

Latah County Historical Society

# Spring Newsletter

APRIL 2026

IN CONGRESS JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

**AMERICA 250  
IN MOSCOW**

**Find us here:**

- First Saturday of the Month at the Moscow Farmers Market
- ArtWalk Booth - June 13
- Library Summer Reading Program
- and more - Stay tuned!

 **MOSCOW COMMEMORATES 250 Years of America**

[LATAHCOUNTYHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG/AMERICA-250](http://LATAHCOUNTYHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG/AMERICA-250)

See other great LCHS and America 250 events starting on page 4!

# Recent Donations

January 10, 2026 through April 15, 2026

## McConnell Mansion Window Project

Authentic Restoration  
Services

## Grants

Idaho Humanities Council  
Registrars Committee -  
Western Region

## Annual Fund Drive

Daryle Faircloth  
Nels & Joyce Reese

## General Donations

Bearable Dentistry  
Devin, Kristin & Agnes Becker  
Guardian Property Services  
Barbara O'Donnell

## Memorial Donations

*In memory of Gary Grove  
Richard & Jodi Hodge*

*In memory of Joann Jones  
Susan Roberts*

*In honor of Elna Barton's  
100<sup>th</sup> birthday  
Ginny Berg  
Helen Wootton*

Thank you to our  
**2026 BUSINESS SPONSORS**

The image displays a collection of logos for various business sponsors. At the top left is the Allstate logo with the tagline 'You're in good hands.' and contact information for Ted Curet in Moscow. To its right is the Edward Jones logo on a yellow background. Further right is the Guardian Property Services logo featuring a sun icon. Below these are several other logos: a photo of a building for Friends of Cordelia; the Latah Credit Union logo with a tree icon; the NEAT Whiskey Bar & Cocktails logo with a crown; the Trail & Swift Financial logo with a bird icon; the Banner Bank logo with a red and yellow banner; the P1FCU logo with a mountain icon and the tagline 'YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR CREDIT UNION'; the Mikey's Gyros logo with a gyro icon; the Latah Realty logo with a house icon; and the Gritman Medical Center logo with a cross icon.

*Thank you for your support!*

Visit [latahcountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://latahcountyhistoricalsociety.org) to learn more about LCHS and how you can support our mission of preserving and celebrating Latah County's history!

# Director & Curator Remarks

As always, we want to thank you all for your continued support for local history and our organization. Hayley recently had the pleasure of visiting with Len Bielenberg. He recalled how the Cornish estate that he administered was some of the first seed money used to establish the Historical Foundation endowment. After discussing with our financial advisor, it is estimated that nearly 30 years later, that original investment is worth over \$1.5 million today. We want to recognize the work of our past LCHS supporters, board, and staff who had the foresight to set up the Foundation, which continues to support our organization. If you are interested in making a lasting legacy to LCHS, please consider including the Foundation in your estate plans.

Lastly, we are saddened that Elaina Pierson is leaving our office, but we wish her the best at the University of Idaho Special Collections & Archives. We are thrilled that her work at LCHS equipped her with the skills necessary to take this next step in her archival journey. She has been a valued team member at LCHS for more than 7 years, and we will miss her dearly. Elaina, thank you for your years of service and dedication to local history.



- Hayley & Kaitlynn

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

LCHS is seeking volunteers to serve on the following committees:

- Events
- Strategic Planning
- Governance



Call 208-882-1004 or email [lchslibrary@latahcountyid.gov](mailto:lchslibrary@latahcountyid.gov) for more information.



