

LOUISVILLE HISTORIAN

A publication of the Louisville Historical Commission & Society

Issue No. 24 November 1993

Eileen Schmidt-Editor

MUSEUM CORNER

The past summer has been a very busy one for the members of the Louisville Historical Commission. A silent auction was held on August 7, 1993, at the museum during "The Taste of Louisville." This event proved to be very successful for us. Since the buses carrying passengers to the various shopping areas within the city stopped at the corner of Main and South Streets where the museums are located, many people visited our buildings and were very supportive.

On Labor Day, September 6, open house was held at our buildings and punch and cookies were served.

Work continues on the buildings. Don Ross recently repaired the front door of the house and also replaced some of the flooring in the structure.

We continue to receive artifacts, but we would like to remind everyone to contact us if you have articles which you feel should be preserved.

Enclosed in this copy of the newsletter you will find a slip to be used in renewing your membership in the Louisville Historical Society. If you have already done so, we would like to thank you for your continuing support. We would not be able to continue with the preservation of our history without the interest you have shown in our work.

We do have several different artifacts on exhibit in our buildings at this time so if you have not visited the museums in some time, please do drop by.

THE PARADE OF LIGHTS



The Parade of Lights will be held again this year on Friday, December 3, 1993. As in previous years, the museum buildings will be open from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Wassail and cookies will be served by members of the Louisville Historical Commission who will be on hand to guide you through the museums and to answer your questions.

The 1993 hand-crafted porcelain Christmas ornaments will go on sale for the first time. We will also be raffling a set of Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus dolls at the close of the evening. Tickets for this raffle will be available by contacting any member of the Historical Commission and will also be sold throughout the evening. The dolls which were crafted by Marion Junior will be on display in the museum windows during the month of November. We hope to see you on December 3!

LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

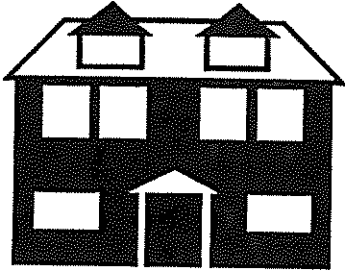
<i>Virginia Caranci</i>	666-6235
<i>Emajane Enrietto</i>	666-4145
<i>Richard Franchini</i>	666-6272
<i>John Garcia</i>	666-7863
<i>Marion Junior</i>	666-8283
<i>Donald Ross</i>	666-6836
<i>Eileen Schmidt</i>	666-6853
<i>Patricia Scholes</i>	673-0311
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MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In Memory of
Louis Pinelli

SCHOOL FINANCES

There is so much controversy surrounding the financing of education, but this problem is not a particularly new one according to the following article which was found in a copy of *The Louisville Times* dated November 23, 1933:



HIGHER SCHOOL LEVY TO RAISE SAME AMOUNT

Valuations of property in the school districts of the county were announced yesterday by A.A. Smith, county assessor. The reduction in value is approximately 13 percent for the county. This year's county valuation is \$33,453,185. Last year's total was \$38,483,010.

The Louisville school district was reduced \$145,098--from \$1,266,211 last year to \$1,121,111 this year. The reduction is just a little more than 12 percent.

J.W. Malcolm, president of the local school board, says that it will be necessary to raise the mill rate in the Louisville district, in order to maintain the schools at the present standard. But the amount of money raised for school purposes will not be any more than last year.

Removal of the C. & S. railway tracks resulted in a decrease of about 50 percent in valuation of the Marshall school district--from \$249,330 to \$121,582. For the same reason the Baseline district was reduced nearly 30 percent--from \$230,010 to \$163,199.

The reduction in Longmont was about 14 percent, and in Boulder approximately 13 percent.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

When we think of Thanksgiving, Abraham Lincoln comes to mind because in September 1861, he signed the first proclamation declaring Thanksgiving a national holiday. Many interesting details of Lincoln's life continue to be uncovered. It has been reported that as a young man Lincoln was a workaholic who represented only clients he liked or those whose causes he believed in himself. Lincoln had a very diverse clientele such as: poor farmers, slave owners, and abolitionists, but he also represented the Illinois Central Railroad, the largest railroad in the state at one time.

