



LOUISVILLE'S DR. CASSIDY

Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator

This December 2, visitors going on the Louisville Holiday Home Tour will have the rare opportunity to tour the former home and medical office of Dr. Lucius F. Cassidy, who was Louisville's town doctor for fifty years.



Dr. Lucius F. Cassidy as a young man.

Dr. Cassidy arrived in Louisville in the early 1930s with his wife, Helen, and young son, Lucius Jr. ("Pete"). A native of Bayonne, New Jersey, Dr. Cassidy attended college at Fordham University in New York and the School of Medicine at Tufts University in Boston. He came to Denver for his medical internship and practiced for a time there, then was drawn to Louisville because of a job opening for a "mine doctor."

According to Pete Cassidy, moving to Louisville was somewhat of an adjustment for his parents. Not

only had they always previously lived in urban areas, but they found that there were only a few other people of Irish descent in this small mining town. However, Lucius and Helen were welcomed and they themselves left their marks on Louisville in important ways.

In accordance with a plan that resembled socialized medicine, area mining companies deducted a doctor fee from the monthly wages of coal miners, and for this the miners and their families were entitled to visit the mine doctor free of charge. For many years, including at least the 1920s to the early 1940s, this fee was \$1.00 a month for a single man and \$1.50 for a married man. This arrangement was written into the union contracts that governed the relations between the coal miners and the mining companies.

It is believed that Dr. Cassidy became the mine doctor for most, if not all, of the mining companies that operated in the Louisville area and he was paid for his services by those companies. He even went down into the mines to help with



Lucius, Helen, and Pete Cassidy are shown a few years before they arrived in Louisville in the early 1930s.



The Cassidy home on Garfield Avenue also housed Dr. Cassidy's medical office. This photo is believed to have been taken in the 1950s.

injuries when mine accidents happened. People who weren't part of the mine health care plan could also see Dr. Cassidy but had to pay his regular fee.

Not long after Dr. Cassidy arrived in Louisville, he purchased the home of the previous mine doctor, Dr. Alvin Crannell. Located on Garfield Avenue, it had been designed with both living quarters and a medical office. The records of the Boulder County Assessor state that it was constructed in 1930. A very gracious home, it was, and still is, considered to be one of the most beautiful houses in Louisville.

With Dr. Cassidy's office located in his home, he was available to his patients virtually twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Like other doctors of the time, he also regularly made house calls. In addition, he was the only doctor in Louisville and Superior for many of his fifty years here, which added to the critical need for him to be accessible at all hours. Not surprisingly, sometimes the line between his professional life and personal life was blurred. Pete Cassidy remembers arriving home once and his father calling to him to not come in. Pete realized that a woman was giving birth on his family's kitchen table. Most births, however, took place in the mothers' homes (or, in later years, at a hospital in Boulder) with Dr. Cassidy giving assistance. A number of today's Louisville residents claim Dr. Cassidy as the doctor who delivered them.

Dr. Cassidy's former patients vividly remember his cures. He prescribed mustard baths to reduce fevers, mustard plas-

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ters for chest colds or pneumonia, and Epsom salts for a variety of ailments. Many of his former patients still express an appreciation for his simple yet effective cures. However, his shots, using large, thick needles before the era of



Dr. Cassidy in his later years, as many people remember him.

Dick DelPizzo remembers a few of Dr. Cassidy's shots. Dick received an unusually painful shot of Novocain in his finger after he accidentally shot himself in the hand with a BB gun. Some time later at the age of 6 or 7, he was to get a shot for whooping cough at Dr. Cassidy's office. Remembering the pain of his previous shot, he yanked his arm free from the doctor and abruptly took off running several blocks as fast as he could to get home rather than going through with that shot. Dick says

disposable ones, were famously dreaded. Don Ross said recently, "You didn't want to get a shot from Dr. Cassidy."

that he didn't look behind him until he reached the Jacoe Store.

As was the practice, Dr. Cassidy sterilized and sharpened his needles himself. In fact, if he was on a house call and needed to give a shot, he would borrow a pan of water and use the kitchen to boil the needle on the spot.

