

The Louisville Historian

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Labor Activist William Lofton

by Jason Hogstad, Museum Staff

On the night of December 11th, 1927, shouting and banging roused twenty-one-year-old Ernie Zarina from sleep in the middle of the night. Scrambling out of bed, Zarina stumbled down the hall to his front door, finding his father locked in a heated debate with a posse of armed men surrounding their small home at 804 La Farge Avenue in the heart of Louisville. The posse had been sent to arrest labor organizers working for the International Workers of the World (IWW), a popular union in Louisville at the time whose members were leading a statewide coal strike. Accounts differ on whether the armed men were national or state guard or regional law enforcement; regardless, their actions that night were part of a larger attempt to detain leaders of a major coal strike that had crippled the state since October.¹ We don't know if Ernie and his parents were able to return to sleep after this intense and unexpected awakening, but we do know that the confusion and terror of this winter night stayed with Ernie Zarina for over fifty years. When he sat down in 1975 for an oral history interview for the City of Louisville, memories of this event were among the recollections he shared. Regardless, Zarina's father was not an IWW leader; the armed men, it turned out, had surrounded the wrong house. Worse still for the posse, this case of a mistaken address alerted their target, who lived across the street, and the man evaded arrest. The posse's target was William Henry Lofton.

In many ways, William and his wife Lillian Jones Lofton were like their neighbors living on La Farge Avenue. William was a coal miner by trade and, like many miners in the US West, he was frustrated with low wages and unsafe conditions. And, again, like countless other miners in the period, the



This photo shows the 800 block of La Farge, looking north, at around the time of the Loftons' residence there. Their house is one of those shown on the left.

Loftons used two common strategies to navigate an industry in which the individual worker had little say. The first strategy the Loftons employed was mobility: before settling in their home on La Farge they had moved several times in the first half of the 1920s as they looked for a safe, relatively well-paying job in the coal industry. In the early 1920s, the Loftons lived in Wyoming, where William worked the coal fields. While there, they had two children, a son, Freeman, and daughter, Anita. The Loftons left Wyoming around 1925 and moved to

the Northern Colorado coal fields, living in Broomfield in 1926 where their third child, Melvin, was born, before moving across the street from Ernie Zarina by 1927. William was then about 35 years old and Lillian was 29. As a coal miner in Louisville, William Lofton employed the other tried and true strategy coal miners embraced when faced with unfair working conditions: he became a labor organizer.



Based on the Loftons' address for 1928 under Louisville's old address system, they rented either 809 or 815 La Farge. These two small houses are shown above in a County Assessor photo from 1948.

The Loftons' experience in Louisville did differ in one critical way from the first- and second-generation immigrant families they lived alongside. They were a Black family living among neighbors whose ethnic heritages included Italy, Wales, England, France, Slovakia, and other European nations. Although ethnic prejudice pervaded 1920s America, across the U.S. these ethnicities increasingly fell under a broad racial category that today we call "white." Unlike the Italian, Slovak, and English coal miners and labor organizers he worked alongside, Lofton was always identified by race whenever newspapers mentioned his work and accomplishments. Even in a period of pervasive ethnic tension and anti-immigrant sentiment, race remained a critical marker of difference.

The Loftons' presence and experience as a Black family living in the heart of Louisville in the 1920s raise several questions about how we understand the relationship between race and labor in the history of this city. As this article will make clear, Lofton was not an "outsider" as labor organizers in the 1920s were sometimes portrayed. In fact, if it were not for

the harsh crackdown and blacklisting of labor organizers in the aftermath of the 1927 Strike that Lofton helped organize, the Loftons might have chosen to stay in Louisville, becoming a fixture in the community like many other long-term mining families.