One of Lincoln's most famous cases was a murder trial in 1858 which later became known as the "Almanac Trial." When the prosecution brought forth a witness who testified that he had seen Mr. Lincoln's client commit murder in the bright moonlight, Mr. Lincoln held up an almanac in court which showed that there had been no moon out on the night in question. His client was quickly acquitted.

A popular myth that surrounds Lincoln is that he was very poor and never made a great deal of money. Records show that by the 1850s he had collected substantial fees from clients which enabled his family to maintain a very wealthy lifestyle. It is believed that his experiences in the small courtrooms of Illinois farm country contributed a great deal to his political career. The following article about Mr. Lincoln was found in a copy of the "Lookout" dated February 3, 1947.



"In nearly all pictures of Abraham Lincoln, he is shown with a dead serious expression on his face. One would think that he had never heard a joke, much less made one.

Abe never was a good-looking man, and he had a pretty hard life. They say that he was a common man who came up in the world through his own efforts. He had a hard struggle, and therefore everyone seems to think that he must have been very sour all the time.

This is not all true. He was a sympathetic and understanding person, and did have a very good sense of humor. General Sheridan wrote him a telegram saying that the Union army had captured nine cows. The general asked for instructions. Abe promptly wired back. His answer was two words--"Milk them."

CHRISTMAS IN LOUISVILLE

Dona (Clark) Miller

In a town that was built on the Commandment, "Love Thy Neighbor," which grew from a little coal camp to a good-sized settlement, Christmas really meant something.

It was not the gift that was important, but the giver who spent hours making the gift. While the kids were all in school, mothers were busy making things for Christmas. Knitting needles flying, making sweaters for each of the family; embroidery hoops ready to hold the gifts for family and friends—doilies and pillow cases of bleached snow-white flour sacks, dish towels and lunch cloths, all so beautifully done. It was not what could be bought, but what could be made!

Coffee cans were painted and decorated for home-made cookies and candies. Covered, decorated cigar boxes made lovely boxes for hankies. Canned fruits, vegetables, jellies, and jams were always welcome gifts. A carbide can, padded and covered, made a great foot stool for mom, or a discarded board, nicely painted and decorated with hooks, made a nice gift for dad to hang his coat and hat.

The kids did their share of making things, too. Match boxes, buttons, nails and toothpicks and flour-water paste could create a dandy doll wagon or furniture for a doll house, which had been cleverly made from an apple box. Mom's button box was raided to make wheels for a doll buggy. We made ragdolls, and sleds or kites by using barrel staves.

The grocery stores displayed their special merchandise and Bert Ostrander's, well, the smell alone would bring you in! He outdid himself with fruit cakes, mince pies, and a sheet cake with jelly in the center with glaze on top! There were special tarts and an array of Christmas cookies!

Eberhart's and Mike Forte offered things like notions, patterns, etc., which you couldn't find elsewhere. Dalby-Carveth's had Christmas stock of beautiful hair ribbons and clasps, dress materials, corsets, black sateen bloomers, and those much hated

long underwear (ugh!). Don't forget the long, black, lisle stockings that after a few washings, faded into an ugly streaked brown! Those who were lucky had Grandmas to knit their stockings!

The Mangus Hub store, displaying the men's wear, carried all the things to capture the hearts of the men and boys. John Stiober tempted them with BB guns, rifles, and shotguns. He had dolls and buggies, sleds and ice skates, and those much needed pots, pans, and dishes that catch a woman's eye.

Salter's Drug store had the most beautiful greeting cards, toilet water, talcum powder, face powder, and all the necessities to treat the croup or common cold.

Owen Thirlaway's Drug store carried much the same, but also had an ice cream bar with colorful Coca Cola signs and glasses. There were boxes of candy to please any girl's heart, Brownie Box cameras, and little bits of jewelry.

Kate Allera had a little store in the neighborhood of the northwest part of town. This was great for the people who lived up there. Always so neat and clean—that store.

