Genealogical Forum of Oregon  
Mail-In Ballot — Due Monday, May 4, 2015

See Reverse for Mailing Instructions
Joint members may make an additional copy of the ballot so both members may vote.
Ballots for Officers and Endowment committee must be received by close of business, Monday, May 4, 2015 by 5:00 p.m. to be counted.

Vice President (2-year term)
☐ Jeanette Hopkins (incumbent)
Write-in Candidate:
☐ __________________________

Treasurer (2-year term)
☐ Richard Crockett (incumbent)
Write-in Candidate:
☐ __________________________

Director at Large (2-year term)
☐ Judith Leppert (incumbent)
Write-in Candidate:
☐ __________________________

Endowment Committee candidate
☐ Marti Dell (incumbent)
Write-in Candidate:
☐ __________________________
Ballot Instructions:

• Fill out by placing an ‘X’ in the box of the candidate, or writing in the name of an alternate candidate and marking ‘X’ in the write-in-candidate box.
• Fold this page in thirds on the lines, with the address facing out.
• Seal with tape, no staples.
• Add first-class postage and mail, or drop in the ballot box at the GFO.

Thanks for participating in the election.
GFO Spring Seminar 2015

We welcome …

Laura G. Prescott APG

SATURDAY
25 April 2015
9 AM - 4 PM
MILWAUKIE ELKS LODGE

Finding Your Family Beyond Vital Records

Seminar Topics

~ Treasures Within the Ivory Tower - Finding Family in Academic Archives

~ Turning Fiction into Fact

~ loc.gov - Using Our Nation’s Library Online

~ The Rest of the Story - Using Manuscripts to Create a Family History

See more about each topic at:

Laura G. Prescott’s lecture topics

SEMINAR FEATURES:

♦ Nationally Known Speaker ♦ Book Vendor
♦ Genealogical Treasures Raffles ♦ GFO Surplus Book Sale
Genealogical Forum of Oregon Spring Seminar 2015

~ Seminar Event Schedule ~

8:00 am  Registration opens
9:00 am  Opening remarks
9:15 am  Session 1
10:15 am  Morning break
10:45 am  Session 2
12:00 pm  Lunch
1:15 pm  Announcements
1:30 pm  Session 3
2:30 pm  Break and Treasures
         Raffle items claimed
3:00 pm  Session 4

Seminar Site
SATURDAY 25 April 2015
Milwaukie Elks Lodge
13121 SE McLoughlin Blvd., Milwaukie, Oregon
Situated on the west side of McLoughlin Blvd., Oregon Hwy 99E, 1/2 mile south of the town of Milwaukie.
Located between SE Park Avenue (traffic light to the north) and the Bomber (restaurant to the south).
Look for Milwaukie Elks Lodge sign.
Free parking available.

Lunch
Buffet lunch in the Elks Dining Room with payment of $13 - Includes pot roast, vegetables and salads.
Coffee, hot tea and juice are included.
No lunch available for those who register after 18 April 2015.

Breaks
Snacks and beverages (listed above) are included with admission and are available during breaks as well as lunch.

Refund Policy
For cancellations received after 18 April 2015, refunds will be made in the amount of the registration fee less a $10.00 cancellation fee.
Lunch fees are non-refundable if canceled after 18 April 2015.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Laura G. Prescott is a professional researcher, writer, and speaker, and currently the director of Ancestry Academy, a new online learning initiative. She worked for the New England Historic Genealogical Society for seven years before starting her own research business in 2005. Originally from Charleston, West Virginia, she lived in New England for nearly forty years before moving to Utah in 2015.

Laura graduated with a B.A. in History from Dartmouth College in 1980, ultimately putting her degree to good use when she discovered a latent passion for genealogy. She is past president of the Association of Professional Genealogists. She lectures for national audiences on a variety of genealogical topics including the use of manuscripts in genealogical research, genealogy online, military records, and merging history with genealogy. Her articles have appeared in many genealogical publications and online.