Though they had arrived as outsiders in a tight knit community, the Cassidys became part of the fiber and continuity of the town. Helen Cassidy, in addition to assisting her husband in his practice, made invaluable contributions to Louisville's social and cultural side, particularly through her leadership in the Saturday Study Club. Dr. Cassidy, the quieter of the two, cared about his patients and is known to have allowed many of them to not pay their fees. His gentle manner is still remembered and remarked upon. He was constantly putting in extra effort for his patients, even making six house calls in Louisville on his eightieth birthday. It was never in question that he loved his work.

The Louisville Holiday Home Tour on Saturday, December 2 will include a tour of Dr. Lucius Cassidy's and Dr. Alvin Crannell's former home and office on Garfield Avenue. See the insert in this issue for more information.



Thank you so much to Dr. Pete Cassidy for his recollections of his parents and his donation of family photos. A retired orthodontist, Pete is shown here with his childhood friends, Don Ross (left) and Eugene Caranci (right) during a recent visit to the Louisville Historical Museum.

DOCTORS IN LOUISVILLE

The following people are recorded as having practiced medicine in Louisville during its coal mining years. The list is more or less chronological based on the year of arrival in town, with the first doctor on the list having been in practice in 1880. If you have additional names or information, please contact the Louisville Historical Museum at 303.665.9048.

*W.A. Clayton
M.A. Wheelock
Charles F. Wolfer
McLaney Boyd
Dr. Swerdferger
H.R. Burns
John A. Corrigan
Robert Henderson Sr. &
Robert Henderson Jr.
Dr. Slamenski
Dr. Ingram
Walter Snair
L. W. Soland
Alvin Crannell
Walter Boyd
Jack Bartholomew
Robert Miller
Lucius F. Cassidy
Walter Bock*

MUSEUM SEEKING INFORMATION ON LOUISVILLE MIDWIVES

The Historical Museum is seeking information on midwives who worked in Louisville. If you have information, and particularly if you had a relative who was a midwife, please call the Historical Museum at 303.665.9048.

LOUISVILLE'S DOCTORS HELPED SHAPE MAIN STREET



This building at 600 Main Street, now Achtermann Chiropractic, was the home and medical office of Dr. H.R. Burns in the late 1800s and early 1900s. It was built in 1890.

Dr. Charles Wolfer's medical office was at 909 Main Street, right next to his home. It was built in 1905 and now houses Tiger Herb Co. It is interesting that Dr. Wolfer is believed to have used herbs extensively in his treatments.



From the late 1800s until 1926, Dr. Charles F. Wolfer and his family lived in this house that is now the Louisville Chamber of Commerce as well as the location of Found Underground at 901 Main Street. The oldest part of the building was constructed in 1890 at the northwest corner of Main and Spruce Streets, then was moved by Dr. Wolfer in 1905 to its current location to make way for the State Mercantile Building.



Dr. Charles Wolfer owned the land at the northwest corner of Main and Spruce and had the State Mercantile Building constructed here in 1905 after having his home relocated from the site to the corner one block north. The building's address is 801 Main Street. Dr. Wolfer also developed other properties in downtown Louisville.



This building at the intersection of Main and Pine Streets is believed to have housed the medical office of Dr. Walter Snair beginning in 1917, the year it was built. It was also the location of the offices of Dr. Jack Bartholomew and Dr. Walter Boyd in the 1930s. Today, it is the location of the dessert shop "A Grande Finale." Its address is 641 Main Street.

MUSEUM CORNER

Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator

The September 2nd opening of the new exhibit, “Remembering the Monarch Mine Explosion of 1936,” was a success and drew about 60 people to our small Museum. Bill Cohen, whose written narrative of the explosion entitled *Blast: The 1936 Monarch Mine Explosion* is available at the Museum and online at the City of Louisville website, was on hand to answer questions and talk over his research with visitors. It was a special pleasure to see eight members of the De Santis family attend the opening. The exhibit will be up for several months and I encourage our readers to look at Bill Cohen’s fascinating and thorough narrative.

