



The Louisville Historian

Issue #107

*A Publication of the Louisville Historical Museum,
Louisville History Foundation, and Louisville Historical Commission*

Summer 2015

Louisville's Neighborhood High School

by Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator

It's hard to believe that a precursor to Monarch High School's large, modern campus was a humble building that still partially stands in a neighborhood in downtown Louisville. Starting in 1907 with just three students, young people in Louisville began to graduate with a high school degree. The public schools in Louisville at that time consisted of a small brick building for first and second graders (now the Louisville Center for the Arts) and an even older large frame building at Spruce and Jefferson (at what is now Memory Square Park, but gone) that held all of the other grades.

Since there had already been one large addition made to the main school building, town leaders and the Louisville School District sought to construct a new building for the education of its high school students. This school would in many ways become the epitome of a neighborhood high school in this small town of about 2,000 people.

Underlying the efforts of those who planned for the construction of a high school were the hopes of parents in this coal mining town. Many hoped for their children to reach levels of education and success never before achieved by members of their families. Despite the pride that Louisville coal miners took in their work, not all wished for their sons to follow in their footsteps.

In fact, a factor that brought Louisville into the modern age that was at least as important as the closing of the last coal mines, the paving of streets, and the installation of a sewage system was the emphasis on giving good educations to the town's young people. The 1940 census records, which include the educational attainment level

of each person, provide evidence of young people receiving high school degrees and some college education, even while many of their parents and grandparents had 6th grade, 3rd grade, or even no formal education. For Charles Newton Dixon, who left school early to work on his parents' farm,

the 1940 census records show that he went to school through the 7th grade. However, his daughter, Vera Dixon Taylor, graduated from the new high school in 1925 and eventually was able to support herself and her family by becoming a teacher in Louisville. Similarly, Eliseo and Ann Jacoe, who operated the small Italian grocery store at 1001 Main Street where the Historical Museum is now located, both received 8th grade educations, but their son, Pasqual, graduated from Louisville High School in 1931 and went on to obtain his bachelor's degree in chemistry and became a nationally recognized leader in radiation research about uranium mines.

Edward Affolter and George Longmore supplied the land for the new high school that was to be constructed



Students and faculty in front of the Louisville High School at Garfield & Walnut in the early 1920s.

on the southeast corner of Garfield and Walnut. The school, which opened in 1920, immediately eased the overcrowding in the main school. At some point, perhaps from the beginning, it also became the junior high school. The imposing pillars at the front of the school served as a backdrop for many school photos, and there was a small playground on the south side of the building where even high school students had recess. A low metal railing that ran in front of the school became a place for students to sit outside and a favorite hangout. The fine new building would serve the town through the 1920s and 1930s and led to increased offerings of more specialized classes, more theatrical productions, increased school spirit, and the development of sports teams and sports rivalries with other schools. Football was introduced in 1937, displacing the sport of speedball that boys had played before that; football games were played on dirt at Miners Field ball park.

Many of the teachers brought energy and talents that benefitted Louisville's young people. For example, Violette McKenzie, who was the school's music teacher in the 1930s, inspired many of her students to follow musical careers. Richard La Salle became a swing band leader and composer of music for TV and movies; Fred Nesbit became a vocalist in Denver, performing frequently in operas and other theater productions; and the music store started by Melvin Rockley continues today in Lakewood.

Also, it was while the junior high and high school were in the building at Garfield and Walnut that Louisville students became the "Pirates." Records indicate that this happened in about 1929, when the school newspaper's name was changed from the "LuLu" to the "Lookout." When students first put together a thin paper-bound yearbook in the 1930s, they named it the "Cargo" to also go along with the Pirates theme.

Current and former Louisville residents who attended the new school for junior high or high school remember it with a sense of fun, even though times were hard for most families. Brothers John Negri and Mike Negri, who graduated in 1938 and 1940, remembered some of the pranks that were played. Once, boys took teeter totter boards off their stands at the grade school playground a few blocks away and wedged them through the doors of the high school so that it was impossible to open the doors. That day, all of the students and teachers had to get into the school by going through the bottom floor furnace room. Other boys are remembered for hooking up wires from their cars to the low metal rail fence, surprising students with an electric shock when they sat down. It's unlikely that high school students would get away with such a shocking prank today!



