

THE LOUISVILLE HISTORIAN

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JACOE STORE

There is light at the end of the tunnel and the new museum is nearing completion. While a definite opening date has not been set it does appear that one will be forthcoming in the near future. Don Ross has generously given of his time and expertise to refinish the old door on the south side of the building and all of the windows in the store. Also, Mr. Ross, along with Commission member Bill Buffo, is cutting out sections of the floor that have worn down and replacing them with plywood in preparation for the installation of a new wood floor.

The tin ceiling was washed down, holes were filled and appropriate trim installed in readiness for painting of the inside of the building. On Sunday, May 29th Dick Markham spent the morning painting the interior and the result is impressive.

The attic of the store was vacuumed out because of the many years accumulation of dirt and insulation was then blown in.

At this point all that remains for interior finishing is floor installation, completion of wainscoting around the exterior walls, installation of ceramic tile and plumbing fixtures, and mounting of electrical fixtures. We have certainly come a long way since the original acquisition of the building.

The exterior of the museum is beautiful thanks to the City of Louisville. Landscaping is complete with the addition of trees and shrubs and the new sod (as of last Fall) adds tremendously to the aesthetics of the grounds. Gutters have been installed on both buildings by Colorado Seamless of Boulder.

Again, it is important to mention the people who have given their time, expertise and materials to the completion of the store. All of the ceramic tile was donated by Tracy Thiede, cleaning materials given by Chuck and Isabelle Hudson and elbow grease by Betty Buffo and John Garcia.

4TH OF JULY ACTIVITIES

Once again the Historical Commission and Society will be sponsoring our major fund raising project of the year (an auction) on the 4th of July. This is a most important event for us and we want to encourage as many people as possible to attend and actively bid on the many items that will be available. The auction will begin at 10:30 a.m. on the morning of the 4th at the south side of Memory Square Park. Again, Mr. Joe Knight will be our auctioneer.

This year we will also conduct a "Silent Auction" whereby specialized items will be auctioned and bidders can submit private bids. This auction will also begin at 10:30 and will continue throughout the day. In the afternoon, at a time to be posted, the submitted bids will be analyzed and the high bidder will receive the item.

Thus far we have received many generous donations from businesses in Louisville who are the most instrumental in making this activity a success.

Finally, the Commission will again be selling raffle tickets for a beautiful, handmade doll (her name is Summertime,) crafted by Commission member Marion Junior. Tickets will be sold for \$1.00 each and will be on display at Memory Square Park on the 4th and then can be seen at the First National Bank in Louisville until Labor Day when the drawing will be held.

CURATORS CORNER

Artifacts are still being donated to the museum at a steady rate. The Louisville Fire Department has donated records from 1913 to 1962, a deed from Vivian Carlson, papers relating to city business during the tenure of Mayor Henry McHugh during 1954-1955 donated by Robert McHugh, an elementary school desk, wash basin, chamber pot, tooth brush holder, pans, and lard press given by Lynne Bentsen, a photo

from a funeral donated by **Rose Ross**, and a
ful organ and bench originally belonging to
Crannel while he lived in Louisville. This was
ated by his daughter, **Catherine Crannel**, who
ought it from California.

La Festa Italiana di Louisville

The Historical Commission and Society will
once again be actively involved in the annual "La
Festa Italiana di Louisville" to be held at Memory
Square Park on Sunday, August 20, 1989. We will be
assisting the festival committee in setting up a
historical display that focuses on artifacts associated
with Italian families. Last year we had a great
display featuring many interesting articles, many of
which were loaned to us for that particular day. If you
have any items appropriate for this display please
contact Bill Buffo at 666-6857. We would like to have
the artifacts at least one week before the festival so as
to better prepare the display. Your item(s) will be
clearly identified and secured for the time they are in
our possession.

HECLA PRESENTATION

On Saturday, April 29, 1989 the Historical
Commission and Society sponsored a lecture, slide
presentation and walking tour to commemorate the
75th anniversary of coal mine labor unrest
culminating in shooting at the Hecla Mine northeast
of Louisville. The program was given by Historical
Commission member Ron Buffo.

The turn out for the program was outstanding with
approximately 60 people in attendance. With this
encouragement the Commission will continue to
sponsor more historical events of this nature. This
activity was especially noteworthy in that the Hecla
Heights area will be developed shortly and the
landmarks will disappear. For those who took the tour
it may be the last look at a significant part of
Louisville history.

The Commission would like to extend our
appreciation to Mr. Cliff Foster for opening his house
and property and for catering a luncheon, provided by
Karen's Country Kitchen, for all who made the
journey to the Hecla property. Also, many thanks go
to Mr. Al Mudrock and Mr. Al Damelia for driving
the vans to and from the Hecla property. With more of
this support and generosity we will continue to be able
to provide quality historic education to the people of
Louisville.