Although we do not know when William Lofton began his work as a labor organizer, we do know that he and Lillian had a history of activism. Newspaper accounts suggest that Lillian may have been a part of the NAACP while she lived in Denver before marrying William in the early 1920s. They also reveal that William seems to have worked with that organization while also taking on leadership roles in local coal mining unions once they moved back to Colorado.ⁱⁱ

In Louisville, the Loftons found a town already on edge. Beginning in the mid-1920s, miners in both the Northern and Southern Colorado coal fields were agitated. The Long Strike of 1910-1914 damaged the regional labor movement and significantly set back the efforts of the United Mine Workers of America (UMW), which had been the largest and most influential union during that strike. In the 1920s, the IWW moved to fill the void left by the flagging efforts of the UMW, and by the mid-1920s, the IWW had become the most significant union in Louisville and in Colorado. By late 1927, tensions between miners and mine operators had reached a breaking point, and in October of that year, IWW coal miners across the state voted to strike. The effects were immediate: in Northern Colorado every mine other than the Columbine, which included all the mines in Louisville and Lafayette, closed down.

Unlike the regional UMW at the time, the IWW made a conscious effort to ensure that their leadership represented the diversity present in Colorado's coal fields. When the statewide IWW membership voted to begin the strike, they also intentionally voted in a Strike Committee that would manage the struggle which consisted of "Mexican, Slav, Spanish, Greek, American, and Negro" leaders.ⁱⁱⁱ And, at IWW rallies across the state throughout late 1927, speakers often alternated between delivering addresses in English and Spanish. The IWW's commitment to diversity was, in part, an outgrowth of their grassroots strategy: in the lead-up to the 1927 Strike, they worked to

identify local leaders and raise them up to increasingly prominent positions within the organization. As an activist coal miner looking to improve his family's condition, William Lofton revealed how successful this strategy could be.

William Lofton emerged as a major leader during the strike, directing statewide IWW efforts, devising strategy, and speaking publicly against the low pay and unsafe conditions rampant throughout Colorado's coal fields. Reporters from around the state interviewed him and labor leaders from around the country applauded and admired his efforts. As the following accounts reveal, Lofton was a Louisville resident whose work had a significant impact on the state of Colorado. Lofton was, quite possibly, the most famous and significant Louisville resident in the 1920s.

Lofton's role in the strike stretched far beyond managing IWW matters in Louisville. In October 1927, Lofton helped to address a crippling issue endangering the success of the strike: how to ensure that miners in the Northern and Southern coal fields remained united despite being separated geographically. He and other organizers devised a strategy using an object that had become ubiquitous in the years since the Long Strike in the early 1910s: the automobile. In the fall of 1927, Lofton and other IWW leaders staged massive car caravans. Hundreds of miners would load up into automobiles in the Northern coal fields and then drive through Louisville, Lafayette, Erie, and Frederick, before swinging south to parade through the mines in Fremont County – these raucous convoys of jubilant striking miners cruised through the Colorado coal fields, singing, laughing, and cheering in a multitude of foreign languages the entire way.^{iv}

Lofton was also known for his commitment to

justice. Sometime in the fall of 1927, Lofton started a fight with a local IWW leader who appeared to be pocketing union relief funds. Karl Clemmons, who was leading the Lafayette IWW branch, had reportedly been given \$200 to go to Denver to

purchase flour for striking miners in Lafayette and Louisville. Upon returning, Clemmons claimed he spent the money on 15 sacks of flour and yet only had 5 sacks to distribute. When Lofton asked what happened to the remaining 10 sacks, Clemmons apparently said it was not Lofton's business. Clemmons reportedly lost their brief fight that ensued. Clemmons pressed charges for assault and



This photo shows a long line of picketers in Lafayette during the 1927-28 strike. A number of Louisville residents are identified as appearing in this photo.

battery yet failed to appear in court when necessary – possibly because he did not want to face further scrutiny about the missing food stuffs meant for miners' relief.^v

