

### THE JORDINELLI HOUSE

Many of you have noticed the old "house" behind the store Museum and wondered where it came from and why it is there. The "house" was moved from the corner of 1100 LaFarge and Short Street. Built circa 1904, the house was owned by Frank Jordinelli and later by his daughter Minnie DeRose. The same family lived in the "house" for 89 years. It will now become part of the Louisville Historical Complex and will be called the "Jordinelli House".

Frank Jordinelli was a coal miner who started working in the mines in Marshall, Colorado at the age of twelve. His father brought him, his three sisters, and wife to America to work. Frank's father left Frank and his mother in Marshall, took the girls and was never heard from again. Frank then went to work at a very young age to support himself and his mother.

Frank moved to Louisville and married Rose LaSalle in April 1889. Around 1904, Frank, his wife and two daughters, Ann and Katherine, bought the "house" and moved from the home they lived in on Front Street. No one knows exactly who built the "house," not even the County records. Rose gave birth to twins Philomena (Minnie) and Joseph in the "house" in November 1904. Joseph died at the age of 16 from rheumatic fever, leaving the three girls, Ann, Katherine, and Minnie. Rose also gave birth to seven children who all died in infancy. This was not unusual in those days.

Frank continued to work in the mines at Marshall, even after marriage, walking to work everyday. He later went to work at the Monarch mine in the early 1920s, walking to work there too, and retired in 1942. He was on his way to work, and had just arrived, when the mine explosion of 1936 occurred, killing seven men. Had he arrived earlier, he would have been down in the mine at the time of the explosion.

The "house" was built on the corner of LaFarge and Short Street on four lots, leaving much of the land for a huge garden, chicken coops, rabbit bins, coal shed, outdoor privy, and a summer kitchen, called the Shanty. It was landscaped with many large fruit trees and a picket fence on all street facing property lines. The "house" had four rooms, a kitchen, a large dining room, two bedrooms, and a large living room. The Shanty was located on the east side of the "house." Not everyone had this luxury that helped keep the house cool in the summer. They would cook, eat, wash clothes, and do their canning there in order to not have the coal stove burning in the house. It was also used in the winter occasionally to wash and bath in. To prepare it for use in the summer, they would remove everything, hose it down inside and out and then it would be ready to use.

There was a dirt cellar under the house that was used to store food canned from in the garden. They would also store eggs, when the chickens were

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*The Jordenilli House at its previous location  
at 1101 LaFarge Avenue.*

## THE MUSEUM CORNER

Carol Gleason

Museum Coordinator

*Continued from page 1*

laying, in a crock of brine to use for cooking in the winter. Sausage was stored in large crocks filled with lard for winter usage. The food never froze because the dirt acted as an insulator. Years later, a gas fired furnace was installed in the cellar to replace the coal stoves. Frank objected strongly to this because as a retired coal miner he felt they should continue using coal.

Ann married Eliseo Jacoe, about 1915, who owned the grocery store that is now the Louisville Historical Museum. In the early twenties Catherine married Frank, Eliseo's brother, and they all lived across the alley from their parents. Minnie attended college in Greeley and taught school until she married. At age 36 Minnie was widowed and in 1940 she and her two children, Richard and Virginia, moved in with Frank and Rose. The following year, Rose died of a stroke leaving Frank, Minnie, and the two children. Minnie went to work at the Louisville Telephone office, Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph, as a switchboard operator and Frank retired from mining to tend her two children.

Frank Jordinelli died in July 1964 at the age of 93, leaving the "house" to Minnie. By this time Dick and Virginia were married and Minnie, still widowed, lived alone. She endured two major fires, one in 1917 and one in 1978 both of which were confined to the interior of the "house." Minnie died at the age of 93 in January 1998 and Dick and Virginia sold the "house" to Catherine Abel and Walden Miller, who in turn, donated it to the City of Louisville.