SOCIETY NEWS

The Historical Society is growing rapidly and we
now list 120 people as members. If you know of anyone
who has ever been connected with Louisville please
infor them about our organization and this newsletter.
It costs only \$5.00 per year to join and dues are used to
support educational projects, the newsletter, and
restoration projects.

Family histories are still coming in and we
have 60 at last count. If you haven't completed yours,
there is still time. Call 666-9508 for more
information.

**PLAN TO ATTEND
4TH OF JULY
LA FESTA
AND
LABOR DAY
ACTIVITIES**

LABOR DAY TRIBUTE TO VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

The Louisville Historical Commission and
Society will be paying tribute to Vietnam War
Veterans from Louisville on Labor Day, September 4,
1989. An attempt will be made to contact all veterans
presently living in Louisville as well as former
residents. A display will be set up in the Jacoe Store
showing pictures and momento's of the vets.

Additionally, a short reception will be held.
More information will be forthcoming and
appropriate invitations will be sent to those involved
with the public invited at large.

MONARCH MINE EXPLOSION

JANUARY 20, 1936

EIGHT FEARED DEAD IN BOULDER COUNTY MINE EXPLOSION ALL FEARED DEAD BUT HOPE IS HELD AS SEARCH STARTS TWO ESCAPE THROUGH AIR SHAFT AFTER EXPLOSION AT MONARCH - CAVE IN DELAYS ACTIVITY OF RESCUERS

A six-man "helmet squad" equipped with oxygen tanks, headed by Howard Bird of Denver, member of the U.S. Bureau of Mines, entered the explosion-rocked Monarch mine at 2:50 this afternoon, but no word had been received from them at 3:30.

State Inspector Thomas Allen estimated they were in the mine some 3,000 feet and said that the best in the trapped miners could be was between 5,000 and 6,000 feet. He said, "however, if the men had not been instantly killed there were "miles and miles" of underground workings into which they could wander.

A milling, orderly crowd of about 350 persons convened at the scene of the mine - many of them mothers with babes in arms.

The first helmet squad was not expected out of the mine until 4:50 this afternoon.

Eight men were trapped by an explosion and cave-in at the Monarch coal mine, two miles south of Louisville, this morning and fears increased this afternoon they would not come out alive, although mine officials and a large crowd of fellow-workmen and anxious-eyed relatives clung to the hope that the miners were not injured by the blast, that fresh air might still be reaching them.

Two men, working about a quarter-mile away from other members of the "graveyard shift" when the explosion occurred at 6:20 a.m. struggled to safety through an air shaft. Part of the day crew of 115 men scheduled to enter the mine at 6:50 had assembled the shaft so that an even greater catastrophe was averted by about a half hour.

Confusions at the coal camp over what was feared the worst catastrophe in Boulder county's history when an exploratory crew was hauled up from the 285 foot main shaft at 10:45 a.m. with solemn shakes of their heads that the mine had badly caved in.

At 11 a.m., twenty more men were let down in the shaft to start digging and mucking their way through. In readiness were more than a score of trained members of a rescue squad. When the tunnel is opened, the first six of them, wearing oxygen apparatus which will protect them for two hours against any deadly fumes which may be in the mine, will enter and attempt to reach the eight men trapped.

According to a list at the office, seven of the eight men in the mine are married and five of them have children. The list of names given out officially, with the homes of each and the number of children supplied by acquaintances, follows:

THE MEN TRAPPED

- Tom Stevens** Louisville, shift boss, one child.
- Kay Bailey** Broomfield, three children.
- Joe Jaramillo** Monarch mine camp, five children.
- Oscar Baird** Rickard's camp on the Denver highway south of Lafayette, three children.
- Tony DeSantis** Louisville, six children.
- Steve Davis** Louisville, no children.
- Kester Novinger** Broomfield, no children.
- Leland Ward** Monarch Mine camp, unmarried.

The two working apart from this group and who made their way to safety are William Jenkins Jr., Louisville, father of one child; and Nick DelPizzo, Louisville, father of three children.

DelPizzo went directly to his home, and Jenkins was unable to give a coherent account of what happened.

"There was just an explosion and then a terrible rumbling," Jenkins said. "We were knocked down and a coal car we were loading was overturned. Some way, we managed to find our way to the airshaft. I don't know any more about the cause of the explosion than the men at the surface. I think Nick and I were about a quarter mile away from the others."

TERRIFIC REPORT IS HEARD

At 6:20 o'clock this morning an engineer at the mine said he noticed a puff of smoke coming out an air shaft which is located about a mile west and slightly south of the main entrance shaft. A second later came the terrific explosion.