A home economics class at Louisville High School in the 1920s.



May Day dancers in front of the school.



A 1920s student play, which was likely performed in the school auditorium.

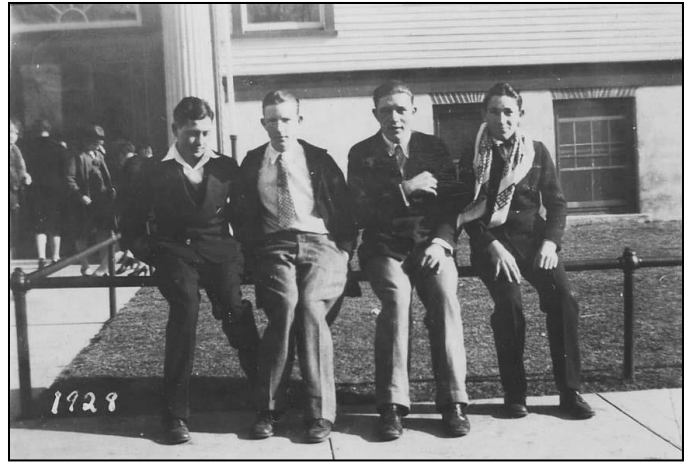


Leonard Lawrence, who graduated in 1939, had such vivid memories of the school that he drew a layout of each of the floors of the building, as he remembered them many years later. His son has donated the drawings to the Historical Museum.

The Depression years of the 1930s saw an influx of people to Louisville to look for work because of the local mines mostly remaining open. The school became overcrowded, particularly since there wasn't work in the mines for young men who might have otherwise dropped out of school early to try to earn money to help their parents. According to some, there started to be a realization that the open stairwells and large halls presented a fire safety issue. Also, the Louisville School District had found it difficult to keep up with maintenance on the school building during the years of the Depression. When John Negri was a senior in 1938, the graduation ceremony was not held at the school, but was instead held at Red Men's Hall a short distance away due to the deteriorating condition of the school. A new school was built towards the end of the Depression at 1341 Main St. as a project of the Works Progress Administration that put local men to work.

With the school located in the middle of a residential neighborhood in the 1920s and 1930s, it was an easy walk to school for those students who lived nearby, but not so convenient for those who lived, for example, on North Main Street or in Little Italy on the other side of the railroad tracks. Since students generally walked home for lunch, the proximity of one's house to the school had a big impact on students' lives. These daily routines were upended with the 1939 opening of the new high school at 1341 Main Street. Students who previously had a short walk now had to walk many more blocks, and there were some lucky students, like Mike Negri, who suddenly lived less than a block from school instead of seven blocks away. According to Mike, there were days while he was a senior when he was still pulling on his shirt as he walked out of his house in the 1200 block of La Farge because he had such a short walk.

It may come as a surprise to some to learn that the old junior high and high school building at Garfield and Walnut is still there. Paul Fischer purchased it in 1940, removed the third floor and the middle area, created two separate buildings from it, and put in apartments that are still rented out today. (Historically, the school used a Garfield Ave. address, but today, the apartments have the address of 404-416 Walnut.) There were even students who graduated from the school who later lived in the apartments.



Students sitting on the low metal fence in front of the school. Identifications on the reverse state that they were, L to R: Joe Piccone, Wallace Andrew, Luvern Thompson, and Charles Zarini.



The Pirates basketball team, also sitting on the low metal fence. The date is unknown, but this may be the earliest photo showing the "Pirates" name.

