

BLACKBERRY PRESERVES

The Journal of the

KIRKLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY



Willie Jackson

In observance of *Black History Month*, KHS presents Willie Jackson from the Lake Washington High School class of 1962.

See pages 3 & 4

Volume XXXII, Issue I

Jan/Feb 2025

www.kirklandheritage.org

Kirkland Heritage Society

Museum hours:

Monday: 10 to Noon

Wednesday: 2 to 5

203 Market Street
Lower lever of Heritage Hall

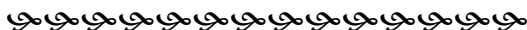


February is Kirkland's History Month

Watch for signs in the windows of our local merchants.



Displays from past years.



Wayne & Linda Jatton again played Santa and Mrs. Claus at Madison House in 2024.

After the 1969 Wind Storm



Marge Rosin`

Marguerite “Marge” Bartron Rosin` in March of 1969 picking up debris left after the worst wind storm she had witnessed in her 37 years at 219 Lake Street South. Mrs. Rosin` was the daughter-in-law of Frank A. Rosin`, the wife of Frank W. Rosin` and the mother of Frank P. Rosin`. Wish Frank P. was still with us to share his memories of this storm. He could have told us how that 1969 storm compared to the 2024 storm.



Life Members:

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Corporate Member:

Stephen Lamson, Continental Productions.



KHS receives 100% commission from the sales of Bob Neir's *A City Comes of Age* and Steve Lamson's *The Power of a Dream*.

(Continued from front page)

Here is a collection of articles about a multi-talented and decorated Kirklander. Willie is most remembered for his talent in sports.

From the November 1969 *Seattle Times*:

Kirkland Pilot Earns Distinguished Flying Cross

“A Kirkland man who continued to evacuate casualties after he was wounded during an attack in Vietnam has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism.

Army Captain Willie Jackson, son of Mrs. E. O. Jackson, 11225 N. E. 53rd Street, Kirkland, was presented the decoration at Fort Wolters, Texas, where he is based.

Jackson volunteered to fly a medical-evacuation heli-copter February 27 to a besieged infantry unit which had suffered heavy casualties. His helicopter came under intense fire and he was wounded.

Jackson, a 1967 graduate of Eastern Washington State College, refused to leave the area until all wounded were aboard his helicopter. He then flew them to safety.”



Willie with his 1952 Kirkland **Dodgers** Little League team mates.



This was in 1959



Willie's first song, **Our Love**, was recorded on *Dolphin Records*. KHS would like a copy.

Dashing Wille Jackson pulled out the stops to score two long touchdowns and lead the Lake Washington Kangaroos to their third straight Kingco football victory last night, defeating oBthell, 19-0. Jackson romped 46 yards for a first-period touchdown and was chased 59 yards across the goal line in the third period.

Seattle Post Intelligencer
October 7, 1961



Willie Jackson photo from the Lake Washington High School *Reveille* yearbook.



Vice-president Willie Jackson

1962 Lake Washington High School



Mr. & Mrs. Willie Jackson
Receiving Army Commendation
Official Military Photo

Earlie Jackson, mother of the seven Jackson kids, was honored in 1959. Her children were: Dorothy, Mamie, Harold, Lloyd, Johnie, Willie and Sammie.

**Kirkland's
Woman
Of
The
Week:**

Peoples National Bank salutes Mrs. Earlie O. Jackson as an outstanding mother of the Kirkland Community. Mrs. Jackson is the mother of seven children: Dorothy Atkins, formerly with the Lake Washington High Drill Team; Mamie Hill, served 4 years with the Waves; Harold Jackson, served 2 years with the U.S. Army; Lloyd Jackson; Johnie Jackson, served 4 years with the U.S. Air Force; Captain Willie Jackson, with the U.S. Air Force and holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross and Sammie Jackson, Lake Washington High football team and named as All Conference in 1968. A family to be proud of in our Kirkland area.