Watch for Laura as director and host of Ancestry Academy, online at Ancestry.com, in early April 2015.

Laura G. Prescott - Spring Seminar Sign-up Form - 25 April 2015

Name ___________________________________________________________ Member # ____________
Email for confirmation ___________________________________________ Telephone __________________
Address ____________________________________________________________________________________
City, State & Zip ______________________________________________________________________________

MEMBERS:  { } $43 received by Apr. 18th  { } $48 received after Apr. 18th (no lunch)
NON-MEMBERS: { } $48 received by Apr. 18th  { } $53 received after Apr. 18th (no lunch)
LUNCH:  { } $13 must be received by Apr. 18th  SYLLABUS:  { } $3 for Paper Copy - EMAIL FREE

TOTAL : $__________  □ Payment enclosed  □ Paid online at PayPal using email address payments@gfo.org

Please make checks payable to Genealogical Forum of Oregon or “GFO”
Questions? Email seminar@gfo.org
Mail to Attn:Spring Seminar, GFO, 2505 SE 11th Ave, Ste B-18, Portland, OR 97202-1061
PLEASE VOTE
Attached to the newsletter is a ballot for election of officers. Your vote is important. Please fill in your ballot and mail it or drop it off at the GFO by May 4, 2015.

Endowment Committee Addition
We have a new appointment to the Endowment Committee. Anita Lustenberger volunteered for this position, a one year presidential appointment. Thanks Anita.

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is, and always has been, the maintenance of trust funds acquired by the Forum in perpetuity, designed to retain and augment the principal and to use the income for Forum purposes and operations. (From the Operating Plan)

Parking Changes Coming
In May, there will be a change in the assignment of some of the street parking. Those using G Zone parking passes should be aware that some locations will be rezoned to N. We believe the passes will work the same way, but await information from the city. We will keep you informed as we learn more.

Again, this change will not take effect until May 1, 2015. They will split into two zones. You will need to know which of the two zones your car is in.

We’ll have notices at the front desk to let you know. Thanks for your patience; we know these have been challenging times for parking changes.

OPEN HOUSE
Thank you to everyone who participated in last month’s Open House. This week-long event brought together members, teachers, and - hopefully - new members for classes and meetings and a sale of surplus books.

It would not be a success without the planners behind the scenes, the research assistants who answered dozens of questions, and all the other volunteers who gave their time. Well done!

Special Donation
A huge thanks to Family Tree DNA for donating a Family Finder autosomal test kit to our Open House. This is a large donation and a prize for one lucky person.

Please support the businesses that support the GFO.

Donations for the Treasures Raffle
As we take registrations for our upcoming Spring Seminar, we would like to ask you to search your closet or desk for a gently used item that we can raffle at the seminar.

Suggestions include genealogically related books, household decorations, carry bags, and computer items. Leave the item(s) at the library reception desk with a note that it’s a seminar treasures donation.

Tickets are sold for $1 each or 6 for $5, and are placed in separate paper sacks for each prize so you win only something you want. Thank you.
Spring Seminar

Finding Your Family Beyond Vital Records — Laura G. Prescott APG
Saturday, April 25, 2015
9 am–4 pm
Milwaukie Elks
See flyer (attached) or go to http://gfo.org/seminar/laura-prescott.pdf

Monthly Program

Program is held at the GFO Library and is free and open to the public.
http://www.gfo.org/month_meet.htm

Pre-tested Models For Presenting Your Personal Family — Harold Hines
Saturday, April 18, 2015
2 pm – 4 pm
Come be a part of this lecture from Harold Hinds as he gives valuable insight and expertise regarding how to share your personal family history with a broader audience. This session will give advise about presenting your genealogical findings so that other researchers, and subsequently yourself, will benefit most.

