

RENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

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QUARTERLY

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HERE FOR THE DURATION: PART 2 The Peopling of the Renton Highlands

by Elizabeth P. Stewart

In October 1942, after many war-related delays, the first homes in the Renton Highlands were finally opened for occupancy. The Renton Housing Authority required would-be renters to demonstrate that they were employed in a defense industry; The Boeing Aircraft Co., Pacific Car & Foundry, and Kenworth Motor Co. were the three largest local employers, and the homes in the Highlands were advertised as being within walking distance of any of these.

Lyle and Dolores Grace and their family—six-year-old Ann, four-year-old Barbara, two-year-old Walter, and baby Carol—were the Renton Highlands' first official residents.

Lyle was a welder at the Pacific Car & Foundry Co., but like many in-demand laborers, he had already held two other jobs in 1942, at Lake Washington Shipyards and Todd Dry Docks in Seattle. "The house is just dandy," Lyle said of the family's new home, "and everybody connected with the Housing Authority in Renton has been so fine and helpful."¹

Rents ranged from \$33.50 to \$50 a month, including electricity, water, trash collection, and six tons of coal for the coal-burning heaters. Homes backed onto shared yards and faced out onto lettered streets. Construction and finishes

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Why do humans feel the need to decorate and embellish what they wear? Our upcoming exhibit *Sparkle* explores the different ways how and reasons why Rentonites have worn embellished clothing. Come see 1920s flapper dresses alongside the more sedate fashions of wartime. Think about who wore these clothes and what message they were trying to project. *Sparkle* draws on our own rarely-exhibited textile collection. Come be dazzled by Renton's history!

From
OCTOBER
22
to
APRIL
8

WELCOME STEPHANIE!

Stephanie Snyder joined us in September as our new Museum Office Aide. Stephanie came to us with lots of Renton knowledge, having just completed a term as an AmeriCorps VISTA member with the City of Renton and Neighborhood House, working on the Sunset Revitalization Project in the Renton Highlands. She also has museum experience, having worked at the Museum of American History in Deptford, NJ. Stephanie is relatively new to the

area, having driven across country to move to the Seattle area in the spring of 2018. She will be working with volunteers and members, and sharing her grant-writing skills with us. Please help her feel welcome!



LINDA PETERSEN (1941-2019)

Linda Petersen passed away this summer after a career of promoting and advocating for arts and heritage in South King County. Linda was the driving force behind the founding of the South King County Cultural Coalition (SoCoCulture) in 2004, when she and King County Councilmember Julia Patterson put their heads together on ways to promote the south's cultural vitality. Linda was also an active volunteer in arts

education and the KCTS9 Advisory Board, as well as an aspiring fiddler. She and her husband Clark lived over 40 years in the Fairwood area. Linda's energy and vision changed the face of culture in King County.



MUSEUM REPORT

by Elizabeth P. Stewart,
Museum Director

In November the City of Renton Human Resources Department asked me to help with new employee orientation by offering a presentation on Renton's history. It was a tall order in 25 minutes! Part of my presentation was an outline of distinguished Renton Mayors. The city's first Mayor was Dr. Abijah Beach, a Civil War surgeon who took office when Renton incorporated as a fourth-class city in 1901. Seventy-nine years later, Renton elected its first female Mayor, Barbara Shinpoch, after she had served on Renton City Council.

Our current Mayor, Denis Law, is also distinguished, for his unprecedented three terms in office; no other Mayor has served Renton for twelve years. Every Mayor responds to those problems forced upon them, from the county, state, and federal levels. Mayors George W. Beanblossom (1939 – 1943) and Edwin E. Burrows (1944 – 1947) struggled to tame the city's extraordinary growth during WWII, as the national war effort brought thousands of people into Renton for jobs at Boeing and Pacific Car & Foundry. Mayor Law has also seen remarkable population growth during his three terms—from 56,000 in 2006 to 104,000 currently—and the infrastructure required for that growth was his challenge to meet. Homelessness and the need for affordable housing also tested this Mayor.

