



Museum opens for the season on April 6th, Daffodil Parade Day

Our first day of the season is also the day of the Daffodil Parade. The museum opens at 1 p.m. Visitors will have time to tour the house before the Sumner portion of the parade, which starts at 2:30.

The museum has an extensive collection of daffodil related items. Some tell the history of the daffodil industry in the valley and why we were once known as the "Daffodil Bulb Capital of the World". The sign proclaiming that still exists, find

Most of the collection is Daffodil Festival regalia along with photographs of past parades and princesses.





On the Road to Buckley!



The Friends of the Buckley Library and the Foothills Historical Society invited us to participate in their *Discover Pierce County History* event Saturday, February 23rd at Buckley Hall and their museum.

Vicki, Linda and Marcha went for the Society. The turnout was huge with 21 museums represented!



Sumner University



Sumner University attendees on the porch

March 26th, A short tour of the Ryan House Museum was part of the City Of Sumner's 2019 Sumner University program.

The Sumner Historical Society's first Director Emeritus

Over the last few months the Society's Bylaws were revised to create a new board position of Director Emeritus.

This honorific position allows a current or former board member to stay associated with the board, but lessens the requirements that are



Mary Beth Ryan

part of a Board Member's position. Our first Director Emeritus, Mary Beth Ryan, is a treasure trove of area history and has a long history with the Society. She has chaired countless projects, logged innumerable docent hours and inspired others to model her style of calm leadership. The board changes will take place after the general meeting on April 14th.

April 14th, General Meeting

The Sumner Historical Society will hold their annual general meeting on April 14th. The event will be at the museum, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Members are encouraged to join us for the afternoon.

This is also the meeting where board members are elected. Two board members are up for re-election. They are: Position 15, Pam Prasch; and Position 16, Amie Rang. Two other positions are changing. Ken Woolery has decided not to run again for Position 13 and Mary Beth Ryan in position 14 will be moving to the new Director Emeritus position. Carolyn Stroeve and Christopher Loseth will be on the ballot for those two positions.

Ballots will be available at the meeting.



Sumner's Nine Newspapers 1889 ~ 1990

A Page to the Past

Over the span of 101 years, nine weekly newspapers served Sumner's citizens. A couple of the nine were just a change in name; the ownership stayed the same. Some papers had a very long life, some ran for only a few years. For 41 years Sumner enjoyed two local weekly papers at the same time.

From the turn of the century to the mid 1920's the local weekly was the freshest source of reading material in most households. This was an era when most farmers and many small town residents did not subscribe to daily papers from nearby large cities.

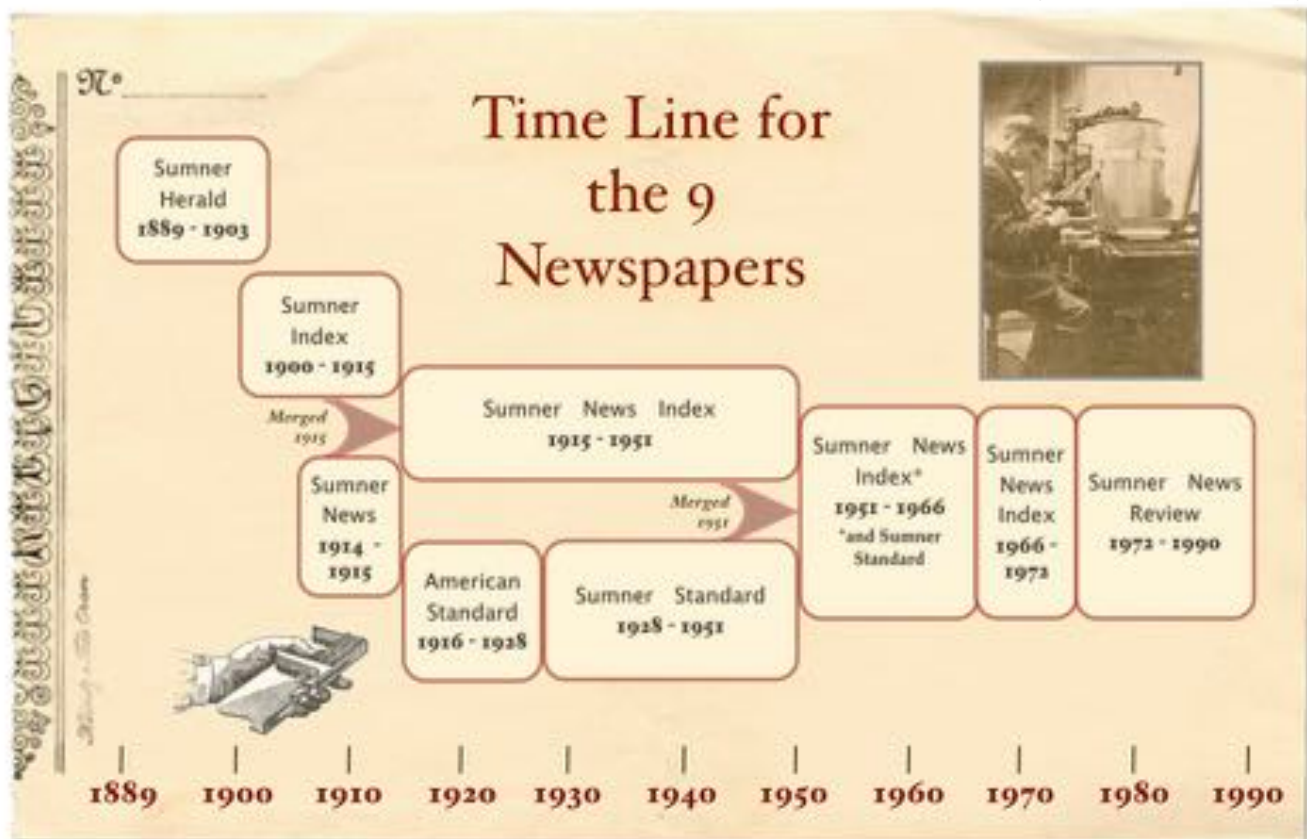
The earlier Sumner papers carried some world and national news but most of that coverage was short human interest stories from large services that provided the same pre-written, typeset, ready to print articles to local papers.