Latah County Historical Society  
presents

Thursday, April 30th

Doors open at 6pm  
Program begins at 6:30pm

Hunga Dunga Brewing Co  
333 N Jackson St, Moscow

# "WE CAN TAKE IT!: THE CCC IN NORTH IDAHO" with Lee Sappington

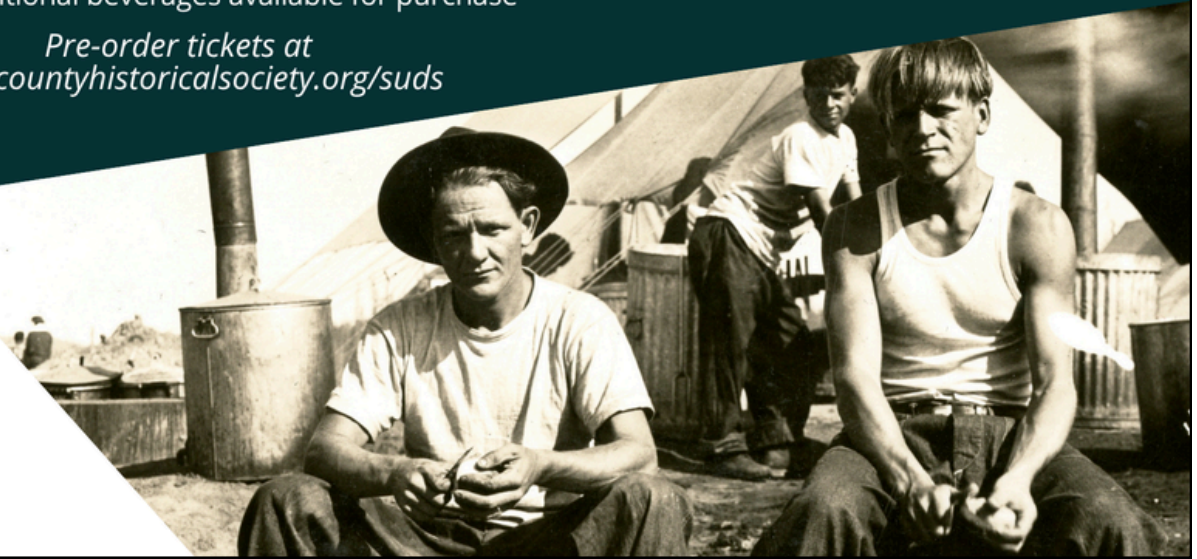
\$12 for LCHS Members // \$15 for Not-Yet-Members

**TICKET PRICE INCLUDES FIRST BEER**

Food & additional beverages available for purchase

Pre-order tickets at  
[latahcountyhistoricalsociety.org/suds](http://latahcountyhistoricalsociety.org/suds)

GENEROUSLY  
SUPPORTED BY



Save  
the date  
for Idaho's  
biggest week  
of giving.

The Idaho we want  
starts with what we give.



**MAY 4 - 7, 2026**

Visit [IdahoGives.org](http://IdahoGives.org) for more information.



Flip through the  
pages of Library  
history as we  
celebrate our past,  
present, and future.



120 Years of the  
**Moscow**  
Public Library

**Exhibit Opening**

Friday, May 8th  
5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
Moscow Public Library



You are cordially invited to join us for a

# Community Book Club



Please join us for a discussion of our Common Read, *The Small and the Mighty* by Sharon McMahon.

MMS Students will lead table discussions, with each table dedicated to a different section of the text.

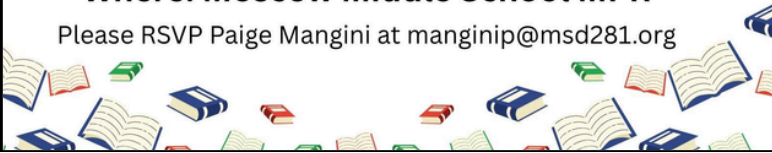
**When: Friday, May 8**

**Time: 8:00 am**

7:45 check-in

**Where: Moscow Middle School MPR**

Please RSVP Paige Mangini at [manginip@msd281.org](mailto:manginip@msd281.org)



# MEAT-N-GREET MAY 19 | 5:30PM-7:30PM



## Latah County Historical Society

Eat sausage, do good. Help support Latah County Historical Society who build good citizens, strong communities, and satisfying lives by collecting, sharing, preserving, and celebrating the history of Latah County. All food donations will benefit LCHS, PLUS our friends at Shattuck Brewery West Taproom will also be donating \$1 from each beverage sold!



630 N Almon

# 100 Years of Moscow Kiwanis Celebration

Let's celebrate the achievements of the Moscow Kiwanis Club and look forward to the future!