But mayors also implement their own ideas. Mayor Shinpoch oversaw the expansion of Gene Coulon Beach Park and the acquisition of Maplewood Golf Course. Like his predecessors, Mayor Law has put his own vision into action. He helped launch the Landing at Renton, the Family First Community Center, and the Sunset Revitalization Project, a Governor's Award-winning initiative.

At a time when Renton is growing more diverse, with the other-than-white population surging 223% and over 80 languages spoken in the Renton School District, cultural change was also Mayor Law's blessing and challenge. He tasked city government with creating an inclusive city where all feel welcomed to work, live, play, and learn. A July 2019 article in Seattle's online magazine, *Crosscut*, called Renton "a model city for a nonwhite future," citing the Mayor's Task Force on Inclusion, an equity consultant on staff, and the Renton Police Department's efforts to avoid racial incidents suffered by other cities.

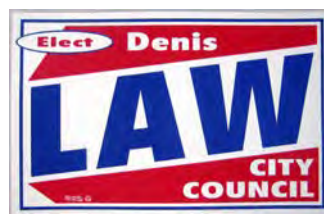
Mayors accomplish what they need to do with the help of Councilmembers, City staff, and, of course, residents. As Mayor Denis Law closes out his term, we thank him for his service and look forward to the future we've all helped create together.



Elizabeth P. Stewart
—
Director



Renton mayors at the dedication of Coulon Park, 1982. L-R: Don Custer, Charles Delaurenti, Barbara Shinpoch, and Avery Garrett. (RHM# 2007.035.075)



Denis Law campaign sign, 2003. (RHM# 2003.081.002)

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\$5 (Adult)
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CULTURE

BOARD REPORT

UPCOMING EVENTS



VIRTUAL TOUR OF RENTON'S AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL SITES

February 6
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Join John Houston and Benita Horn as they share the remarkable history of Renton's African American residents.



BLACK FASHIONISTA!

March 5
6:00 - 7:00 pm

Celebrate the history of Black women fashion designers, their fashion sense, and the celebrities they have styled during the 21st century.



COFFEE WITH THE CURATOR

March 21
11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join us for coffee and a behind-the-scenes look at our new exhibit, *Sparkle!* Curator Sarah Samson will show artifacts from the collection that did not make it into the exhibit while offering insights into the her exhibit process.

Renton Historical Society hosted our 11th annual fundraiser in October and we are happy to report that we bested last year's numbers! This year's successful History-Making Party was made possible by our crack events team headed up by Fundraising and Event Co-Chairs Lynne King and Jessica Kelly. This event wouldn't have happened without their tireless efforts and those of the rest of the Board, as well as our sponsors: Service Linen Supply, Rain City Catering, AssetLab Marketing, King and Bunny's, Old Soul Candle Co., and Four Generals Brewing. We also want to thank Renton Youth Council and the Lindbergh High School Future Business Leaders of America for volunteering during the event. Thanks also to Evelyn Reingold and Neil Sheesley of Renton Municipal Arts Commission, along with the City's Jessie Kotarski and Facilities Division, for help with set-up. Thank you to the Renton Senior Activity Center for the use of their beautiful banquet room. And of course "Aunt Dottie" Michele Bettinger and her nephew Aaron Buckner make the evening even more fun. Everyone's efforts came together seamlessly to provide an exciting and successful evening!

The History-Making Party is the museum's major fundraiser of the year and its success is vital to sustain the Museum's mission. The funds raised at the event directly support the Museum's efforts in collections care, exhibits, programming, and outreach; all of these add up to make a major difference in Renton. At the event Director Liz Stewart shared three stories from the past year about the Museum's impact in the community. She highlighted the fantastic interactions visitors had with *Hero's Feast: Finding Community in Dungeons & Dragons* (for more on this, see page 8); she told about Harry Rudolph Williams' delight at watching the story of his grandfather, Peter Prins, brought to life during our *Renton History Live!* performances during Renton River Days; and she spoke about how RenTeen Emma Austin used her research on the Renton Rodeo to help her find a connection to her new community.