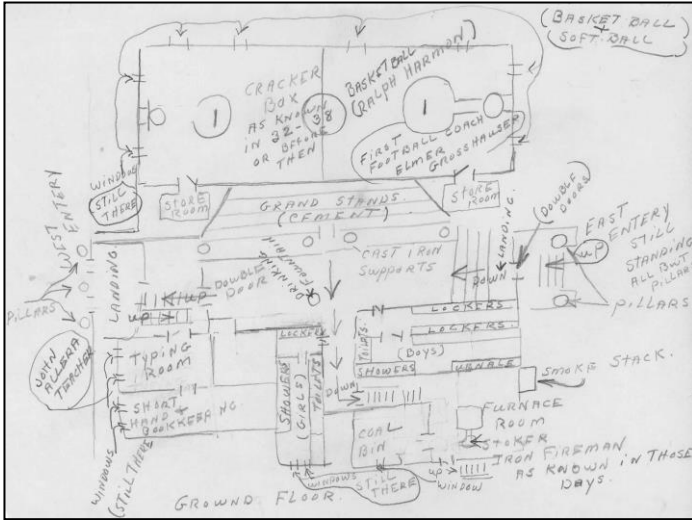


This photo appears to show the Class of 1931. (Please contact the Museum with any identifications.)

Today, one would not necessarily guess from looking at the site of the two apartment buildings that its history represents an effort to lift up Louisville and that it was a transformative place of learning, fun, first loves, sport, competition, pride, and hope. Although the original building is greatly changed and is being re-used for a very different purpose, its story offers an affectionate look at Louisville’s small town past.



The apartment buildings at Garfield & Walnut as they appeared this past winter. The middle of the school is now a courtyard.



Leonard Lawrence, Class of 1939, drew this layout of the ground floor of the high school building.



One of the apartment buildings made from the school, in later years. Note that the low metal railing is still present.



Seeking More Photos!

At the Museum, we would love to receive even more donations of school photos and memorabilia from when the junior high and high school was just a neighborhood school located at Garfield and Walnut.

If you have any stories, original photos, documents, or artifacts to donate, or items that can be scanned by the Museum, please let us know!



LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

- Paula Elrod
- David Ferguson
- Jonathan Ferris
- Lynn Christopher Koglin
- Gladys Levis-Pilz
- Daniel Mellish
- Anne Robinson
- Betty Scarpella
- Julie VanLaanen

Historical Museum Contact Information and Summer Hours

The Museum is now observing its Summer hours.
The current hours are:

Tuesdays	10:00-3:00
Wednesdays	10:00-3:00
Fridays	3:00-8:00
Saturdays	10:00-3:00

If you are planning a visit, please check ahead in order to make sure of the current hours.

Special appointments at other times are possible.
Museum staff can be reached at
museum@louisvilleco.gov or 303-665-9048.

The Louisville Historical Museum is owned and operated by the City of Louisville as part of the Department of Library & Museum Services. It is located at 1001 Main Street. Its mailing address is 749 Main Street, Louisville, CO 80027.

LOUISVILLE HISTORY FOUNDATION

Missy Diehl
Marilyn Hunt
Lynn Christopher Koglin
David Marks
Daniel Mellish
Catherine Wessling
Bridget Bacon (ex officio)
Beth Barrett (ex officio)

Update from the Louisville History Foundation: A Historical Groundbreaking Event

***By Marilyn Hunt, Director,
Louisville History Foundation***

On May 15 of this year, a family received some long-awaited closure after waiting nearly 100 years. Many descendants of Victor Helburg attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the Louisville Law Enforcement Memorial at Helburg Park. Victor Helburg was shot and killed in downtown Louisville on October 28, 1915 while serving as a marshal for Louisville. His assassin was never apprehended. Fortunately, Helburg remains the only Louisville law official to have died in the line of duty.

Members of the Helburg family, a group of dedicated citizens, and Louisville police officer Robert Sampson began raising funds for the memorial over three years ago. The Louisville City Council and the Louisville History Foundation provided financial support for the memorial, and to date, over 80 people and businesses have generously donated over \$40,000 to help make it a reality.

The Louisville Law Enforcement Memorial at Helburg Park will serve to honor the memory of Victor Helburg and any future Louisville police officer who makes the ultimate sacrifice.



Councilman Hank Dalton, Helburg great-granddaughter Cheryl Lewis, Michael Menaker, Mayor Bob Muckle, and Police Chief Dave Hayes participated in the groundbreaking for the memorial next to the Louisville Police Station.

