

C O L O R A D O

Heritage

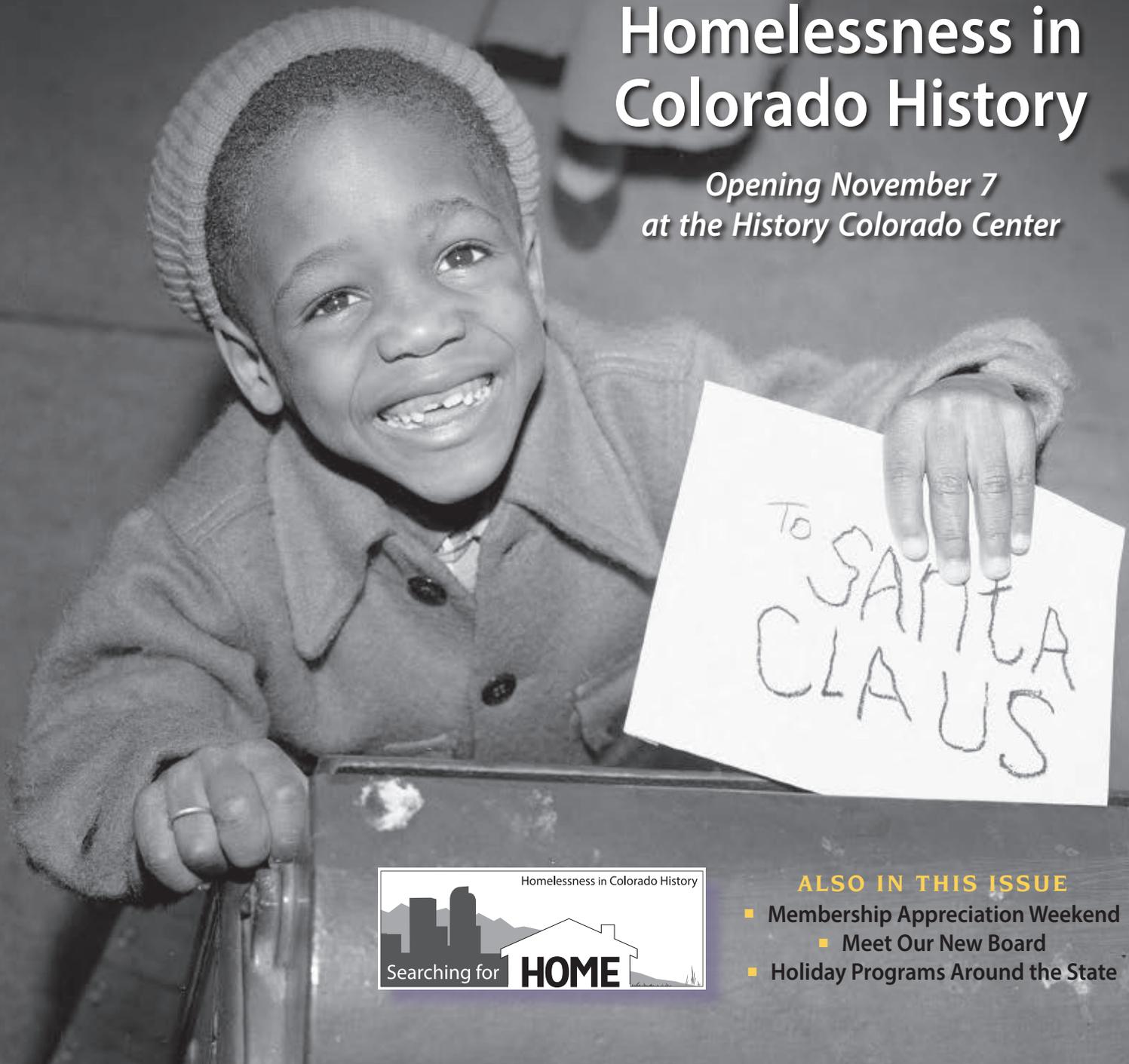
The Magazine of History Colorado

November / December 2015

Searching for Home

Homelessness in Colorado History

*Opening November 7
at the History Colorado Center*



ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

- Membership Appreciation Weekend
 - Meet Our New Board
- Holiday Programs Around the State

History Colorado Center

1200 Broadway
Denver, Colorado 80203
303/HISTORY

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For details about membership visit HistoryColorado.org and click on "Membership," email us at membership@state.co.us, or write to Membership Office, History Colorado Center.

Sign up for the monthly *History Colorado NOW* electronic newsletter by emailing membership@state.co.us; or visit HistoryColorado.org and click on "Membership."

Steve Grinstead *Managing Editor*

Liz Simmons *Editorial Assistance*

Darren Eurich, *State of Colorado/IDS Graphic Designer*

Jay DiLorenzo and Aaron Marcus *Photographic Services*

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MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Individual \$65 (1 adult)

1 membership card, 1 guest ticket, 1 Georgetown Loop Railroad® ticket

Senior Individual \$60 (1 adult, age 65+)

1 membership card, 1 guest ticket, 1 Georgetown Loop Railroad® ticket

NEW! Dual \$75 (2 adults or 1 adult and 1 guest)

2 membership cards, 2 guest tickets, 2 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

NEW! Senior Dual \$70 (2 adults age 65+ or 1 senior and 1 guest)

2 membership cards, 2 guest tickets, 2 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

Family \$80 (2 adults, children under 18)

2 membership cards, 2 guest tickets, 2 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

NEW! Grandparent \$80 (2 adults, up to 4 grandchildren under 18)

2 membership cards, 2 guest tickets, 2 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

Explorer \$150 (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 2 guests)

2 membership cards, 4 guest tickets, 4 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

Centennial \$300 (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 4 guests)

2 membership cards, 6 guest tickets, 6 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets

Members at these Giving Society levels receive the VIP experience!

Historian \$500 (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 6 guests)

2 membership cards, 8 guest tickets, 8 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets,
2 lecture tickets

Bancroft \$1,000 (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 6 guests)

2 membership cards, 10 guest tickets, 8 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets,
4 lecture tickets, exclusive events, recognition in Annual Report and Donor
Wall, private collections tours, concierge service, Smithsonian Affiliates benefits*

NEW! Pioneer \$3,000 (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 6 guests)

2 membership cards, 12 guest tickets, 12 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets,
6 lecture tickets, exclusive events, recognition in Annual Report and Donor
Wall, private collections tours, concierge service, Smithsonian Affiliates
benefits*, access to museum leadership

NEW! Visionary \$10,000 (2 adults, children or grandchildren under 18, 6 guests)

2 membership cards, 14 guest tickets, 14 Georgetown Loop Railroad® tickets,

10 lecture tickets, exclusive events, recognition in Annual Report and Donor Wall, private collections tours, concierge service, Smithsonian Affiliates benefits*, access to museum leadership

*History Colorado is a Smithsonian Affiliations member. Join or renew at Bancroft or above and receive:

- One year of *Smithsonian* magazine
- 10% discount at Smithsonian Museum stores, Smithsonian catalog, and SmithsonianStore.com
- Travel and study tour opportunities
- And more! See <https://affiliations.si.edu>



Smithsonian Affiliations
Membership Program

ALL MEMBERS ENJOY THESE PRIVILEGES FOR 12 FULL MONTHS

- Unlimited free admission to the History Colorado Center
- Unlimited free admission to History Colorado museums and historic sites statewide
- First access and free admission to traveling exhibits
- Free and discounted train rides and mine tours at Georgetown Loop Historic Mining & Railroad Park®
- Exclusive invitations to member events, programs and previews
- One-year subscription to the award-winning *Colorado Heritage*
- Discounts on popular history lectures, tours, treks and events
- Special opportunities to see History Colorado collections and artifacts
- 10% discount in History Colorado museum gift shops
- 10% discount in History Colorado Center's Café Rendezvous
- Discounts on research and photo services in Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center
- Benefits and privileges at Time Travelers® museums and historical sites nationwide

Toys of the '50s, '60s and '70s



History Colorado Center
Through January 2016

of the '50s, '60s and '70s

Toys of the '50s, '60s and '70s has been extended through the holiday season! This fun traveling exhibit encourages playfulness, with its themed rooms filled with games and toy treasures, from Gumby to Barbie, Mr. Potato Head to Hot Wheels. These popular toys capture the craziness, the joy, the sheer fun of being a kid. But toys are also a window into American culture and history. Experience the stories of the kids who played with these toys, the adults who bought them, the child-rearing experts who judged them and the people who invented them.

Not only does this exhibit exude fun, it also encourages visitors of all ages to play and let their imaginations run wild. Visit *Toys* for an enjoyable holiday excursion for the entire family!

Developed by the Minnesota History Center.

EL MOVIMIENTO LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FORWARD

History Colorado Center

Join us for community dialogues exploring Colorado's Chicano Movement and where we are today.

Sponsored by AARP.

History Colorado members \$4,
nonmembers \$5



Chicano Teatro: Stereotypes, Icons and Other Contradictions

Tuesday, November 10, 6 P.M.

Su Teatro, Denver's nationally acclaimed theater company, presents Luis Valdez's *Los Vendidos* and *I Think I'm Turning Mexican* by Tony Garcia. Garcia will host this evening of performance and lead a discussion examining the role of Chicano theater as a tool for criticism and community engagement. Expect collective rants, reflections and reasonable responses.

History Colorado on the Web

HistoryColorado.org

Blogs

historycolorado.org/blogs

Social Media

Facebook

facebook.com/HistoryColorado

Twitter

twitter.com/HistoryColorado

Pinterest

pinterest.com/HistoryColorado

Instagram

instagram.com/HistoryColorado

COLORADO Heritage

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McKenna C. Solomon



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ON THE COVER

Though we may never know this boy's identity or story, his smiling face is in a collection of images for the Denver Community Chest, which provided services to orphans and other needy Denver citizens. Searching for Home, an exhibit at the History Colorado Center, explores the lives of those touched by homelessness throughout Colorado's past. Photo by Lloyd Rule. Courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History Collection. Z-10212

All images are from the collections of History Colorado unless otherwise noted.

HISTORY COLORADO CENTER

1200 Broadway, Denver

Open: Daily, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Extended evening hours! Open till 9 P.M. every third Tuesday.

Admission: Members free; nonmember adults \$12; seniors and students \$10; children \$8; children 5 and under free. **303/HISTORY**, www.HistoryColoradoCenter.org

Admission: Members free; nonmember adults \$12; seniors and students \$10; children \$8; children 5 and under free. **303/HISTORY**, www.HistoryColoradoCenter.org

BYERS-EVANS HOUSE MUSEUM

1310 Bannock Street, Denver

Open: Daily, except Sunday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Guided house tours from 10:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Admission: Members free; nonmember adults \$6; seniors and students (with ID) \$5; children (6–12) \$4. Group tours available. **303/620-4933**, www.ByersEvansHouseMuseum.org

EL PUEBLO HISTORY MUSEUM

301 North Union, Pueblo

Open: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Admission: Members free; nonmember adults \$5; seniors, children 6–12, and students with ID \$4; children 5 and under free; children 12 and under free on Saturdays. **719/583-0453**, www.ElPuebloHistoryMuseum.org

FORT GARLAND MUSEUM

25 miles east of Alamosa off U.S. 160

Open: January–March, by appointment only. April–September, daily, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. October–December, Wednesday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.; closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday.

Admission: Members free; nonmember adults \$5; seniors \$4.50; children (6–16), \$3.50. **719/379-3512**, www.FortGarlandMuseum.org

FORT VASQUEZ MUSEUM

13412 U.S. 85, Platteville; 35 miles north of downtown Denver

Open: October–March, Wednesday through Sunday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.; closed Monday and Tuesday. April–September, daily, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. To schedule tours, call 303/866-4591.

Admission: Members and children under 5 free; nonmember adults \$3; seniors \$2.50; students (6–16) \$2. **970/785-2832**, www.FortVasquezMuseum.org

GEORGETOWN LOOP HISTORIC MINING & RAILROAD PARK®

Georgetown/Silver Plume I-70 exits

Call **1-888/456-6777** for reservations or visit www.georgetownlooprr.com.

GRANT-HUMPHREYS MANSION

770 Pennsylvania Street, Denver

Open: For rental events, including receptions, weddings, and business meetings. **303/894-2505**, www.GrantHumphreysMansion.org

HEALY HOUSE MUSEUM AND DEXTER CABIN

912 Harrison Avenue, Leadville

Open: Daily, May through October, 10 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Group tours (20+) can be arranged in winter (depending on availability) with reservation.

Admission: Members free; nonmember adults \$6; seniors \$5.50; children (6–16) \$4.50; children 5 and under free. **719/486-0487**, www.HealyHouseMuseum.org

PIKE'S STOCKADE

Six miles east of La Jara, near Sanford, Colorado, just off Highway 136

Open: Memorial Day to October 1, or by appointment.

TRINIDAD HISTORY MUSEUM

312 East Main Street, Trinidad

Open: May 18–September 30, Tuesday–Friday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Closed on state holidays. Free self-guided tours of garden and grounds, Monday–Saturday, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. Baca House and Santa Fe Trail Museum available by appointment for groups of six or more. Bloom Mansion closed for restoration.

Admission: Members free. Nonmember ticket options for Historic Homes Guided Tours, Santa Fe Trail Museum self-guided tours, Friday Heritage Garden Tours, and combination tickets at adult, senior, and child rates. Children 5 and under free. **719/846-7217**, www.TrinidadHistoryMuseum.org

UTE INDIAN MUSEUM

17253 Chipeta Road, Montrose

Closed for expansion

Open in temporary office space, Montrose Visitor Center, 170 S. Cascade **970/249-3098**, www.UteIndianMuseum.org



From the
CHAIR

Change is what makes history constant. Our mission states, “History Colorado inspires generations to find wonder and meaning in our past and to engage in building a better Colorado.” The board and staff are deeply committed to this goal

and also to building a better organization. We are working closely with state and private partners to strengthen organizational and financial management, while deepening statewide commitment to advancing appreciation of Colorado’s rich history through the places, collections, and programs that best tell our stories.