Liz ended her speech with these words: "These three stories exemplify the ways in which the Renton History Museum is a vital community institution. Maybe you noticed some of the words I used in describing the Museum's impact: 'creativity,' 'imagination,' 'pride,' and 'sharing.' These words capture the sense of discovery and connection that the Renton History Museum strives to stimulate in the people we serve. By bringing history to life and opening minds to Renton's past, present, and future, we help make our community stronger, one visitor, one volunteer, one student, one member at a time."

This is what it is about. The connection with and impact on the Renton community is why we do what we do. Staff, Board members, volunteers, and you, our members and supporters: you make it happen. We thank you again for your support!



Emcees Aunt Dottie and Nephew Aaron with helper Molly McIrvin.



A full house enjoyed themselves!



Tempting treats from the Dessert Dash table.



Renton Historical Society Board of Trustees.

HERE FOR THE DURATION



Fourplexes in the Renton Highlands, 1958. Four families shared one building; the neighbors all used a common yard. (RHM# 1998.046.9790)

Continued from page 1

differed for the permanent and “demountable,” or temporary, homes. The 500 permanent homes had coal heaters, plastered walls, and electric ranges, hot water heaters, and refrigerators. The 1500 temporary houses had plywood interiors, coal ranges and space heaters, and, surprisingly, refrigerators that required ice for cooling.² Boeing recruiters had apparently promised families all the modern conveniences, so newcomers were surprised to find homes heated by wood stoves and ranges fueled by coal. Cedar River Park manager Frank Conklin remembered that “when they found they had to cut kindling and light a fire... why, we had all kinds of upset!”³

Not all the new residents were disappointed with their Highlands homes, however. Young Pearl Espetveit and her family came from North Dakota so her father could find a defense job; he was quickly hired by Boeing. The Espetveits were one of the first families to move into a duplex in the Renton Highlands. She remembered that her mother thought having electric appliances was “just fine.” They had never had electricity in North Dakota, and her mother said, “all her life she had been laying towels in the windows to keep the dust from coming in the house.” Now she had a vacuum cleaner and an electric refrigerator.⁴

Cover photo:
Espetveit family home in the
Renton Highlands, November
1943. (RHM# 2008.085.001)

Renton Highlands Gets Its First Family!

FIRST OF 2000 VICTORY HOMES ON FEDERAL PROJECT HERE

Furnished By Renton Hardware & Furniture Co.

Was occupied Saturday afternoon as trucks from our complete home furnishing store unloaded their contents of crisp, new furniture and furnishings at the new, pleasant home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle P. Grace at beautiful Renton Highlands overlooking Lake Washington and located within walking distance of the Pacific Car and Foundry, where Mr. Grace is employed as a welder.



IT'S MEAL TIME IN NEW HOME
ELBOW ROOM—The first family to move into Renton Highlands is photographed around the dinner table. They are Ann Grace, Mrs. Dolores Grace, Walter and Bobby. Meals are more fun now.

There are two other members in the Grace family—Lyle P., the father, and Carol, not quite three weeks. The last named declined to talk for publication but every member of the family was genuinely happy in their new home. "Bobby," above, is really Barbara, 4, and like her big sister Ann she thinks everything is just elegant.

THE RENTON HARDWARE & FURNITURE CONGRATULATES
Directors and Officials of the RENTON HOUSING AUTHORITY
Contractor J. C. Boesplug and his Associated Sub-Contractors

Renton City Authorities, State and County Officials, the thousands of employees, supervisors, foremen and helpers who have all contributed their share toward completing this huge, necessary and superb housing project in time to take care of the emergency which is being created here by the opening soon of our tremendous new war plants.