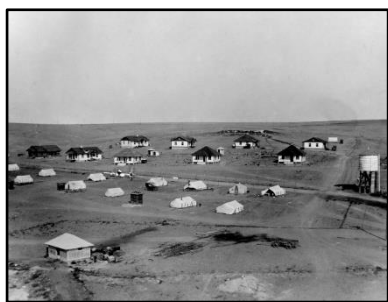
Lofton, however, was more than a behind-the-scenes organizer or guardian of the public good. He gained regional and even national acclaim for his oratory skills and quickly became a public figure in his own right. Imposing and charismatic (according to regional newspapers and national union publications), Lofton's public speaking made him a crowd favorite. He was greeted with applause and fanfare whenever he was announced.^{vi} Lofton was also quite witty. In late October of 1927, he quipped that he disliked reporters who misquoted him, explaining that he had been inaccurately recorded as saying he wanted all scabs removed from the face of the earth. What he had said, Lofton explained, was that he wanted all scabs to jump in the ocean.^{vii}

By November of 1927 Lofton's intelligence, wit, charisma, and passion had propelled Lofton into a senior leadership role in the Colorado IWW, but his rise to prominence in the strike earned him the ire of state officials working with mine operators to cripple the IWW. In November, Colorado Governor Adams sent state police to arrest IWW leaders on the charge of "picketing activities."^{viii} Opponents of



The November 26, 1927 edition of the I.W.W.'s newspaper decrying the violence at the Columbine Mine. Photo credit: Steelworks Center of the West.

the IWW were quick to point to members' naturalization status and race as proof of disloyalty or malicious intent.^{ix} That same month, picketing at the Columbine Mine outside Serene, Colorado – the only mine in the Northern Colorado coal fields that had remained open during the strike – turned deadly. State militia fired upon picketers traveling from Louisville, Lafayette, and other Northern Colorado coal field towns. Ultimately, the state militia's shooting killed six picketers, including Rene Jacques of Louisville. The Loftons' neighbor Ernie Zarina, one of the many Louisville residents present among the picketers, was shot in the head (he survived). After the Columbine Mine massacre, Governor Adams doubled down on his attempts to arrest IWW leadership – a move that most likely resulted in a warrant for William Lofton.



Little more than a month into the 1927 Strike, state militia and mine guards opened fire on the men, women, and children picketing the Columbine Mine in Serene, Colorado.

Lofton was not unfamiliar with the danger of being a strike leader by this point. His colleagues had been arrested and held without being allowed to speak to legal counsel, others had been beaten by mine operators or state militia, and the shooting at the Columbine showed how deadly serious

Governor Adams and the state militia were about crippling the IWW. Fears for his own safety and that of his family were, most likely, on his mind. William and Lillian had recently welcomed their fourth child, Wiley, into the world in September, a month before the strike began and amid William's increasing labor activism.

And so, on December 11th, 1927, armed law enforcement mistakenly encircled Ernie Zarina's home in search of William Lofton, tipping off Lofton and enabling him to escape in the minutes between the knock on Ernie Zarina's door and the realization that the wrong house was surrounded. We do not know what the charges were, why Lofton chose to flee, where he went, or if he was ever apprehended. In fact, the newspaper article detailing the failed arrest attempt is the last local source we have on the Loftons (several newspaper accounts from outside Boulder County suggest he continued to work for the IWW while based in Southern Colorado). It is probably safe to assume that law enforcement officials either eventually found and arrested Lofton and then released him along with other strike leaders held on trumped-up charges or that the charges were dropped. Either way, we know that William was able to move to Denver by 1930 to grow and raise his family. It also appears that William was blacklisted after the strike (which failed to secure its goals): census records suggest he worked as a laborer and then janitor while living in Denver. He most likely died in the late 1930s, leaving Lillian to raise their nine children. Living in Louisville and working in the coal industry were no longer options for the Loftons after the 1927 Strike.

Like their coal-mining neighbors, William and Lillian Lofton moved to Louisville to raise a family and make a living in the coal fields. And like countless other miners – some who had deep roots in the community and others who were recent arrivals – the Loftons decided to join a union and fight for better pay and safer working conditions. In many ways, this made them quintessential Louisvillians. After all, by the 1920s, union activity and striking were perhaps as much a Louisville tradition as coal mining. William Lofton even rose to statewide prominence before he was forced to flee the town for his labor activism.

