

The Louisville Historian

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Trash Talk: Louisville's Journey Toward Sustainability

by Kaylyn Mercuri Flowers, Museum Staff

Historians follow clues such as dates, names, and descriptions of events to learn more about their topics of study. In this case, the clues are refuse, trash, and garbage, and the topic of study is Louisville. You might be thinking, why would anyone give trash a second thought? But did you know that garbage has historically helped solve crimes, explain natural phenomena, and tell more about human habits than we often realize? We, as humans, let our guards down when it comes to what we throw away, which is why we can learn so much about ourselves and each other by taking a closer look at what we get rid of and how we get rid of it. The story of Louisville's trash is one that is connected to larger movements and paved the path for many local environmental and societal changes, while also providing insight into the daily lives of Louisville's past residents.

The average Coloradan, as of 2018, disposed of 9.6 lbs. of trash per day, with about 1.6 lbs. of that being recycled. These numbers are likely much higher than those of Louisville's historic counterparts. Louisvillians from the 1880s through the 1970s were much more inclined to reuse things than we might be today because of economic hardship and lack of modern single-use items. They used and disposed of trash differently in the past. But even if past residents generated less trash, they did not necessarily dispose of their refuse in a more effective or safe manner.

For most of Louisville's history, residents burned, buried, or piled up their garbage. Individuals and families used ash pits, incinerators, or open piles to burn items in their yards. Sometimes, families also threw trash in their outhouse pits or buried it in their

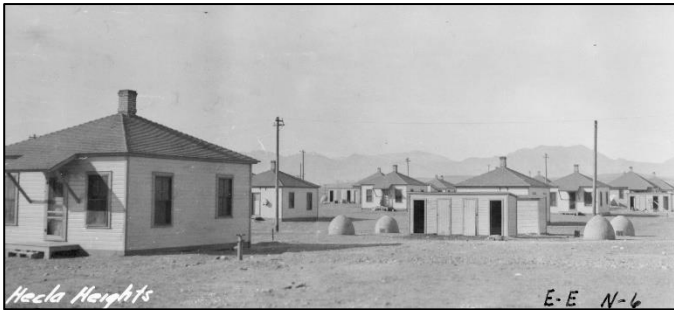


This ash pit, photographed about ten years ago by the back alley of 1133 Main St., was recently donated to the Museum and taken apart.

Thanks to the generosity of the Louisville History Foundation, it will be reassembled and preserved on the Museum's campus. Its unique beehive shape dates back to the 1910s, if not earlier.

yards. Each family was responsible for its own garbage; no one regulated trash in early Louisville. There were only so many places to bury garbage, so town leaders preferred that people burn it. In fact, according to a 1946 *Louisville Times*, town officials encouraged residents to burn "anything that can be burned." Louisville residents may not have needed much convincing. Until the 1960s, people in town cooked and warmed their homes by burning coal. This left behind mounds of smoldering ashes that needed to be hauled away.

Backyard ash pits, which were designated places where coal ashes and trash were burned to reduce them, were essential in early Louisville. They varied in size and shape. Some were small open pits, while others were semi-enclosed, brick structures. Ash pits were particularly dangerous, as were the smoldering ashes that they produced. Between 1943 and 1959, the *Louisville Times* reported on nine accidents caused by ash pits that resulted in major burns or structure fires. Children were the most common group to be injured by ash pits, as emptying the ashes or adding trash to the smoldering pit was often their chore.



This early 1900s photo shows ash pits next to outhouses at the Hecla Mine compound in Louisville, where miners rented housing for themselves and their families. Imagine the smoke and smell if all of these were being burned simultaneously.

Ash pits were as effective, but not as efficient, as incinerators. Backyard incinerators became widely available in the 1940s and differed from ash pits in their structure. An incinerator offered an enclosed chamber that was meant to reach higher temperatures and reduce trash and ashes to much smaller amounts than an ash pit would. Incinerators were expensive, and as such, were not common in Louisville until the polio epidemic targeted ash pits as a breeding ground for virus-spreading vermin in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Local newspaper ads reveal that there was a market in Louisville for three-chambered and gas-powered backyard incinerators in the early 1950s. These models claimed that they would not attract rats and flies, which were thought to spread polio. They did not replace ash pits in Louisville, however, as the City implemented regular ash pit inspections and enforced more regular cleaning. This improved the vermin issue and lessened the need for pricey incinerators.