LYLE GRACE SAYS: "Are we glad to be here? Ask me something easy. This house is just dandy and

The Lyle P. and Dolores Grace family was the first to move into the new war housing. Lyle was a welder at Pacific Car & Foundry, and Dolores was a homemaker. (*Renton Chronicle* ad, 7 Nov 1942, p.7.)

and Williams The Day at Home Store Photo 4831



The postwar generation: twelve-year-old Herb Postlewait, with his siblings Evelyn, Tom, and Bill in their Highlands backyard in 1952. Their father Everett was a pipefitter at Pacific Car & Foundry. (RHM# 1998.050.4809)



Sisters Pearl and Arlene Espetveit standing in the yard of their new family home, November 1943. The Espetveits moved to their new home in the Highlands from Adams, ND. (RHM# 2008.023.002)

The Housing Authority predicted that all of the first 2000 units would be turned over to the rental department by early 1943, but shortages continued to slow completion. Construction on smaller units in Cedar River Park began before the Renton Highlands homes were fully occupied. On the site of today's Renton Community Center complex, 580 apartment homes were planned for smaller families and couples without children. Separate dormitory-style housing for single men and women was also planned closer to the war plants.⁵

Forming a community was challenging in the Renton Highlands in those first few months, when the neighborhood consisted of muddy streets and no sidewalks, no phones, no grassy yards, and no landscaping. One resident recalled that "the houses went up and people came to fill them as fast as they were finished until by Christmas there was a sizeable community."⁶ Sources disagree about the earliest Renton Highlands "settlers"—names mentioned include the families of Willie Sparrow, Harold Caldwell, Richard Greenfield, and James Clarke (none of whom were new to the city), as well as the E. C. Hibbert, William Arnold, Guy Cotton, William D. Mikkonen, and James H. Thompson families (all from outside the city). But the sources do agree that these were a special kind of pioneer, "making comfortable homes under adverse conditions and wartime shortages."⁷

War housing threw strangers together in stressful times, and locals did not always welcome the newcomers; in spite of efforts to get everyone to pull together in the war effort, the result was often confrontation. Frank Conklin



Portable classrooms behind Renton High School, 1945. To accommodate all the extra students, the school district purchased six U.S. Army barracks to repurpose as classrooms. (RHM# 1980.096.1409)

remembered that even Boeing recruiters had a tendency to refer to new employees as “Okies,” a term that conjured up Depression-era associations of poverty and backwardness. “There was an antagonism between the [new] people and the community, basically,” he recalled. “You had to weed out the people... working for you, who were antagonistic, and you had to reach and bend and pull the [new] people into you.”⁸

Fear of the newcomers contributed to an early controversy in the Renton Highlands, one stoked by very vocal law enforcement officials. Like many war boom cities, Renton struggled with the sheer number of new kids. Renton’s school-age population doubled between 1941 and 1945, and the new students overwhelmed Renton schools.⁹ Many schools used a split-shift system, or even three shifts, decreasing the number of hours that teachers supervised youth. In many households, both parents held down defense jobs, sometimes on opposite shifts. The result was a juvenile delinquency problem, or at least the perception of one. King County Sheriff Harlan S. Callahan and Renton Police Chief Vince Stewart insisted that “war-work was luring hundreds of criminals” to Renton and King County.¹⁰ Sheriff Callahan believed that New Deal agencies “shipped hundreds of [teens] out here to the Pacific Northwest, unaccompanied by relatives... and dumped them in the housing projects here, at Renton, Port Townsend and elsewhere.”¹¹

Sheriff Callahan insisted that Schools Superintendent Perry Mitchell and his teachers had identified restlessness and even “incurability” among students from out-of-state, and came to him to launch a multi-pronged investigation into youth

crime. Callahan cited the testimony of teens who supposedly told of “wolf gangs” of older teen-aged boys who lured girls into wild parties, fueled by illegally obtained alcohol.¹² “Police Chief Stewart’s records disclose very plainly that the seat of the juvenile delinquency problem is in the housing projects,” Sheriff Callahan contended. “The victims are the boys and girls who live in those projects.”¹³