Although Lofton's story is not particularly well-documented, it clearly tells of the courage and

conviction necessary to navigate the precarious web of power, activism, and interpersonal conflict in early 20th-century labor organizing. At the same time, this rough sketch of the Lofton family's experience shows us that the Loftons' race and identity likely helped to make them a target to some while presenting a source of connection and inspiration to many in the labor movement. The stories of people like the Loftons remind us that our town has much more to tell about the intersection of race and labor through the eyes of families trying to make a living and make a home in Louisville.

ⁱ "Guard Seeks Strike Leader," *Daily Times*, Longmont, CO, December 12, 1927.

ⁱⁱ A.K. Orr, "Wm. H. Lofton," *Industrial Solidarity*, 14 December 1927: 2.

ⁱⁱⁱ A.S. Embree, "Great Strike Scheduled for October 18," *Industrial Solidarity*, Vol. X No. 38: 1, INR 1299-4, CF&I archives.

^{iv} "Governor Refuses to Meet Mine Delegation," *Daily Times*, Longmont, CO, October 26, 1927.

^v "Karl Clemmons Knocked Down by Irate Negro," *Steamboat Pilot*, Steamboat Springs, CO, January 20, 1928.

^{vi} Orr, "Wm. H. Lofton," 2.

^{vii} "Give us Justice, Is Cry of Band of 'Wobblies,'" *Denver Post*, October 26, 1927.

^{viii} "Columbine and Imperial Mines Close as Pickets Invade Northern Fields," *Daily Times*, Longmont, CO, November 7, 1927.

^{ix} "Under the Capitol Dome," *Steamboat Pilot*, Steamboat Springs, November 18, 1927, "Strikers Concentrate Near Trinidad," *Denver Post*, October 24, 1927.

This article would not have been possible without the help of historians and archivists from across the state and country. The advice, insight, and work of historian Leigh Campbell-Hale, Curator Victoria Miller with the Steelworks Center of the West, and Nicole Docimo with the Carnegie Library for Local History in Boulder were particularly critical to telling William and Lillian Lofton's story. The Museum still hopes to locate a photo of the Loftons.

See the program listings in this issue for information on two upcoming Museum webinars about the 1927-28 Colorado coal strike and William Lofton.

The 1927 Strike and Race in Louisville

It would be difficult to call the 1927 Strike a success. Through brutality, violence, and perversions of the criminal justice system (one of the Governor William Adams' favorite tactics was to constantly move arrested union leaders from jail to jail to prevent them from meeting with their lawyers), government and mine leadership decimated the IWW and defeated striking miners. In

the aftermath of the 1927 Strike, membership in the IWW plummeted and the UMW once again became the dominant union in the region.



As this raided IWW office in Trinidad, Colorado, reveals, Governor Adams ordered the state militia to quickly and brutally crack down on union leadership once the strike began in October of 1927. Photo credit: Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University.

The decline of the IWW and the strike's failure had an often-overlooked effect on the racial makeup of Colorado's coal miners and mining towns. As the main article explained, the IWW – the principal union behind the 1927 Strike – was, among other things, a racially diverse, grassroots organization. Many of the miners who assumed local or regional leadership positions were not white. After the strike's failure, mine owners and operators blacklisted the most active miners – especially the strike's leaders – which had the effect of whitening the workforce. While it is not the only contributing factor, the 1920s and the failed strike of 1927 were among the reasons for Louisville's predominately white demographic later in the twentieth century and to today.



Funeral procession for Nick Spanudakhis, one of the picketers slain by state militia at the Columbine Mine. He was buried in Lafayette. Photo credit: Walter P. Reuther Library, Wayne State University.

