

Louisville Historian

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Commission and Society News

by Jerry Day

Christmas Ornament Construction Team Is Hard At Work

Sales of handmade ornaments prior to the holidays produced \$518.85 in profits for the Historical Commission. Construction of ornaments for Christmas 1988 began in February. The construction team meets on the Tuesday night following the joint Commission-Society meeting.

Cataloging Of Historical Donations Underway

Indexing and cataloging of historical items donated to the Louisville Historical Commission began in February. The group doing this work meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Boulder County Courthouse Historical Display

The Louisville Historical Commission set up a display of artifacts at the old Boulder County Courthouse. The display includes items from the mining era as well as household goods. The display could be viewed during normal business hours through June 1.

March is Historical Month

The Museum was open on Saturdays during the month of March for historical exhibits. The following exhibits and events were held during that month:

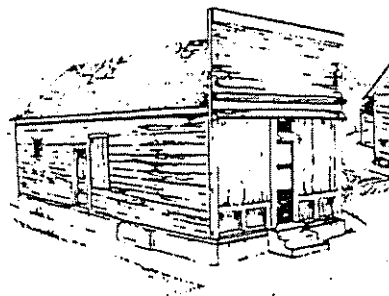
March 5.....Quilts

March 12.....Rugs and Afgans
March 19.....Cooking
March 26.....Needle Arts

An additional display of artifacts from Louisville schools was placed in a case at City Hall. The case contained letter sweaters, trophies, class rings, and year books.

What's Happening At The Store

Interior renovation of the museum store has come to a halt. All of the interior framing has been completed, but a snag was encountered. A permit must be obtained from a certified electrical contractor before work can be completed on the wiring. If a contractor will apply for the permit and allow the Commission and Society members to do the work with the contractor acting as supervisor, the wiring can be completed.



The furnace has been removed from the store basement. It was quite a task, but thanks to the city crew provided by Larry Lillo, all went smoothly.

Pioneer Award

Joe Colacci was selected to receive the Pioneer Award at a special meeting of the Commission on January 4. Virginia Caranci presented the award to Joe at the annual banquet of the Louisville Chamber of Commerce on January 14.

4th of July Plans

Plans are being developed for another fantastic 4th of July by the Commission and Society. The auction will begin at 10:30am in the same location as last year. Another beautiful Marion Junior doll will be raffled. Everyone is encouraged to participate in a day of fun and fund-raising.

Commission Elects Officers For 1988

The following officers were elected at the January 13 meeting of the Louisville Historical Commission:

Virginia Caranci.....Chair-person
John Garcia.....Vice-Chair-person
Carolyn Markham.....Treasurer
Emajane Enrietto.....Secretary
Larry Lillo.....Executive Director

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Committee Chair-persons

The following chair-persons were also selected at the January 13th meeting of the Commission and Society:

- Museum ... John Garcia, Bill Buffo
- Special Events..... Marion Junior
- Cataloging.....Pat Seader, Emajane Enriett
- Auction Marion Junior, Eileen Schmidt, Virginia Caranci, Pat Seader
- Oral Interviews..... Ron Buffo
- Inventory of Museum ..Betty Buffo
- Newsletter... Jerry Day, Ron Buffo

Oral History

At the February 10th meeting, Ron Buffo announced a plan to compile oral and family histories. The goals of this project are:

- To acquire oral histories of the Louisville mining era
- To acquire oral histories of the Louisville business community
- To acquire oral histories of the Louisville farming era
- To acquire oral histories of Louisville wartime veterans
- To compile a sports history of Louisville

News From the Past

These glimpses into our past were provided by Ron Buffo.

From The Denver Post, Thursday, May 31, 1945

Louisville Man Saves 13 Marines Then Is Shot Dead

Robert Tovado Killed by Japanese as He Tries to Make 14th Rescue.

Okinawa (Delayed.)-Navy Pharmacist's Mate Second Class Robert F. Tovado of Louisville, Colorado was killed, but thirteen badly wounded marines are alive today because Tovado splashed thru the mud of a rice paddy despite murderous Japanese machine gun fire to save their lives.

Tovado was a hospital corpsman attached to a company of marines

here. He was with his company the morning it wound up a steep ravine in the mountains near the village of Ishikawa and suddenly found itself encased in a wall of enemy fire.

From scores of caves in surrounding ridges, Japanese fired down on the marines. The company was pinned down in a rice paddies on the bottom of the ravine. Casualties were heavy.

Under a hail of machine gun and rifle fire, Tovado went to work on the wounded. He was exposed to enemy fire at every move.

He succeeded in reaching and attending thirteen severely wounded marines, and pulled them to safety. Doctors said later the men would have died without his on-the-spot treatment.

Then Tovado went out after the fourteenth man. He was killed by machine gun fire as he leaned over to administer to the man's wounds.

Tovado was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tovado, formerly of Louisville, Colorado, who now live in Boulder. The Navy Department announced his death May 5.