On July 1, members of the new History Colorado Board of Directors, appointed by Governor John Hickenlooper, began their terms of office. The board brings a variety and depth of knowledge and background to maximizing our outreach and potential. The board and leadership have worked to improve the organization’s financial position. Implementing internal taskforce recommendations, budget adjustments were implemented to effect cost reductions to stabilize our financial base and offset a deficit situation. These adjustments factored an unwavering commitment to securing mission-achieving programs, collections management, preservation programs, and the outreach to our statewide audience.

There have also been changes in staff leadership as CEO Ed Nichols announced his retirement in August. We are most grateful for Ed’s extensive dedication and commitment. With a team approach to management, the board appointed Robert Musgraves, a member of the Board of Directors, and Steve Turner, Vice President for Preservation Programs, to lead day-to-day activities as a national search for a new CEO is underway. They have worked with senior staff to effect budget efficiencies and manage programmatic direction. Based on expertise, Governor Hickenlooper appointed Steve Turner as State Historic Preservation Officer to ensure continued leadership in preservation programs.

With this transition team in place, an active board, and dedicated staff, we are focused on strategic direction. This includes strengthening financial vitality with good management and revenue generation; fostering leadership by inspiring the staff and board and increasing collaboration with partner organizations; and making history relevant while bolstering our statewide outreach through educational programs, exhibits, and preservation projects.

With our own 136 years of organizational history, we have weathered this period of change and feel the best days lie ahead for History Colorado. With our extensive museum facilities, collections, and education and preservation programs supported by a strong organizational structure and devoted supporters and members, we are well positioned as one of the nation’s premier history and historic preservation institutions. We are eager to share more in the months ahead.

Ann A. Pritzlaff, Chair, Board of Directors

New Hours for the Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center



The Library & Research Center has undergone a few changes and enhancements, so we wanted to give our readers an update.

New Public Research Hours

Due to staff reductions, the Library & Research Center has changed its public research hours to Wednesday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. We recognize that research time is important to our library patrons and anticipate that this is a temporary change.

If you need research assistance when the Library & Research Center is closed, email us at cosearch@state.co.us. You may also wish to review our library catalog and see

images in the History Colorado Online Collection database. You can find both catalogs at historycolorado.org/researchers/library-catalog.

Expanded Services

We have expanded our services to include public access to artifacts! If you identify an object you wish to see from our online collection database, contact us two weeks in advance of your visit at cosearch@state.co.us. We also have Collections staff on call between 10 A.M. and noon on Wednesdays to assist with these requests.

We look forward to seeing you in the Library & Research Center.

New & On View

Denver

History Colorado Center (unless otherwise noted)

Searching for Home: Homelessness in Colorado History

Opens November 7

In the 1880s, “Baby Doe” Tabor and her husband, Horace, were the wealthiest couple in Colorado. The global depression that destroyed their fortune threw the nation into economic upheaval. When Baby Doe died of exposure in a crude Leadville shack, her story exposed Coloradans to an uncomfortable truth: homelessness can happen to anyone.

Searching for Home invites you to consider Colorado’s long history of economic struggle and the complexities of an issue often reduced to stereotypes.

The exhibit explores the lives of Coloradans whose belongings aren’t typically found in museums: the down-on-his-luck prospector renting a bed for eight hours at a time, a beauty queen sleeping on a friend’s couch after an unexpected eviction. Discover the challenges of preparing a healthy meal with only a



few dollars and a microwave, put yourself in the shoes of a juvenile leaving the foster care system and discover how labels have changed the way we think about people experiencing homelessness.

History Colorado staff has developed *Searching for Home* with a Community Advisory Committee. The exhibit invites visitors to reflect on life without the shelter, health care, safety and relationships provided by stable housing.



This exhibit is made possible by the generous support of an Anonymous Donor, Housing and Homelessness Funders’ Collaborative, The Kenneth King Foundation and Guaranty Bank and Trust.



Member Exhibit Preview: *Searching for Home*

Friday, November 6, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M.

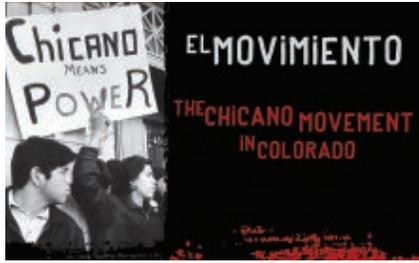
Members enjoy a free sneak peek of *Searching for Home: Homelessness in Colorado History*, which invites visitors to explore the struggles of Coloradans looking for a place to call home—from Baby Doe’s time to the present.

RSVP: h-CO.org/SearchingForHomePreview or 303/866-5424

Members free, nonmember guests \$10

Courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History Collection, X-29161

**EL MOVIMIENTO
THE CHICANO
MOVEMENT
IN COLORADO**



On view now
El Movimiento

immerses you in the urgency and vitality of one of Colorado's most important social movements. Artifacts, images and the voices of the activists reveal the struggle for labor rights, the founding of the Crusade for Justice, student activism and the Vietnam War.

Presenting sponsor: **AARP**
Real Possibilities

With support from: The Abarca Family Foundation



We ♥ Rocky Mountain National Park

On view now

Rocky Mountain National Park turns 100 this year. History Colorado is celebrating the people and the places of one of our most cherished spots. Every day, Coloradans and visitors alike have incredible experiences in Rocky Mountain National Park. *We ♥ Rocky Mountain National Park* introduces you to amazing people and the ways they've loved the park.



**WE ♥
RMNP**

Meditation on Fragments

Byers-Evans House Gallery
On view through January 2

Open Shutter Gallery and the Byers-Evans House proudly present classic and new work by world-renowned photographer Paul Caponigro. The exhibit features handcrafted silver gelatin darkroom prints. Born in Boston in 1932, Caponigro is one of America's most significant fine art photographers.

Free reception on First Friday Art Walk night: November 6, 5 to 8 P.M.

Third Tuesday Rendezvous

History Colorado Center
Tuesdays, November 17 and December 15

The History Colorado Center will stay open till 9 P.M. the third Tuesday of every month. See the exhibits and check out special out-of-the-box programs and activities.

Free with admission

Pueblo

El Pueblo History Museum

***Changing America:
The Emancipation Proclamation, 1863,
and the March on Washington, 1963***

On view now

One hundred years separate the Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington, yet they are linked in the larger story of liberty and the American experience. Both grew out of decades of bold actions, resistance, organization and vision.

***Changing Colorado:
Civil Rights in the Centennial State***

On view now

Changing Colorado explores Colorado civil rights issues, from Japanese internment to women's suffrage, worker rights to the Chicano movement. High school students from eight Pueblo schools collaborated to create the exhibit.

Platteville

Fort Vasquez

Craft Market

Saturday, November 14 and Sunday, November 15,
10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Fort Vasquez Museum hosts a craft show and sale featuring local artists. Interested in displaying or selling your crafts? Call 970/785-2832 for information.

Black Friday and Christmas Sales

Friday, November 27 and Tuesday, December 1, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Fort Vasquez Museum hosts a craft show and sale featuring local artists. Interested in displaying or selling your crafts? Call 970/785-2832 for information.

FAMILY FUN

Denver

Members' Behind-the-Scenes Collection Tours!

History Colorado Center
Tuesdays, 1–1:30 P.M.

- November 17
- December 15

Ever wonder what happens behind the scenes at the museum? Join us every third Tuesday and learn how our collections are stored and cared for. Visit rarely seen storage and processing spaces and get an up-close-and-personal view of artifacts. Preregister for this exclusive opportunity! Make a day of it and enjoy the daily lunch special in Café Rendezvous. (*Limited to 12 people*) Free for members! Register at: h-CO.org/BTS

Night at the Museums

History Colorado Center
Byers-Evans House Museum
Saturday, November 7, 5 to 10 P.M.

Enjoy free admission, short tours and extended hours at the History Colorado Center and Byers-Evans House Museum. Learn more about this special citywide event, at Denver.org/denver-arts-week/programs/nightatthemuseum.

Toys and Dolls Tea

History Colorado Center
Saturday, November 14, 1 to 2 P.M.

Kids are invited to bring their dolls and toys to a fancy tea party with tea, scones and jam. We'll even make the butter for the scones. Then, we'll tour the museum and catch a special variation from *The Nutcracker* performed by the Colorado Ballet. Bring the kids or grandkids for a fun day! Members \$15, nonmembers \$20
Reservations required: 303/866-2394

An Afternoon into the Past for Home School Students

Byers-Evans House Museum
Thursday, December 3, 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

We invite home school students to participate in a fun, hands-on history program about life in Denver during World War I. The program is designed for third and fourth grade students. Students \$2.50 (accompanying adult free)
Reservations required: jillian.allison@state.co.us or 303/620-4933

Children's Tea and Tour

Byers-Evans House Museum
Saturday, December 19
12:30 to 2:30 P.M.

Children's program docents lead a tour of the historic Byers-Evans House, followed by a special tea with scones, fresh fruit, tea sandwiches and desserts. Members \$20, nonmembers \$25, children \$18
Reservations: 303/620-4933

Holiday Teas and Tours

Byers-Evans House Museum
December 5, 7, 9, 14 and 16
12:30 to 2:30 P.M.

Enjoy a guided tour of the historic Byers-Evans House followed by tea sandwiches, scones, fresh fruit and desserts. Members \$20, nonmembers \$25, children \$18
Reservations required: 303/620-4933



**FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES
at the History Colorado Center!**

These are just highlights, and performances are subject to change, so check www.HistoryColoradoCenter.org for updates. Free with admission.

**MUSEUM THEATER
AND PERFORMANCES**

Ditch Boss

Saturday, December 9 and Wednesday, December 30, 11:30 A.M. to 2 P.M.—Stop by the irrigation gate in the *Living West* exhibit and meet Luis Francisco Valdez as he leads a community meeting about sharing water in the San Luis Valley. Actor Angel Vigil portrays the *majordomo* (ditch rider) as you explore the importance of water and the history of Hispano settlers in southern Colorado.

Meet William Green Russell

Wednesday, December 23, 11:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.—Meet William Green Russell, the leader of a group that discovered gold near Denver.

Flintknapping with Tim Boucher

Saturday, November 21, 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.—Tim Boucher demonstrates techniques for making arrowheads, from prehistory through the nineteenth century.

ADULT PROGRAMS

Denver

COLLECTIONS & LIBRARY PROGRAMS at the History Colorado Center

Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center

Members \$4, nonmembers \$5 (unless otherwise noted)
RSVP required. Call 303/866-2394, or register online!
All programs require a minimum number of registered participants and may be canceled if the minimum is not met 48 hours ahead of time. Early registration recommended!

Doing Research in History Colorado's Photography Collections

Saturday, November 14, 10:15 to 11:15 A.M.—Looking for a historic Colorado photo for your home, book, family history or just for fun? Our photo librarian shares tips for finding that perfect image in our collection of more than 1 million photos! Highlights include how to search for photos online and in the library, and how to order reproductions.

COLORFUL COLORADO at the History Colorado Center

Members \$4, nonmembers \$5 (unless otherwise noted)
Meet Colorado authors, History Colorado curators and others. Call 303/866-2394 to reserve your spot, or register online! *All programs require a minimum number of participants and may be canceled if the minimum is not met 48 hours ahead of time. Early registration recommended!*

Toys that Teach: The Hidden Lessons in Our Child Toy Box

Monday, November 9, 1 to 2 P.M.—Founded in 1981, the Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys provides educational and cultural services to the greater Rocky Mountain region through the preservation, exhibition, collection and interpretation of the visual arts using miniatures, dolls and toys. History Colorado is proud to host this wonderful Denver museum for a look at how toys shape our worldviews.

Come back again
to see Toys of the
'50s, '60s and '70s!



Christmas in Colorado

Friday, December 11, 4:30 to 5:30 P.M.—Join us for a free holiday concert with vocalist Marta Burton. The show celebrates 101 years of holiday illumination in the Mile High City. Our story begins in 1914 when Sturgeon Electric's founding father, David Dwight Sturgeon, lit up an outdoor pine tree with red and green bulbs to cheer his ill son. "Pinky" Belford Wayne is the crusading reporter for *The Denver Post* who inspires the city to follow suit.
Free admission



Courtesy Laura Gravelle

Special Documentary Preview: *Keep a Light in Your Window*

History Colorado Center

Tuesday, November 17, 6 to 8 P.M.

Keep a Light in Your Window highlights the life of Daddy Bruce Randolph, a social entrepreneur with a heart of gold. At the age of 63, he started a restaurant in Denver and began giving away food to those who were less fortunate. Even though Daddy Bruce died broke, he accomplished a lot in his life. Bruce Randolph Avenue and Bruce Randolph School were named in his honor. His legacy continues with one of the largest feedings in the country each Thanksgiving season.