The local area news was gathered, written, typeset and printed by the editor, sometimes with the help of a partner, family or an employee. The workload limited the size of the paper from four to eight pages each week.

Over time, improved printing technology allowed Sumner's papers to grow larger but they still left national news to the local dailies and focused just on the Sumner and valley area.

The last wholly local newspaper was the Sumner News Review, it ended its run in 1990.

A Page to the Past Continued on page 4





Sumner's Nine Newspapers 1889 ~ 1990

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A Page to the Past



1889 — 1903

Every Friday morning the Sumner Herald was delivered to porches, mail boxes and store counters in the Sumner area. The average issue was four pages.

Half of each page, including the front page, had ads stacked from the top to the bottom of the page. Ads were simple, most were a mix of large type faces surrounded by lots of white space. There were no photographs although line drawings were used. Most were stock illustrations from the ready print services.

Page one had news and human interest stories from the ready print services.

Page two featured Washington State and Puget Sound news.

Page three would be news of Sumner and the valley. Good sized articles reporting about people, social events, sports, schools, local businesses and city government. A section called "Items of Interest" or "Local Matters" was a large collection of short paragraphs, sometime only one or two sentences. Content was about towns people visiting other areas or visitors to Sumner and the valley. The writer also reported on new items and services in local stores and businesses. There were small bits of humor. It was the news we find most interesting, what's happening in our own backyard.

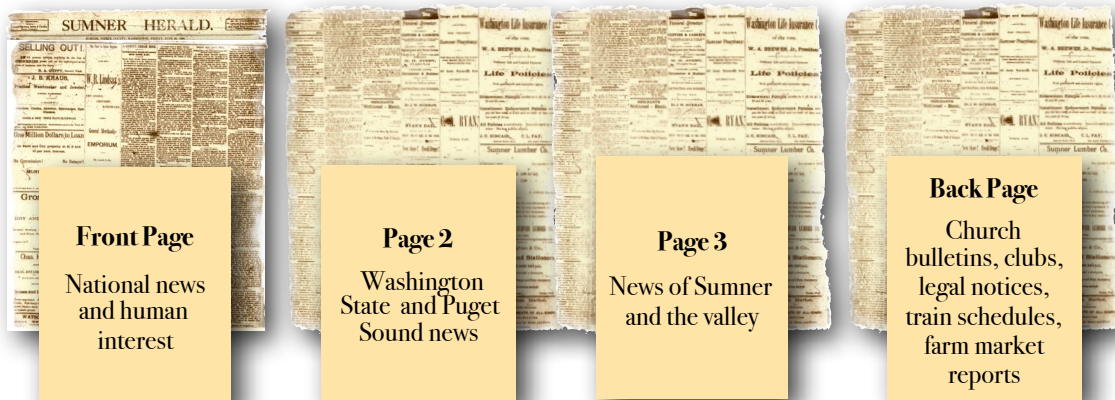
Page four was for church bulletins, club meetings, legal notices, train schedules and farm market reports.