Don't Miss an Issue of The Louisville Historian

Membership in the Louisville History Foundation is a must for those interested in Louisville's unique history and cultural character! Members receive the quarterly *Louisville Historian* with substantive articles about Louisville history.

A yearly membership is \$15.00 for an individual and \$25.00 for a family. A yearly Business Sponsorship is \$100.00.

You may pick up a membership form at the Historical Museum, visit the Museum website at www.louisville-library.org to print out a membership form, or call the Museum at 303-665-9048 for assistance. Please make any checks payable to the Louisville History Foundation, Inc. You can also now join and renew online at

www.louisvillehistoryfoundation.org. Please make any checks payable to the Louisville History Foundation, Inc.

Oral History Program Update

Thank you so much to the following people for allowing the Museum to interview them about their memories of Louisville! (As a token of our appreciation, a complimentary annual membership is given to each participant who is not already a lifetime member.)

Darleen Del Pizzo
Robert Del Pizzo

Also thank you so much to the team of volunteers who have been working on the Museum's Oral History Program: Barbara Gigone, Ady Kupfner, Jean Morgan, Noelle Gatto, David Kuykendall, Dustin Sagrillo, Diane Marino, Corrine Stewart, Barbara Hesson, and Claudia Lund

If you'd like to help with this fun program, we have a need for more volunteer interviewers and camera operators as well as volunteers to transcribe the interviews. Training will be provided. Please contact the Historical Museum!

Louisville History Book Club By Anne Robinson, Historical Commission Member

The History Book Club meets from 6:00 to 7:45 PM on the second Wednesday of each month from September to May in the second floor Board Room of the Louisville Public Library. Unlike most book clubs in which members all read the same book, in this book club we select a topic and everyone reads what they wish on the topic. Participants read books or articles and we discuss what we learned with the group. Members of the public are welcome to join us, and newcomers should feel free to come and observe.

September Topic: Reader's Choice on a Small Colorado Town
Wednesday, September 9, 2015

October Topic: Battle of Little Bighorn
Wednesday, October 14, 2015

November Topic: *Contested Plains* by Elliott Smith
Wednesday, November 11, 2015

December Topic: Santos in New Mexican and Colorado Hispanic Culture
Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Upcoming Historical Programs

The public is invited to join us for our upcoming historical programs! For more information, please visit www.louisville-library.org; email museum@louisvilleco.gov; or call the Museum at 303-665-9048.

"Louisville's Neighborhood High School," Thursday, September 3, Noon to 1 PM

For this Brown Bag presentation, Museum Coordinator Bridget Bacon will share photos and the history of the former Louisville High School building located at Garfield & Walnut in Old Town Louisville. From 1920 to 1939, junior high and high school students attended this school, and it was during this period that they became known as the "Pirates."

Participants are welcome to bring their lunches. Location: first floor meeting room of the Louisville Public Library, 951 Spruce Street.

First Friday Art Walk Events at the Museum, Monthly through October

Come listen to 15-minute chats about topics from Louisville history, next to the replica of original downtown Louisville at the Museum from 6 PM to 8 PM during the First Friday Art Walks! These chats will be repeated regularly during the two hours.

- Friday, September 4: "Louisville Parades in Old Photos" – In anticipation of the Labor Day weekend, we'll look at a sampling of the parade photos from downtown Louisville that are in the collection of the Museum.
- Friday, October 2: "Murders and Other Crimes in Downtown Louisville" – we'll talk about the crimes that were specific to Louisville's active saloon culture as well as other wrongdoing.

Walking Tour, "Main Street Stories," Saturday, August 29, 9:30 AM

Anne Robinson will reprise her fun tour covering the development of Louisville's Main Street. It leaves at 9:30 a.m. from the front steps of the Louisville Public Library, 951 Spruce Street. Suggested donation: \$5 per person.