In connection with the Monarch Mine research and exhibit, we are still seeking photos and information on three of the eight coalminers who died in the explosion: Leland Ward, Raymond Bailey, and Oscar Baird. Leland Ward is believed to have been related to past local residents Arthur Ward and Dick Ward, and Raymond Bailey was related to the Bell family of Lafayette. They may still have

relatives in the area. Oscar Baird’s family relocated to the Kentucky area following the explosion. Please call the Museum at 303.665.9048 if you have any information on these men or their families.

A relative of the Lawrence family of Louisville who lives in Great Britain contacted the Museum seeking information about her relatives. Benjamin and Hannah Lawrence settled in Louisville in around 1890 and their children were Mary, Fred, Arthur, Albert, Eva, Violet, and Thelma. Descendants of the family who may still live in the Louisville area are invited to contact the Museum in order to share information with her.

As always, there are many people to thank for their work and financial support of our efforts to preserve Louisville’s history.

The Louisville Downtown Historical Walking Tour brochure has been updated and has a new sponsor, Avista Adventist Hospital. Thank you to Avista! The brochures are available to the public for free from the newspaper stand in front of

the Museum.

The Louisville Historical Commission was recently given a generous check out of the proceeds of the community art project, “Our Louisville: Finding the Soul of a City.” Thank you so much to organizers Patti Shunk and Eva Kosinski. Also, thank you to the organizers of the Coal Creek Crossing 5K Run for their much-appreciated donation.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank all of the former Louisville residents who now live out-of-state who continue their support of the Museum and stay in touch with their Louisville roots by joining the Historical Society, ordering books and DVDs, sending memorial donations in honor of friends and relatives who have passed away, and donating historic photos.

Last, thank you so much to Mary Kay Knorr, Duke Damiana, Bill Cohen, Bill Buffo, Gail Wetrogan, Ardeshir Sabeti, and Jean Morgan for their volunteer work on behalf of the Museum, and to Mona Doersam for her assistance with the Labor Day Silent Auction.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Donations have been made to the Museum in memory of:

Clarence Martella (1920-2006)
Gilbert Leslie (1936-2006)
Henry Dhieux (1915-2006)
Kenneth Sawyer (1931-2006)
Tony De Santis (1898-1936) and
Adeline De Santis (1903-1986)
John Franchini (1925-2006)
Richard Franchini (1927-2006)
Thomas Berry (1952-2006)
Louis Carson (1921-2006)



LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Sally Burlingame	Diane Marino
Elle Cabbage	Daniel Mellish
Virginia Caranci	Stuart Pritchard
Robert Enrietto	Donald Ross
David Ferguson	Patricia Seader
Donna Hauswald	Aline Steinbaugh
Alice Koerner	William Unrau

MUSEUM DONATIONS

The Louisville Historical Museum has accessioned the following donations during the months of August through October. We sincerely appreciate these recent donations.

Edward Taubold – miner’s cap and lamps, and two photos of miners at the Monarch Mine

Ellen Cholski – Historical photos and a book of family stories relating to her grandparents, Robert and Mattie Stretz. (Bob Stretz had a blacksmith shop on Front Street in the years prior to 1920.)

May Hubbard Chapman – Louisville Middle School yearbooks, 1973-78, and other school items. This donation was made in memory of the donor’s mother, June Hubbard, who taught at Louisville High School and Louisville Middle School.

Paul Weissman – Copies of four historic photos of downtown Louisville

Alice LaSalle – 1961 and 1962 Louisville High School yearbooks, 1961 LHS football game programs, and 1962 LHS commencement program

Marilyn Hunt – Framed composite picture of photos of Louisville buildings and landmarks taken by her father, Wendell Hunt

Beverly Smith – A historic photo of Louisville along with household, cooking, and medicinal items

Shirley Helart – four issues of The Louisville Times from the 1950s

George Autrey – photos of the Monarch Mine bell

Joyce Zarini Hyslop – seven senior photos from Louisville High School in 1944, 1945, and 1946

Carolyn Conarroe – research files used for local history books that she has written about Louisville, including photos, newspapers, and a 1935 directory

Becky Harney – vintage hot water bottle and syringe

Stuart Pritchard – book authored by the donor, also a member of the Louisville Historical Commission, entitled *A Guide to Colorado Merchant Tokens*

HISTORICAL MUSEUM HOURS

The current hours of the Louisville Historical Museum are Wednesdays, Thursdays, and the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please call ahead (303.665.9048) for the latest information on hours or to schedule a tour.