Now Billie Austin's was a very special place—across from the schoolhouse. He was a friend to all the kids. In the back of the store, was the "Pot Belly" stove, a couple of captain chairs, and a box or two to sit on. Along the wall were bins with glass doors displaying cookies, pretzels, rice, beans, etc. The cracker barrel stood beside the table to hold the big wheel of cheese covered with black wax and a wicked looking knife to cut the cheese. Everybody got a wee slice of cheese while shopping or just talking. You could buy a set of "Jacks," a "Kite," a "Pocket Knife," shoe laces or most anything. Billie would tell the kids what kind of tobacco to buy for Dad. Maybe "Bull Durham" or "Honest Weight." Mom may have admired something but didn't buy; Billie remembered so he could advise a gift for Mother when asked.

The penny candy case was always full of jaw breakers, wax

MERRY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS IN LOUISVILLE (continued)

bottles filled with sweet nectar, caramels or honey comb squares. With only one or two pennies to spend, it was always a difficult decision to make. Billie never hurried anyone. It was always "Take your time." Often times when he had to deliver orders to Superior and Marshall, he would let the kids go along for the ride. Mrs. Austin would mind the store while he was gone. This gave her time to visit with the women dropping in for a spool of thread or a can of milk. They often had a bit of news to pass on; such as Mrs. Romeo had the baby--they named him Charlie, or Mrs. Horn is not feeling so good today. Billie and Mrs. Austin had as much to do with the molding and educating of the school kids as the teachers and parents.

The family Christmas gifts were never luxuries, but always necessities that one could find in the local stores. A week before Christmas, the "Hose Cart Team" (volunteer firemen), would put up the Christmas tree in the very center of town--the middle of the intersection. On the NE corner was Mangus' Hub store; the SW corner was Ostrander's Bakery; at the SE corner stood Salter's Drug store; and the NW corner stood Dalby-Carveth's.

The tree's decorations were long strings of popcorn and cranberries, and paper chains made by the school kids. Everybody was on Main Street for the occasion. Churches were busy filling sacks with an orange or an apple, mixed nuts, and hard Christmas candies--one for every kid in town. Come Christmas Eve, Santa was there to personally give them out.

Everyone in Sunday School was given a part for the Christmas program. Angel gowns and wings came alive with gauze and window screen, and the halos of tinsel were a problem to keep upright. Seeing the boys--some with black eyes and skinned noses, awkwardly doing their parts--helped you know they were angels indeed!

After the church and school activities were over, and the shopping all done, many people left their boxes and bags on Van Arsdale's porch or in the lobby (the house stood where the bank is today). Everyone gathered around the tree in the center of town to give a prayer of thanks for the birth of Christ, sang carols and passed out the goody sacks to the children. They visited with those from out of town, hugging and wishing a Merry Christmas to all, it was hard to leave. Some joined the young singles at the Redmen Hall to dance until dawn, or attend midnight mass at the Catholic church. Finally, the smaller children were gathered and everyone headed for home. Snuggled in a feather bed, sleep came quickly with dreams of the coming morning!



On Christmas morning, filled with "ooh's" and "aah's," everyone expressed their thanks for each thing under the tree. If things that were wished for were not there, it didn't matter. Whatever was there was just as good or better than the wish. Running out to share with the neighbors brought even more joy to start the day. Dinner time and the famous, golden brown turkey, caught the attention of family and guests as he was placed at the head of the table for carving. Mashed potatoes, like a big snowdrift, brown gravy and dressing, put out an aroma to tempt the appetite! There were vegetables, relish and pickles from the summer garden; pies of mince meat and pumpkin; and "Oh, boy!" fresh whipped cream for the topping! Then came the cries, "When do we eat"? After everyone was seated, grace was profound with sincere thanks for "This, Our Savior's Birthday."

THE AUTHOR

The author of the story "Christmas in Louisville," Dona Clark Miller, was born in Louisville on December 13, 1909. She was the daughter of Alexander (Sandy) Clark and Eva Van Arsdale, who were both members of prominent pioneer families of Louisville. Shortly after Mrs. Clark's death, when Dona was quite a young child, the family left Louisville. After her marriage, Mrs. Miller moved to California where she resided for a number of years. She was the mother of three sons. Later in her life she returned to Colorado and now resides in her home near Nederland.

FRANK N. FABRIZIO

Frank N. Fabrizio was born in Louisville on April 2, 1900, and passed away on September 8, 1993. He was the son of Anthony Fabrizio and Lucia J. Domenico who had emigrated to the United States from Italy.