Free admission

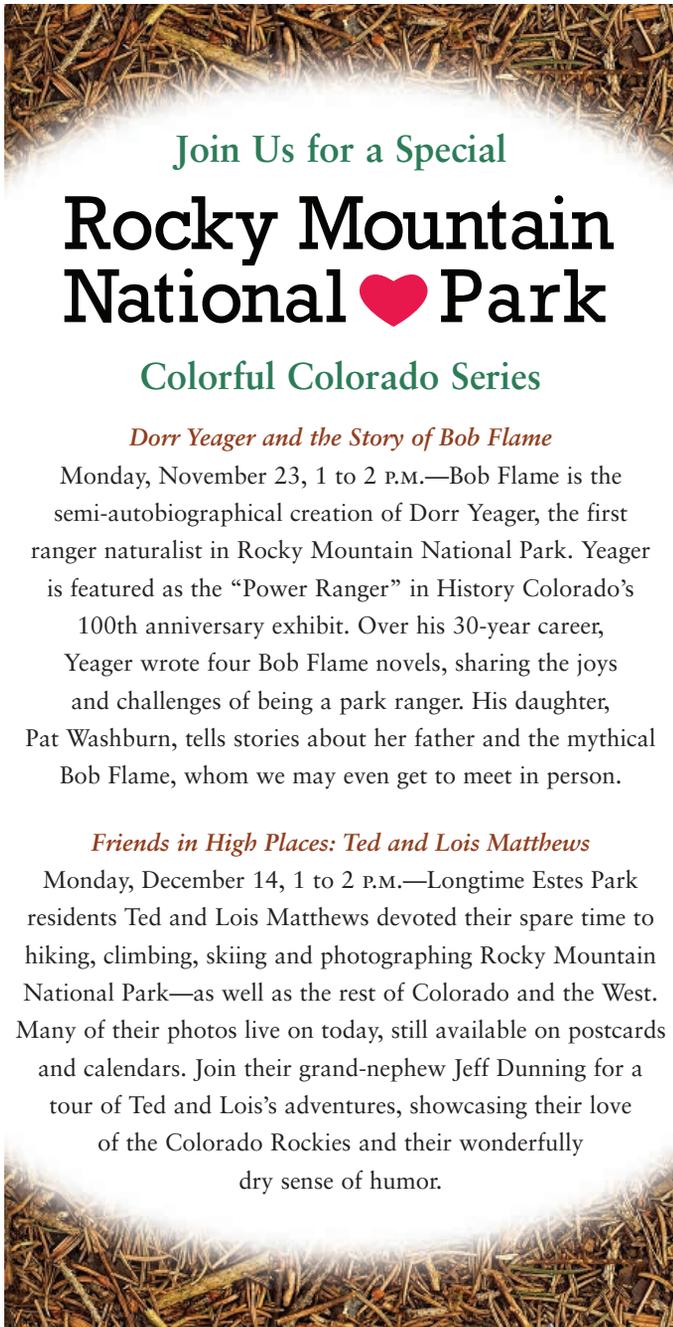
Reservations recommended:

<https://goo.gl/ISCioL>



Courtesy Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys





Join Us for a Special
Rocky Mountain National Park
 Colorful Colorado Series

Dorr Yeager and the Story of Bob Flame

Monday, November 23, 1 to 2 P.M.—Bob Flame is the semi-autobiographical creation of Dorrr Yeager, the first ranger naturalist in Rocky Mountain National Park. Yeager is featured as the “Power Ranger” in History Colorado’s 100th anniversary exhibit. Over his 30-year career, Yeager wrote four Bob Flame novels, sharing the joys and challenges of being a park ranger. His daughter, Pat Washburn, tells stories about her father and the mythical Bob Flame, whom we may even get to meet in person.

Friends in High Places: Ted and Lois Matthews

Monday, December 14, 1 to 2 P.M.—Longtime Estes Park residents Ted and Lois Matthews devoted their spare time to hiking, climbing, skiing and photographing Rocky Mountain National Park—as well as the rest of Colorado and the West. Many of their photos live on today, still available on postcards and calendars. Join their grand-nephew Jeff Dunning for a tour of Ted and Lois’s adventures, showcasing their love of the Colorado Rockies and their wonderfully dry sense of humor.

Courtesy Ted and Lois Matthews



FWD: Searching for Home

At the History Colorado Center

Join community leaders for a series of evenings with film, theater and conversations examining civic issues of Colorado’s past and present.

Members and students \$4, nonmembers \$5
 303/866-2394

Part 1

Monday, November 9, 6 to 7:30 P.M.

Bill Fulton of Civic Canopy moderates a panel looking at the rights and responsibilities of communities on all sides of the issue of people experiencing homelessness.

Part 2

Tuesday, January 19, 6 to 7:30 P.M.

Amanda Henderson of the Interfaith Alliance leads a panel discussion on the faith-based community and its relationship with people experiencing homelessness.

Platteville



Fort Vasquez Museum

After Hours 2015

Saturdays, 6 to 9 P.M.

The Fort Vasquez Museum presents a series of after-hours history programs. Refreshments will be served at the break.

Members \$8, nonmembers \$9, children free

Reservations required: 970/785-2832 (*Limited to 24*)

November 7—*Stories of Peace in Three Circles*

Hear three stories about peace, from the individual to the global.

December 5—*Water Is Us*

Explore our binding relationship with water through four legendary tales told by Charlotte Roe of Northern Colorado Storytellers.



2015–16 Lecture Series

The World Around Us

At times, the ideas, people and reputation of Colorado transcend its borders and engender transformative changes in the wider society. Other times, outside forces influence Colorado in ways large and small. The 2015–16 lecture series uncovers Colorado’s place, in *The World Around Us*.

Dr. Tom Noel will show us what makes the state so unique, and our annual speaker from the Smithsonian will provide an exciting object-based history of the United States. We’ll consider what Colorado’s endangered prairie ecosystems and native environment can gain from an influential new conservation project in Montana. We’ll close with the legacy of the National Historic Preservation Act on our state.

All lectures are at 1 and 7 P.M. at the History Colorado Center. **NEW: Lectures are now on the third Monday of each month.** Call 303/866-2394 for more information. Sponsored by the Walter S. Rosenberry III Charitable Trust

Color-Oddities & the Colorado Historical Atlas

Monday, November 16

Over the past half-century, Tom “Dr. Colorado” Noel has arguably been our state’s greatest promoter of history. A prolific author, Tom has written more than forty books about Colorado. His latest and greatest, *Colorado: A Historical Atlas*,

condenses fifty years of researching, writing and prowling every nook and cranny of the state. He explores ninety different angles, from Mesa Verde to DIA, the most notable women to sports stars, breweries to lynchings, wineries to cannabis. Tom’s presentation will focus on “Color-Oddities”—the strangest things about this highest of states.



Courtesy Thomas Noel

The Smithsonian’s History of America in 101 Objects

Monday, January 18

The Smithsonian Institution’s Under Secretary for History, Art, and Culture Dr. Richard Kurin presents his new book, *The Smithsonian’s History of America in 101 Objects*, a literary exhibition of objects from across the Smithsonian’s museums that offers a marvelous new perspective on the history of the United States. Kurin will bring objects to life, establishing their connections to American history, explaining surprising ways objects found their way into the Smithsonian collection, and helping us reconsider objects we think we know and understand.

H I S T O R Y C O L O R A D O C O M M U N I T Y S I T E S



El Pueblo—Where Worlds Collide

McKENNA SOLOMON,
History Colorado Public Relations
and Communications Intern



El Pueblo History Museum stands as a testament to the tradition of exchanging goods and culture in the West. The original El Pueblo trading post site—which sits next to the museum—brought together all kinds of people. Anglo, French and African American trappers and traders; Mexican settlers and their families; and Plains, Iroquois, Delaware and Cherokee people met at El Pueblo. The site also hosted legends like Kit Carson, Mariano Medina and Richens L. “Uncle Dick” Wootton. Now a National Register property, the trading post was built on the Arkansas River, which divided the United States from Mexico at that time.

The museum was built to capture El Pueblo’s rich history as a trading center, as well as the eventual abandonment of the site after it was attacked by Chief Tierra Blanco and his Ute band. The museum features a replica

of the original trading post and local and traveling exhibits. El Pueblo’s collection of artifacts includes beaded garments, pouches, baskets and stonework from pre-exploration periods; French and Spanish armor, weapons and maps of exploration; and journal excerpts from Zebulon Pike’s exploration.

Today, El Pueblo continues to keep its trading heritage alive. Visitors enjoy the historic splendor of the *placita* while celebrating the site’s rich mercantile past. Fresh produce, art and jewelry vendors gather each Tuesday and Friday through the summer, inviting guests to continue the long tradition of exchanging greetings, goods, ideas and cultures.

El Pueblo History Museum
www.ElPuebloHistoryMuseum.org
719/583-0453

Tours & Treks

Take a Guided Trip Into the Past (To register call 303/866-2394)

Cocoa with the State Historian on Seventeenth Street

Thursday, November 19, 1 to 3 P.M.

As Denver grew in regional power and prominence, and with a substantial flow of gold moving through it, the city naturally needed a street where it could flex its monetary muscles. With Sixteenth Street a commercial block, Seventeenth became the place where Big Money met to discuss mergers and metals, monies and more. Let's revisit the historic and architectural powerhouse once known as the Wall Street of the West. Join state historian emeritus Bill Convery for a fun lecture as he explains the dynamic history of this beautiful and quintessential Denver street!
Members \$55, nonmembers \$65

2016 Tours and Treks Summit

Wednesday, December 9, 6 to 8 P.M.

Here at History Colorado, we believe in loading the year with as much history, education and getting-to-know-you fun as possible. Would you like a jump on planning it all out for 2016? Then join us for our annual Tours and Treks Summit, where we examine the excitement for the year to come. The evening is free, with snacks to sustain you, and you'll get to ask questions. With so much in one evening, who'd want to miss it?

Christmas Lights of Denver

Friday, December 11, 4:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Come enjoy the history and beauty of Denver's holiday lights! The festive evening begins with an informal program exploring History Colorado's historic holiday collections. Then it's all aboard a comfortable, heated bus as we drive through some of the Denver area's most beautiful neighborhoods. Your host will delight and entertain you with stories of Denver's holiday lore. We design a new route for this annual event every time, so join us for some unexpected lighting surprises! This is sure to get even a Scrooge into the holiday spirit.

NEW TOUR! A Day in Boulder: Tempting Teas and Historic Heights

Thursday, January 14, 9 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Celebrate winter with two things that are guaranteed to warm your heart: steaming teas and stupendous views! That's right, it's

a tour of Boulder, nestled below the Flatirons. From the lushness of the Dushanbe Teahouse to the sensations—both sharp and subtle—at Celestial Seasonings, we'll warm you from top to toe. We'll explore the history of the city, from the refinement of Mapleton to the learned ways of the Chautauqua, and above it all, the majesty of the mountains. What a backdrop for a fine winter's day. Now let's pour!

Members \$75, nonmembers \$90

(Price includes transportation, lunch, tea and all admissions.)



Courtesy Boulder Dushanbe Tea House

New Mexico in Winter

Saturday, January 30 to Thursday, February 4

Register by Friday, November 20 (half deposit due)

Come winter, gone are the brilliant hues of summer—but in New Mexico the artist's palette brings every season to life. Join History Colorado for this journey to our neighbor to the south. Along the way, we'll look into the history of this fascinating part of the nation, and we'll be sure to let the hot springs soothe away any wintertime blues. Spend time at the famous Ojo Caliente Mineral Springs Resort and Spa and at beautiful hotels in Taos, Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Stops in Raton and Las Vegas (Las Vegas, New Mexico, of course) are on the docket for this splendid break from the doldrums of winter. Grab your most brightly colored mittens and join us!

Members \$1,225, nonmembers \$1,300 (single supplement \$400)
(Includes transportation, lodging, admissions, guides, breakfasts and welcome dinner.)

Meet History Colorado's New Board of Directors

The following are the nine members appointed by Governor John Hickenlooper to the Board of Directors of History Colorado following the passage of SB 15-225.

Ann Alexander Pritzlaff (Chair)

Ann Pritzlaff is a consultant working in the areas of historic preservation, public lands, heritage education and tourism outreach and policy. She previously served as the State Historic Preservation Officer for the State of Arizona. She is an appointee to the State Historic Preservation Review Board for Colorado and was previously a Presidential appointee to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. She has been honored by numerous organizations for her work in the field of historic preservation. Her other board service includes the University of Colorado's Center for the American West and the National Western Stock Show Association, as well as serving on the advisory board for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Ann is a graduate of Scripps College and the University of Vermont.



Marco Antonio Abarca

Marco Abarca is the President & Owner of Ready Foods, Inc., a family-owned Denver custom food processor and purveyor of food products to restaurants nationwide. Marco grew up in North Denver and is a graduate of Yale University and Stanford Law School. He currently serves on the board of directors of the Latino Leadership Institute. He previously served as a member of the board of Latinos for Education Reform, KIPP Colorado, ACLU of Colorado, Colorado Enterprise Fund and Historic Denver, Inc.



Cathey McClain Finlon

Cathey Finlon is the retired owner and Chief Executive Officer of McClain Finlon, a Denver advertising agency, as well as past President of the Denver Art Museum. Cathey has served as chair of the boards of Children's Hospital Colorado, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement and the Denver Advertising Federation. She currently chairs Denver Scholarship Foundation. Her other board service includes the Denver Art Museum, Denver Public Schools Foundation, Colorado Outward Bound, National Repertory Orchestra, Alliance for Contemporary Art, World Trade Center and the American Association of Advertising Agencies. She has also served on the advisory boards of the University of Denver Daniels College of Business and the Center for Colorado's Economic Future at the University of Denver. She was named to the prestigious Colorado Business Hall of Fame and has received the Del Hock Lifetime Achievement Award. Cathey is a graduate of the College of Wooster (Ohio) and Penn State University.



Kenneth W. Lund

Ken Lund is currently a Managing Director for PwC (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP), a global accounting, auditing and professional services firm. Ken previously served as Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development and International Trade for the State of Colorado, as well as Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Hickenlooper. His other board service includes the American Red Cross, the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, the Denver Leadership Foundation and the Metro Denver Sports Commission. He is a graduate of the University of Arizona and the University of Denver College of Law.



