

# Heritage Horizons

FALL 2020

## Farewell to Bill Sanders

How does one describe Bill Sanders and the contribution that he has made to our Layton Heritage Museum? That question brings many answers to mind. One answer that everyone can universally agree on is that Bill is a master communicator. His talent for communication has enriched the lives of many who have come in contact with him at the museum. He has the ability to communicate historical ideas in a memorable way that intrigues the listener and evokes even more questions. He can recall the smallest and most minute details that always enthrall museum-goers. School-children especially loved to listen to Bill and in turn, he would captivate their attention for hours. Bill had a special way of making the museum artifacts come alive and invoke curiosity and wonder in all who participated in his tours.

He had a knack for always adding the special touches and detail to the signage in the exhibits and explain things in a most logical way. He would take the initiative to change the exhibits annually and often he would even do it bi-annually. He would travel around and find out interesting traveling exhibits and secure them

for Layton.

Bill was on the State Museum Board and was very instrumental in assisting other small museums throughout the state. He taught them how to catalogue their items and use the latest software. Whenever he was called upon to make presentations or give lectures, he had the support of a dedicated board who would fill in for him so the museum could remain open for the citizens.

Bill was and still is extremely dedicated to the museum and often would come in early or stay late to work on a project.

During his tenure, Bill received numerous awards for his efforts. The Utah Museum Association awarded him the Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2013, he received the Human Ties Award for Humanities in Action. In addition, he was awarded the OMA service award for his eight years of service. Bill has also served on the Board of the Davis County Arts Council from 2012-2016 and reappointed in 2016-2020. He was also appointed by Governor Herbert to the Office of Museum Service from 2012-2020. In 2018, Bill was the Grand Marshall for the Layton Liberty Days July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

Over the years, he collected photographs for the museum and because of his efforts, it is one of the most complete collections in the state. Often, people would be working on their own histories of their families and trying to track their history. Because of Bill's extensive research efforts, they have been easily able to find more information about their ties to Layton through photographs and artifacts that he has catalogued.

Often times valuable artifacts that were once thought to be trash became treasure because of Bill. In his efforts while doing research on a family or industry, Bill has come across some valuable artifacts that would have been hauled to the dump or destroyed but instead were thankfully saved. One such example are the old millstones that are traditionally placed around a building. He managed to secure and save millstones belonging to Christopher Layton (whom the city is named after) and John Weinel. He also saved the Louis Whitesides Molasses millstone. His most recent addition is the log cabin (located just south of the

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 1920—2020, Celebrating 100 Years of Layton
- New plaza in front of the cabin
- Tours available for small groups
- Suffragette Stamps Exhibit October, 2020 - December 2020

## COVID-19 Update

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the museum continues to remain open during limited hours and appointments are required. When you arrive at the museum, please use the north door only. Masks and maintaining proper social distancing are required.

## Museum Junior Curator

Have you ever been interested in being a museum curator? Now is your chance to become a Heritage Museum of Layton Junior Curator! All ages are eligible to participate in exploring the history of Layton by completing an accompanying activity booklet; when the booklet is completed,

the participant will earn a badge. This program is set to launch in 2021!



## Archival Storage Cabinets



On July 8th 2020, the Museum had three new cabinets installed in their archival storage room. These shelving units will help the Museum by creating an organizational area for the collections that is up to standards in the museum community. By adding this additional storage, more items will be able to be collected that further the Museum's mission, helping to preserve

Layton's history. Though the storage facility is closed to visitors, the impact can be felt through the additional exhibits that the Museum will be able to do in the future.

The Museum would like to thank Layton RAMP for the funding to purchase these cabinets!



## Have You Ever Wondered Why...?

The city of Layton is named after Christopher Layton, however he never actually lived here! How did the city end up bearing his name then? To answer that, we have to start at the beginning.

Originally, Layton was a part of Kaysville. The first three main settlers in the area were William Kay, John Green, and Edward Philips. There were roughly 21 people living in the area at the time. As people slowly began to settle, William Kay was called to be the Bishop for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for the settlement, and the area earned the name Kay's Ward. The boundaries stretched from Haight's Creek on the south to the Weber County line on the north, and from the shores for the Great Salt Lake to the west and the mountains to the East. Kaysville established a typical town

plan and city center in the late 1850s; in 1868, it was the first city to incorporate in Davis County. There were ten blocks going east to west, and five blocks going north to south. At this time, what is now Layton remained rural, unorganized, and unplanned; farmers were settling sporadically along creeks. The area around Kay's Creek began to expand; by 1882, the Farmers Union and Barton and Company store were built. Two years later, a blacksmith and coal dealer set up shop.

In 1886 the United States Post Office opened, and the area was officially named Layton. Multiple names were submitted for review: Adams, Thornley, but Christopher Layton got the vote, even though he was living in Arizona at the time. Christopher, who arrived in Kay's Ward in 1852, was well-known and



well-liked through being an involved farmer in the area, a bishop, and prominent in the business community. Because of these achievements the residents of the community decided to name their settlement "Layton" in honor of Christopher Layton.

For more stories like this one, stop by the Museum!