The Herald served the Sumner area for fifteen years. They were very busy years for the town and the Herald performed admirably as "information central" for the area.

Quick Facts

- Published weekly on Friday.
- \$2.00 for a one year subscription.
- The first office was in the Central Hotel, the paper later moved over the Wells & Messick meat market on Main Street. Later they built their own building on the west side of the railroad tracks.
- The oldest issue in the Historical Society's collection is Volume II Issue 1, June 20, 1890, Volume I from 1889 has not been found.
- The last Herald was published in 1903, however Sumner still had a paper as the Sumner Index had been publishing since 1899.
- Herald Owners, Editors
 - 1890 - E. S. White
 - A. M. Rousseau
 - 1895 - R. Montgomery
 - H. J. Trubshawr
 - 1899 - 1903 - R. Montgomery, Sole Proprietor

A typical issue of the Sumner Herald





Sumner Historical Society

Caretakers of the Ryan House Museum

Mission Statement: To collect, preserve and display books, letters, diaries, photos, clothing, and other artifacts of the history of Sumner and surrounding areas

Officers

President: Kris Arnold
Vice President: Linda Sader
Treasurer: Pam Prasch
Secretary: Dale Loseth
Curator: Vicki Conner

Board Members

Vicki Conner
Roger & Carolyn Stroeve
Linda Sader
John Galle
Marcha Lindberg
Dale & Rita Loseth
Ed Hannus
Michelle Champlin
Leroy Goff
Kris Arnold
Patricia Tribby
Sara Lucas
Ken Woolery
Mary Beth Ryan
Pam Prasch
Amie Rang



The Ryan House Museum is affiliated with the NEA as a Blue Star Museum offering free admission to the nation's active duty military and their families.

Interested in joining the Sumner Historical Society?

You can find a membership form on our website.



Visit our web site!

www.sumnerhistoricalsociety.com

Don't want to type all that into the browser?

Just Google for **Sumner Historical** or **Ryan House Museum**
You will get there!



You can link your Fred Meyer Rewards card to benefit the Sumner Historical Society. Go to their website
www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards

Follow the instructions to Find us by name or by our non-profit number: 88948

When you shop you still earn your points plus you help the historical society earn a donation!

What's in your scrapbook?

Do you have a piece of Sumner's history that you would be willing to donate or share with the Sumner Historical Society?

Examples are photographs of community events, homes, business buildings, schools, churches, street and farm scenes.

Newspapers, family histories, club and event memorabilia and other items of a printed nature.

1890's to 1990's We can scan or photograph most any item.

Help us preserve Sumner's history



Sumner Historical Society, Ryan House Museum
1228 Main, Sumner, Washington 98390
253-299-5780, sumnermuseum@comcast.net
www.sumnerhistoricalsociety.com

Share your email address with us!

The Historical Society will be offering a digital version of the newsletter for those who may want to receive and read it as a .PDF document.

We are asking you to send your email address to:

sumnermuseum@comcast.net

We will keep you informed on the progress of the digital newsletter.



Ryan House Museum Spring Calendar

April 6 ~ Open for season,
every Saturday & Sunday, 1 – 4 pm,
~ Daffodil Parade

Exhibits and special events:

April 6 ~ Daffodil Festival Exhibit at the museum

April 14 ~ General Meeting, 2 pm

April 20, 21 ~ Closed for Easter

May 12 ~ Closed for Mother's Day

May 25, 26 ~ Closed for Memorial Day

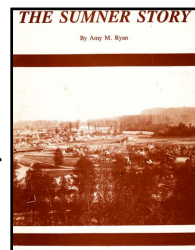
May 27 ~ 10 am Ceremony at Sumner Cemetery,
noon lunch at the Sumner VFW

Visit our web site for details!

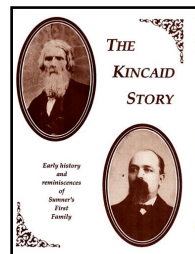
www.sumnerhistoricalsociety.com

Available at the Museum

The Sumner Story
The History of Sumner
by Amy M. Ryan



The Kincaid Story
Early history and
reminiscences of
Sumner's First Family



Visit our gift area for books, cards and items of local interest

Sumner Historical Society Ryan House Museum

1228 Main Street
Sumner Washington, 98390