Louisville History Foundation News

By Joe Spanarella,
Board of Directors

Like all history buffs, we are always excited to talk about the past. However, with all of the changes Covid-19 brought to our daily lives in 2020, we're really excited to look toward the future! As we enter the new year, we would like to welcome our new board member, Jennifer Henderson. A resident of Louisville, Jennifer brings a strong professional background in museums and cultural nonprofits, and enjoys connecting residents to the impact and value of our history. The Foundation board re-elected Catherine Wessling as Chair and Loren Laureti as Treasurer for 2021, and elected Dan Mellish as Vice-Chair and Jessica Spanarella as Secretary.

We would like to also bid farewell and express our gratitude to board members Nancy Allen and Cate Bradley. Thank you for your contributions over the years!

Despite the disruptions caused by Covid-19 in 2020, the Museum did an amazing job of bringing new ways to experience Louisville History. The Louisville History Foundation would like to give the Museum staff a huge shout-out for being innovative and delivering outstanding programs last year! 2021 will bring new opportunities for you to engage with local history, and we're excited for you to see what the Louisville Historical Museum will roll out this year. Stay tuned!

LOUISVILLE HISTORY FOUNDATION

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Upcoming Programs and Events

The public is invited to join us for these upcoming programs. For more information, visit the [Museum website](#) or [online calendar](#). All Museum programs are free.

"Remembering Ludlow but Forgetting the Columbine: The 1927/1928 Colorado Coal Strike" – live webinar, Thursday, February 25, 7 PM. Dr. Leigh Campbell-Hale will discuss the 1927/1928 strike that left an indelible mark on the economic and social development of our area. Advance registration is required. Please check the [online calendar](#) for details and to register.

"My skin is black, my heart is white, and my card is RED': Labor Activist William Lofton" – live webinar, Monday, March 8, 7 PM. Museum staff member Jason Hogstad will investigate Louisville history from the perspective of a Black labor organizer and his family. Advance registration is required. Please check the [online calendar](#) for details and to register.

"Lenses on Louisville" –
May 8 & May 22, 10 AM



Calling all citizen historians, photography enthusiasts, and architecture lovers for two Museum-sponsored outdoor photography events to celebrate Preservation Month! Join Museum staff on May 8th to photograph commercial structures and artistic elements downtown and on May 22nd to photograph residences in the Miners Field neighborhood. Afterwards, donate your images to the Museum and help document contemporary Louisville for future generations. All ages welcome. Both programs begin with an orientation outside the Museum at 10 AM. Mark your calendars and keep your eyes open for registration information.

Monthly Museum Take & Makes

The Museum and the Louisville History Foundation are sponsoring more Take & Make craft kits! The free kits will be available at the Louisville Public Library during Grab & Go hours and/or curbside hours, as supplies last and dependent on weather. The kits will include the specific craft's supplies and fun history facts. Follow the Museum's Instagram, @louisvillemuseum, to stay up to date on the release dates.

Museum Outreach Updates

By Kaylyn Mercuri, Museum Staff

The Museum is always looking for ways to connect with the community. Meaningful community relationships can take many forms, especially in recent months when the Museum hasn't been able to welcome visitors in person to the extent that it normally does. Although we miss in-person programming, this time has allowed staff to develop new projects and make new connections. The Museum team has identified two new ways to reaffirm its dedication to reaching the community in Louisville and beyond in 2021.

Museums for All: The Museum is partnering with [Museums for All](#), a program that allows individuals and families receiving food assistance (SNAP benefits) to gain free or reduced price admission to over 500 museums in the United States. While our tours, events, and programs are always free, participating in this program helps the Museum keep accessibility and inclusivity at the heart of our operations as well as call attention to the need for financial accessibility in our community.

History for Early Education Classrooms: History education is for all ages, and there's always something new to learn! For these reasons, the Museum is partnering with Boulder Valley School District preschools and early education classrooms to provide virtual programs for students. These programs will fulfill the community engagement goal of their Creative Curriculum while Museum staff will enjoy developing and delivering new interpretations of the Museum's collections and content. To learn more, please visit the [School and Teacher Programs](#) page on the Museum website.