Sheriff Callahan’s and Chief Stewart’s tendency to blame “migrants” from the “Middle West” outraged Highlands residents. Residents vehemently defended themselves and their community. Fred W. Hunt’s letter to the *Chronicle* underscored this: “I am from South Dakota, born and raised on the farm. I am doing my best to raise my children to be decent, law-abiding citizens... We are all here for a purpose, and that is to help in the war effort.”¹⁴ “In the Renton housing projects live people as fine as any that can be found anywhere in the nation,” wrote *Chronicle* editor Dan McGovern. “Many of them came out to the district actuated by nothing but pure patriotism—because they thought[t] their efforts were needed in the war work.”¹⁵

Ultimately, it was Highlands residents themselves—with the help of the city—who mounted a campaign to correct the record. In a public meeting parents “berated” Sheriff Callahan for his “unnecessarily crude” handling of the problem.¹⁶ When questioned by King County Deputy Prosecutor John J. Quine, teens provided no evidence of “wolf pack” immorality.¹⁷ He concluded that “the community itself and the good boys and girls who live in it have been given a

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d20 Dames recorded a museum-inspired episode of their podcast at RHM.

EXHIBITS REPORT

by Sarah Samson, Curator
of Collections & Exhibitions



Sarah Samson
—
Curator

As the only museum and heritage organization in Renton, we've taken care to broaden our programs and exhibits so we may better serve our diverse community. Often that means saying yes to projects that you wouldn't think a local history museum would do. Our most recent exhibit, *Hero's Feast: Finding Community in Dungeons & Dragons*, was one of these projects.

University of Washington

Museology student Allison Moore pitched the idea of developing and installing *Hero's Feast* for her Master's thesis, and I've never been happier we said "yes." Why would a local history museum display a Dungeons & Dragons exhibit, you ask? Although Wizards of the Coast (producer of the game) is located in Renton, the exhibit is really about the community of players D&D has in Renton. It was a history exhibit—telling the story of D&D players in Renton during the 1980s—but it also brought the story up to present day, sharing the experiences and insights players have right now.

We only had a few photos in the collection that Allison could use in this exhibit. Everything else—content, artifacts, and photos—was all at the mercy of Allison's ability to find members of Renton's D&D community and convince them to talk to her. Beginning with two people, her contact list quickly grew until it became a spider web of over 35 people. What she found was an incredibly close-knit and excited community who helped her tell Renton's D&D story.



Allison Moore at the opening of *Hero's Feast* in May 2019.

This community generated buzz and attendance that we've not seen for a temporary exhibit before. News of the exhibit spread like wildfire on social media and before long, news outlets in Seattle were sniffing around wondering what the big deal was with *Hero's Feast*. (Let me pause here. I've been working at the museum for 13 years and this has never happened. Ever. We were surprised and also so excited to have this story reach a larger audience.) The secret was simply that the community was engaged. They came together to help create this exhibit, and their stories, quotes, photographs, and artifacts were on the walls in the exhibit. They visited the museum, their family and friends visited the museum, they shared it on social media, and they told everyone they knew to come. Word of mouth is the least expensive form of marketing, but also the hardest to come by and the most compelling.

Hero's Feast is a perfect example of why community-based exhibits are so important. Museums are of and for the community, and exhibits are one of the last areas where the "ivory tower" mystique remains. We first began experimenting with community-based exhibits for the Renton High School Centennial in 2010. It was so cutting-edge back then that we were denied a grant because they were sure we would fail. It's funny to look back at that now because not only did that exhibit succeed, it cemented our dedication to involving the community in exhibit development and brought us to the point where saying yes to *Hero's Feast* became a reality.

Allison Moore graduated with her Master's in Museology in June 2019 and is now the Curator at Heritage Sandy Springs Museum and Park north of Atlanta, Georgia.

