOMINGO, 2 DE SEPTIEMBRE, 11:30 Y 1:30 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 11:30 and 1:30 DOMINGO, 2 DE DICIEMBRE, 11:30 Y 1:30 SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 11:00 and 1:30 Adultos \$5, Estudiantes y personas mayores \$3, Niños menores de 4 años gratis Adults \$5, Students and Seniors \$3, Children 4 and under are free

Construida en el año 1888, La Casa McConaghy es un verdadero tesoro de esta zona. La estructura de esta encantadora casa de campo, incluye doce cuartos llenos de decoraciones, pinturas de arte y muebles del tiempo en que la familia McConaghy vivió en el pueblo de San Lorenzo. Ofrecemos giras en Español, para una vista al pasado y conocer más como vivió la familia McConaghy en ese tiempo de la historia.

Built in 1888, the McConaghy House is truly a local treasure. The lovely 12 room farmhouse is filled with décor, paintings and furniture from the time the McConaghy Family resided in San Lorenzo. For a look into the past join us for tours of the house in Spanish.



Want to visit McConaghy House? Stop by for a docent led tour on the first weekend of the month. Tours start at the top of the hour, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.



17365 BOSTON ROAD, HAYWARD

#### Meek Open House

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Free Admission

Enjoy a look inside the beautiful Meek Mansion.



#### **Meek Paranormal Investigation**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 7:00 PM - 3:00 AM \$75 per person

During this investigation, experienced investigators will lead attendees through the property and explore the paranormal. Investigations for ages 18+. Purchase tickets in advance at haywardareahistory.org/ explore-the-paranormal.



HESPERIAN BLVD. & COLLEGE STREET, SAN LORENZO

#### **Cemetery Clean Up & Open Day**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Drop by to help preserve our local historic cemetery! Bring gloves, rakes and water. The cemetery will also be open during this time for the public to visit the grounds and ask questions.







# What's a Cannery Without Cans?

by John Christian, Associate Archivist

IN OUR OWN WORDS

## Why We Volunteer with HAHS

By Barbara and Stan Heimowitz

You can't talk about the History of Hayward without talking about Hunt's Cannery. And you can't talk about Hunt's Cannery without talking about United Can Corporation of Hayward. Which is why we're happy to accept into our collection, this 1986 United Can T-shirt commemorating 500,000 hours of safety. The shirt belonged to William Seright, a supervisor who worked for United Can for more than 30 years.

The facility was formerly located at C Street and Burbank Street, where United Can made the cans and labels supplied to the Hunt's Cannery.

Many long-time Hayward residents worked at both Hunt's and United Can and will remember when the whole area smelled like tomatoes during the peak canning season. This T-shirt is a great artifact to illustrate the cannery and the history of Hayward.

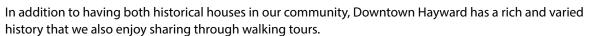
The Hayward Area Historical Society is grateful to Robert Seright for donating his father's T-shirt to our collection.



We are pleased to be volunteers for the Hayward Area Historical Society. We feel that being knowledgeable about the history of the Hayward area makes us more grounded and anchored in our community. It is our goal to disseminate this historical information to all visitors, young and old.

We find it rewarding when students, teachers, and parents sincerely thank us for introducing them to the displays, and; for providing them with anecdotes and explanations. We constantly are learning more, and; for longtime residents, we encourage them to share their own stories and remembrances.

We believe that our Museum is a crown jewel in the East Bay.
And, we believe that our Museum is constantly evolving with
Toddler Time activities, Community Gallery exhibitions, the
history gallery, and tours of Meek Mansion and McConaghy House.



Hayward has a rich and vibrant history. We cherish the time we spend as volunteers giving tours, greeting guests at the Front Desk, interacting with toddlers and their caregivers at Toddler Time, and at special events.



#### **Local History Talks at CSU East Bay**

#### The Rise and Fall of Hayward's Route 238 Bypass, 1957 to 2017

Presented by Sherman Lewis, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, CSUEB and President of the Hayward Area Planning Association.

At CSUEB Library, Biella Room, 4:10 to 5:30 PM

- October 9: The Rise of Hayward's Route 238 Bypass, the Early Years
- October 30: Years of Conflict over the Bypass
- November 13: The Fall of the Bypass and New Life for the Right of Way

Admission is Free! Each talk will be followed by discussion. Check our website for details on parking closer to the event. Talks follow meetings of the Academic Senate, which may run over.