Discover Digital Content About Louisville History

Explore Louisville history from the town's origins to today with Museum-created videos, exhibits, and family activities at the Museum website. In addition to seeing the digital content that we are adding regularly to the [History at Home](#) page, you will find the links to the Museum's online photo collection of over 5,000 digitized images and to the online Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection.

To find out what is new to the Museum's [History at Home](#) page, check out the infographic below!

History at Home

THE KKK IN LOUISVILLE

This new video draws on many oral histories and local sources to discuss the Ku Klux Klan's presence and actions in the Louisville area.



DISCOVER LOUISVILLE



Take our new driving tour for a spin! Explore Louisville's past and present in the comfort of your own car. For an at-home experience, try the online exhibit version.

GAMES & PUZZLES

Check out our new Games & Puzzles webpage that offers word searches, crossword puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, and coloring pages related to Louisville history.



KID'S CORNER

The Museum's Youtube Channel has a new playlist of video content that was designed just for kids! Enjoy educational videos with fun, age-appropriate content!



EAT WELL EXHIBIT

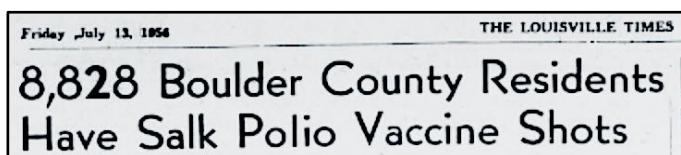
Learn all about grocers and grocery stores of Louisville's past from this window exhibit turned online exhibit!



Public Health in Louisville, Then and Now

By Kaylyn Mercuri, Museum Staff

Vaccine drives, public health initiatives, and prioritizing the most vulnerable populations are nothing new! Historically, vaccine drives helped eradicate deadly illnesses in Colorado and the wider United States. Newspapers in the 1940s and 1950s spread awareness about polio prevention and vaccine development. The *Louisville Times* newspaper was a part of this effort. The accompanying headline from the July 13, 1956 *Louisville Times* updated the public on how many polio vaccine shots had been given up to that point.



Today, the COVID-19 vaccine is being rolled out in a phase approach and is crucial for bringing an end to the pandemic. To find out more about the vaccine, visit the State's website at <https://covid19.colorado.gov/vaccine> or call the State's COVID-19 Vaccine Helpline 1-877-CO VAX CO (1-877-268-2926), open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To find providers in Boulder County, visit the County's website at www.boco.org/COVIDVaccines or call Boulder County Call Center 720-776-0822.

The Louisville Senior Services staff is also here to help our senior community with questions about the vaccine. Please contact Katie Tofte at 303-335-4919 or ktofte@louisvilleco.gov for questions and assistance signing up for vaccinations waitlists or transportation resources needed.

Thank You to Volunteers

By Jason Hogstad, Museum Staff

Starting in November, Museum Staff began hosting informal lunch-time chats with our volunteers via Zoom. Staff are grateful to all of the volunteers who have joined us at these once-a-month events. It's been wonderful to hear how everyone is doing, to

get to know our volunteers a bit better, and to see everyone's faces!

The Museum has also been relying on our volunteers to assemble the Take & Make craft kits that we distributed through the Library in recent months. A big thank you to Memory Delforge, who has put together hundreds of craft kits to make tea light turkeys, clove ball ornaments, clothespin burros, and felt heart baskets.

Thanks to all of the volunteers for their work and patience during this time.

Programming Volunteers

Mary Ann Colacci	Vicki Quarles
Memory Delforge	Joanie Riggins
Kate Gerard	Jessica Spanarella
Christy Gray	Chris Torrence
Becky Harney	Elyssa Torrence
Carolyn Anderson Jones	Mia Torrence
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Noelle Gatto	Dustin Sagrillo
Barbara Gigone	Betty Solek
Ady Kupfner	

Collections and Research

Kathleen Dahl	Courtney Robinson
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Rose Garden Beautification

Ardeshir Sabeti



Memorial Donations

Thank you so much for these recent memorial donations.