Robert E. Musgraves

Robert Musgraves is the past President & Chief Operating Officer (North America) for Titanium Metals Corporation, one of the world's largest suppliers of titanium and titanium metal parts. He was previously a partner in the Denver office of Kirkland & Ellis, an international law firm. His other board service includes Historic Denver, Inc., Colorado Preservation, Inc., and HistoriCorps, along with the boards of several small, privately held companies. He is a graduate of Rice University and the University of Texas School of Law.



Rick Pederson

Rick Pederson is chair of the Advisory Committee and a partner in Bow River Capital Partners, a Denver private equity firm, and the Chair of Foundation Properties, Inc., a Denver-based real estate management and consulting firm. Rick also serves as an advisor to investment funds sponsored by the Pauls Corporation. His board service includes Westcore Mutual Funds, ALPS ETF Trust, Principal Real Estate Income Fund, Biennial of the Americas, National Western Stock Show Association, Winter Park Recreation Association and the Urban Land Conservancy. He is a graduate of the University of Denver, the University of Denver School of Business and the University of Denver School of Law.



Christopher W. Tetzeli

Chris Tetzeli is an owner and President of 7S Management, a music management firm located in Denver. He was previously a Manager at Red Light Management, the largest independent band management firm in the world, and was a founder of ATO Records. His other board service includes the Denver Film Society, Wish of a Lifetime and The Horizon (Colorado Academy). He is a graduate of the University of Virginia.



Tamra J. Ward

Tamra Ward is the Founder and President of Ward & Associates LLC, a Denver public affairs consulting firm. She was previously President & CEO of Colorado Concern, a statewide business advocacy organization. Her other past and present board service includes Mile High United Way, Komen Foundation of Colorado, ARC Thrift Stores, the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education and the Porter Adventist Hospital Foundation. She is a graduate of Baylor University.



Charles H. Woolley II

Charlie Woolley is the founder and CEO of St. Charles Town Company, a Denver-based real estate development firm specializing in adaptive reuse of historic buildings, affordable housing and urban infill development. Charlie's other board activities include service as chair of the Art Student League of Denver, as well as service on the boards of Colorado Academy, the Downtown Denver Partnership, Historic Denver, Inc., and the Denver Botanic Gardens. Charlie was the founding museum director of Four Mile Historic Park. He is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) and the University of Denver School of Business.



Guaranty Bank and Trust Supports *Searching for Home*

Guaranty Bank and Trust is a community bank that has called Colorado home for over sixty years. With \$2.3 billion in assets and twenty-six branches across the Front Range, Guaranty Bank and Trust remains focused on building strong relationships with customers and communities by offering an unmatched level of personal service and a full complement of financial services, including business and personal loans, treasury management solutions, private banking and depository products.

Guaranty Gives is Guaranty Bank and Trust's community outreach program to support and actively participate in the community. Focal areas include Homelessness and Hunger, Education and Economic Development, with a belief that in order to have a vibrant and thriving community, we must first meet the basic needs of food and shelter.

Guaranty Bank at work in the community:

- **Denver Rescue Mission**—Providing volunteers to serve lunch at the Lawrence Street Shelter and money management training to residents of the Harvest Farm Facility.
- **Wish for Wheels**—Volunteering to help build and provide new bicycles and helmets for Boys & Girls Clubs Metro Denver.

- **Meals on Wheels**—Partnering with Longmont Meals on Wheels to prepare 250 emergency food bags.
- Taking part in **Scrub a Club** day for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Larimer County.
- **Habitat for Humanity**—Joining with others to build a Habitat for Humanity house in Loveland.
- **Longmont Housing Authority**—Hosting a financial management presentation for the residents of the Suites.

For more information about Guaranty Bank and the work they do in the community, visit GuarantyBankCO.com.

**Guaranty Bank and Trust
is proud to support the
Searching for Home exhibit at
the History Colorado Center.**



What if You Could Double Your Gift to History Colorado?

In 1954, General Electric created the first employee matching gift program. Today, many companies support causes important to their employees through charitable giving programs, which match an employee's donation and double the impact. Some companies even offer contributions to match their employees' volunteer hours.

Businesses find that supporting the charitable causes their employees care about increases the company's visibility and its impact in the community. It also increases employee morale and retention, creating a positive effect on corporate culture.

Procedures for employee matching programs vary by company. Typically, all you have to do is fill out a form and submit it to your employer, documenting your donation and requesting a match. Ask your human resources department if your company offers a matching gift program. For more information, contact Susan Beyda, corporate and foundation giving manager, at susan.beyda@state.co.us or 303/866-4913.



Calendar

NOVEMBER

6 Friday

MEMBER PREVIEW:
SEARCHING FOR HOME
History Colorado Center
See page 3.

MEDITATION ON FRAGMENTS
RECEPTION
Byers-Evans House Museum
See page 4.

7 Saturday

SEARCHING FOR HOME OPENS
History Colorado Center
See page 3.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUMS
History Colorado Center,
Byers-Evans House Museum
See page 5.

9 Monday

FWD: *SEARCHING FOR HOME*
History Colorado Center
See page 7.

TOYS THAT TEACH
History Colorado Center
See page 6.

10 Tuesday

CHICANO TEATRO
PERFORMANCE
History Colorado Center
See page 1.

14 Saturday

TOYS AND DOLLS TEA
FOR KIDS
History Colorado Center
See page 5.

PHOTOGRAPHY RESEARCH
WORKSHOP
History Colorado Center
See page 6.

16 Monday

COLOR-ODDITIES LECTURE
History Colorado Center
See page 8.

17 Tuesday

KEEP A LIGHT IN YOUR WINDOW
FILM
History Colorado Center
See page 6.

19 Thursday

COCOA WITH THE
STATE HISTORIAN
See page 9.

23 Monday

DORR YEAGER AND
BOB FLAME TALK
History Colorado Center
See page 7.

27 Friday

BLACK FRIDAY SALE
Fort Vasquez Museum
See page 4.

DECEMBER

1 Tuesday

CHRISTMAS SALE
Fort Vasquez Museum
See page 4.

3 Thursday

WORKSHOP FOR HOME
SCHOOL STUDENTS
Byers-Evans House Museum
See page 5.

9 Wednesday

2016 TOURS AND TREKS SUMMIT
History Colorado Center
See page 9.

11 Friday

CHRISTMAS IN COLORADO
CONCERT
History Colorado Center
See page 6.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS OF DENVER
See page 9.

14 Monday

FRIENDS IN HIGH PLACES TALK
History Colorado Center
See page 7.

19 Saturday

CHILDREN'S TEA AND TOUR
Byers-Evans House Museum
See page 5.

Repeated Events

MEMBERS' COLLECTION TOURS!
History Colorado Center
November 17 and December 15
See page 5.

THIRD TUESDAY RENDEZVOUS
History Colorado Center
November 17 and December 15
See page 4.

HOLIDAY TEAS AND TOURS
Byers-Evans House Museum
December 5, 7, 9, 14 and 16
See page 5.

CRAFT SHOW & SALE
Fort Vasquez Museum
November 14 and 15
See page 4.

MEMBER APPRECIATION WEEKEND

December 11, 12 and 13

See *Holiday Giving Guide*
pullout section.

AFTER HOURS 2015
Fort Vasquez Museum
November 7 and December 5
See page 7.

From Lincoln Logs to Blueprints

BY TAYLOR HORST,
PRESERVATION COMMUNICATIONS INTERN

Becoming an architect is a rather daunting task when your father is Frank Lloyd Wright. Although John Lloyd Wright had a hard time measuring up to the architectural achievements of his father, he was able to define his own place in history with the invention of Lincoln Logs in 1918.

John Lloyd Wright found inspiration for the toy on a 1917 visit to Japan, where he assisted his father with the construction of the Imperial Hotel using a revolutionary technique of interlocking beams. The inherent simplicity of the design struck a chord with John, and soon after, he set out to democratize the technique for the enjoyment of America's children.

Capitalizing on the American zeitgeist, John encased the beloved toys in boxes that promised "Interesting playthings typifying 'the spirit of America.'" At the time, patriotism was abloom, a reaction to the rapid industrialization and

urbanization threatening to break the nation's ties to its modest roots. A simple log cabin just like the one that bore our great president Abraham Lincoln was exactly the sort of symbol modern American children needed.

Not only was Lincoln a respected American icon worthy of children's idolization, but he also stood on the cusp of an era, straddling the transition between preindustrial and industrial America. The log cabin harks back to a mythic, preindustrial America when the West was still a frontier brimming with unknown opportunities. It was the breeding ground for American dreams and self-made men, and its spirit could be perfectly embodied in a boy born in a humble log cabin who grew up to assume the highest office in the United States.

John Lloyd Wright's toy allowed the next generation of children to live out this same Lincolnian dream. One such child who grew up building dreams on this scale was John's own daughter, Elizabeth Wright Ingraham. As a child, Elizabeth most likely executed her first architectural projects with Lincoln Logs. Her father not only provided her with this simple building toy but also equipped her with the building blocks required for a career in architecture . . .

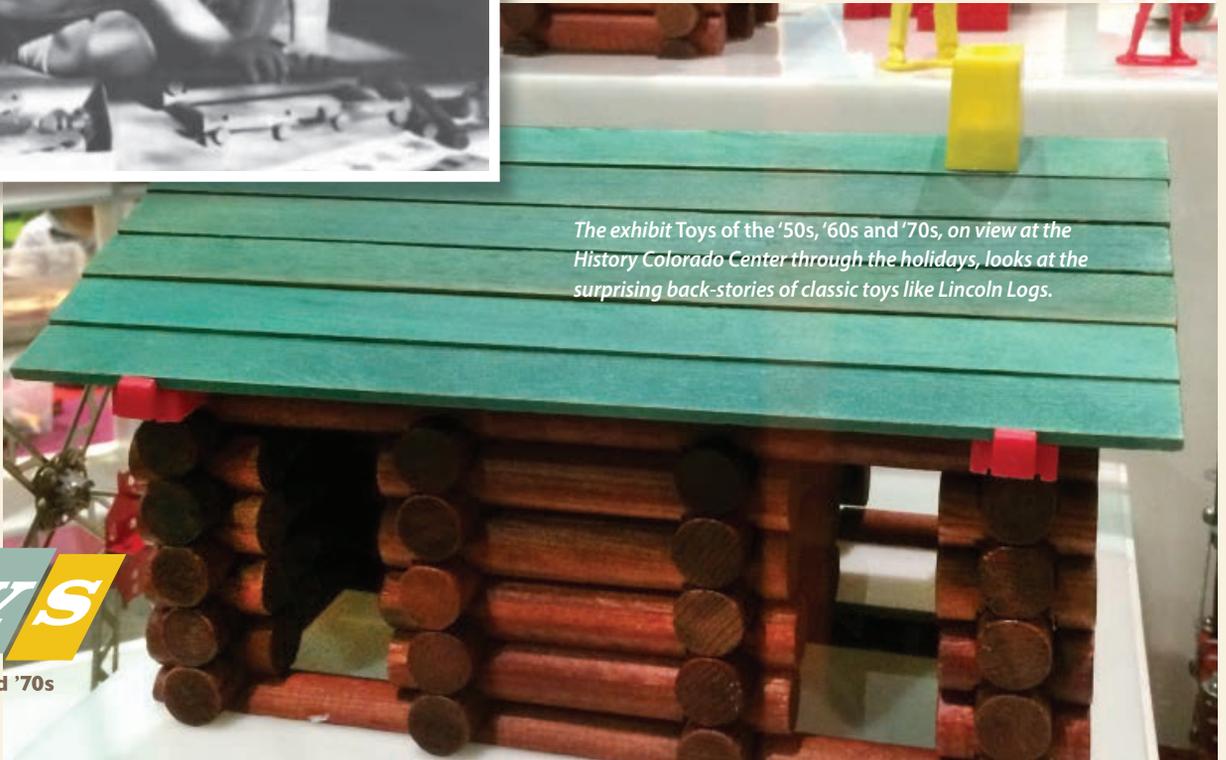
Elizabeth Wright Ingraham plays with Lincoln Logs as a child. Photo courtesy AIA Colorado.



Read the rest of the story on our Preservation Blog at h-CO.org/LincolnLogs



The exhibit Toys of the '50s, '60s and '70s, on view at the History Colorado Center through the holidays, looks at the surprising back-stories of classic toys like Lincoln Logs.



TOYS
of the '50s, '60s and '70s

New Listings

In the National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the nation's historic places worthy of preservation.

Comanche Drive-In

Buena Vista vicinity

This theater has provided outdoor cinema since 1967. Mid-twentieth century small-town drive-ins are an increasingly rare roadside attraction.

Kelley-McDonald House

Buena Vista

This 1882 house is a well-preserved two-story example of a Queen Anne-style dwelling and upper-class family residence.

Rock Ledge Ranch—Franzel Ranch

Buena Vista vicinity

This ranch, with its variety of buildings, has been associated with local farming and ranching since it was first homesteaded in 1887.

William and Anna Fay House

Buena Vista

This circa-1882 house was built in the first decade of Buena Vista's development and is an important example of local Queen Anne-style design.

Commercial Hotel

Granite

This circa-1867 log building served as a stage stop on the way to Leadville. It evolved into a hotel by 1881. The hotel and its log livery stable are rare examples of Pioneer Log construction in Granite, which suffered three fires destroying much of its early commercial architecture.

Pedro-Botz House

Salida vicinity

This is a modest 1904 log house with Late Victorian ornamentation near Smelertown, where employees of the Ohio

Good to Know

National or State Register listed properties may be eligible for investment tax credits for approved rehabilitation projects. Listed properties may also be eligible to compete for Colorado State Historical Fund grants. These grants may be used for acquisition and development, education, and survey and planning projects. The next nomination submission deadline is January 29. For information, call 303/866-3392.