Walking Tour of Louisville's Miners Field Neighborhood, Saturday, Sept. 12, 9:30 AM

As a follow-up to last year's Little Italy tour, Diane Marino leads this tour of the neighborhood of small homes around the historic local ball park off Highway

42 and south of Little Italy. The tour leaves at 9:30 AM from the north side of Miners Field. Suggested donation: \$5 per person.

The Museum Corner ***Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator***

Thank you so much to Jennifer Strand for leading a fun Brown Bag discussion about Main Street in June! Many came with their memories of things that have happened on our Main Street. As Jennifer noted to those in attendance, “Main Street is not an accident,” but is rather the result of many thoughtful decisions over many years that have kept Louisville’s downtown strong. Jennifer also talked with Museum visitors right next to the Museum’s replica of downtown Louisville during the First Friday Art Walk in June, when the topic was Main Street. Thanks, Jennifer!

We are now featuring historic photos of area farms in the exhibit area in the front windows of the Museum. Many of these former farm sites are now residential neighborhoods or open space.

Thank you so much to Museum volunteers Mona Lee Doersam (for donating her talents and time to do the layout of every issue of *The Louisville Historian*), Deborah Fahey, Gail Khasawneh, Kate Gerard, Rebecca Harney, Duane Elrod, Patricia Lester, Christine Gray, Mary Kay Knorr, Patricia Murphy, Mary Ann Colacci, Brian Parchman, Memory Delforge, Carol Williams, Dave Hooley, Julie Schumaker, Kathleen Jones, and Ardeshir Sabeti. Thank you also to Joann Petrelli, Alex Chernoff, and others who have recently shared historical information about Louisville with the Museum!

Thank you to Museum volunteers Carolyn Conarroe and Patricia Murphy for creating reverse directories for the Museum. This is so that we can look up addresses and find out who lived in a particular house, which is especially helpful when conducting research on Louisville’s historic houses. So far, we have created five reverse directories that are based on published Louisville directories from different decades that have only alphabetical listings.

Also, thank you to the members of the Historical Commission who helped at the Museum during the Taste of Louisville in June: Paula Elrod and Betty Scarpella (who carried on the tradition of making and giving away

pizzelles outside the Museum), Dave Ferguson, Julie VanLaanen, and Gladys Levis-Pilz. Thank you to Commission member Anne Robinson and former Commission member Diane Marino for leading historical walking tours of Louisville this summer.

Last, thank you to Lois Tesone for responding to my request for more “Main Street Memories”! Her narrative about Labor Day is a wonderful addition to our information on Main Street. It appears in this issue.

Thank You for Your Monetary Donations!

Thank you to the following people and organizations for their recent generous monetary donations, other than memorial donations, to the Louisville History Foundation and Museum.

Fred Berns
Judy DiGiacomo
Mathew & Dilek Eccles
Alana Kunzelman
National Lightning Safety Institute
John T. Leary
Carol Engelhardt
Kerri Salazar
RMCS, Inc.
Rob & Katie Melich
Sandra Ross DeLossa Family
Lisa Kahn
Ann & Andrew Key
Hannah Harper



Memorial Donations

Thank you so much for these recent memorial donations. Donations received after this issue goes to print will be shown in the next issue.

In Memory of Chuck Scarpella (1950-2015)

David & Pamela Yakelis
Gerald & Candice Slavec

In Memory of Leo Junior (1919-2015)

Paul & Becky Harney
Laura Steinbaugh
Eldon & Wanda Geisler
Daniel P. Archer & Julie Dionigi
Adrienne Kupfner
Adam & Donna Elnicki

In Memory of Marion Junior (1940-2013)

Laura Steinbaugh

In Memory of Richard W. La Salle (1918-2015)

Bridget Bacon

In Memory of Marguerite “Margo” Poteau Williams (1928-2014)

Tana & Craig Runyan
Tim & Joetta Daughton and Family
Louise & Lawrence Martinson
Aaron Azari
Debbie Reeves
Officers & Staff of Colorado State Bank and Trust
Bob & Roberta Williams
Jay Williams & Megan Vanoni

In Memory of Donald Wayne Davis (1947-2015)

Tom & Janice Mudrock

In Memory of Raymond Hale (1918-2014)

James & Nancy Lastoka

In Memory of Jacqueline Varra (1931-2015)

Jean Morgan
Adrienne Kupfner

In Memory of Mike Negri (1922-2015)

Bridget Bacon

In addition, donations were made to the Helburg fund in memory of **Wade Scott Hodgson**, who passed away in April and was a great-grandson of Victor Helburg.