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LIKE OUR NEWSLETTERS?

We've heard from you that the feature articles in our newsletters are the main motivator for memberships so we're now sending an extra newsletter to Sustaining Members (Benefactor, Patron, Business, and Life) in February as a thank you for their level

of support. If you want to receive five newsletters per year, consider upping your membership when you renew this month! Sustaining Members also receive invitations to special behind-the-scenes events not open to the general public. Make sure you're not missing out!

Continued from page 7

stigma which they do not deserve.”¹⁸

However painful, the controversy represented a turning point for the Renton Highlands, as residents and the city worked together to cultivate a healthy community. Chief Stewart himself pitched in. Clarence S. Williams was a sheriff's deputy detailed to the Renton Police Department during the war. "There was a genuine need for some police work to be done" in the Highlands, Williams recalled in 1986. Williams remembered that Chief Stewart "spent a lot of time in what is now known as...social work insofar as counseling people, talking to them and trying to iron out a lot of things that today there are specialists for that purpose."¹⁹ Residents formed their own community organizations, like the Highlands Community Council, which organized dances, picnics, movies for kids, and community events. They recruited existing clubs like the Boys and Girls Clubs and the Girl Scouts.²⁰ The Housing Authority established a curfew for residents, single men were relocated to dormitories, and the Liquor Control Board cracked down on taverns known to serve minors. The Housing Authority also reinforced its policy of requiring proof of employment for housing eligibility to "eliminate the shiftless, undesirable elements from these communities."²¹

Even as the community strengthened ties among neighbors, the war effort wound down. Germany signed an unconditional surrender in May 1945, and in August the Allies also defeated Japan. During the war the Seattle and Renton Boeing plants had produced 8200 planes with a payroll of \$410M. But with the war's end thousands of Boeing employees

were suddenly laid off at the beginning of September 1945 and all subcontracts were canceled, including those with Pacific Car & Foundry and the Kenworth Motor Truck Co.²²

Even after the shutdown of Renton's major employer, three out of four war workers still planned to remain in the Renton or Seattle area.²² Renton's population had grown three and a half times in the four years of war, from 4488 in 1941 to 16,039 in 1945; most of the growth was in the Highlands. Effective April 30, 1946, Renton City Council acknowledged that the Renton Highlands were an integral part of the city by annexing the neighborhood. The Highlands' 420 acres, 2420 housing units, and 7500 residents made the community eligible for ranking as a second-class city, jumping suddenly from a fourth-class city. Mayor Edmund E. Burrows described it as "one of the best [federal housing projects] on the Pacific Coast."²⁴

In 1946 the Highlands began its new life as one of Renton's best communities. Many questions remained to be worked out, however: What would happen to those "demountables" that had never been intended to last for the future? What was the role of the Renton Housing Authority with the end of Renton's national defense status? Most importantly, how could the federally funded housing become an asset for the whole community? In the process of working out the answers to these questions over the next 70 years, the Renton Highlands would become the community for people new to the city or new to the country, for first time-home-buyers and renters, for people looking to make a difference in the world.