For more about these and all National and State Register properties in Colorado, go to www.HistoryColorado.org/oaHP/national-and-state-registers.

and Colorado Smelter lived. The men of the Pedro and Botz families worked for the smelter, among many other Austro-Hungarian Empire immigrants.

Salida Livestock Commission Complex

Salida vicinity

The Salida Livestock Commission has played an important role in the marketing of livestock in central Colorado, providing a venue for buying and selling cattle, horses, and other animals. The 1958 complex includes a sales barn, corrals, barns, loafing sheds, loading chutes, and scales.

Pantall Elementary School

Sterling

Renowned Denver architect Eugene D. Sternberg and Sterling architect Robert J. Murrin designed the International-style school to embrace progress, modernity, safety, and efficiency. The 1953 building served as one of four elementary schools in town, Pantall continuing that role until 2007.

National Historic Landmark Listing

Red Rocks Park and Mount Morrison Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp

Morrison

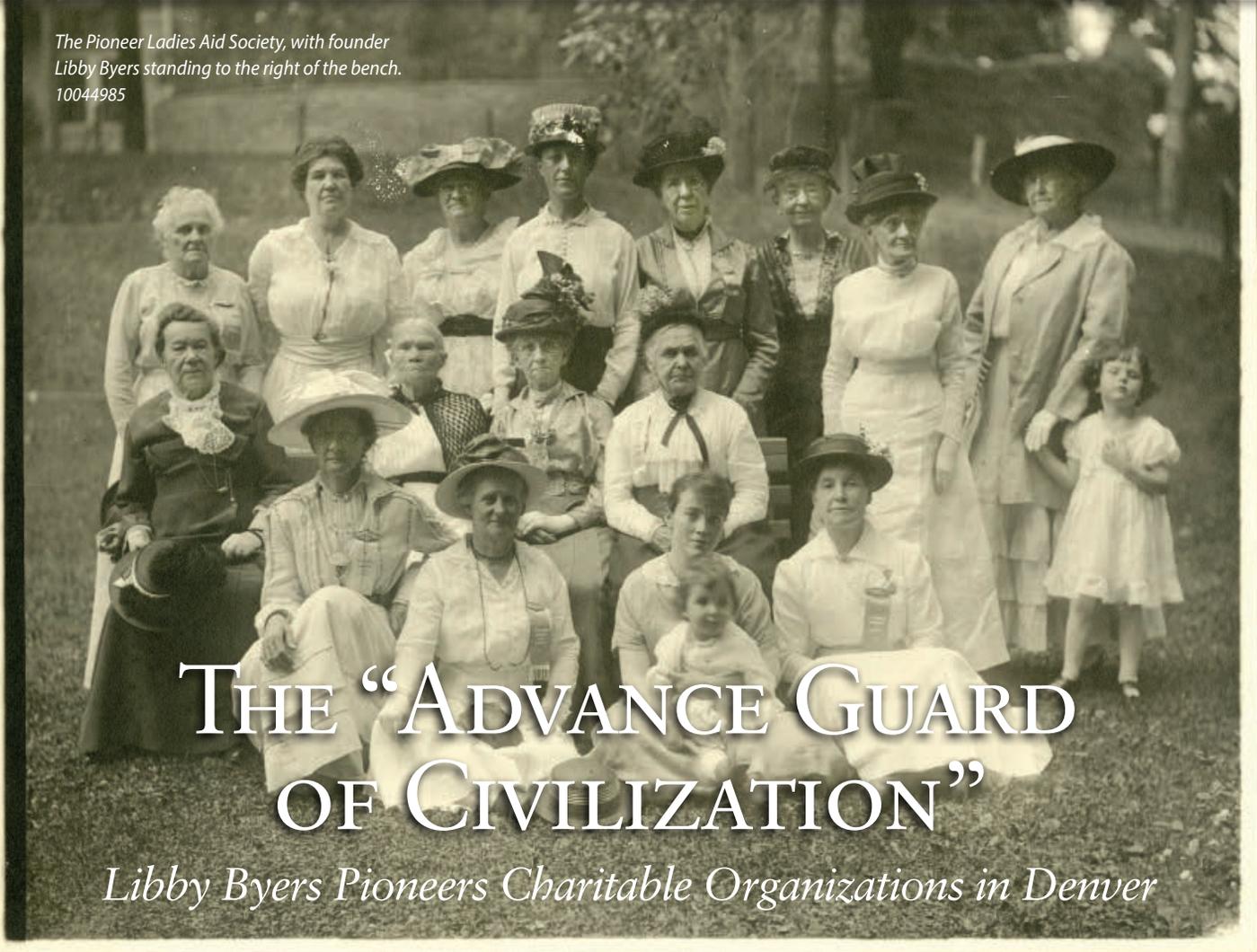
The "jewel" of the Denver Mountain Parks system, the outdoor amphitheater still provides a unique entertainment venue; fourteen of the original fifteen CCC buildings remain.

Do you know this building?

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Where is it? | 2. When was it built? | 3. What was its original use? |
| a) Allenspark area | a) 1863 | a) Homestead cabin |
| b) Estes Park vicinity | b) 1879 | b) Hunting lodge |
| c) Winter Park vicinity | c) 1884 | c) Saloon |
| d) Woodland Park area | d) 1914 | d) Stagecoach station |



The Pioneer Ladies Aid Society, with founder Libby Byers standing to the right of the bench.
10044985



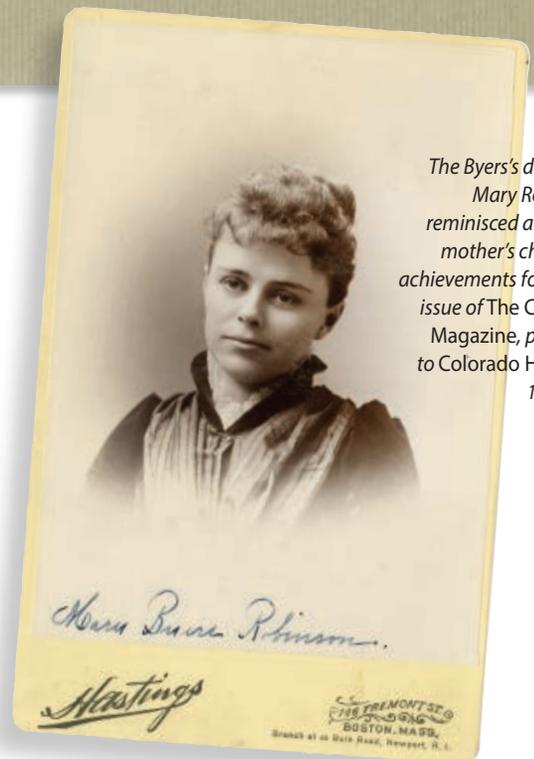
THE “ADVANCE GUARD OF CIVILIZATION”

Libby Byers Pioneers Charitable Organizations in Denver

BY MCKENNA C. SOLOMON

In 1859, Elizabeth Minerva Sumner Byers traveled west with her husband, William Newton Byers. William had just established the Rocky Mountain News, and they brought with them their two young children. Mary Newton-Robinson, their daughter, recalled her mother saying, “I was the eighth white woman in Denver, and when I climbed out of the little buckboard with my two babies I felt that I was the advance guard of civilization at the foot of the Rocky Mountains.”

(continued on page 17)



The Byers's daughter, Mary Robinson, reminisced about her mother's charitable achievements for a 1944 issue of The Colorado Magazine, precursor to Colorado Heritage.
10047419

It was a time of great hardship, as settlers tried to build a new civilization for themselves in an unfamiliar land, amid often-stormy relations with native populations and in a harsh climate. The experience of Elizabeth “Libby” Byers, surrounded by the realities of life in Territorial Colorado, gave rise to the first charitable association in Denver—inspiring a future of benevolence in a rough new town.

Early Denver historian Jerome Smiley claimed that the need for benevolent organizations “was by no means even relatively so great, because in a general way, the population was not of a kind to have very many worthy persons in need of assistance. It was, in main, a population of young men and women, energetic, self-dependent, fairly thrifty and very shifty if need be.” Split into settlements such as Auraria and Cherry Creek, Denver was the gateway to the Rocky Mountains and the so-named Pikes Peak region.



The immediate area offered little comfort to its first inhabitants: no gold, no mines, no jobs, no farms, little lodging, and little support. The earliest citizens struggled to organize and settle, as desperation and incidents of “shiftiness” led to even greater hardship.

Early mining guides anticipated an abundance of gold and growth in the Pikes Peak region, but warned of the unpredictable climate and lack of white civilization. The undeveloped gold industry demanded much from the influx of traveling miners, or “Pikes Peakers.” But, Smiley wrote, the goal of most Pikes Peakers was to “quickly acquire a fortune and return to civilized parts.” Upon arrival, lack of mining knowledge forced would-be miners into valley settlements. Masses of poor, ailing,

Elizabeth “Libby” Byers arrived in the fledgling community of Denver and set to work addressing the need for benevolent societies in a time of financial uncertainty. 10044984



The Pioneer Ladies Aid Society. 10044986

and aging settlers flooded city streets, where charity was practically nonexistent.

The summer of 1859 marked the first suggestion of a charitable institution, but no action was taken until 1860. Smiley explains that due to a “chaotic political situation” all that was done in public charity was done by the city. At this time the Legislative Council appointed three “Overseers of the Poor,” one of whom was William Byers. Civil involvement began in earnest in January 1860, when a meeting was held at the home of William and Elizabeth Byers. As a result, the Ladies Union Aid Society (LUAS) took shape. Its purpose was to aid and comfort those in need. The LUAS was the first of many charitable organizations to come.

In the years that followed, Denver saw a significant rise in such institutions. Often referred to as the “Ladies Clubs and Associations Movement” by early Denver historians, the effort was led chiefly by women. Deviations from the expectation that women were better suited for benevolent

works occurred among the rapid formations of female-led charity and support groups. William Byers, for example, led the organization of the Society of Colorado Pioneers, whose responsibility was to support the needs of new settlers. Elizabeth formed the Pioneer Ladies Aid Society shortly after in auxiliary to her husband’s charitable aims. The society’s sole purpose was to provide care to “indigent pioneers and those depending on them.” Settlers regarded the Pioneer Ladies Aid Society highly as an institution that assisted the impoverished, discomforted, and ill. Proper burials were also afforded to those in need.

Historians often cite this period of charitable growth as “the club movement” due to the popularization of participation in such groups; a great number of women took part, most of them joining multiple societies. Smiley proudly cites statistics suggesting that territorial Denver had the highest proportion of female involvement in clubs by population than any other city in the Union. Though categorizing these

The Ladies Relief Society was one of several service organizations chartered by Libby Byers. 10036500



institutions as “clubs” made them appear somewhat trivial, the value Smiley and other historians placed on them suggests their great importance to the community.

Libby Byers was well known and well liked for her caring and ambition in alleviating the suffering of others. In addition to being a charter member of the Ladies Union Aid Society and the Pioneer Ladies Aid Society, she chartered the Ladies Relief Society and helped open a home for aging women. The Ladies Relief Society founded a day nursery, kindergarten, and free medical dispensary as well as a free clothing and supply distribution center by the end of the 1880s. By 1889, the society supported 2,600 individuals. Byers also ran a working home and orphanage for boys.

But despite her involvement in the growth of a benevolent civilization, Libby Byers never aspired to be a symbol of civic development. During the construction of the State Capitol dome, a committee took charge of identifying individuals significant enough to the history of Denver to honor with murals. William Byers was identified as the father of journalism in the city, for his establishment of the *Rocky Mountain News*. The Ladies Relief Society nominated Mrs. Elizabeth Newton Byers as the “wife of the editor of the first newspaper in Denver”; she declined the nomination. Her denial was grounded in her vehement disagreement in being honored for her husband’s successes. She also expressed the belief that, even if she’d been nominated for her own trials and hardships, she was still not nearly so deserving of the honor as other women settlers.

Elizabeth “Libby” Minerva Sumner Byers is not recognized in the grandeur of the Capitol Dome. Her contributions to civility and charity are recognized largely in aged photos, old *Colorado Magazine* articles, and the historic accounts of Jerome Smiley, within the collections of History Colorado and the Denver Public Library. Overshadowed by the business enterprises and successes of her husband, Libby Byers was a pioneer in her own right. Her contributions to

the development of charitable organizations in the ravages of early Denver are arguably as significant as the political and professional accomplishments of her husband. Elizabeth Byers founded a movement to assist the indigent before it was commonplace.

In a city of pioneers, Libby Byers was at the forefront of a movement to aid the needy and ease the suffering, and she spread a civilized notion known as humility.



William N. Byers, founding editor of the Rocky Mountain News. 10047774

For Further Reading

Sources for this article were *History of Denver with Outlines of the Earlier History of the Rocky Mountain Country*, by Jerome Smiley (1901); *Experience of One Pioneer Woman*, a reminiscence by Mrs. Mary E. Byers Robinson, daughter of Elizabeth and William, *The Colorado Magazine* (January 1944); “Charity: Organization of Denver Relief Association,” *Rocky Mountain News*, December 28, 1870 (available at coloradohistoricnewspapers.org); “Women Who Face Perils of the Plains” and “Mrs. W. N. Byers Disclaimer,” *Rocky Mountain News*, December 5, 1899; and an undated biography of Elizabeth Byers written by Chauncey Thomas for the State Historical Society (today’s History Colorado), available in the Stephen H. Hart Library & Research Center.

MCKENNA C. SOLOMON is a student of communication and marketing at Regis University. She is an active member of student journalism organizations. An avid reader with a passion for art, history, and religious studies, she plans to devote life after graduation to nonprofit public relations or government public affairs.