Our City Council was kind enough to have the house moved to the Museum site and pay for all the expenses involved. The Louisville Historical Commission has the task of determining how the "house" is to be used and do necessary renovations. Any donations to help cover the expenses or labor involved in the renovation would be greatly appreciated and are tax-deductable.

*This article is from Virginia DeRose Caranci who grew up in this wonderful old "house." Frank and Rose were her grandparents and Minnie was her mother.*

Happy 2002! Museum staff and Historical Commission members are looking forward to another good year at the Louisville Historical Museum. The year of 2002 promises to be as busy and interesting as last year. With the welcome addition of the Jordinelli House and the growing list of donations, life at the Museum promises to be filled with new challenges and exciting possibilities. We invite you to visit the Museum and to share in the excitement.

January 2002 brings new changes to the membership of the Historical Commission. The Commission says good-bye to a long-standing member and hello to a new member. Dick Franchini, who served on the Commission since April 1992, will not be returning to the Historical Commission. Dick's contributions extended beyond his work on the Commission to countless hours of cataloging donations at the Museum. Dick will be sorely missed by all of us who worked with him.

The Historical Commission welcomes Alice Koerner as the newest member of the Commission. On January 15, 2002, Mayor Tom Davidson and the City Council appointed Alice Koerner to the Historical Commission. Alice is a 1981 graduate of Centaurus High School and has lived in Louisville for seventeen years. Welcome Alice!

As of January 2002, *The Louisville Historian* will have a new look. Members of the Historical Commission will be contributing editors to the winter and spring editions of the newsletters. Ron Buffo will continue to be the editor for the summer and fall editions. We hope you enjoy the variety in the quarterly newsletters.

The Louisville Historical Museum is honored to be a part of the Women of the West Museum's history trail project. The project, "Revealing our Routes: Women of Boulder County," explores the contributions, accomplishments, and challenges of women throughout Boulder County. The project will include an illustrated trail map, a K-12 curriculum guide, and a web site with links to biographies and

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photographs. The Louisville Historical Museum and the Louisville Library will be institutions highlighted on the trail map. The anticipated launch date of this project is March 15, 2002. The Museum has started preparing special exhibits that feature women in Louisville who have made significant contributions to history.

In closing, I want to thank Betty Buffo and Isabelle Hudson for their continued support in the Museum. Their volunteer work is essential to the caring and exhibiting of the Museum collection. Betty and Isabelle recently identified and inventoried over 150 oral history cassette tapes that were recorded in the late 1970s. As a result of their efforts, these tapes are available to the public for research or personal interest. Thank you, Betty and Isabelle, for all of your great work!

## Museum Wish List

A special thanks to Historical Society Members, *Isabelle Hudson, Jean Morgan, and Ron & Arlene Leggett*, who recently donated to the Museum. Their donations are wonderful additions to the Museum collection. If you would be willing to donate any of the items listed below, please call 303-665-9048 and let us know. All donations to the museum, a non-profit institution, are tax deductible. Thank you for your support!