GHOST STORIES BEING SOUGHT

Historical Society member Sabrina Karash is seeking business owners and homeowners who can give her information on ghost stories about historic buildings in the Louisville area. Sabrina can be contacted at 303.437.1649.

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 call us at 303.665.9048. If you would prefer not to part with an original photo, please contact us about whether it can be scanned on our photo scanner. All donations to the museum, a non-profit institution, are tax deductible. Thank you for your support!

A copy of “Louisville Tidbits,” a cookbook created by Mrs. Dhieux and her 6th grade English class in the 1970s

Louisville High School Yearbook: 1954

Centaurus High School Yearbooks: 1973 to 2000

Coal mine photos and ledgers

Photographs of Louisville High School’s graduating classes: 1954, 1955, 1958, 1960, 1961, 1962, and 1964 through 1971

Copies of the Louisville Times, or pages of it, dated before 1942. (The Louisville Times was published beginning in 1913, but the paper has past issues going back only to 1942.)

Historic 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 so long as the photos were taken in Louisville.

An old wooden bench for use as part of the Summer Kitchen display.

THANKS TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

NEW BUSINESS SPONSORS

Big O Tires
Creative Framing of Louisville
David A. Wertz, D.D.S., P.C.
Haddock Insurance Agency
Hi-Tech Appliance, Inc.
Louisville Tire & Auto Care
Seward Mechanical Systems
T-Cuts Salon
Village Cleaners
Ledger Services, Inc.
Found Underground
3 Margaritas
Chipotle
The Blue Parrot

RENEWING MEMBERS

Sylvia Kilker
Helen Kreek

NEW MEMBERS

Lewis Rosser
Harr Family
Keith & Shirley Helart
Darlene R. Ross
Louis De Santis
Barbara LaSalle
Tom Rampy
Roth Family
Tony & Judy DeNovellis
Marilyn & Yvan Paitel
Anne Robinson
Amanda Bryant & Daniel Brigham

REGRETS

We regret the recent death of Historical Society member Dick Franchini. Dick served as a member of the Louisville Historical Commission from 1992 to 2002. He cared deeply about the Historical Museum and preserving the history of Louisville. We extend our sincere sympathy to his family.

How WELL Do You Know LOUISVILLE?

1. What was the name of the store that was located in this downtown building in the early part of the 1900s?
2. 2007 will mark the 125th anniversary of what significant event in Louisville's history?
3. What word is used for a coal mine's main transportation tunnel, in which rail tracks have been laid for coal cars to remove the coal?

Answers on page 8.



ADDITIONAL PHOTOS FROM THE MUSEUM COLLECTION



In 1915, the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis established the Modern Health Crusade to promote good health practices by children. The Crusade included elements of chivalry and play. After showing adherence to good standards of bathing, exercising, eating, sleeping, and other healthy practices, children eventually would be promoted to different levels that included being squires and knights of the Round Table.

Louisville children are pictured in this photo that was identified by the donor as showing “Health Crusade Masters.” It dates from circa 1921. The boy in the middle is wearing a crown and holding a scepter. The girls whose images were marked are identified as “Dorothy” and “Genevieve.” They are likely Dorothy and Genevieve Affolter.

This photo shows the Louisville Hospital at 721 Grant Ave., which operated from 1905 until at least 1909. The doctors in the photo are identified as Dr. Slamenski and Dr. Ingram, and the three nurses are identified as Sarah Hoffmire Sullivan, Mima Hilton, and Nora Moffitt. The sign next to the door states: “Union Labor Hospital Association.” A 1909 newspaper advertisement for the hospital promoted its free X-ray apparatus and “the best operating room in Boulder Co.”

Today, this former hospital is a private residence. It was toured as part of the 2004 Louisville Holiday Home Tour.