Opening
November 7
at the History
Colorado Center



“KEEP A LIGHT IN YOUR WINDOW”

The Legacy of Daddy Bruce Randolph



Daddy Bruce Randolph was the restaurateur who provided holiday feasts for the less fortunate of Denver for more than twenty-five years before his death in 1994 at the age of 94. He began feeding the hungry in the 1960s with a Thanksgiving dinner for 200 people at City Park, when he carried his portable grill to the park and dished out holiday dinners to all who attended. It became an annual tradition, and his Thanksgiving giveaway meals grew as time passed on.

For many years Randolph donated his own time and money to serving Thanksgiving dinners. “Daddy” Bruce was fortunate to have a great personality and the kind of charisma that drew all types of people to help him. This allowed him to begin receiving donations and the support of many celebrities—members of the Denver Broncos football team, the Denver Police Department, and local clergy came along with him to help prepare and dish out tons of turkey, ribs, dressing, potatoes, yams, and cranberry sauce.

Bruce also gave away clothes and food on his birthday, February 15. One Easter he dyed 25,000 eggs for an enormous Easter egg hunt in City Park. Daddy Bruce, who grew up poor, was quoted as saying that as a child he “never saw Santa.” So, he gave unselfishly to the kids at Christmas. The kids adored the man who was known affectionately as the “Pied Piper of Denver.”

His example of living for the sake of helping others and taking responsibility for his own community and its needs became an inspiration that has lived on, years after his death. The “Denver Feed a Family” program honoring the life of Daddy Bruce Randolph continues his legacy of helping those in need during the holiday season. The event has become one of the largest projects of its kind in the nation.

A restaurant owner who, incredibly, didn’t start his business until the age of 63, Daddy Bruce not only showed amazing perseverance and determination but also a heart of gold, as he would spend his last cent

BY RONALD WOODING



PASTOR RONALD WOODING and Pastor King Harris picked up the mantle for Daddy Bruce in 2002 and have led “Denver Feed a Family Day” efforts ever since, in partnership with the Epworth Foundation since 2003. Wooding has been an assistant pastor at Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church in Denver since 2001. He is the executive producer of *Keep a Light in Your Window: The Official Daddy Bruce Documentary*.

helping those who were less fortunate. Even though history will indicate that Daddy Bruce died broke, it will also show the rewards and accomplishments he made during his life. In 1985, a section of Thirty-fourth Avenue, from Downing to Dahlia Streets, was renamed Bruce Randolph Avenue. In 2008, Bruce Randolph School, serving kids in grades 6 through 12, was named in his honor.

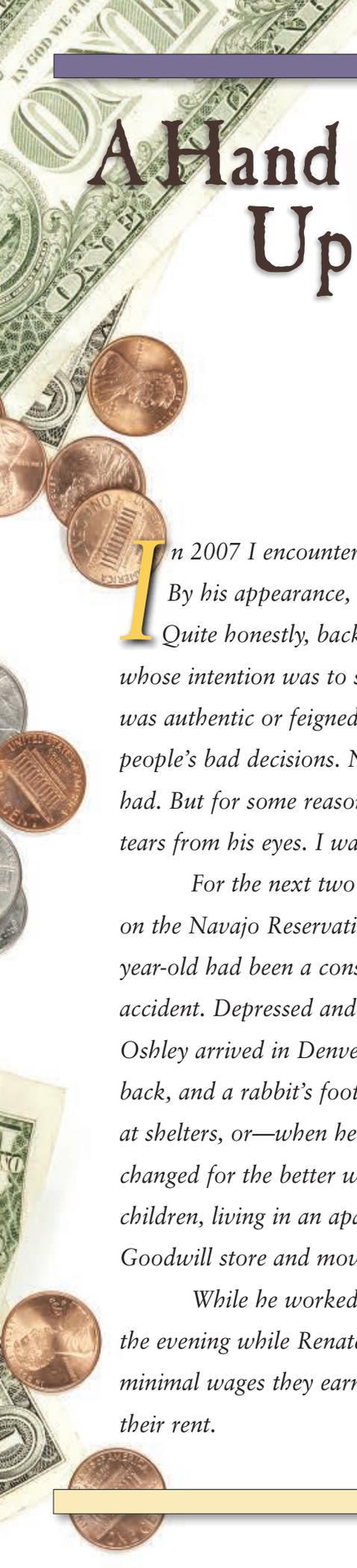
The legacy of Daddy Bruce also continues today through the stories and recollections of those who came in contact with him. A new film, *Keep a Light in Your Window: The Official Daddy Bruce Documentary*, premieres at the History Colorado Center and at the Sie Film Center in November (see page 6). The film highlights the life of Daddy Bruce, from his childhood in Arkansas to his career in Denver. For more about the film, go to www.daddybrucedocumentary.com.



*Photos courtesy of Blair-Caldwell
African American Research
Library and the author*

**Opening
November 7
at the History
Colorado Center**





A Hand Up



or a Hand Out

Searching for Home

BY JAMES S. PETERSON

In 2007 I encountered a distressed-looking individual sitting on a bench in downtown Denver. By his appearance, I judged him to be homeless. I also assumed he'd ask me for a handout. Quite honestly, back then I regarded just about anyone who asked for change as a lazy bum whose intention was to separate me from my hard-earned cash. It didn't matter whether the distress was authentic or feigned; I simply resented being confronted with what I considered to be other people's bad decisions. Normally, I'd have pretended not to see him, or shaken my head "no" if I had. But for some reason, something in me shifted that afternoon. I noticed the man was rubbing tears from his eyes. I walked over to him, sat down, and asked if he was okay.

For the next two hours, I listened as Oshley Begay told me his story. Oshley left his home on the Navajo Reservation south of Gallup, New Mexico, two years earlier in 2005. The thirty-year-old had been a construction worker before sustaining multiple injuries in an off-road-vehicle accident. Depressed and unable to find work in New Mexico, he thought he'd give Colorado a try. Oshley arrived in Denver by bus with little more than an eighth-grade education, the clothes on his back, and a rabbit's foot in his left front pocket. He took day-labor jobs and either camped, stayed at shelters, or—when he had the luxury of cash—at a budget motel for the night. Oshley's luck changed for the better when he met his girlfriend, Renate. Renate was a single mother with three children, living in an apartment in Thornton. Oshley managed to get a part-time job at a nearby Goodwill store and moved in with them.

While he worked during the day, Renate cared for the children. Oshley cared for them in the evening while Renate waited tables. With child-support payments from her ex-husband and the minimal wages they earned together, it was all they could do to feed the children and still make their rent.

As if things weren't hard enough, it all changed for the worse one night. Renate made a single bad decision that sent the house of cards crashing down. After work, she went to a party with friends. She was given some crystal meth to try. With the flick of a lighter, what little stability the family had went up in a puff of smoke. It wasn't long before Oshley was addicted as well. They both lost their jobs and the apartment, and bounced from one friend's couch to the next, children in tow. On the day I met Oshley, he was trying to sell Renate's black leather jacket. He'd never been in this part of the city before and had walked for hours, terrified to approach anyone. Exhausted and by pure chance, he found himself in front of the History Colorado Center, looking up at a banner depicting stately Jicarilla Apache Chief Garfield. Over Oshley's shoulder towered the huge bronze bison sculpture. Oshley, the broken consequence of generations of misfortune, sat down and cried.

He felt like the hand of providence had guided him to this sacred place.

In the moment I'd set aside my fear and prejudices to sit down and listen to Oshley's story, a transformation had happened. I saw him not as a beggar; I saw him as a person. A tragedy, yes, but a human being who shared many of the same hopes, dreams, triumphs, misfortunes, mistakes, and regrets common to us all.

Oshley finally did work up

the courage to ask if I'd buy the jacket. He was asking \$40. We walked to my car, then drove 45 minutes or more, "searching for home"—or at least the couch on which his family was spending the night. When we found the building, Renate was waiting on the front porch. I gave Oshley the \$40 and the jacket. As he left the vehicle, he gave me his thanks and a kiss on the cheek. I think I was the one who should have expressed gratitude.

I didn't know it at the time, but my encounter with Oshley Begay became the seed for a collecting project that would evolve into the Searching for Home exhibit. Over a period of nine



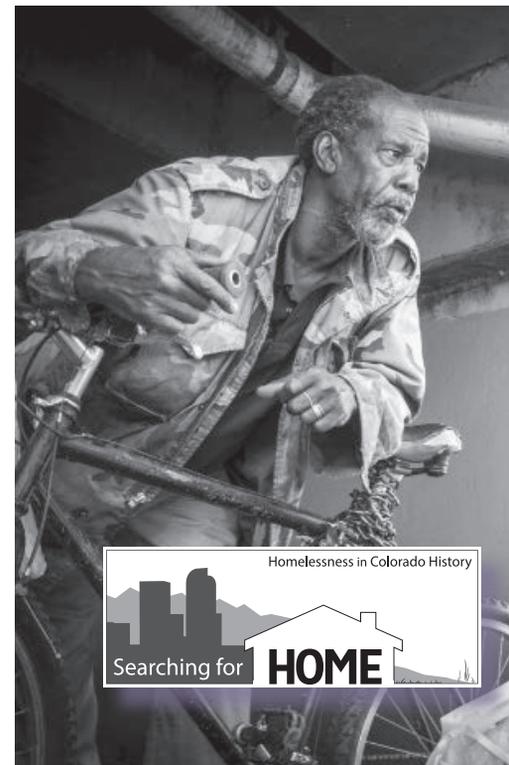
Lawrence K. is from Pine Ridge, South Dakota. The former railroad worker suffered two broken legs, broken ribs, and shoulder damage when he was hit by a drunk driver while walking along a highway on the Oglala Sioux Reservation.

months in 2014, I listened to the stories of forty panhandlers; most of them homeless, others one step away. I collected the signs of those willing to sell, and photographed those unashamed to be seen as they were; many of the photos are now part of History Colorado’s collection.

One thing we all have in common is a life story. Collectively those stories become our history. It doesn’t matter the person’s race, religion, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic circumstances. The diversity of experience is what is of value. On a cool spring afternoon in 2007, one person’s journey enriched my life. Thank you, Oshley Begay.*

*The names Oshley Begay and Renate are aliases used to protect their identities.

Huey and Gladys have been together for thirteen years. “People are generally more concerned with Gladys than with me,” he says. He’s had to resort to eating Gladys’s food on occasion. When I asked Huey what home meant to him, he quoted Flannery O’Connor: “Where you come from is gone, where you thought you were going to was never there, and where you are is no good unless you can get away from it. Where is there a place for you to be? No place. Nothing outside you can give you any place. In yourself right now is all the place you’ve got.” Fifty-three-year-old Huey went to college in New Hampshire on a ski-jumping scholarship.



Carl W. served eleven years in the U.S. Army. He was a nuclear, biochemical, and chemical specialist in Iraq during the first Gulf War. He was at the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and was twice named "Cook Champion" on the Army's Culinary Arts Team. He was also honored as "Soldier of the Quarter." He suffers conditions associated with Gulf War Syndrome and a hand injury that never healed properly, making work extremely difficult. Carl has been homeless off and on since returning to civilian life. He was living in an apartment when I met him.

Bottom center: David M. (right) is not a panhandler, nor is he homeless in the physical sense. He is a refugee from a Denver nursing home, a place he hates. David was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, in 1947. He's lived in Wyoming and Pennsylvania for brief stints, but has been in Colorado the better part of his life. He has brothers living in the mountains, where he wishes he could be. In the meantime he settles for unauthorized excursions down to the Platte River, where he breaks bread with his friend Bob.

Bottom left: Lorraine McKee graduated from Pueblo's Centennial High. She has an associate's degree from Colorado Technical Institute but hasn't worked full time since 2003. Her home was raided by police in 2013 when one of her boarders was suspected of selling meth. Nothing was found and no arrests were made, but the house was condemned and Lorraine was on the streets without an income. She had been on medication since the eighth grade, and all of her medications were seized as well. Lorraine gets help from the Colorado Food Assistance Program, church groups, and Spanish Peaks Mental Health Center. On the day this image was made, she was flying a sign for money to buy toiletries.

JAMES S. PETERSON has worked in a curatorial capacity at History Colorado since 2001. He is currently Assistant Curator for Artifacts, and is a former advertising and newspaper photographer. He has contributed articles and photography to previous editions of *Colorado Heritage* and other History Colorado publications and social media posts.