ENDNOTES

- 1 "Renton Highlands Gets Its First Family," advertisement, *Renton Chronicle*, 7 Nov 1942, p.7. The *Renton Chronicle* reported that four Japanese families quietly moved into the Highlands in August 1942, but we have not yet found any other information on them. "15 Japanese Move Into Highlands," *Chronicle*, 30 Aug 1942, p.1.
- 2 "Victory House Draws Crowd," *Chronicle*, 22 Oct 1942, p.1; "First Families in Renton Units," *Seattle Times*, 2 Nov 1942, p. 6.
- 3 Frank Conklin Oral History, 4 Nov 1984 (RHM# 1984.101.001), p.11.
- 4 Pearl Espetveit Jacobson Oral History, 13 Jul 2011 (RHM# 2011.002.004), p. 3-4.
- 5 "WPB to Blame for Delays in Local Housing," *Chronicle*, 17 Dec 1942, p.1; "Accept Bids for 580 Unit Housing Here," *Chronicle*, 31 Dec 1942, p.1; "U.S. Sets Curfew on Projects To Curb Renton Delinquents," *Seattle Times*, 28 Apr 1944, p.1. In the end the Renton Highlands cost \$9.7M to build, with an additional \$1.2M spent on the Cedar River housing project. "Projects Lose 1000 Residents," *Chronicle*, 13 Sep 1945, p.1.
- 6 "Pioneer Days Were the Rugged Ones, Recall Early Settlers in Highlands," *Chronicle*, 1 Jan 1948, sect. 2, p.1.
- 7 Lee Pederson, "Highlands Arose Over Night [sic] From Field of Tress, Gullies and Ponds," *News-Record*, 31 Jul 1952; "Pioneer Days Were the Rugged Ones, Recall Early Settlers in Highlands," *Chronicle*, 1 Jan 1948, sect. 2, p.1.
- 8 Conklin Oral History, p.11.
- 9 "Renton See Doubling of School Rolls," *Seattle Times*, 10 Aug 1946, p.3.
- 10 "Renton Housing Residents Unprotected, Chief Asserts," *Seattle Times*, 11 Feb 1943, p.3.
- 11 John J. Reddin, "Callahan Blames New Deal for Juvenile Delinquency," *Seattle Times*, 1 May 1944, p.1. Sheriff Callahan released a statement in May 1944 that blamed the New Deal for both the moral decline of teens and the release of criminals into the communities he policed. *Chronicle* editor Dan McGovern answered by pointing out the many ways that the Sheriff's Department had benefited from New Deal programs. Dan B. McGovern, "After Thinking It Over," editorial, *Chronicle*, 4 May 1944, p.1; "Comment," 11 May 1944, p.1.
- 12 Reddin, "Callahan Blames New Deal," p.1+; "7 Renton Youths Jailed as Girls Tell of Gang Parties," *Seattle Times*, 26 Apr 1944, p.1. The problem of juvenile delinquency dominated the *Seattle Times* reporting on Renton in this period, probably exaggerating it. Numerous Renton city officials, including Schools Superintendent Perry Mitchell, insisted that this

- reporting did not reflect "the true picture." "U.S. Sets Curfew on Project to Curb Renton Delinquents," *Seattle PI*, 28 Apr 1944, p.1. Perry Mitchell resigned not long after this controversy, took over publication of the *Renton Chronicle* and ran successfully for Renton Mayor.
- 13 Reddin, "Callahan Blames New Deal," p.8.
- 14 Fred W. Hunt, "Plain Sabotage," Letter to the Editor, *Chronicle*, 18 May 1944, p. 5.
- 15 "Vile Charges Against Renton Youth Raises Furious Storm of Protest," *Chronicle*, 4 May 1944, p.1. The *Chronicle* editor was among many who called upon the city to discipline Chief Stewart and Sheriff Callahan in some way; their professionalism and dedication to duty was repeatedly called into question. Dan B. McGovern, "After Thinking It Over," editorial, *Chronicle*, 4 May 1944, p.1; "Comment," 11 May 1944, p.1. Chief Stewart refused to provide crime statistics, saying that the truth would result in "an inevitable exodus among workers." "Renton Chief Defends Stand on Crime News," *Seattle Times*, 29 Aug 1944, p.8.
- 16 "'Charges False,' Say Speakers at Highlands," *Chronicle*, 4 May 1944, p.1; "Women Threaten to Quit War Work as Delinquency Protest," *Seattle Times* 4 May 1944, p.1; "'Wolf Gang' Phrase Blamed for Unfair Renton Publicity," *Seattle Times*, 7 May 1944, p.3.
- 17 Lucille Cohen, "Renton 'Wolf Pack' Proved Nonexistent," *Seattle PI*, reprinted in *Chronicle*, 11 May 1944, p.1.
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