May ~ To Be Announced
Saturday, May 16, 2015
2 pm – 4 pm

Italian Group

Keith Pyeatt

Special Interest Group
Ciao to everyone interested in Italian genealogy research. Due to the interest expressed by attendees at the GFO’s recent half-day seminar on Italian research, the board of directors has approved the creation of an Italian Special Interest Group (ISIG), to be chaired by Keith Pyeatt. Through the end of 2015, ISIG will meet once a quarter. Meeting dates are May 30 at noon, July 25 at noon, and November 28 at noon. It’s a great opportunity to learn, share, and enjoy others with a common interest. Italian genealogy research in the Portland area now has a home. Come join our group.

NEW
Introducing the Film Scanner Drive!
Elizabeth Stepp

GFO’s current microfilm scanner is a vital research tool that has provided many years of service. In fact, it helps us produce monthly income by helping to fulfill requests from across the U.S. and beyond for donation land claim and other rare Oregon records.

Scanner technology has improved greatly over the years, and it’s time for the GFO to keep up with the times and to provide our patrons full use of current technology. After all, GFO is the largest genealogical library between San Francisco and Seattle, and we are justifiably proud of our facility. A new scanner will operate faster and more reliably; have new features such as a readable image view, image optimization, the ability to read and scan microfiche, and the flexibility to save or print only a targeted area of the image.

This is a big, long-term investment! GFO is embarking upon a one-year campaign with the goal of raising the estimated purchase price of $10,000. You can donate to this new, dedicated fund:

- By mail: Please write “Scanner Drive” on the envelope and inside, with your contribution;
- By PayPal: Send your donation to payments@gfo.org, and please add the note: Scanner Drive;
- By giving at the library: Those donating at the library should give their cash or check to a receptionist if a receipt or recognition is desired. If neither is desired, cash donations may be dropped in the familiar donation jar.

We will provide a progress report in each Insider and a display at the library will measure our progress. With your generous help, GFO can have a new scanner up and working for Spring 2016!

We already have one $200 donation and a pledge for another $100. Won’t you join us and help GFO get a new scanner?

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Vancouver’s Public Cemetery Records Online

Vancouver’s publicly owned and managed cemeteries can now be searched online. The website is: http://www.cityofvancouver.us/publicworks/page/city-cemeteries.

A search can be made on name, cemetery, section, and lot. Because the records are transcribed by volunteers from old records, there may be errors or misspellings; patience and many search variations can improve your chances for success. Records are being added all the time, so returning to the site may yield new results. One suggestion for finding families is to locate one person’s section and lot, then search the same section by last name.

From their website:

Parkhill Cemetery - Located at 5915 E. Mill Plain Blvd., some early 1800s graves were moved to this cemetery. There are more than 25,000 burials at Parkhill Cemetery, which also remains available to new interments.

Old City Cemetery - Located at East Mill Plain and Grand Boulevard, the Old City Cemetery is surrounded by a tall iron and concrete fence. It is one of Vancouver’s oldest established cemeteries.

Fisher Cemetery - Located at 16509 Evergreen Highway, Fisher Cemetery dates back to 1852, the oldest pioneer burial ground in Clark County, Washington.

Other Pacific Northwest and Washington state cemetery research resources are listed at: http://www.sos.wa.gov/library/ObituaryResources.aspx

- Washington State Obituary Indexes
- Washington State Cemetery Records and Transcriptions
- Pacific Northwest Indexes and Transcriptions
- Obituary Research Options

Another resource: Clark County Genealogical Society http://www.ccgswa.org/
“Over the past eight to ten years, Marj has been Membership Chair, both officially and as interim chair. Over the years, she has worked many hours to maintain the GFO Membership Records, almost completely on her own. If unsure of information, she would call members to clarify data. She processed the mailing lists for distributing publications by mail and email. To process applications, she would start early in the day, work weekends, and stay after the Library closed. She has worked as a regular Research Assistant shift on Tuesday afternoons, and is always willing to fill vacant slots when other RAs are not available.”

Volunteer Opportunities

The GFO runs on volunteer power. Large and small jobs, all hours, we can use your help. What can you bring?