A large section of the metal covering on the tippie was ripped away, and the side of an air shaft about a hundred yards northwest of the tippie was blown off. Flames shot up the main shaft, then smoke and fumes - fumes which, one miner said, extinguished the light of his safety lamp as he stood on the surface near the shaft. When the safety lamp goes out, it usually is an indication of deadly carbon monoxide.

The force of the explosion was indicated by the fact that many sparrows which were in the tippie lay dead at its base after the blast.

THREE ATTEMPT RESCUE

In the anxious waiting which followed, three men whose names could not be obtained, sought to enter through the air shaft. They were nearly overcome before they were rescued and brought to safety.

Shortly after 7:00 o'clock, officials began to arrive from Denver to direct efforts toward saving the trapped men or recovering their bodies. They included Thomas Allen, state mine inspector; T.E. Jenkins, general manager of the National Fuel Company; E. H. Denning and Howard J. Bird of the U.S. bureau of mines.

They surveyed the situation as much as possible from the surface. At 10 a.m. five men - James W. Graham Sr., mine inspector for this district, Milt Hobbs, Jimmy Capps and two men from the Columbine whose names were not obtained - were lowered into the shaft.

DIG WAY TO BOTTOM

They were in the east cage, which because of the cave-in could go down only 260 feet - 25 feet from the bottom. It was hauled up again and the men entered the west cage. It could go only ten feet further, but they started working from the cage and managed to open up a way for it to go to the bottom.

A tunnel leading toward the stables, 200 feet from the bottom of the shaft was open and the exploratory crew found the mules in the stables were alive. That was somewhat heartening because it meant that the monoxide gas was absent or at least present only in a small degree there.

MAY BE MINUTES, HOURS, DAYS

The five men came to the surface and reported. Shortly thereafter, another crew was sent down to attempt to open the tunnel. Officials said that might be a task of a few minutes or of many hours, depending on how far the cave-in extended. That, too, may be only the beginning of the rescue efforts, for then it will be necessary to send down the "helmet squad" - the men equipped with the oxygen apparatus, to go back in the tunnel to the place where the explosion occurred.

The cause and the circumstances of the explosion were purely speculative, and authorities of the state and federal bureaus said they were concerned at present with getting into the mine, letting investigation of the cause go until later.

NOBODY KNOWS CAUSE SAID INSPECTOR ALLEN

"Possibly there was a short circuit in the wiring, possibly the fire broke out, or there may have been something else - nobody knows," said Inspector Allen.

The fire he referred to has been burning in the mine for many years - in fact almost every coal mine has been "on fire" at some time and this is nothing unusual, it was explained by Sheriff George A. Richart, who assisted in the rescue work at the mine.

To control a fire, a brattice is erected - sometimes of concrete - to shut off the air. When the first broke out last summer, temperature in the mine reached 130 degrees, and when the brattice was built the heat dropped to 70 degrees.

It was flaring up in a different place a few days ago, according to reports at the mine, and the crew of eight men now trapped were completing work on a new brattice. A report that the temperature in the mine had reached 130 degrees again yesterday was quickly denied by employees and others.

Allen said it was reported only yesterday that the fire was under control.

Seven of the eight bodies were eventually recovered. The body of Joe Jaramillo was never recovered and today there is a gravestone located south of the Boulder Turnpike at the approximate location of where he is believed to have died. The cause of the explosion was determined to be one of the accumulation of coal dust in the mine that ignited. Look for more stories in upcoming issues of this newsletter relating to the Monarch Mine explosion. (The preceding article was taken from the Boulder Daily Camera of Jan. 20, 1936)

THE RIVALRY

LOUISVILLE HIGH
SCHOOL
PIRATES

One of the best known sports rivalries in the State of Colorado was between the small communities of Louisville and Lafayette. The close proximity of the towns along with the inherent need to compete generated a fierce tug-of-war that lasted for years. Not many from either town will forget the "thrill" of cruising through the other town in hopes of exciting the populous and being chased to the city limits.

Football games between the two schools were always the setting for a tremendous battle and this was one game that couldn't be lost. Integrity, respect and prestige were at stake in this game and to lose relegated your school to second class citizenship for a year until the teams met once again. From the Louisville standpoint there were continuous rumors about the Lafayette teams and how they would go to extreme lengths to win the game. From intentionally picking fights to wearing fiberglass embedded pants the rumors were abundant and extreme. There is evidence to support that in 1948 "Bum" LaSalle, an outstanding Louisville lineman, was set-up when a ringer from Lafayette picked a fight with him thereby getting him kicked out of the game.