**PEOPLES
NATIONAL BANK**

Kirkland Branch • 177 Central Way • 827-4661

From the 1959 *East Side Journal*



Help Grow Our Membership

With the goal of sharing and preserving Kirkland's rich history, please consider giving a membership to your friends and family. You don't have to be a lifelong resident to enjoy the history of Kirkland. Forms can be found on the KHS website.

Bonnie McLeod
3rd generation Kirklander

Misconceptions, Conundrums and Historical errors

Part 3, by Loita Hawkinson

This issue of *Blackberry Preserves* will attempt to correct two more historic errors.

Kirkland's Youngest Mayor

Al Leland was a very popular mayor and much has been written about him. Most articles report that he was Kirkland's youngest mayor at age 31.

However, Dr. Eugene Harvey Bradley, age 24, was Kirkland's youngest mayor as well as Kirkland's first elected mayor when Kirkland was incorporated in 1905. As of 2025, Dr. Bradley continues to be Kirkland's youngest mayor though he did not serve..

Little is known about Dr. Bradley and most that was previously written by interpreters of our local history tended to hint that he was irresponsible because Dr. Bradley did not serve beyond the first council meeting.

Seattle newspapers tell a different story. Dr. Bradley and his wife were active in the Kirkland community and supported the 1905 Incorporation. He fully intended to serve if elected mayor. However, before the election and before the first council meeting, the Bradley's became the parents of Eugene Gibbins Bradley. The new grandparents lived in Kent and the new parents wanted to be near family.

Dr. Bradley attended the first council meeting where he explained the situation and tendered his resignation. Kirkland Pioneer Reginald Collins had not attended this meeting but was appointed mayor. Mr. Collins later accepted and is considered Kirkland's first mayor...not by the citizen's vote but by the new council's vote.

The young Bradley family moved to Kent where Gwen, Viva and Mary were born. Gwen died at the age of three and is buried in Kent. In 1916, the family moved to Missouri, again to be near family. Dr. Bradley returned to medical school and earned an advanced medical degree in Philadelphia.

Seattle Daily Times
October 16, 1905

KIRKLAND'S MAYOR IS A VERY YOUNG MAN

Dr. E. H. Bradley, First Executive of
Little Town Across Lake Is Only
29 Years Old.



DR. E. H. BRADLEY.

DR. E. H. BRADLEY, the newly elected mayor of Kirkland, is a very young man, being only 29 years old. He was born in Clinton, Missouri. He graduated from the medical department of Barnes University in 1902, thereafter being appointed house physician at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tacoma, where he served two years prior to coming to Kirkland.

In April, 1904, he married Miss Maud Gibbons, a school mate from his home town.

At the election held at Kirkland two weeks ago, at which time the question of incorporating Kirkland was voted on, he was selected as the first mayor of the city, the greatest honor his fellow citi-

This 1905 article is considered a *Primary Source* but reports an age that making Dr. Bradley 5 years older.

Continued from page 5

In 1918, while serving as a physician during WWI, Dr. Bradley died of the Spanish Flu.

KHS was able to contact Bradley's grandchildren and shared information. They had no idea that their grandfather was the first mayor of Kirkland. They knew the Kirkland name because of Costco. The family had one photo of Dr. Bradley. KHS had one from a newspaper. After sharing, KHS and the family each have two. And the family has the family's Washington history.

KHS relies on Primary Source materials to reduce historic errors. These are often newspaper features written at the time. But even then there can be errors. The 1905 *Seattle Times* article (see page 5) reported that Kirkland's young mayor was 29. His 1917 WWI registration and his obituary show Dr. Bradley was 24 when elected Kirkland's mayor.