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#### THE LITTLE KNOWN STORY OF CASTRO VALLEY'S

## "Walsh Building"

by John Christian, Associate Archivist



The building at 3121 Castro Valley Boulevard is well known to Castro Valley residents—even if they don't recognize the address. That's because it's been home to Lucca's Delicatessen since about 1960—making it synonymous with good ravioli and sandwiches.

The building itself however, was part of a professional and retail boom that swept Castro Valley in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Seeing the opportunity for more retail and business space convinced local real estate agent Joe Walsh to build a namesake building on that stretch of Castro Valley Boulevard.

Walsh broke ground on his new building in November of 1949. The construction was led by contractors N.T. Lewis and Leo Smith of Hayward. The building was well covered by local newspapers, hailing the "Walsh Building" as a big step forward for little Castro Valley. Part of what made the building unique, is that it also served as the residence of Mr. Walsh and his wife, Caroline. With the retail space still under construction, the couple moved into their

"ideal penthouse" in June 1950. A reporter noted it was "complete with maid quarters, and they're quarters any maid would love to have in her own house".

As the summer of 1950 progressed several businesses took up residence in the new building including, the Webster Electric Appliance Co., Mar-Lynn Apparel Shop, and local dentist, John James. These new businesses confirmed Walsh's belief that a growing Castro Valley needed more room for retail businesses and professional services.

Walsh was also generous with the unrented spaces in his new building. He allowed the newly formed Castro Valley Chamber of Commerce a one-year lease rent free. He also allowed Alameda County to hold trainings for reserve deputy sheriffs. By opening up the building to the community, Walsh gave civic minded groups a place to establish themselves.

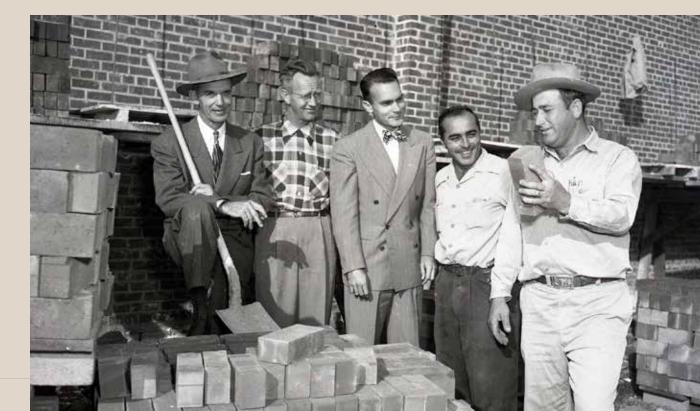
The official "gala opening" of the Walsh building took place on September 29, 1950 (beating the grand opening of the Castro Village by one day!). The event featured a fashion show and live music by a local group, the "Bow Tie Trio". Guests also received "baby orchids flown from Hawaii for the occasion...". The celebration certainly set the tone for the decade to come in Castro Valley.

**Left:** The Walsh Building the day of the grand opening. Notice the parking right in front of the building. The building was designed to complement the Sprouse & Ritz store next door (partially visible to the right).

**Right:** The Bow Tie Trio playing another venue, c. 1950. Pictured left to right are: Charles Borgstede, Bob Enos, and Keith Rockwell. The group was the entrainment at the grand opening of the Walsh Building.

**Below:** The ground breaking of the Walsh Building. Holding the spade is Joe Walsh. Next to him, left to right, are N. T. Lewis, Gene Rhodes, Bud Jordan, and Leo Smith.









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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

#### **SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY**

The Hayward Area Historical Society relies on the generosity of our community for support as we work to fulfill our mission to promote an understanding of our shared histories and stories.

To help, please visit www.haywardareahistory.org/donate or call (510) 581-0223.









#### WHERE YOUR DOLLARS HELP

\$300 - Helps to purchase one filing cabinet for rehousing the photograph collection, with a goal of 25 new cabinets.

\$500 - Provides much needed storage supplies for preserving clothing and textile artifacts.

\$2000 - Supports the Day of the Dead 2018 exhibition as well as the associated family program.

\$5000 - Admission for Christmas at McConaghy House is underwritten, making free admission possible for the busiest month of the year.