☞ Book cataloging - many volunteers

Enter newly donated and already classified books into the new catalog. We will train you. The perk is being first to see the interesting books coming into the library. You can set your own hours; as little or as much time as you are able to give. Use either the computer in the work room, or we can set up your laptop so you can work anywhere in the library. Contact Sarah Holmes (cataloging@gfo.org).

☞ Data entry

Need detail-oriented person with data entry experience to help 1–3 hours a week processing membership applications. Please contact Marj Enneking at membership@gfo.org.

☞ Book sales

This is an ongoing project, day and time are up to you and may fluctuate. Training is provided, procedural “cheat sheets” are available. Once trained, volunteers may work independently on their own schedule. Basic computer skills are all that is needed. Contact Helen Smith (booksales@gfo.org or 503-963-1932).

☞ Manuscripts

Organize, create finding aids, and scan personal papers and manuscripts donated over the years, to make these collections available to researchers. Once trained, volunteers can work independently to process an entire collection or choose one step, such as organizing or scanning. Contact Nanci Remington at manuscripts@gfo.org.

☞ Print shop

An additional person for backup in the print shop to help print brochures, letters, the Bulletin, the Insider, etc., when Loretta Welsh and Jim Morrow are not available. Contact Loretta at publisher@gfo.org.

☞ Research Assistants/Receptionists

Volunteers are needed to fill these critical spots to keep the library open. Some are experienced researchers, some do reception work, some fill both roles. We must have at least two volunteers on duty (minimum — one researcher and one receptionist) for each shift. Options can be one shift per week, every other week, or per month. Shifts are 9:30 am–1:00 pm or 1:00–5:00 pm. Contact Cathy Lauer at volunteer@gfo.org.

Canadian Research

If you have Canadian ancestors to research, check out the blog written Elizabeth Lapointe. One recent blog post lists her seven favorite free Canadian record search sites. But once you start there, you’ll find dozens of research hints, sites, news items and other writings.

The list mentioned above is at: http://genealogy-canada.blogspot.com/2015/01/top-seven-free-canadian-genealogy-sites.html. Her blog address is: http://genealogycanada.blogspot.com/
Exploring the Routes of Water Transport

NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey currently publishes over 1,000 nautical charts, which are available as free PDFs, including historical versions.

For this article, let’s explore a companion to the charts: the coast pilot. These books, published beginning in 1796, track the water and land interface along coasts of seas and navigable waters. Valuable for researching local history, they describe cities and settlements, harbors, lighthouses, local industry, natural habitats, and include stories contributed by some who had sailed the waters. Their history begins with Edmund March Blunt who published the first edition of instructions for sailors in 1796. Produced in many editions after that, Blunt’s copyright was sold to the U.S.; the U.S. Navy’s Hydrographic Office took over its publication in 1866. It’s been in production continuously since.

Primarily intended as guides and instruction for vessels navigating the waterways, entries include: water conditions under various seasons and tidal stages (depth, direction, and speed of both water and wind), navigation instructions and aids, and sources of water and supplies. Entries often describe the shoreline topography, rock, sand, and mud types, and shore vegetation to enable the navigator to identify the location. Mount Saint Helens, for example, is one such reference point because it could be seen clearly along the Columbia River.

For researching historical places, the list of town and feature names can supplement other sources. Some places in old records may have changed names since the publication. One example is Point Hansen, at the entrance to Grays Harbor. It’s listed in the 1905 version, but this name isn’t found in modern maps or the Geographic Names Information System, though the Hansen name is found on other features.

The descriptions for the region go as far inland as could be navigated (the Mackenzie River in the Willamette River valley for example). There are no maps included, but historical nautical charts may depict the areas. The view of ships and trade and the environs provides a window into another era. It’s often a good read simply for that dip into the past.

Some excerpts:

The 1853 entry for the Columbia River Bar: “Mere description can give but little idea of the terrors of the bar of the Columbia: all who have seen it have spoken of the wildness of the ocean, and the incessant roar of the waters, representing it as one of the most fearful sights that can possibly meet the eye of the sailor.”