# Layton’s Centennial

In 2020, Layton City is celebrating its 100th anniversary as an incorporated Utah City. After struggling with Kaysville tax funds for over twenty years, Layton was separated as an unincorporated area under county jurisdiction in 1902. From this point on, there was constant speculation of incorporation, but it wasn’t made a reality until 1920. A citizens group created a petition that 90 percent of the 300 property owners in the area signed by April 1920; on May 24, 1920 the county commissioners approved the proposition. Laurence E. Ellison became the first mayor. The city limits included an area close to the junction of Main Street

and Gentile Street. There were still many people living in East and West Layton who were not part of the incorporation. However, these individuals were added to the city as the population and boundaries expanded. There was little population increase in the area until World War II when nearby federal defense facilities required more manpower to keep up with the war effort. The population increased from 646 to 3,456 between 1940-1950, helping Layton to achieve the title of “third class city.” To learn more about the building blocks of Layton, come visit the Museum to see the Centennial Exhibit!



# Welcome, Annie!

Meet our new curator, Annie Bommer! Annie attended Weber State University where she graduated Summa Cum Laude with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology. She immediately then began a collections management internship at the Union Station Museum which then evolved to the Collection’s Assistant position. While at the

Union Station, Annie helped to create an educational mock archaeological dig for fourth-graders based on various culture groups that would have used the Union Station throughout history. With this program, she also programmed an iPad app that was a research database for the children to learn about the artifacts they found. From the Union Station, Annie moved to the Syracuse Museum

where she served as the curator for a year. She is currently working on her Master’s Degree in Museum Studies online through the Harvard Extension School. When she isn’t at the museum or doing school work, she enjoys spending time with her three dogs: Tucker, Copper, and Ares.



## Bill, continued from Page 1...

museum) belonging to Jay and Odessa Harris. Without question, one thing is absolutely for certain. The most valuable artifact in possession at the

Layton Heritage Museum has been Bill Sanders. Bill can be described as a wonderful walking encyclopedia of Layton history. He is able to recall so many details about almost

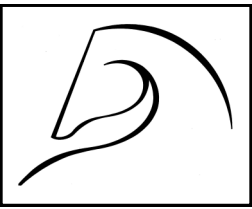
every topic pertaining to Layton. His contributions and dedication to the museum will always be cherished and never forgotten. He certainly has left an enduring legacy to

our museum for generations to come. Mr. Bill, you will be sorely missed and best wishes on your retirement! — Joy Petro

## Heritage Museum of Layton

403 North Wasatch Drive  
Layton, Utah 84041

Phone: (801) 336-3930  
Fax: (801) 336-3931  
Email: [abommer@laytoncity.org](mailto:abommer@laytoncity.org)



*Community identity and pride are enhanced by having a place where local history and culture is preserved, displayed and available for research. Visit our museum often!*

**We’re on the Web!**  
**[www.laytoncity.org](http://www.laytoncity.org)**

**Museum Hours:**  
*Tuesday - Friday*  
*12 p.m.-6 p.m.*

*Saturday*  
*1-5 p.m.*

*Closed*  
*Sunday-Monday*

## Lucy A. Clark, Sister Suffragette



*“As election day approaches and the responsibility of exercising the very important duty of casting a ballot before the principles we admire is before us, we, the women of Utah, should seriously consider the obligations resting upon us, and as a part of this great commonwealth should weigh the situation in a correct balance before doing so... Let the vessel of opposition which was sunk in the constitutional convention remain where it is until the banner of equal suffrage is raised over it.”*

Born in Farmington in 1850, Lucy A. Clark devoted her life to furthering public affairs for both the Church and state. Her passion for advancing the interest of the people began at the young age of eight when she began to assist her mother teaching at the community school. She took over her own classes at age sixteen, which she continued until her marriage. After the Edmunds-Tucker Act of 1887 repealed women’s right to vote in the Utah Territory, groups began to form all over the state in support of Women’s Suffrage.

In 1891, a group of women actively involved in social, civic, political, and religious endeavors met at the offices of the Women Exponent, a newspaper based out of Salt Lake, to organize the Utah Women’s Press Club. It was formed on behalf of “women engaged in active journalistic or newspaper work in the Utah Territory.” Lucy, though not an officer of the Press Club, was one of the eight original founders and assisted in writing the Club’s by-laws. Lucy served as president of the Farmington City Woman Suffrage Association, the Davis County Woman Suffrage Association, and the Davis County Ladies’ Columbian Club, and the vice president of the Utah Woman Suffrage Association and the Utah Columbian Exposition. The members used the movement to prepare themselves for future elections they could vote in: history lessons, lectures on civics, and current United States issues flooded the meetings. In 1893, Lucy purchased a parlor set that was upholstered in brocaded Utah silk which she took to the Chicago World’s Fair. Here, she spent two weeks sitting at the Utah Women’s Exhibit booth informing visitors about Utah and Women’s Suffrage. As of January 1, 1894, Utah Suffrage held second place in the nation, New York being the only state that had an association with a greater number of membership.

Since the admission of Utah to Statehood, Lucy was involved in various political affairs, both serving as a political manager and running for office herself. On September 28, 1896, the Republican delegates from the Third Senatorial district met in Layton where Lucy was nominated unanimously to run against the democratic appointment. The government in Washington appointed her to postmistress of Farmington after a lost election, a position which she held for seven years. At the 1908 Republican National Convention, Lucy had the chance to become a delegate after one of the regular delegates was unable to make it. This made her the first woman to vote in a national convention. While on the floor she stated “*Woman suffrage is getting past the stage of being a joke. The jocular attitude with the movement used to be treated is now giving way to a more respectful attention. Many persons who treated our cause indifferently in the past now are willing to discuss the enfranchisement of women.*” Lucy’s assessment of women’s suffrage was correct. At the end of her life, she was able to witness the adoption of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment in 1920, guaranteeing women the right to vote. Her dedication to civic, social, and political duties continued until her death in 1928.