***In Memory of Eldred Ralph "Bud" Tharp
(1941-2020)***

Terry Wagner

In Memory of Joe Malcolm

Terry Wagner

***In Memory of Charles "Chuck" Thomas
(1949-2019)***

Phyllis Thomas

In Memory of Ronald Leggett (1934-2020)

George Brown
Dino De Santis
Leo Deborski
Adam & Donna Elnicki
Ronda Frandsen
Ady Kupfner
Larry & Kathy Martella
Jo Louise Michaels
Michael & Sheila Ryan
William Ryan
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Tom & Ann Stoffel

In Memory of Duane Elrod (1945-2020)

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George Brown
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Memory Delforge
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In Memory of Robert Junior (1940-2020)

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Diane Marino
Jean Morgan
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***In Memory of Dolores Varra Mastriona
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Patricia Finleon
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In Memory of Gary Reddington (1940-2021)

Gloria Green
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In Memory of Judy De Santis (1941-2016)

Dino De Santis Family

***In Memory of Isabelle Thirlaway Hudson
(1927-2021)***

Bridget Bacon
Gloria Green



The Museum Corner
Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator

Thank you to Museum staff member Jason Hogstad for his research and lead article about Colorado labor conflicts in the 1920s and specifically for bringing to light the life of labor organizer William Lofton, and thank you to Paula Enrietto for permission to use her family photo on page 3.

Thank you to Colorado Art Glass for donating a portion of the labor and supplies needed to repair the Blue Parrot stained glass window! We hope to have an update soon on where it can be viewed.

Welcome to new Historical Commission member Andrew Berzanskis and congratulations to Jonathan Ferris for his reappointment to the Commission. And thank you so much to departing member Jennifer Henderson, who has joined the board of directors of the Louisville History Foundation. At its January meeting, the Commission reelected Paula Elrod as Chair, Leah Angstman as Vice Chair, and Jon Ferris as Secretary.

Since 1985, the Louisville Historical Commission has annually recognized a deserving person or persons for paving the way for others in the community. We are happy to announce that the Museum has made the profiles of all 35 past recipients of the Pioneer Award available to read [online](#).

***Be a Part of the Story /
Sea parte de la historia***

At the Louisville Historical Museum, we are committed to collecting, preserving, and sharing the full range and diversity of voices, perspectives, and experiences in our community. Historically, Louisville has always been home to people who came from across the U.S. and around the world. They contributed cultures, traditions, and lifestyles, and engaged in current events of the day. The same is still true today.

Share a story, a memory, or a reflection about living in Louisville. [Be a Part of the Louisville Story](#) so that your experiences can be shared with future generations.

***Thank You for Your Monetary
Donations!***

Thank you to the following people and organizations for their recent generous monetary donations, other than memorial donations, to the Louisville History Foundation and Museum.

Donations received after this issue goes to print will be shown in the next issue.

Anonymous Donation of \$500

Anonymous Donation of \$100

Nancy Allen

Lindsay Andrews Family

David Bangs Family

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James & Carolyn Beagle

Teresa Beers

Bruce & Constance Bernhardt

Boulder Valley CPAs PC

Nick Boyer

Cate Bradley

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 Charles Sisk
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 Richard Sullivan
 Kathy Takemoto
 Tyree Family
 Michael & Marjorie Ulm
 Ron & Pattie Varra
 Ann Wagner
 Robert Watts
 Chris & Kelly Wheeler

***Photo from the Collection of the
Louisville Historical Museum***

There aren't many things that are more fun than playing with a dog in the snow! In this photo from the 1920s, Pasqual Jacoe and his dog enjoy new snow in their Louisville yard.



LOUISVILLE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Leah Angstman
 Andrew Berzanskis
 Paula Elrod
 Jonathan Ferris
 John Honan
 Scott McElroy
 Joe Teasdale

Donations to the Museum's Collection and Records

The Louisville Historical Museum accepted the following donations during the months of November through January. The City sincerely appreciates these recent donations!

Cynthia Hafner Clark – digital photo of her father and grandparents in Louisville in the 1930s.