Washington Sound, 1905: [The] commerce is extensive, the exports consisting of fish, lumber, fruit, and lime, while general merchandise is imported. The tidal currents have considerable velocity.

San Francisco Bay, 1853: The smaller [islands] are covered with guano, over which an immense number of sea-fowl are seen hovering. [To the] east . . . rise the lofty Californian mountains, brilliant with all the beautiful tints that the atmosphere in this climate gives.

Sausalito, 1853: [This harbor] is the principal resort of whalers. Here they can obtain wood and water, and refit. The water in the summer is obtained from small springs.

The coast pilots cover coasts of North and South America, some Carribean islands, Hawaii, Pacific islands, the Great Lakes, and the Phillipine Islands. Not all are available for each year/edition. There are also some copies in the Internet Archive; search on ‘Hydrographic Office’ for a listing.

Publications, all free:
- Historic coast pilots: http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/hcp.htm
- Modern coast pilots: http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm
- Historical Map & Chart Collection: http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/csd/lct/abstract.htm
- Nautical charts (modern): http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/pdfcharts/

San Francisco harbor at Yerba Buena Cove ~1850–51, photographer unknown, accessed at Wikimedia Commons.

February income totaled $5,927.45. Annual Appeal donations were $1,451, and there was $64 donated to the Endowment Fund and $15 in donations to the general fund. We had Vanguard investment dividends of $36.52 and received $2,368 in membership fees. The Italian seminar registrations totaled $470, spring seminar income was $640, the reading room brought in $140.57, and $25 was received for research. We received various commissions, sold some miscellaneous items and had used books sales of $606.80.

Expenses were $5,590.07 resulting in a net income of $357.18 for the month. Year-to-date there is a net income of $8,530.05.

The checking account balance on February 28 was $38,252.45.

Richard Crockett, Treasurer

Time and Date Services Online

Handy set of date and time functions. Free, online.


Time zones: http://www.timeanddate.com/time/


Online timer: For hours/minutes/seconds, gives a warning. Useful for parking meters when you’re researching. http://www.timeanddate.com/timer/

Countdown timer: To any date/time (your next trip?), save the URL to watch the countdown: http://www.timeanddate.com/countdown/create

Stopwatch: http://www.timeanddate.com/stopwatch/

Date and time calculators: Date-to-date, time duration business date, astronomical, week, time zone, travel time, and distance. http://www.timeanddate.com/date/

Local Genealogy Meetings and Classes, GFO Special Interest Groups

National Archives ~ Know Your Records Program

YouTube videos showing you how to use U.S. Federal government records have been recorded at the National Archives for historical and genealogical research. Census, public lands, passport applications, military, migrations, African-American, and more.

YouTube Channel for ‘Know Your Records’: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC641EF0E3F8AFDF9

YouTube Channel for National Archives ~ many other shows and topics ~ https://www.youtube.com/user/usnationalarchives/

Historical Oregonian

April 17, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

The Historical Oregonian is an amazing resource for finding obituaries, death and funeral notices, and even researching your house history. Learn skills and techniques for searching this archive of local newspaper articles. Central Branch, Multnomah County Library, Computer Room; registration required.

https://multcolib.org/events/historical-oregonian/37304

Me, My Family and I: An introduction to genealogy

April 01, 2015; 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Have you ever wanted to know more about your family history, but you weren’t sure how to get started? By the end of this class, you will

• Be able to use some basic genealogy vocabulary
• Be familiar with some ways to get started
• Know some effective online communication techniques
• Understand research basics and vital records

This class uses lab computers. It is for beginners, but you must be comfortable using a keyboard and a mouse. Belmont Library Branch; registration required.