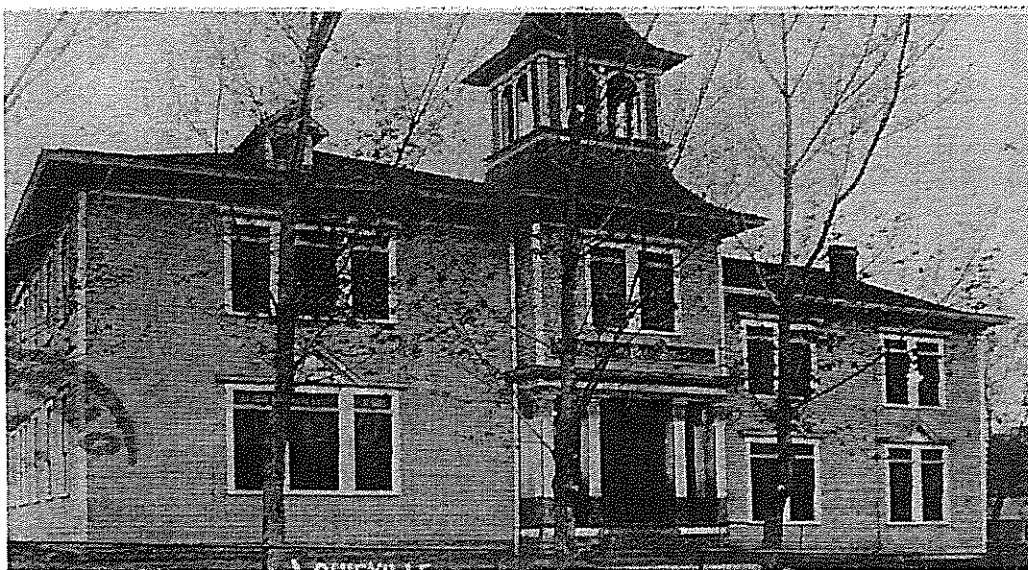
*Louisville High School Yearbooks (Cargos)*

1954, 1961, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, & 1972

*Photographs of Louisville High School's graduating classes*

1939, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, and 1964 -1971

*This is the former  
Louisville School  
house that sat at the  
current site of  
Memory Square  
Park.*



### *Louisville Historical Museum*

1001 Main Street  
Louisville, Colorado  
303-665-9048  
museum@ci.louisville.co.us

Hours:  
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays  
&  
the first Saturday of every month  
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

ANNUAL PIONEER AWARD  
PRESENTED TO BOB ROSS  
JANUARY 20, 2002

*At the Louisville Chamber of Commerce  
Annual Banquet*

First, a couple of definitions of the word "pioneer." A pioneer is someone who goes before, preparing the way for others. Also, being one of the first of his or her kind. The recipient tonight surely holds true to these descriptions.

Bob Ross was born December 6, 1933. He was reared and educated in this town (now city) of Louisville. His grade school education was at the St. Louis Catholic School. Ironically, he did not have to walk very far to school because he lived just across the street. His high school education (1947-1951) was at the Louisville High School, which is now the Louisville Middle school. He also attended Colorado State Teacher's College, now the University of Northern Colorado, for two and a half years.

His military duty was serving in the U.S. Army from June 1954 to June 1956. He was trained at Fort Rucker, Alabama, this being the same camp where your speaker was stationed.

After Army duty, he worked at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal from 1957 to 1958. From the Arsenal he transferred to the Bureau of Standards in Boulder, Colorado. He retired from his position as a freight clerk at the Bureau in 1987.

***SOME OF THE EVENTS THAT MADE  
THIS MAN A PIONEER***

For twenty-four years, the American Legion here in Louisville has sponsored the Fall Festival celebration. Bob has organized and directed all the activities for this event. He obtained participants for the parade, found rides and booths, and performed

countless other jobs. He was so dedicated to this celebration that he used his vacation time from the Bureau just to work on the Fall Festival. All of you have enjoyed the 4th of July Fireworks throughout the years. You can give thanks to our recipient for organizing the event and training those who set off the fireworks.

For seventeen years he coached and served on the Little League Board. His two main interests were football and baseball. This Board was the first to start the Louisville Midget League programs. Among his many duties for the American Legion, Bob also represents Louisville for the American Legion Baseball Program.

I don't know how many of his forty-one years as a Legionnaire he worked to organize the Bingo Games. This always took a lot of time and energy to satisfy the Secretary of State. If he were paid \$1 for all the Bingo games he called this man would be quite rich. He is still doing this.

He is a member of the Veteran's Honor Guard whose duties are to do military burials. These services are usually at the Fort Lupton Cemetery, and at other cemeteries when a military funeral is needed.

This gentleman also served as one of the first members of the Variance Board for the City of Louisville. He also served as Chairman for several years. I could go on and on about this man's participation in community affairs and his achievements, but I think this is enough to let you know why he is receiving the Pioneer Award.