JORDINELLI HOUSE UPDATE

Recent changes have focused on the outdoor landscaping at the Museum campus. New mulched beds with perennial flowers were installed in October. Thank you so much to those individuals and organizations who are supporting the Museum campus by sponsoring a perennial flower bed: Bob Enrietto, Mike Hattel, Paula Enrietto, Heritage Bank, Wells Fargo Bank, Mike Frontczak, Bob Tofte, Tom and Sandy Gormley, Pat and Bill Seader, Aline and Glenn Steinbaugh, and the Louisville Horticulture & Forestry Advisory Board.

Watch for upcoming news about additional opportunities for Historical Museum contributions and support.

JOIN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership in the Louisville Historical Society is a great idea for those interested in Louisville’s unique history and cultural character. Members receive the quarterly *Louisville Historian* and an invitation to the annual Historical Society Program.

A yearly membership is \$15.00 for an individual, \$25.00 for a family, and \$100.00 for a business sponsorship.

Visit our web site at www.ci.louisville.co.us/museum.htm for a membership form or call the museum at 303.665.9048. You may also write to us at Louisville Historical Museum, 749 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado, 80027. Please make checks payable to the Louisville Historical Society.

DID YOU IDENTIFY THESE BUILDINGS?



In the Summer issue of *The Louisville Historian*, readers were invited to identify two buildings in older photos that appear differently today. These buildings are the Louisville Center for the Arts at 801 Grant Avenue (formerly a school and community center) and City Hall at 749 Main Street when it was just one story high.



ANSWERS TO HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW LOUISVILLE?

1. The name of the store was “Forte’s” and the building is located at 804 Walnut Street, on the southeast corner of the intersection of Walnut and LaFarge Streets. Michael and Ora Forte operated it as a grocery that sold Italian goods and as a general merchandise store from around 1908 until the mid-1930s. The building itself was built in 1906. It was one of several small stores that dotted Louisville at the time. Ora was known to run the store while Michael delivered to families in Superior and Marshall. The latticed windows are a particularly distinguishing characteristic of this historic building.

Between 1906 and around 1908, the building was the location of McCorkle’s grocery store before the McCorkles moved their enterprise to Main Street.

2. Louisville was officially incorporated nearly 125 years ago on June 16, 1882, after having been platted and established in 1878.
3. “Haulageway” refers to the main tunnel of a coal mine. In Louisville area mines, mules that were stabled underground were used to pull the coal cars on the tracks. The combination of heavy, moving, brakeless coal cars and tight space in the haulageway created a dangerous situation for coal miners.