https://multcolib.org/events/me-my-family-and-i-introduction-genealogy/38383
House History Workshop ~ Oregon Historical Society
Jennifer Keyser, Consulting Historian
April 11, 10:00 a.m.
Do you want to know the stories behind your old home? Learn how to uncover the history of your house using the resources at the Oregon Historical Society Research Library, on the web, and at other local institutions. This class will introduce you to a wide variety of primary and secondary materials, including maps, city directories, photographs, newspapers, books and database that will allow you to piece together the history of your home. $20, $15 for OHS members

http://www.ohs.org/visit-ohs/events.cfm#april

Genealogy Workshop ~ “Connecting to the Mother Country: British Family History” ~ Oregon Historical Society
May 2, 10:00 a.m.
Hannah Z. Allan, Genealogist, OHS
This lecture will help you connect your English immigrant ancestors to their homeland. We will start in the New World and follow the steps and records needed to launch you back to merry old England. We’ll then dive into the world of British sources where you can learn more about the lives and the families brave ancestors left behind. $20, $15 for OHS members

Voter Records, Genealogy’s Best Kept Secret ~ Washington County Genealogical Society
Pam Vestal
April 9, 7–9:00 p.m.
Most of us think voting records can only reveal our ancestors’ political leanings, but they can offer so much more! Wondering when and where your ancestor became a citizen, or what he/she did for a living? Join our speaker in discovering the wealth of information a single voter record can uncover.

http://www.gfo.org/

Colonial Dames Seventeenth Century Heraldry Workshop
April 12, 1:30–4:30 p.m.
Held at Genealogical Forum of Oregon
Open to the public and anyone with an interest in heraldry welcome. It would be most helpful if you and found a connection to your gateway ancestor (the individual in your ancestry who connects to a person with the right to a coat of arms in Europe) before you came to this workshop.

British
4th Saturdays of Sep, Jan, Mar, May; 1–3 pm — Lyleth Winther
lylethw@gmail.com

Computer
3rd Saturdays of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct; 10 am–12 pm
— Daphne Garrison
degarrison@gmail.com

DNA
4th Saturdays of Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct;
10 am–12 pm — Emily Aulicino
aulicino@hevanet.com

Family Tree Maker
3rd Sundays except Dec; 1–3 pm
— Laurel Smith
bearpair@comcast.net

Genealogy Books
2nd Saturdays monthly;
11:45 am–12:45 pm
— Bonnie Randolph
bbrandolph@clear.net

German
1st Saturdays monthly; Sep–Jun;
1–3 pm — Nanci Remington
nancier@comcast.net

Illinois and Its Neighbors
2nd Saturdays of Jan–May, Sep–Nov;
9:30–11:30 am
— Kristy Gravlin
hannah@teleport.com
Harlene Patterson
harlene5@yahoo.com

Irish
3rd Saturdays of Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov; 12–2 pm
— Suzanne Lemon
slemon46@yahoo.com

Italian
Saturday May 30, Jul 25, Nov 28;
12–2 pm — Keith Pyeatt
k_pyeatt@yahoo.com

Virginia
1st Saturdays monthly, Sep–Jun; 10 am–12 pm
— Judi Scott
judiscot@gmail.com
Carol Surrency
lcscurr@gmail.com

Writers’ Forum
2nd Saturdays monthly, Sep–May;
1–3 pm — Peggy Baldwin
peggy@familypassages.com
Carol Surrency
lcscurr@gmail.com
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td><strong>April</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 4/1</td>
<td>Learn and Chat</td>
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<td>Sat 4/4</td>
<td>Virginia Group</td>
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<td>Sun 4/5</td>
<td>Easter holiday—Library closed</td>
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<td>Wed 4/8</td>
<td>Learn and Chat</td>
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<td>Sat 4/11</td>
<td>Illinois Group</td>
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<td>Sun 4/12</td>
<td>Heraldry Workshop</td>
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<td>Tues 4/14</td>
<td>Board meeting</td>
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<td>Wed 4/15</td>
<td>Learn and Chat</td>
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<td>Sat 4/18</td>
<td>Hunting and Gathering</td>
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<td><strong>May</strong></td>
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<td>Thu 5/14</td>
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<td>Hunting and Gathering</td>
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<td>Sat 5/23</td>
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<td>Mon 5/25</td>
<td>Memorial Day holiday—Library closed</td>
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