Historical Museum Master Plan Update

The Museum staff and the Louisville Historical Commission are in the process of developing a Master Plan for the Historical Museum! This planning includes describing a vision for the construction of a Visitor Center building on the Museum campus on Main Street that would also provide collection storage space, so that the City of Louisville can better share Louisville's unique history with visitors and residents and make improvements in how artifacts and historic photos are preserved for the future. The finished plan is to include an Interpretive Plan, a Business Plan, updated policies, and the already-completed Museum Needs Assessment Report. If you would like to give input, look for upcoming public meetings of the Historical Commission or contact Museum Coordinator Bridget Bacon at museum@louisvilleco.gov or 303-665-9048 for more information.

Donations to the Museum's Collection and Records

The Louisville Historical Museum accepted the following donations during the months of May through July. The City sincerely appreciates these recent donations!

Patricia Lester – trade token from “Jack’s Place” in Louisville, worth 5 cents. This item is believed to date from the early 1900s. (If you have any information on the identity of “Jack” or the location of Jack’s Place, please contact the Museum.)

Dorothy Scarpella Grieve – large framed composite photo of the Class of 1943 from Louisville High School. Thank you to Betty Scarpella for facilitating the donation.

Anne Dyni – photos and documents from her research files relating to Louisville history.

Melanie Muckle – digital images of four 1985 photos of Colacci’s Restaurant, site of the wedding rehearsal dinner of Melanie and Bob Muckle.

Gordon Blaker - fuse cutter of the kind used in Louisville area mines.

David W. Ferguson – key chain for the Sutherland Lumber business in Boulder.

Richard Del Pizzo – replica of original downtown Louisville that he created for the Museum.

Carolyn Conarroe – five photos showing aerial views of Louisville and Lafayette in the 1980s.

Monarch High School – yearbook for the 2014-2015 school year.

James Lastoka – digital image of a photo showing the use of a coal mine punching machine in Pennsylvania, to be used for educational purposes, and digital image of a photo showing rescuers after the 1936 Monarch Mine explosion.

Tom Mudrock – 1964 calendar given out by the Phillips 66 station at 701 Main. It shows the 1963 LHS football schedule and a photo of the football team with identifications.

Joyce Einspahr – obituaries of members of the Balent and LeTavec families for the Museum's obituary files, plus digital images of four photos showing her father, John Balent, Jr., of Louisville. Three are school-related photos from the early 1900s.

Frank & Audrey Varra Family – original photo of miners at the Monarch #2 Mine in 1923. Thank you to Dolores Varra Mastriona for facilitating the donation.

Charles Waneka – radio that belonged to his uncle, Charles Newton Dixon of Louisville, in the 1920s.

Jodi Sproles – digital images of three photos showing Lynn Pat Grunkemeyer in the 700 block of Main Street in the mid- to late-1930s. One of the photos also shows his wife, Mildred Stevens of Louisville.

Mary Ann Blatter – 50th year reunion booklet for the LHS class of 1955.

Silvia Pettem – photos of the Colorado Law Enforcement Memorial in Golden that show Louisville marshal Victor Helburg's name listed.

Marilyn Hunt – documents relating to the Enclave neighborhood; 1988 map of Louisville; and a 1997 article about the restaurant Karen's in the Country for the Museum's research files.

Barbara Gigone – copies of the latest *Boulder Magazine* with an article about the Steinbaugh family and store in Louisville for the Museum's files.

Erik Weissenberger – digital images of the Abstract of Title for his home on La Farge Ave. for the Museum's research files.

Ruth Mayor – information for the Museum's files about Harry Mayor's long engineering career with General Electric in Massachusetts, during which made significant contributions to steam turbine technology. Harry graduated from LHS in 1936. He passed away in 2014.