Anthony V. Fabrizio was born in Caravillo, de Campo Bosso, Italy on March 22, 1862. He migrated to Como, Colorado about 1878, where he worked in the coal mines. He met Lucia J. Domenico at Como, and later the Domenico family and Anthony rode on the same train to Denver. This was the beginning of the romance between Anthony and Lucia, and they were later married in the little church in South Boulder, in 1887.

Anthony and Lucia returned to Como, and Mike, Jose, and Jimmy were born there. Jimmy died of pneumonia at the age of two. Anthony was burned from an explosion in the mine, and then decided he did not like that kind of work. He and his small family moved to Denver where they operated a saloon and boarding house on Platt Street. From there they moved to Louisville where he ran a saloon and later a meat market. Somewhat later he turned to carpentry, and this was his trade at the time of his death on September 18, 1913, at the age of fifty-one.

Lucia (Domenico) Fabrizio was born near Ciastilloni, de Campo Bosso, Italy on July 30, 1869. She moved with her family to Little Rock, Arkansas in 1880. Although Anthony and Lucia were born near Carvillo, they didn't meet until they had located in Como, Colorado, where the Domenico family operated a boarding house and the two older brothers worked in the mine. Lucia's father died shortly after arriving in Little Rock of malaria, and her mother and children (two boys and four girls) moved to Como. Later they moved and settled on what was later the DeBaker farm near the Valmont Plant. Lucia was forty-two when her husband died and she, with the help of the older children, managed to hold the family together. All ten of her children were still living at the time of her death on February 22, 1952, at the age of eighty-one.

Frank Fabrizio decided to seek an education, and after two years of classes at the Colorado State Teachers' College in Greeley, he began his teaching career in Louisville in 1919. He later earned his BA from the Colorado State Teachers' College and his MA degree from the University of Colorado. He remained in the Louisville schools teaching math, physics, and chemistry until May 1941. Mr. Fabrizio is well remembered by those who had the opportunity of having him as an instructor as an outstanding scholar. Because he cared about the behavior of his students as well as their academic accomplishment, he was highly respected. During his tenure in the Louisville school system, he served as the principal of the Junior-Senior High School for many years. On July 10, 1932, he married Lena G. Malpede and on April 18, 1934, a son, Donald, was born to them. Mr. Fabrizio was devoted to his family.

After leaving Louisville in 1941, he taught in the Arvada High School for only one year. He then was principal at a grade school for a short time. Mr. Fabrizio then left teaching and was employed by the Rio Grande Fuel Company for two and a half years.

He sought a teaching position in the Denver Public Schools, but he exceeded the age requirement imposed by the Denver

school board, so he accepted a teaching position in Westwood because he knew it was to be annexed to Denver in the near future. Following the annexation of Westwood to Denver, he was transferred to Morey Junior High School. In the early 1960s, he transferred to North High and retired from that position.

After his retirement from the public school system, he still desired to teach and joined the faculty of Mt. Caramel Catholic School. By this time so many social changes were taking place that he found teaching to be more difficult and not as enjoyable as it had been previously. Later in his life he kept busy doing odd jobs. He was always a dedicated worker in whatever endeavor he chose to pursue. Mr. Fabrizio collaborated with a friend to write a math book which was used in the high school curriculum of California for many years.

He was preceded in death by his wife Lena on June 6, 1985. Mr. Fabrizio is survived by his son, Donald, his wife, their two children, Paul and Debbie, and their families. He lived a long, productive life, touched the lives of hundreds of Louisville students, and instilled many worthwhile values in their lives. In looking through copies of the Louisville High School paper, "The Lookout" the following article written by Mr. Fabrizio was found in an issue dated December 20, 1940:

SUCCESS

"It is only natural that one wishes to be a success in that which he participates. The athlete puts forth his best efforts and abides by training regulations so that he may be a success. The business man strives for success through his ever-trying efforts. No matter what one's work is, he is constantly striving for success.

Do you have a desire to do some outstanding thing and feel that you have made a success of it? Are you as a citizen of your school taking advantage of the many opportunities your school offers you? Are you one who lives from day to day showing little or no progress?