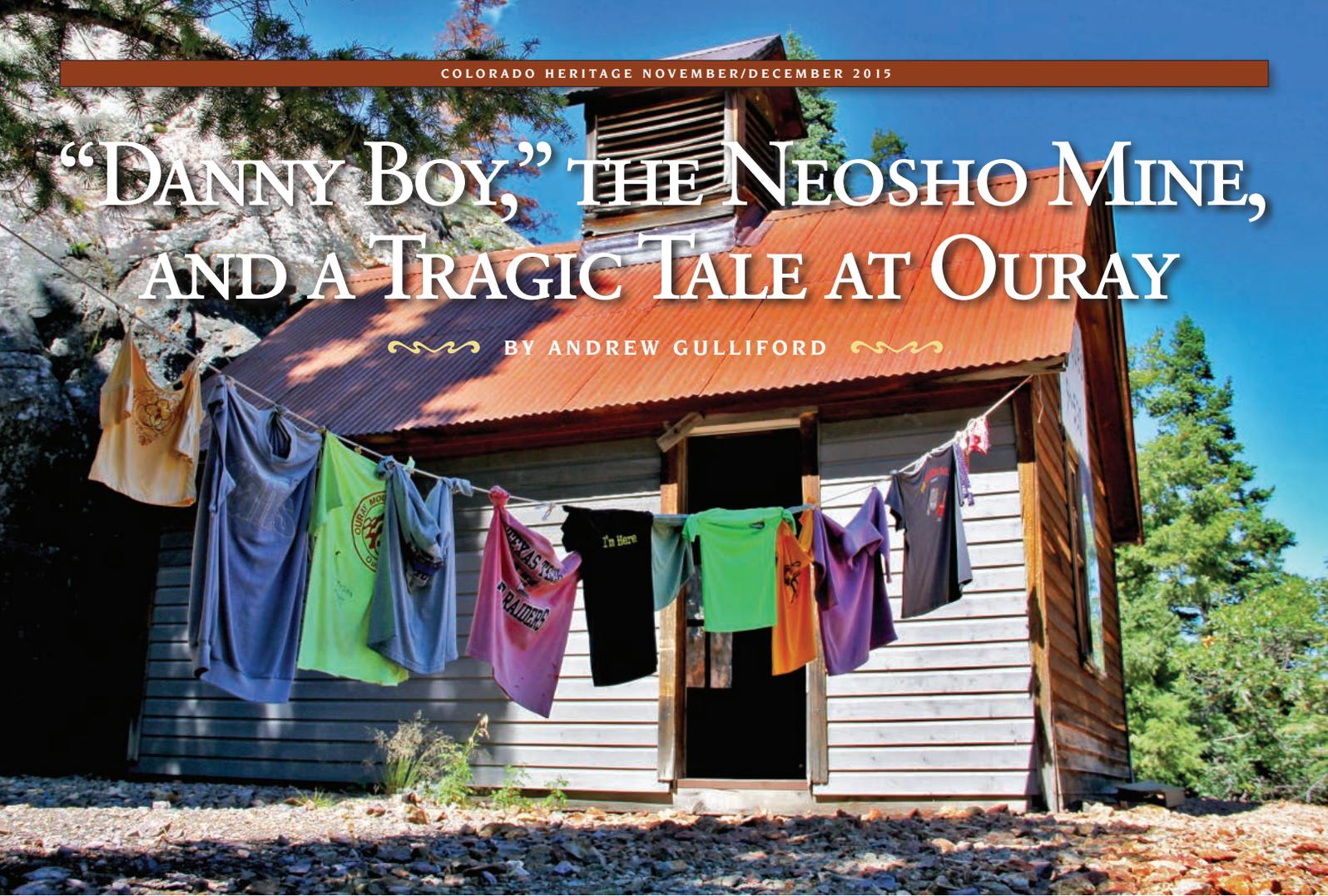
Opening November 7
at the History Colorado Center



This is Scott Carpenter—no, not the astronaut. Scott's right hand was mangled in an industrial accident. Remarkably, he says he couldn't qualify for disability pay because he is left-handed. He was in the hospital for two weeks last December, the result of frostbite he incurred on his foot during an intense cold wave. "Luckily," he was released on Christmas Eve to be home (on the streets) for Christmas. Almost four months later, the bone was exposed on three of his toes, and he'll likely lose them.

“DANNY BOY,” THE NEOSHO MINE, AND A TRAGIC TALE AT OURAY

BY ANDREW GULLIFORD



South of Ouray on U.S. Highway 550, high above the Uncompahgre Gorge, sits a blacksmith shop perched on a narrow rocky ledge. Travelers see it through the pines and wonder how to get there. Almost no one knows the story of the unpatented Neosho mine, which includes the blacksmith shop. There are hundreds of historic buildings on unpatented mining claims in Colorado’s high country, most with unwritten stories of hardworking miners, hand dug tunnels, and disappointed investors, but the Neosho’s history is unique. Nowhere else in the Centennial State is a mine linked to a world-famous song.

The complete story includes local Ouray history, British history, family photos, a consuming marriage, poverty, a failed mine, boxes in the archives at CU-Boulder, and a widow’s descent into madness. The thread that binds this narrative is a haunting melody hundreds of years old, first played on an Irish harp. The tune came to America with a poor Irish family and later returned over the Atlantic Ocean to be combined with poetic words from a grieving parent of the British upper class. The song is “Danny Boy,” sung by Irish around the world.

One of the most popular songs of the twentieth century, “Danny Boy” has a direct link to Colorado’s Irish, to Ouray, to the Neosho mine, and to the isolation and loneliness of the snowy San Juan Mountains. The lyrics begin:

*Oh Danny Boy, the pipes, the pipes are calling,
from glen to glen and down the mountainside.
The summer’s gone, and all the roses falling.
'Tis you, 'tis you must go and I must bide.
But come ye back when summer’s in the meadow
Or when the valley’s hushed and white with snow
'Tis I’ll be here in sunshine or in shadow
Oh Danny boy, oh Danny boy, I love you so.*

Facing: A sight familiar to all who travel between Durango and Ouray is the Neosho mine blacksmith shop with its eye-catching clothesline. Three of the mine's buildings, including the blacksmith shop, have been stabilized by volunteers from the Ouray County Historical Society and the Ouray Trails Group.

On the steep trail up from Yankee Boy Basin, in the shade of ancient pines, are two wooden sheds, the entrance to the Neosho mine, and the blacksmith shop with its distinctive center cupola. Farther south on the narrow trail, a faded red wooden bunkhouse sits with sagging, rotten floors showing evidence of packrats. On the west side of the structure the distinctive toothmarks of hungry porcupines indicate the snowline. The site has historic importance as a complete mining enterprise representative of small mining operations in the San Juans. The architecture is early twentieth century mining camp vernacular and is listed as a Ouray County Landmark.

The prize on the bunkhouse takes a while to discover, but then a visitor sees among a few names scrawled on the entrance door the penciled inscription *Margaret Weatherly, June 7, 1924*. Her simple handwriting on the peeling, four-paneled wooden door weaves together a unique Colorado story of a memorable song, an enduring marriage, and a mine with more quartz than silver.

Like many Colorado mines, the Neosho has a history of multiple owners and various names. Known as the Natalia mine, the Neosho, and finally the Cumbright, it is an unpatented claim at 8,811 feet with a crosscut tunnel 536 feet long which intersects the Roy Neal vein. "The site contains an extremely intact example of early 20th century mining structures," writes Don Paulson, curator of the Ouray County Historical Society. "The interiors are evocative with furnishings such as bunks and tables, forge and anvil in the blacksmith shop, and magazine cover ladies glued to the bunkhouse walls."

Located September 6, 1895, by Guy E. Pierson and O. C. Van Houten as a claim measuring 1,500 by 300 feet, the Neosho never produced much quality ore and the origin of the claim's name is unknown. Perhaps the prospectors

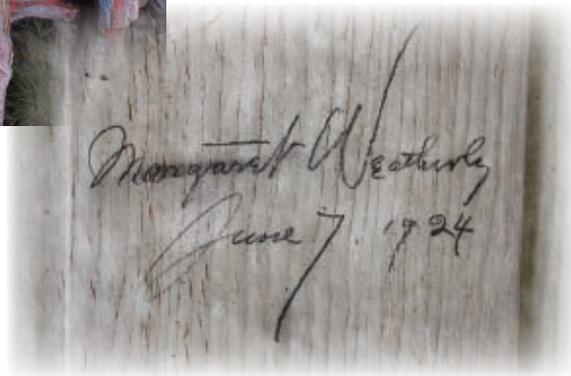
knew of the Neosho Indian tribe back east. In 1901 the Bonanza Mining Company, whose president published the *Ouray Plaindealer* newspaper, purchased the claim. A year later the *Plaindealer* printed "glowing reports" of the claim's potential, but by 1905 the company filed bankruptcy.

A stockholder of the failed Bonanza Mining Company bought the claim and sought bids for a 50-foot adit to hit the vein. In February 1907 Col. F. S. Mallory bought the claims, and manager Joseph Tumbach completed a 100-foot adit by summer. Miners drove the Neosho Tunnel 300 feet by April 1908 because of "encouraging" assay values, and that summer carpenters constructed outbuildings, a bunkhouse, and a blacksmith shop.

Hardrockers drove the tunnel 500 feet by December 1909, and



The portal includes the original Neosho mine sign and modern signage warning of the dangers of entering.



Margaret and Edward had high hopes for the Neosho mine when she penciled her inscription on the bunkhouse door. Instead, within a decade her husband would be dead. Two years later, she was committed to the state mental hospital in Pueblo.

Photos by the author.



Corner bunks still stand in the Neosho bunkhouse.

Edward Weatherly, the brother of Fred Weatherly (who wrote the words to "Danny Boy"), posed as a patrician from a blooded family of English royalty. In reality, he was a penniless younger son who pretended to be a medical doctor. Courtesy Archives of the University of Colorado Boulder.



favorable news stories continued to push the mine's prospects. But mine manager Tumbach left for Nicaragua in December 1910; by November 1911 the mine received a delinquent tax notice, and then it disappeared for a decade from local newspapers.

"Sometime after 1911 the unpatented Neosho mining claim was relocated by Dr. C. E. Weatherly as the Cumright (or Cumbright) Mine," notes Paulson. More work included renaming the Neosho Tunnel the Natalia Tunnel, driving it another 150 feet, and adding an 85-foot drift tunnel on the Roy Neal vein. The Dallas-based Hayden-Comal Corporation came to own the claim, but, oddly, after all those years the Neosho remained unpatented on public land. The claim's connection to the song "Danny Boy" derives from the ownership and active work of Dr. Weatherly and his beloved Irish wife.

They lived at the Neosho/Cumbright and dedicated their lives to its promise. They had to believe in the mine's future, because living conditions were anything but comfortable in their cabin deep in the pines and in the bunkhouse with its cooking area on the east side and wooden bunks around the room. There was no insulation.

Ouray annually averages 140 days of snowfall. As winter storms blew, nights dropped well below freezing. Miners would have huddled near a stove now gone, but during winter the Weatherlys lived in a small house in town.

Margaret grew up the daughter of an itinerant Irish laborer. Like thousands of Irishmen who fled the Emerald Isle, her father came to America to seek his fortune and only found backbreaking work on railroads, yet he sang to his children and he brought tales and tunes from the Old Country. Margaret had a bitter early marriage, then she met the love of her life, Dr. Edward Weatherly.

Eddie and Jess, the nickname for his wife Margaret, moved to Ouray in 1905. Why they settled in Ouray remains obscure but Dr. Weatherly became a mining expert, a passionate proponent of silver instead of a gold monetary standard, and a writer for the *Ouray Plaindealer*. He never practiced medicine, though he claimed to have earned his degree at Oxford University.

Weatherly frequently returned to England to seek funding for Ouray mines, particularly his own, the Neosho. A tall, handsome man, he struck a professional air around the small mining town. If anyone questioned why an Oxford-trained physician would come to tiny Ouray and engage in mining prospects, no one asked. In the mining West you created your own persona and left it at that. If Weatherly could encourage British investment in Ouray mines, so much the better. But he always seemed a penny short with a proud demeanor and frayed cuffs.

Margaret "Jess" Weatherly is shown here on mining rails for the dump pile of the Neosho mine. The pile and rails are still there, hanging off a ledge in Uncompahgre Gorge. Margaret matched her brother-in-law's words for the song "Danny Boy" with an Irish folk tune but was never credited. The dirt road that would become U.S. Highway 550 is visible behind her. Courtesy Archives of the University of Colorado Boulder.



By the 1920s, “each day they waited upon letters indicating that the promises made by English investors during their trips to London would be honored and actual money would arrive. They kept their spirits up posting love notes to each other along the routes in the mountains they followed,” writes author and Weatherly relative Anthony Mann. He adds, “They became unable to pay what they owed on their loans for the house in Ouray and were even having difficulties paying for food.”

The real success in the family was Ed’s brother Fred Weatherly, who stayed in England, practiced law, and began to write songs. He lost his son and his father within three months. Out of a deep sense of grief Fred wrote a poignant poem about love, loss, and failed opportunity. He may have sent the poem to Ed, who shared it with his Irish wife.

From the oral traditions of her itinerant father she remembered an ancient Londonderry air or tune perhaps once played on harps by blind Celtic singers. Or she recalled the music played by Irish miners in the bars and saloons of Ouray. Possibly,

Margaret sent the notated manuscript of the music to her brother-in-law in England. The exact details remain obscure, but Fred Weatherly wrote the words and Margaret provided the tune for a song that would make music history.

“Danny Boy,” with a copyright date of 1913, became one of the best-selling and most beloved songs of the twentieth century in part because of so many deaths during World War I and World War II. Tenors everywhere learned it. The song, sung at Irish celebrations and wakes for the dead all over the world, has a Ouray connection.

“It was not likely that Weatherly’s in-law was aware of the fact that many poets and writers, including Thomas Moore, Alfred Perceval Graves, Edward Lawson, and some ninety-plus others, had transcribed words to this melody,” explains Malachy McCourt, a prominent Irish radio commentator and author. “All other versions quickly evaporated

and ‘Danny Boy’ evolved into the accepted lyrics to the air.”

Psychiatrist Anthony Mann, a descendant of Fred Weatherly and the author of *In Sunshine and in Shadow: The Family Story of Danny Boy*, writes of his relative, “The skill of his words is such that they convey strong emotion without it being tied to a specific situation; singer and listener can imagine whomever they wish. These words of loss and reunion after death had special resonance with Irish people.” If the song is about tragedy, so is the family history.



Edward Weatherly, far left, poses with immigrant mine workers at the Neosho portal. He sank thousands of his brother's British pounds into the mine. Hikers can reach the mine after a rigorous trek up from the Yankee Boy Basin Road. Courtesy Archives of the University of Colorado Boulder.

Often destitute, scrambling for funds, Dr. Edward Weatherly lived a lie. He never finished an education at Oxford. He never became a physician. And in turn, his brother never acknowledged the role of Margaret in matching an ancient Irish tune to his soulful words. Margaret’s name did not appear on the copyright, and, perhaps to assuage his guilt, Fred loaned hundreds of English pounds to his brother’s Ouray mining schemes; yet Fred never acknowledged his sister-in-law’s collaboration. Instead he sent Ed an allowance of ten British pounds monthly with which his brother bought dynamite and hired miners.

