



OLYMPIA TUMWATER FOUNDATION

Heritage | Legacy | Community

The Month of Lov...ing History

"All great achievements require time." -Maya Angelou

Progress on the Schmidt House continues. The birds are chirping and buds on trees are starting to come back. We're looking forward to spring (and anxiously awaiting Punxsutawney Phil's prediction tomorrow)!

For Black History Month, we are highlighting the area's Black residents with our History Pub at Heritage series, and providing some resources on Tumwater's first Black resident, George Bush.

Tumwater's Black Pioneer



George Bush is a familiar name to us, but if you aren't from Tumwater, you might not know his story. A member of the first wagon train that settled north of the Columbia in 1845, he was a founder of Tumwater and established a homestead near today's Olympia Airport. And he was African American.

You can learn more about George and Isabella Bush and their children [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

Foundation News

We Journeyed Down the Deschutes

Our January History Pub with Grant Gilmore was full of interesting history and science about watersheds, glaciers, human interactions with water, and so much more.

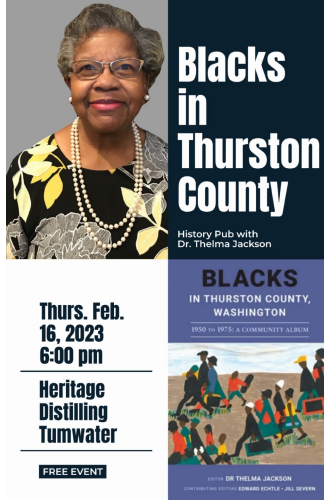
Did you know salmon have been in the Deschutes Watershed for over 6 million years?



Upcoming Events

History Pub at Heritage:

Blacks in Thurston County



Blacks in Thurston County, Washington is a collection of 55 short biographies about Black people who came to Thurston County between 1950 and 1975.

The book is the result of a 10-year project led by Dr. Thelma Jackson, the executive director of the Northwest Institute for Leadership and Change.

Join us Thursday, **February 16** in the cask library (downstairs) at Heritage Distilling Co. in Tumwater at 6:00 pm.

Registration is encouraged so we can get a headcount: [register here](#).

HERITAGE
DISTILLING CO.

From the Curator

Karen Johnson runs the Schmidt House archives—which contains the Olympia Brewing Company and Schmidt family papers—and showcases historical treasures from around the house or the house's grounds on social media.

One of those weekly stories is highlighted here.



Here's Olympia's hospitality room in February 2003, just a few months before our brewery closed for good. The beautiful curved wood paneling was salvaged from outmoded beer tanks. Some of the wood was repurposed at downtown Olympia's Oyster House. The remainder of the tanks were sold to Nalley's pickle factory in Tacoma. Photo courtesy of Steve Lohrengel.

(Click the image to see larger version.)

Donate

Questions? Contact us at OTF@olytumfoundation.org or 360.943.2550.



[View this email in your browser](#)