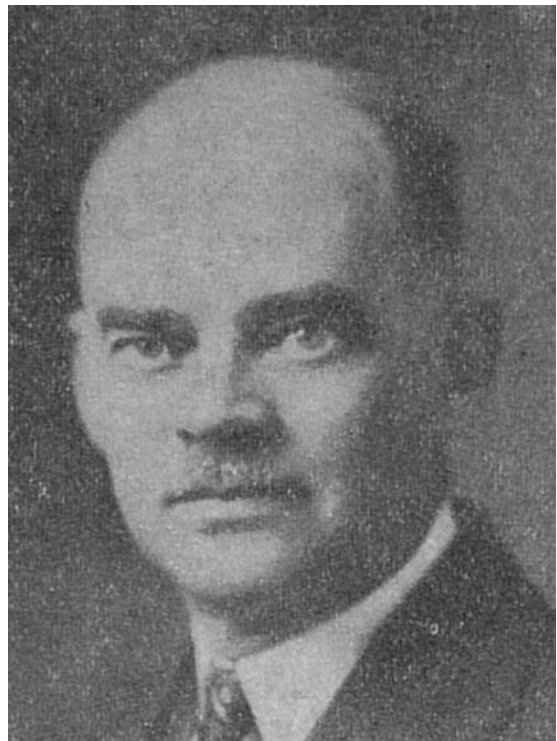
Dr. George Davis Times Three

In 1954, the *East Side Journal* published the photo that is on the back page of this issue. The paper stated that it was a photo of Dr. George Henry Davis, a Kirkland physician and Dr. Keiffer. KHS knew that neither man was Kirkland's Dr. George Henry Davis because of other photos.

KHS eventually learned the photo was of Dr. George Armor Davis of Redmond who was married to Redmond pioneer Elizabeth Tosh Davis with Dr. Kieffer behind the wheel. Dr. George Armor Davis died in 1945. Dr. George Henry Davis died in 1953. Had either been living in 1954, they certainly would have corrected the *East Side Journal*.

Dr. George Henry went to a medical school back east to get more education due to the continued fear of the Spanish Flu. Dr. George Armor Davis of Redmond handled his practice for his three months absence. Kirkland's Dr. Davis is credited with keeping the areas death rate lower than other small communities during the Spanish Flu epidemic.

Dr. George Henry Davis had a son George Calvin Davis (1909 - 1966) who became a doctor and worked with his father in Kirkland. When researching the Dr. George Davis history, family and historians had to be careful documenting the information they found. It gets very confusing because there were three doctors with the name George Davis practicing in or near Kirkland at the same time.



George Henry Davis, MD

And finally a note about Dr. Kieffer. He was Dr. Theodore Joseph Kieffer (not Keiffer as mentioned in the *ESJ* photo credit). Dr. Kieffer received his Washington physician's license in 1904 and owned one of the first automobiles in the area. In the historic Redmond photo, he is driving the "machine" as they were called in the early days. It was the "machine" that was the primary interest in the photo in question.

Dr. Kieffer practiced in Redmond but resided in Kirkland for a few years before returning to New York where he had been born and educated. He served during WWI, married and retired as a physician. He had no children. He and his wife are buried in the Kieffer family's plot in Rochester, New York.

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** During WWI, the Hello Girls were ladies who served as telephone operators. For KHS, this sweet lady will email to remind you of the next meeting or event.

Volunteer editor: Fred Hawkinson

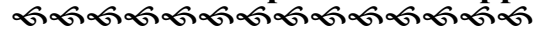
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Kirkland Heritage Society

www.kirklandheritage.org

425-827-3446

**KHS is 100% volunteer with no paid staff.
Your memberships make it happen.**



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Kirkland Heritage Society

January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

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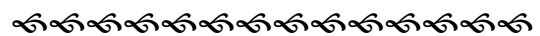
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Customer Service Division at:
425-587-3300**



Doctors T.J. Kieffer and George A. Davis
Photo taken in Redmond in 1907

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Blackberry Preserves is produced by the **Kirkland Heritage Society**, for KHS members and those interested in Kirkland's past. **Loita Hawkinson, Editor.**
For information on KHS - visit our website: www.kirklandheritage.org,
or call 425 827-3446 to leave a message.

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