2006 FALL FESTIVAL SILENT AUCTION

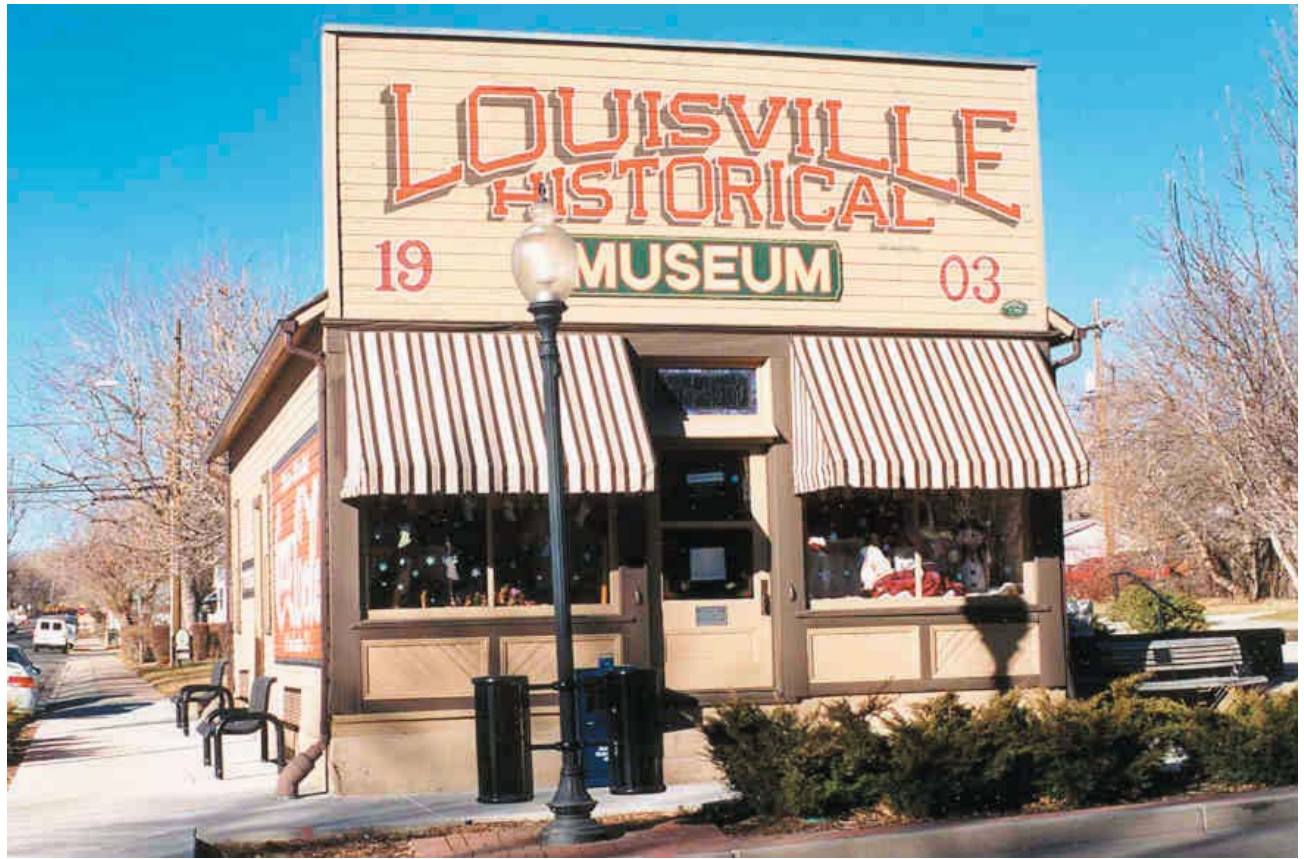
A GREAT SUCCESS!

We sincerely thank everyone who supported our 2006 Annual Fall Festival Silent Auction. This year's auction was the largest ever as we had almost 100 items available for bid from a variety of businesses. We were so pleased that we raised over \$3,800.00 for our general museum campus fund.

We are very grateful to the following businesses that provided auction items this year and appreciate their support for this annual fund raising event.

Donna Hauswald, Chair
Louisville Historical Commission

1st National Bank	Fuzzy Antlers	NAPA
3 Margaritas	Get Fit Mommy	Old Louisville Inn
Achtermann Chiropractic PC	Grandrabbits Toy Shoppe	Old Sante Fe
Albertson's of Louisville	Hank's Trains	Outback Steakhouse
An Artful Cup	Heritage Bank	Papa Murphy's
Better Business Cleaning	Hole in One Bagel	Pasquini's
Big O Tires	International Martial Arts	Pet Smart
Black Diamond Car Wash	Iron Mountain Winery	Precision Heating & Cooling
Blue Parrot	Kangaroo Kingdom	Premier Travel
Body Options Massage Therapy	Kay Carrillo Art	Safeway of Louisville
Carabba's Restaurant	Legacy Limousine Services	Senior T's
Cats Meow	Liberty Bank	Sub Total
Centennial Wine & Spirits	Lollilocks	Superior Liquor
Coal Creek Golf Course	Louisville Cyclery	T Cuts
Cold Stone Creamery	Louisville Florist	The Chili Hut
Cortino's Pizza & Subs	Louisville Glass	The Huckleberry
Crazy Horse II	Louisville Massage Therapy	The Lodge at Balfour
CU Athletic Department	Louisville Recreation Center	Tiger Herb
Dragonfly Coffee	Louisville Tire & Auto Care	Union Jack Liquor
Earl's Saw Shop	Maharaja Restaurant	Via Toscana
Emerald Sierra Coffee	Main Street Hair & Nail Salon	Vic's
Eric Olson	Marketplace Bakery	Wild Oats
Flatirons Equestrian Center	McGuckjins Hardware	Wildwood Music



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