THURSDAY,  
MAY 28

5 PM  
TO  
7 PM

SHATTUCK  
WEST  
BREWERY



# Happy Birthday Buildings!

The Mikey's and BookPeople buildings are turning 100, and the Kenworthy has a centennial too! Let's celebrate our history with you!



Saturday  
June 6th  
11:30 a.m.  
@Mikey's Gyros

Free! All  
Welcome!

Join a walking tour  
with Latah County  
Historical Society,  
eat free cupcakes,  
win fabulous  
prizes!



# Message from the President

Have you been enjoying the recent Spring weather? The sunshine and warmth are certainly welcome and foster anticipation of more to come. At LCHS, we're definitely springing forward with upcoming engaging and insightful events—be sure to mark your calendars! We'd love to see you at our April 30th Suds With a Scholar featuring Board Member and Ph.D. Dr. Lee Sappington.

When was the last time you visited the McConnell Mansion? If it's been over a year, you likely haven't seen the restoration of two of our prominent window bays. These have been carefully and skillfully restored, preserving the original glass and fenestration of these magnificent windows. Schedule a tour with us to admire these treasures and the cherished McConnell Mansion for an opportunity to compare the restored bay windows with the

third original bay. The final bay of windows will be restored in 2026 and we need your help to bring the third phase of our Window Project to completion. Your contributions to this fundraising effort will have lasting impact for generations to come by beautifying and maintaining this important piece of historic and architectural significance for our community. Thank you to the members, supporters, and community partners who have so far contributed. We're sincerely grateful for your generosity. One more bay to go!



- Kelly  
Zakariasen



## Dryland Agriculture

**Exhibition Opening Reception**  
*Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> 4-8pm*

Part of ArtWalk at the  
Moscow Chamber of Commerce + Visitor Centre

*Exhibit on display until July 27th*



# A Fond Farewell

As I put the finishing touches on this newsletter, the last one I'll do for LCHS, I'd like to take a minute to express my gratitude for the people, places, and experiences I have had the joy to know over these past seven-plus years.

Whether working in the festive chaos of a Victorian Christmas or quietly falling down another historical rabbit hole in the archives, almost every day has presented something different, with new challenges and new things to learn. I've had the pleasure of meeting and getting to know countless fascinating people, from our dedicated and hardworking corps of volunteers to the many researchers and visitors that pass through our doors, and especially the stellar collection of coworkers I've shared my days with.

I have been honored to be part of the team entrusted with caring for both the Centennial Annex and the prettiest old girl in town, the McConnell Mansion, and - forgive me while I get a little sappy - being able to spend my time in both of these awesome buildings has never failed to make my heart happy.

While leaving is bittersweet, it has been a joy and a privilege to spend these years with LCHS.


With thanks,

*Elaina Pierson*



**AN EVENING WITH**  
*Dr. John Charles Muerman*  
Presented By Historian Brian Martin

Brian Martin, descendant of early Moscow education pioneer, Dr. Muerman, will present about Dr. Muerman's life and work in education and discuss public education as one of the pillars of democracy.



At the Moscow Public Library  
**June 16 at 2 PM**  
Photo courtesy of the Latah County Historical Society

Latah County Historical Society LCLD

**THE 49TH**  
**ICE CREAM SOCIAL**

**NEW DATE & TIME!**

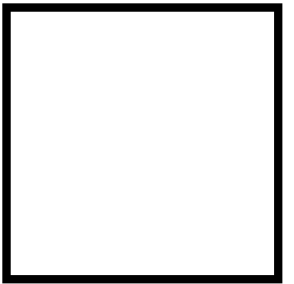
**SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2026**  
**11 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

McCONNELL MANSION  
110 SOUTH ADAMS | MOSCOW, ID





Latah County Historical Society  
 327 East Second Street  
 Moscow, ID 83843



*Latah County Historical Society*

# *Spring Newsletter*

APRIL 2026



Curator Kaitlynn and UI history professor Rebecca Scofield in the America 250 booth at Winterfest on February 7th.



Director Hayley greets visitors to the LCHS table at the Community Connections Carnival on February 21st.



Museum docent Joanne Westberg leads a tour of the McConnell Mansion for McDonald Elementary students on March 24th.



*We build good citizens, strong communities, and satisfying lives.*