Although the replica of downtown Louisville has been on exhibit to the public since last October, it was in April that Dick Del Pizzo added the last few buildings to make the replica complete. He made his donation official at that time.

Museum Wish List

The Louisville Historical Museum would like to add to its collection the items described below. If you would be willing to donate any of the described items, please email museum@louisvilleco.gov or call 303-665-9048. If you would prefer not to part with an original photo or document, please contact us about how it can be scanned on our photo scanner. Donations to the Museum are tax deductible. Thank you for your support!

- Centaurus High School Yearbooks: 1974 to 2000, except for 1981 and 1990

- Composite photographs of Louisville High School's graduating classes:

- All classes before 1936 except for 1909, 1915, 1921, 1923, and 1925
- The classes of 1954, 1955, 1958, 1960, 1967, 1968, 1970, and 1971

- Coal mine photos and ledgers, and journals, letters, receipts, and other handwritten documents that relate to the Louisville area.

- Historical photos of homes and businesses in the old town part of Louisville (with or without people in the photos). Specific buildings need not be identified.
- Photos of the interior or exterior of Red Men's Hall; scenes showing Louisville's Main Street, Little Italy, and Frenchtown; and interiors and exteriors of Louisville's saloons and pool halls.
- Old home movies and negatives of photos relating to the Louisville area.
- Photos from any era showing areas of current Louisville that were outside of the town's historic boundaries, such as South Boulder Rd., McCaslin Blvd., Dillon Rd., Cherry St., and Hwy 42.
- Issues of *The Louisville Times*, or pages of it, from 1913 to 1942 and photos and information relating to Louisville's newspapers and publishers.
- Items relating to Louisville businesses, including menus, matchbooks, and ashtrays from Louisville restaurants.
- Items relating to the history of law enforcement in Louisville, including photos, records, and artifacts relating to town marshals, police chiefs, and the Police Department in general.
- Photographs, programs, *The Lookout* school newspaper, and written memories relating to Louisville schools, particularly items from the Louisville Junior High & High School when it was located at Garfield & Walnut from 1920 to 1939.

Also, please see the article below about how the Museum would like the following vintage phones for its school outreach program: candlestick, rotary, Trimline, Touch-Tone, Princess, and cell phones from the 1980s or 1990s.

Calling All Vintage Phones ***By Megan Huelman, Museum Technician***

As part of a new initiative to provide outreach to local schools, the Museum is working on an artifact trunk and program about communication in Louisville. We'll discuss the historic telephone exchange, early telephone operators, and how phones have changed over the last century. I plan to travel to area schools to talk to students

and provide interactive activities for them using an artifact trunk of vintage phones from the early 20th century all the way to the first cell phones of the 1980s and 1990s. We are looking for donations for the Museum's education collection of the following styles of phones to be used for this program: candlestick, rotary, Trimline Touch-Tone, Princess, and cell phones from the 1980s or 1990s.

Please contact the Museum with any potential donation!

My Memories of Main Street's Labor Day Festival ***By Lois Chiolino Tesone***

My memories of Main Street go back to the late 1930s, 40s and 50s.

Most of all, I remember Labor Days – and I can recall many of the things that went on but not always which year. I know the Labor Day celebrations started on Saturday and lasted all weekend. On Saturday morning, the carnival moved into town and filled up all the empty lots on Front Street. There was a merry-go-round, a Ferris wheel, swings and little cars. Also on Saturday morning, the American Legion men began building the Bingo stand. It sat on Spruce St. and Main between the Hub Store on the north and the drug store on the south. It was a square about 10 feet on each side, I think. It had benches and boards to play on all around and inside of it were two or three shelves up high where all the prizes were. The winner of each game got to choose their gift. There were blankets, knife sets, pots and pans, irons, toasters, radios, roller skates and toys for kids. Everyone in town wanted to play Bingo. The American Legion men ran the games and they started on Saturday night along with the carnival. On Sunday, there was a Most Beautiful Baby contest and a talent show at the Rex Theater and Bingo at night.