Betty Tomeo – documents, photos, and related items from the Tomeo family after whom the Museum's Tomeo House is named.

Theresa Jordan – 1970 Louisville Pirate red wool pep club uniform with photo of her wearing it.

Chris Wheeler – digital photos that he took of downtown Louisville businesses in spring 2020, and the 9News video called “Coronavirus Winter: A Small Town Portrait in Black and White” about the project.

Joyce Hindman – digital photos from the Trott family, many of which show Trott family members and locations in Louisville.

Ann Rick – *Louisville Times* issues saved by her grandfather, John Pellillo, including two from the 1930s that the Museum did not previously have.

Shirley Elrod – digital photos from the late 1940s showing the apartment building that had been the Commercial Hotel. These were donated in response to the Museum's request in the last issue of the *Louisville Historian* about hotels and rentals in Louisville.

Shelli Reading – signs and digital photos from weekly anti-racism vigils held in Superior from July to November 2020.

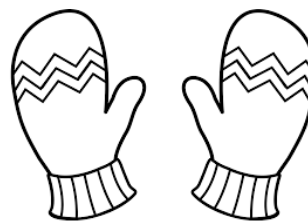
Cindy Dionigi-Huffman – photos and items from the Dionigi family, including some showing the Dionigi house and yard on La Farge Ave.

Monarch High School – 2019-2020 yearbook (accepted in September 2020).

Peter Pascoff – book, *Green Light on the Tipple*, which is a history of the Frederick, Firestone, and Dacono area.

Jean Morgan – household items for the Education Collection.

Bob Slater –miner's pick from a Louisville home, for the Education Collection.



Thanks to New and Renewing Members!

<i>New Members</i>	
Lisa Brooke	Cyndi Dionigi-Huffman & Peter Huffman
Chris Dionigi	G. Patrick Galvin Family
	Henry R. Lopez

<i>Renewing Members</i>	
Anonymous	Dolores Barzler
Kris Ahlberg	James & Carolyn Beagle
Randi & Jason Albright	Tom Beck Family
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Regrets

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of Museum lifetime member Duane Elrod and regular members Ed Domenico, Robert Junior, Isabelle Thirlaway Hudson, Dolores Varra Mastriona, and Gary Reddington.

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***Don't Miss an Issue of
The Louisville Historian!***

Membership in the Louisville History Foundation is a must for those interested in Louisville's unique history and cultural character! Membership is a joint program of the History Foundation and the Historical Museum. Members receive the quarterly *Louisville Historian* with substantive articles about Louisville history.

A yearly membership is \$20 for an individual and \$35 for a family. A yearly Business Sponsorship is \$125. You may visit the [Museum website](http://www.louisvillehistoryfoundation.org) to print out a form. Make checks payable to the Louisville History Foundation, Inc. You may also join and renew online at www.louisvillehistoryfoundation.org.

Louisville Historical Museum Staff

Bridget Bacon, Museum Coordinator

Jason Hogstad, Museum Technician – Volunteer Services

Kaylyn Mercuri, Museum Technician – Outreach Services

Gigi Yang, Museum Technician – Collections & Exhibits

***Historical Museum Tours,
Contact Information, and Services***

The Museum has reopened for in-person tours by appointment for groups of six and fewer from the same household. For health and safety, participants must wear face masks and observe social distancing. The staff also offers live, virtual tours for groups. To schedule either type, see the [“Tours by Appointment” form](#) on the Museum website!

For all other services, such as if you have an inquiry about Louisville history or would like to ask about an artifact donation, please contact the Museum at museum@louisvilleco.gov. We are happy to provide assistance while we work remotely.

The City of Louisville owns the Louisville Historical Museum as part of the Department of Library & Museum Services, with Sharon Nemechek as Director of Library & Museum Services. The Museum is located at 1001 Main Street. Its mailing address is 749 Main Street, Louisville, CO 80027.



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*Louisville Historical Museum
749 Main Street
Louisville, CO 80027*

Return Service Requested

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