Margaret Weatherly wrote, “We had to beg Fred to help us to save our property and he sent us 500 lbs., after the war left us suddenly penniless. I contend that he kept silent with the idea that reference to ‘Danny Boy’ would awaken the thought that we were entitled to something. We were conscious of our right to it all the time.”

The Neosho mine never paid well and Edward Weatherly became embroiled in bad investments, lawsuits, and poor mining prospects. An avalanche destroyed their cabin near the claim, which was higher on the ridge than the bunkhouse. Like so many mining hopefuls, the Weatherlys believed in Ouray and in the promise of their silver mine, but paydays were few and far between. Hard times became worse with the Great Depression. Jess professed to have walked from Ouray to Denver to look for work but found none because of the Depression’s economic grip on Colorado.



Looking like a character out of a Shakespearean tragedy, Edward stands amid the ruins of his cabin. He lost the cabin to an avalanche and died in poverty, betting on a mining claim that never paid off. Courtesy Archives of the University of Colorado Boulder.

Wealthy London lawyer and judge Fred Weatherly died in 1929 with an estate worth one million British pounds. One of eight siblings having received nothing from his brother's estate, Edward Weatherly died at 75 in 1934. His Ouray grave would be unmarked. His mine would remain unpatented because of inadequate assessment work. Towards the end, Eddie and Jess worked the Neosho-Cumbright mine themselves because they could not afford to pay miners.

"The collapse of the American economy . . . killed off any chance of success in mining; in that sense Eddie was a victim as were millions of others. He threw his capacity for intellectual arguments and acquired knowledge into another doomed campaign for a return of the dollar to the silver standard, which if successful would have revitalized the silver mining industry," writes psychiatrist Mann. "When that campaign failed and having had some success as a tutor and a journalist, he could have made these roles a source of

income, even if it meant moving out of Ouray. But instead he chose at the age of sixty-five to continue digging with only his wife as help."

Mann concludes about Edward Weatherly, "The course of his later life was thus progressively downhill—he and Jess put up with harsh conditions. They were probably malnourished, without proper clothes and in fear of being evicted. There was a stupid—not at all heroic—stubbornness in the way he had brought this state on to himself." But silver and gold mining in the West for optimistic promoters like Ed Weatherly became a deep compulsion that shattered lives even as it made a few fantastic fortunes.

How ironic that the real financial success of Eddie and Jess's time in Ouray came not from crushed rock and silver ore, but from linking an ancient Irish melody to modern poetry. "I don't think the words were ever sent to her, rather she got the melody to Fred either by mail (Fred's story) or by singing it in person with her own words (her version)," concludes Mann.

Of the Weatherlys' trips to England to find funds for mining ventures, perhaps the most valuable contact they made was not with potential investors, but with Fred Weatherly himself and having Jess sing in her brother-in-law's posh parlor. Mann writes, "Margaret identified throughout her life with her Irish roots, seeing them as the source of her strong Catholic faith, her love of singing and her thick, lustrous red brown hair," yet she earned no funds from the highly successful copyrighted song "Danny Boy." For decades her contribution to the song remained unknown. Instead of accolades, this daughter of an Irish laborer found only poverty and deteriorating mental health.

Beginning in the early 1930s, Jess wrote about nightly dreams and visions. Out of her deep grief after her husband's death, she slipped into insanity. Mrs. Weatherly had both visual and auditory hallucinations. Her copious writings are often illegible but include poetry, music, and expressions of love for her husband. "Later she wrote bitterly about their hard times in Ouray. As she got older, her writing became mostly indecipherable scribbles describing visions and other frightening experiences," comments family biographer Mann. Desperately trying to express herself, Margaret wrote on seed packets, baking paper, and the backs of postal envelopes.

She never lost faith in her husband or in the mine that broke them both, but she became suspicious and paranoid, writing doggerel on scraps of paper left in her cluttered cabin in town. Baby Doe Tabor, whose Silver King husband made and lost a fortune, also had odd dreams, wrote nonsense,

and fiercely guarded the Matchless mine at Leadville. Neighbors there left food for her and tried to watch out for the once-famous widow; but in Ouray, Jess Weatherly became too much for the townspeople. The feminine hand that had written a plain but beautiful penciled inscription on the Neosho bunkhouse door could only scrawl a dozen years later.

In 1936 Margaret Weatherly was placed in the state mental hospital in Pueblo, and her papers and those of her husband, including family files and photos filling thirty-one boxes, were transferred to the University of Colorado archives in Boulder. Three years later she died a pauper.

In 2011 the State Historical Fund dedicated \$8,840 for a Historic Structure Assessment of all buildings on the site, with the project managed by Donald Paulson for the Ouray County Historical Society and completed by Robert McHugh, Architect. In 2012 and 2013 volunteers from the Ouray County Historical Society and the Ouray Trails Group donated over 300 hours of labor to stabilize the Neosho mine's aging blacksmith shop and the Grand Mesa Uncompahgre Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest provided the materials. Technical assistance came from Forest Heritage Program Manager Leigh Ann Hunt; Donald Paulson, Curator, Ouray County Historical Society; Joseph Gallagher (also known as the "Log Doc") from Heritage Preservation Resources in Boise, Idaho; and Brad Wallis of BTB Construction in Ridgway. Limited funds only permitted work on the blacksmith shop.

Hunt explains, "We are the ones who get to look at buildings which are 100 years old. If we don't intervene with historic preservation our children will see nothing authentic. This place is important because it is what makes our communities unique. Each of our national forests and their cultural resources are an adaptation to place." She adds, "And it is very special to connect real people to historic sites."

Volunteers have preserved three structures at the Neosho mine, though the bunkhouse where Margaret penciled her name on June 7, 1924, requires stabilization to keep it from sliding down the mountain. "A large project

still awaits," explains archaeologist Hunt, "to solve the foundation problems at the boarding house."

But another task also beckons. The steep hiking trail to the Neosho mine and the town of Ouray itself should have visitor signage interpreting twentieth-century musical history and their community's connection with the song "Danny Boy." It is time to tell the personal, poignant details of a deep and abiding love, a famous song, and a failed mine.

Across Colorado, historic structures have tales to tell. The story of the Neosho and its connection to Irish hearts and minds needs to be told and remembered, too.



Forest archaeologist and Forest Heritage Manager Leigh Ann Hunt helped bring volunteers and professionals together to save one of Ouray's most important mining landmarks, buildings with a direct connection to one of the twentieth century's most famous songs. Photo by the author.

For Further Reading

Sources for this essay include Anthony Mann, *In Sunshine and in Shadow: The Family Story of Danny Boy* (London: Privately printed e-book, ISBN 978-1-300-77501-0, 2013); Malachy McCourt, *Danny Boy: The Legend of the Beloved Irish Ballad* (Philadelphia: Running Press, 2013); George Moore, *Mines, Mountain Roads, and Rocks: Geologic Road Logs of the Ouray Area* (Ouray: Ouray County Historical Society, 2004); Donald R. Paulson, Ph.D., Narrative to the State Historical Fund application, April 2, 2011; and Frank A. Rice, *The Mines of Ouray County* (Ouray: Bear Creek Publishing Co., 1980). See also Ouray Trail Group Map, *Hiking Trails of Ouray County & the Uncompahgre Wilderness*, 12th edition, 2012, which

shows access from CR 361 (the Camp Bird Road) up Canyon Creek just past the Ouray Ice Park up the Sutton Neosho Trail (approximately 2.4 miles one way with a steep ascent). The papers of Edward Weatherly comprise thirty-one boxes at the University of Colorado–Boulder Archives.

ANDREW GULLIFORD is a professor of history and environmental studies at Fort Lewis College in Durango, where he co-directs the public history program. His award-winning books include *Boomtown Blues: Colorado Oil Shale, Preserving Western History*, and *Outdoors in the Southwest: An Adventure Anthology*. He can be reached at gulliford_a@fortlewis.edu.

Do you know this building?

Continued from page 15

BY HEATHER PETERSON,
NATIONAL AND STATE REGISTER HISTORIAN

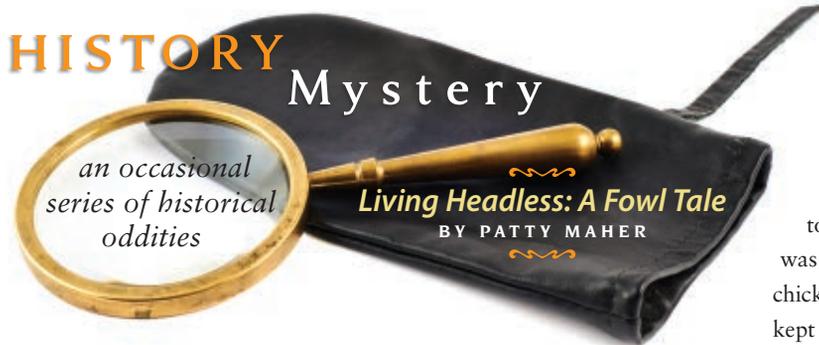
Answers: b) Estes Park vicinity, c) 1884, b) Hunting lodge

In the 1870s Henry Farrar, one of the Estes Park region's top big-game hunting guides, filed for the area's first homestead six miles north of Estes. There he built a lodge and other structures. Around 1887 he sold the homestead to Peter Pauley, Jr., whose family ran a 2,500-head cattle ranch from Glen Haven into today's RMNP. In 1909 John and Irene McGraw bought the ranch, changing its name and brand to the =X (Double Bar X).

Ranching in the 1920s and '30s was an economic challenge, particularly for then-widowed Irene McGraw and her four children. Like several other ranchers, they built cabins and opened a dude ranch in 1936. Theo Landon, wife of 1936 Republican presidential candidate Alf Landon, rented the entire ranch for the summer campaign headquarters. The Landons and their children stayed in the lodge while reporters and Alf's employees stayed in the cabins. Franklin D. Roosevelt defeated Landon in a landslide. Publicity of the Landons' stay prompted visitors from across the country to vacation at the =X. The McGraws had sixty horses and held dances in the barn; their motto was "Rough It With Ease." The ranch ran until 1988, when the National Park Service bought it for a research center. Preservationists convinced NPS to save the buildings. The National Register added the property to its list in 1998; State Historical Fund grants helped restore the buildings.



Correction: Last issue's answer of "c. petroglyphs" should have been "b. pictographs." Thanks to the two astute readers who caught us!



In fall 1945, Mike the chicken lived in Fruita, Colorado. He happily consorted with his feathered friends until one day Lloyd Olson, the farmer who cared for him, was instructed by his wife to pick out a chicken from the yard for dinner.

Mike was the unlucky candidate. Olson placed him on the chopping block and brought his ax down. Mike's head went one way, his body the other. Anyone familiar with the art of preparing a chicken dinner from a live chicken knows that most chickens newly separated from their heads run around, reacting to the last nerve impulses leaving their bodies. But Mike didn't stop moving. Olson figured Mike would eventually "wind down" and left the headless chicken outside.

The next morning he was surprised to find Mike alive. And, not only alive, but acting like a normal chicken, scratching the ground and bobbing up and down as if pecking at the ground for

bugs. Olson figured that if this chicken had such a strong will to live, he'd oblige him. Using an eyedropper, the farmer fed Mike grain, milk, and water through his open gullet. "Miracle Mike" was robust and still alive a week later, and Olson was determined to find out how he'd survived. Olson took Mike to the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, where he was inspected. The university determined that when Olson hit the chicken with the ax he failed to sever the jugular vein. A blood clot kept Mike from bleeding out. Mike was blind, left with most of his brainstem and one ear intact.

Mike was featured in magazines and the *Guinness Book of World Records*. He was insured for \$10,000 and the Olsons hired a manager to take him on tour. *LIFE* magazine noted that "[ever since the incident] he walks, flaps his wings, preens his feathers, and when he hears other roosters crow, even answers with a few croaky gurgles." Mike toured for a year and a half after losing his head. He died when his airway became clogged and he choked to death.

Mike is immortalized every May, with the annual Mike the Headless Chicken Days festival in Fruita. The festival's promoters remind us, "It's a great comfort to know you can still live a normal life even after you have lost your mind." More information can be found at: miketheheadlesschicken.org.

Is there a Colorado history mystery you want to know more about? Contact patty_maher@yahoo.com and it may be featured in this column.

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Recent additions include History Colorado's *The Denver Artists Guild: Its Founding Members—An Illustrated History*, by Stan Cuba (reviewed by Dennis Gallagher); *Sunrise from the Summit: First Light on Colorado's Fourteeners*, by Glenn Randall (reviewed by Walter R. Borneman); and *The Denver Beat Scene: The Mile-High Legacy of Kerouac, Cassady and Ginsberg*, by Zack Kopp (reviewed by Hugh Bingham).

Send any new books or booklets about Colorado, for listing and possible review, to:

Publications Department
History Colorado
History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway
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The Greater Prairie Chicken Watch Tour Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 17

Colorado's greater prairie chickens, a formerly threatened species, draw people from all over the world hoping to witness the birds' mating rituals each spring. Enjoy a private history and bird-watching tour of eastern Colorado, with stops in Wray, Yuma and Burlington. Led by experienced birder Norm Lewis, we'll stop in woodlands and prairies to watch for woodpeckers, nuthatches, creepers, raptors, hawks and eagles. We'll also learn about the area's history, with a special stop at Beecher Island Battleground and a visit to local museums. We'll enjoy a welcome dinner and then it's up at 4 A.M. to observe the remarkable mating rituals of the prairie chickens. A full ranch breakfast follows the viewing.

Space is very limited!

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