The Warembourg Milk Route

By Ron Buffo

Louisville has always had a fine tradition of hard working, diligent people who have served the community. Beginning in 1917, one such family that helped meet the needs of the city was that of August Warembourg Jr. They were responsible for furnishing dairy products, especially milk, to a large number of Louisville residents. While their's was not the only dairy business serving the town, it was indeed unique and long lasting.

In the early 1920's, August and Fannie (LeComte) Warembourg, with their children, moved from Rex Street in Louisville to ten acres of farmland two miles south of town on present day County Road. The eventual large size of the Warembourg clan would be a necessity in running the farm efficiently.

Initially the family had to deal with existing conditions at the farm. The well had caved in at the bottom and August had to clean it up. Surprising-

ly he found a rather large turkey that was living in the side of the well! After tending to the well, it was necessary to fix up the outhouse that was all too often being invaded by the goats.

Existing buildings were not really appropriate for the milking that was being done and the health inspectors made the family build a barn. Building the barn put a great deal of hardship on the family since they had to sell some of their heifers to cover the cost. The family would buy first calf heifers for \$120, but by the time they sold some of them the bottom had fallen out of the market and heifers were only bringing about \$20.00. Construction and competition in the milk delivery business made for very difficult times. (The barn, family house, and rock building are still standing today).

The Warembourg milk route delivered to 35 or 40 homes and sold milk by the pint or quart. Additionally, a number of businesses such as McCorkle's, Rosenbaum's, Thirlaway's, Carveth's, Clyde Davis, The Red and White, and Osterander's Hotel were on the route.

The milk deliver route started with two of the children in the family; Walter (Dutch) and Fannie. When Fannie was married, Emeline took her place and finally Olga assisted Dutch with the deliveries.

The milk cart was pulled by possibly the most reliable horse in the area. Nellie, the horse, was bought from Michele Buffo in town and was to serve the Warembourg family for 30 years. The horse knew the route by hear and would proceed even without escort. If Dutch and Olga took too long delivering the milk, Nellie would go home without them. She was also very afraid of loud noises and would run away. Olga and Dutch remember vividly how old Nellie would lead the cart down Murphy's Hill, which curved more than it does now, during the winter when the hill was covered with ice. Once, Nellie decided to just sit on her hind legs and slide down most of the hill. Later, in her old age, Nellie was used for chores on the farm and the family acquired a motorized vehicle to deliver the milk. Nellie lived for 35 years.

Proceeding down County Road



LOUISVILLE'S OWN PLAYS IN WORLD SERIES!

"Bert" Niehoff, born and raised in Louisville was destined to play professional baseball. Bert attempted to become an electrician but an untimely labor strike (typical of those days) put an end to that.

A friend of the family offered Bert a job in Trinidad and later on he was playing on the town's baseball team. This austere beginning was a prelude to a professional baseball career that lasted from 1913 until 1918.

Bert began fighting his way through the minor league system and was part of the Cincinnati franchise located in Louisville, Kentucky. While in the minors Bert stole 60 bases or more in three consecutive seasons.

In 1914 Bert was the starting second baseman for the major league Cincinnati team but the following year was traded to the Philadelphia Phillies. At Philly Bert also played second base and one of the stars of that team was Grover Cleveland Alexander who pitched 31 victories that year.

The Phillies met Boston in the 1915 World Series and at that time a rookie pitcher by the name of

George Herman Ruth appeared in a brief pinch-hitting role. Boston won the series in five games although four of them were one run decisions. The series was Bert's greatest thrill along with the fact that President Woodrow Wilson threw out the game ball.

1918 saw Bert Niehoff traded to St. Louis and tough competition resulted in him being traded to John McGraw's New York Giants. Almost as soon as he got to New York Bert was involved in accident with Giant outfielder Ross Youngs. Niehoff's leg was badly broken and he was taken from the field in a police paddy-wagon. Laying on the hard floor of the wagon Bert remembered the long bumpy ride over the cobblestone streets of Philadelphia. Bert had been taken from the stadium at 4:00 p.m. and his leg wasn't set until 9:00 p.m.

Bert's playing days were over but he went on to manage in the minor leagues and in 1929 was an assistant coach under John McGraw with the Giants. After 35 years of managing in the minors at Oak Ridge, Tennessee Bert was offered a scouting position with the Los Angeles Angels. His scouting area included Bakersfield, Santa Barbara and the San Fernando Valley.





and Murphy's Hill, the wagon would turn west at Rex Street and continue to the various stops throughout the town. By the time the deliveries were done and Nellie had made her way back to the farm, it was around 9 a.m. Dutch remembers arriving at school late because of his chores and often falling asleep since he had been up very early. Milk was also delivered in the late afternoon and the same process was repeated. Also, it was

Dutch and Olga's responsibility, during the summer, to herd the cattle along feeding areas.

Billing was a very simple process whereby people would be sold a book of ten tickets for one dollar. When they put out their empty bottles they would put a ticket in them indicating the need for additional milk. This eliminated the problem of trying to collect money by making customers pay in advance.

The end of the milk route came about because of increased competition and the introduction of pasteurization. This was an expensive procedure that was difficult to keep pace with.

The Warembourg milk route was truly a family endeavor. It served the Louisville community very well for many years and was but one example of pioneering spirit.

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