It is my pleasure to present the 2002 PIONEER AWARD to Robert N. Ross. Would you also believe that Bob is my cousin?

*These remarks were written by Don Ross  
for the January 30th presentation.*

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***LOUISVILLE - by Caroline Vong***

Once in a little place of America,  
Located in Colorado,  
The snow falls,  
As kids are in school  
Parents work to support them,  
This place changes from day to day,  
Old buildings turn into new ones,  
People from out of town come to visit,  
New relations are forming,  
In a little place called Louisville!

In the winter of Louisville  
As snowflakes fall,  
They form snow on this city,  
The snow is like a symbol,  
Telling us it's going to be cold,  
As this white mysterious snow falls,  
It leaves a place of enchantment,  
People shovel snow, make snowmen and other things,  
This is what it's like in the  
Winter of Louisville.

## **DONATIONS**

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

*Isabelle Hudson* - Children's clothing and woman's apron from the 1920s

*Jean Morgan* - Vacuum and typewriter from the 1950s, wooden ironing board, laundry starch boxes, and wooden spools of thread

*Ron & Arlene Leggett* - Early reader and leather children's shoes from the early 1900s

### **MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

*In Memory of:*

**Bonnie Domenico, Wilfred Thirlaway,  
and Hubert Dayhoff**

## **SHARE THE GIFT OF HISTORY**

Share the gift of history by sharing the gift of membership in the Louisville Historical Society. Your gift will be the one remembered throughout the year. A yearly membership for an individual, family, group, or business is \$10.00. A Lifetime Membership is \$50.00. Membership means receiving our newsletters and an invitation to our Annual Historical Society Meeting. Membership also means helping to ensure the preservation of Louisville's unique history and cultural character.

Call the Museum at 303-665-9048 or write to us at Louisville Historical Museum, 749 Main Street, Louisville, Colorado, 80027. Please remember to include your name, address, and telephone number as well as the name, address, and telephone number of the person(s) to whom you wish to give the gift of membership. Make checks payable to Louisville Historical Society.

## **THANKS TO NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS!**

### *Lifetime Members*

Teresa Beers  
Melanie Julian Muckle  
Robert Muckle

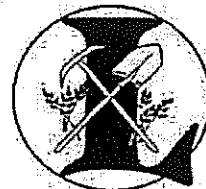
### *Yearly Members*

Eugene & Palmena DiCarlo  
Eugene & Virginia Caranci  
Bill & Katie Kingston  
Chuck Sisk & Terre Rushton  
Carol Johnston  
C. Albert & Evelyn M. Harr

*The above names consist of recent membership in the Louisville Historical Society during the months of November through January. We apologize for any omissions or misspellings. Please contact the museum if you have corrections to the above list of names.*

## **Louisville Historical Commission Members**

Don Ross, Chair  
Elle Cabbage  
Virginia Caranci  
Frank Domenico  
Bob Enrietto  
Dave Ferguson  
Alice Koerner  
Patricia Seader  
Aline Steinbaugh  
Bill Unrau



**VALENTINE NOTES FROM THE  
LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

*A Valentine Challenge*

One form which the observance of Valentine's day took in England was that of a person's valentine being the first young man or woman that person saw on Valentine's day. This developed into the custom of challenging one's valentine by saying, 'Good morning, 'tis St. Valentine's day.' The one who said it first upon meeting a person of the opposite sex received a gift."

*From THE LOUISVILLE TIMES  
February 18, 1921*

"Miss Lillian Watson gave the children in her school at Monarch No. 2, a valentine party, in the school room during the last school hour of the day, Monday. A nice lunch was prepared by teacher and the children enjoyed the change from the regular lessons of the school work."

**Louisville Historical Society**  
749 Main Street  
Louisville CO 80027



Louisville Public Library  
950 Spruce Street  
Louisville CO 80027

