



NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT

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Historian Heather Mayer speaks at Everett Public Library

Author of "Beyond the Rebel Girl: Women and the Industrial Workers of the World in the Pacific Northwest"

EVERETT, WA – Historian Heather Mayer spotlights women members of the Industrial Workers of the World (the "Wobblies") in a free program at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 7, at the Everett Public Library, 2702 Hoyt Ave. in Everett. The "Rebel Girl" of the book's title referred to Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, a prominent member of the Wobblies during the early 20th century. Flynn was known for her public speaking skill during labor actions.

The Everett Massacre of 1916 was a pivotal event in the history of worker activism in the Pacific Northwest. While the story of the massacre is well-known, the role that women played in the events leading up to and following the violence on November 5, 1916, has often been ignored. Join historian Heather Mayer to find out how the women of Everett supported the free speech fight prior to the massacre and played an essential role in the ensuing trial. Mayer looks at Wobbly women like Edith Frenette, who was charged with inciting to riot in the run-up to the Everett Massacre. Frenette also testified in the trial of Thomas Tracy, the only Wobbly to be tried for murder in the Everett shootings.

Mayer, author of "Beyond the Rebel Girl: Women and the Industrial Workers of the World in the Pacific Northwest," received her PhD from Simon Fraser University and has taught history at Portland Community College since 2008. Her research interest is social justice movements in the United States, particularly the intersection of gender and labor activism.

For more information, call 425-257-8000 or visit www.epls.org.

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