Maybe you are apt to become impatient and feel that you are not arriving at your goal. You do not achieve success overnight; it takes years of careful, painstaking work.

You may admire someone who has been a success. It is so easy to admire such a person and wish for similar success and recognition. Yet you are not willing to pay the price that is necessary to gain success. Success does not come easily, but it is worth working for.

Success depends on oneself. No amount of encouragement, no effort put forth by loving parents, no amount of money for advantageous purposes, will ever accomplish great things, unless you really have the desire to achieve.

No matter how small our part in the world may seem, it is possible for each one of us to do his work in such a way that it will prove to be a forerunner of greater things to come. So you, as a student, have your part to do and by trying you may be a success."

* * * * *

Information about the Fabrizio family was received from Donald Fabrizio, and various members of the family contributed information to this chronicle.

CHRISTMAS - 1952

Do you remember where you spent Christmas in 1952? The following items from *The Louisville Times* dated December 25, 1952, report the plans of some Louisville families.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Hawkins will have their Christmas dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Martella.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Green are going to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Romie Green for their Christmas dinner.

Dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Enrietto for Christmas will be Mr. and Mrs. Joe Giorzelli, Mr. and Mrs. Barney Enrietto, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Enrietto, Mr. and Mrs. Dan DiFrancia, Marian DiFrancia and son Tommy of Denver, and Tealie Bottinelli, also of Denver.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hudson and children and Mrs. and Mrs. Wilfred Thirlaway will spend the day at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Awra Park.

Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Mossoni and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Carnival and Gary will have Christmas dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Carnival in Denver.

Dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Ferrera will be his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Juganos.

Mrs. Edward Affolter will go to Denver to spend Christmas with her daughter, Mrs. Colton Babcock and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zurick are going to have Mrs. Josephine Stevens of Berthoud, and Mrs. and Mrs. John Paprocki and Vernon Zurick at their house for Christmas dinner. Mrs. Stevens' son Donald is in Korea with the 7th Army.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kasenga Sr. will have a Christmas dinner at their home for Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kasenga, Jr. and daughter, Shirley. Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hogan and children of Eldorado Springs, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Kasenga and children of Denver, and Mr. and Mrs. Steve Stucka and children.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hoyt will go to Erie to spend the day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Wiggett. Other guests will be there from Denver.

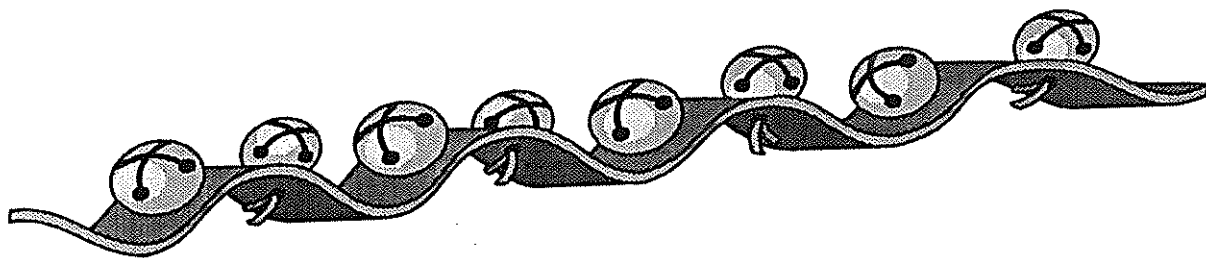
Mr. and Mrs. L.W. McCorkle will go to Boulder to have Christmas at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Clyde Gelwick, and family.

Mrs. Adeline DeSantis and her family will spend Christmas Eve at home and their guests will be Vick LaSalle from Denver and John LaSalle. Roger Bruce will be their guest for Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward W. Dake will have Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Irion and daughter, Gloria, and Mr. and Mrs. Ange Ferrari at their home for Christmas dinner.

Mrs. Ruth Nesbit will have a Christmas dinner for Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nesbit, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Vic Hawkins and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Allphin and family all of Denver, and her sister, Mrs. Fred Roth and her husband who are living in California.

The Christmas dinner of Mr. and Mrs. John Dionigi and family will include Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dionigi and family, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Dionigi and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Steinbaugh and son.



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