On Monday, Labor Day, The American Legion men in uniform with the flags and the High School band marched along with a lot of the miners in town. Then came the kids with their decorated bikes and wagons and pets, followed by the floats. It seemed like every business and organization had a float. Then came the farmers with their tractors and hay wagons filled with kids. It was always special and everyone wanted to be in the parade.

After the parade, everybody stayed downtown and went to the carnival and restaurants and had lunch and drinks with friends. After lunch, the games began on Main Street. There were races for all ages of kids, starting from the Ford Garage on Walnut to Dalby's store on Spruce. I especially remember the races because I won

every year in my race. The races were still going on when my children were little. It was something exciting for all the kids. After the races, there were games for the ladies, like shoe kicking and driving nail contest. For winning the nail contest, my mom won an electric iron, which she treasured. For the young boys in town, there was a greased pole with a ten dollar bill on top in one of the vacant lots and somebody always won it. Another time there was a greased pig running around in a pen that the boys chased.

At the end of the afternoon, there was a rope pulling tug of war, with the farmers on one side and the miners on the other. The firemen held the water hoses in the middle of Main Street and the losers got soaked. There was always something to watch and people to see.

On Monday night, along with Bingo and the carnival, there was music playing and all the high schoolers and young people danced in the Main Street and Spruce St. intersection. Nobody stayed home on Labor Day and it seemed like the whole town spent the day on Main Street.



During Louisville's Labor Day Festival on Main Street, boys competed to climb a greased pole to retrieve a ten dollar bill and to catch a greased pig.



Labor Day Parade, 1965.



Thanks to New and Renewing Members

<i>New Members</i>	
Rich & Maxine Arment	Rebecca Leslie
Diane Bailey Family	Louisville Mill Site LLC
George & Jennifer Behringer	David Marks Family
Cristopher Benner Family	Maree Claire Martella-Albright
Chris Bentley	Phil McClard
Lizzie Bliss	Timothy & Janice McTearnen
Beverley Burris	Lynn Myre
Christine Corzine Family	Peter Oakes Family
Sandra Ross DeLossa Family	Jennifer & David Parrett
Missy & Rich Diehl	Maureen & Rick Ruffino
Guy & Michelle Fromme & Family	Kerri Salazar
Ty Gee Family	Chad Schoettger Family
John Huffaker Family	Nancy L. Shain
Margaret & Virginia Janda	Toray Family
Lisa Kahn	Susannah VanDyke Family
Masoud & Lexi Kermani	VanLaanen Family
Charles Koch Family	Marylee Zurick

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Lawrence & Annette Anderson	Dan & Nellie McConville
John Delassus & Diana Barney	Karen McDermott
Mary Barry	Rob & Kate Melich
Fred Berns	Richard & Virginia Milano
Sylvie Bloch Family	Joel Waszak & Martha Miller
Connie Crump	Sean & Amy Moynihan
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Mathew & Dilek Eccles	Ron Ross
Susan Fortney	Allison Reeds & Brad Seago
Dale E. Johnson	Terry Slade Family
Mary Kay Knorr	Joyce Sullivan & John Stadler
Alana Kunzelman	Carl & Cathy Summerville
Carrie Lian	James Taggart
Ted & Carolyn Manzanares	

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Regrets

We extend our sincere sympathy to the family of regular member Mike Negri.

*Louisville Historical Museum
749 Main Street
Louisville, CO 80027*

Return Service Requested

The Louisville Historian, Issue #107, Summer 2015



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Business Sponsors!*

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Creative Framing & Art Gallery
Wendy Fickbohm, State Farm Insurance Co.
Great Western Bank
The Gstalder Louisville Law Group, PC
Haddock Insurance Agency
Russell Hanson, DDS
Koglin Group LLC Construction & Real Estate
Liberty Home Loans
Louisville Arts District
Louisville Cyclery
Louisville Tire and Auto Care
Robert P. Muckle, MD, PC
Old Friends
Oliver Photography
Pine Street Plaza
Seward Mechanical Systems
Stewart Architecture
Martin Ters, DDS
Via Toscana
Zaremba Graphic + Web Solutions*