As if the contest on the field weren't enough the fans from both communities engaged in betting on their teams and sometimes fought for their town's honor. On at least one occasion bricks were thrown at the Louisville team bus while leaving Lafayette after a victory.

A particular noteworthy event happened in 1968 when Louisville and Lafayette were to meet in Louisville's homecoming game. As was the tradition of homecoming a bonfire was planned in the field of the high school and wood was being gathered

all week in preparation for the Thursday night pep rally and snake dance. It seems that some unscrupulous Lafayette teens (yes, their names are known) covertly ignited the woodpile before the rally thereby destroying the main object of our attention. Unfortunately, for Lafayette, this dastardly deed fortified the fighting spirit of the Louisville football team and they consequently defeated Lafayette in the game. To add insult to injury it just so happens that the "crows nest" at the Lafayette field mysteriously burned down on the night of the game.

It can be said that "Those were the days," because that strong sense of rivalry has long since burned out. With the construction of Centaurus High School in 1972 and the assimilation of students from both communities into one school it has now become incumbent upon the new generation to blend together. Perhaps with the growth of both cities there may once again be separate high schools to renew

THE RIVALRY.

LAFAYETTE HIGH
SCHOOL
BOBCATS

PERSONALITIES OF THE PAST

FATHER BENEDICT

The Rev. Benedict Ingenito, O.S.B. was pastor of St. Louis Church from August 1933 until January of 1946. He was born in Greensburg, Pennsylvania on Oct. 7, 1886 and attended public school there. Father Benedict later attended the College of St. Vincent in Latrobe, Pennsylvania and after graduation became a Benedictine monk at St. Vincent Arch Abbey and was ordained to the Holy Priesthood on July 2, 1912. Well educated, he spoke Italian, German, Latin and English.

Before coming to Louisville, Father Benedict was appointed to parished in Jeanette, Pennsylvania; Canon City, Colorado; Arvada, Colorado; and Pueblo, Colorado.

Father Benedict was a leading civic figure in Louisville during his tenure as Pastor and worked very hard on community war projects. Most especially he headed the waste paper salvage campaign, managing the paper drives and baling of paper in the basement of the church.

"His kindly nature and lovable personality endeared him to all. He gave himself unflinchingly to the task of building up a reserve fund for a new church and in a few years the hopes and dreams of the people of the parish were realized when the new building was completed."

Father Benedict was instrumental in clearing the church of \$45,000 debt on the building and starting a reserve to be used for construction of a new school building before relinquishing the parish.

In January of 1946 Father Benedict went to Canon City Abbey after being ill for about one year. He died in February of 1947 while in St. Moore hospital in Canon City. Funeral services were held at the Abbey with 73 persons from Louisville in attendance. Father Benedict will always be remembered as a kind, caring man who made a positive and lasting mark on the community of Louisville.

PIONEER CLUB OF LOUISVILLE

The founding members of the Pioneer Club of Louisville met first in 1913, on a day of a snow storm, to form a sewing circle. The sewing circle changed to a 500 Rum Club, but the original group increased in membership and met for years. Pioneer Club founders were Alice Austin, Mrs. Wolfer, Emma Harris, Bessie Carveth, Bertha Malcolm, Brownie Kennedy, Jane Hilton and Mae Shannon. Other early members to join the Club included Margarite Autrey, Mrs. Ed Affolter, Mrs. McCorkle, Mrs. Snair, Mrs. Crannel, Mrs. Henning, Sade Hamilton, Mrs. Dunlap, Mary McCulough, Jane Williams, Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Powell, Mrs. Cassidy and Emily Pickett.

ALFRED DHIEUX

The body of Alfred Dhieux, accompanied by a military escort, was to arrive in Louisville today (Oct. 19, 1944) from New Caledonia where he died Oct. 5, 1944 of injuries suffered in the invasion of the island of Pelilieu. Mass will be sung at St. Louis Catholic Church at 10 Sunday and another service will be held at 2 Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Dhieux was a private first class in the U.S. Marines. His body is the first to be brought back from the war zone of a Boulder County boy who lost his life in the war. Funeral services Sunday afternoon will be participated in by both the Louisville V.F.W. and the American Legion Posts. Mayor James Hindman has issued a proclamation urging the community to unite in paying tribute to Pfc. Dhieux.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. August Dhieux of Louisville, Alfred enlisted in the Marine Corps, Dec. 12, 1942, while he was in his senior year of high school. Following boot training on the Pacific coast he was sent overseas and was wounded in the battle for Cape Gloucester, New Britain, Dec. 28, 1943. Upon recovery he was returned to action only to receive wounds during the invasion of Pelilieu that resulted in his death at the base hospital at New Caledonia, nine days later.