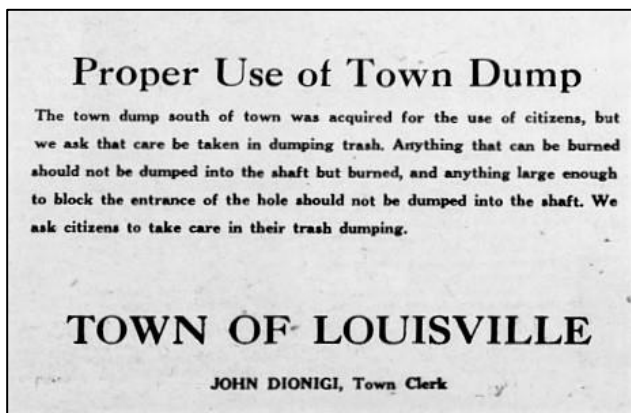


This incinerator, located in a resident's yard on Grant Ave., appears to be made of concrete.

The high number of ash pits in Louisville resulted in large amounts of a family's garbage being ash waste that eventually needed to be hauled away. Families took leftover ashes to public dumping sites or paid neighborhood boys to do so. John Negri (1920-2015) told the Museum staff that he and other Louisville boys hauled ashes to public dumps to make money for the movies. For much of Louisville's history, these public dumps were typically retired mine shafts that varied in depth and could be as deep as 300 feet. (These underground public trash dumps are not to be confused with the aboveground mine dumps, or slag heaps, formed by coal, rock and dirt that miners removed from the ground as part of the mining process.) Residents would walk up to the edge of the mine shaft and discard items that ranged from mattresses to food waste. Some dump sites, such as the one in an old mine shaft that the Warembourg family owned near the Monarch Mine, even had bumpers installed so that trucks could back up to the pit and unload. Even with this safety measure, the dumps were dangerously unstable and prone to fire from smoldering ashes.

Not only were dump sites concerning for safety reasons, but they were also a recurring headache for the town's staff. Louisville mine shafts filled with trash at an alarming rate and left town administrators scrambling to find new landfills. This sometimes left them at the mercy of local landowners. The town opened and filled six public dumps in mine shafts between the years of 1946 and 1956. Because of the quick turnover, Louisville found it necessary to find new locations and to begin regulating trash disposal. For example, in 1946, Mayor John Hindman announced that the

town would impose a fine if citizens dumped trash anywhere besides the official dump located in the “old railroad cut” southeast of the Old Crown Mine. And in 1950, that same property was fenced in and its use restricted to Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8 AM to 4 PM in an attempt to control the flow of garbage. Residents caught dumping after hours were fined. When the dump pits were nearly full, new rules stated that only tin cans and ashes would be accepted, further narrowing residents' options for garbage disposal. These new restrictions were coupled with continuing encouragement for residents to burn their garbage. A notice in the *Louisville Times* on January 26, 1950 urged residents to “burn all limbs and other rubbish at home.” Later dumping sites, such as the dump in the Centennial Mine shaft in 1954, came to have regulated hours and workers overseeing operations. These steps toward garbage regulation pushed residents, at first, toward burning their trash. But these mandates laid the groundwork for later trash and burning regulations in Louisville.



An announcement in the March 7, 1946 Louisville Times urged residents to burn anything that could be burned rather than taking it to the mine shaft being used as the town dump.

As Louisville became more populated, burning as a method of disposal started to take its toll. Frequent complaints in local newspapers, particularly in the 1950s and 1960s, give a glimpse into what life was like. In 1956, the editor of the *Louisville Times* told of a local woman who complained about trash burning at all hours of the day and he called for designated hours when garbage could be burned. Another editorial in 1964 described a resident’s vexation with neighbors who seemed to only light their trash pile on fire when the resident was trying

to have a backyard cookout. Other residents complained of smoke in the air and the repugnant scent during the day and night. Many Louisville residents during this time slept with their windows open in the summer to stay cool. This meant that smoke and stench from neighborhood trash piles and ash pits surrounded them outside during the day and inside at night. But burning was still the most beneficial method of trash removal. Or was it?

Beyond the smell and inconvenience, smoke from backyard trash fires was harming humans and the environment. The smoke from these fires was causing bronchial illnesses. In the 1950s, Los Angeles, California was the first major city to ban backyard incinerators and burning to reduce the smog that fell over the city on more days than not. Similarly, Pueblo, Colorado banned backyard burning in 1955 in an attempt to reduce pollution and bronchial illnesses. The City of Denver and surrounding suburbs were not immune to these issues. Smog, known locally as the “brown cloud,” often set in over Denver and spread until it reached the foothills. While there were many contributing factors to the smog in Colorado, such as vehicle exhaust and large factories, frequent backyard burning was determined to be part of the problem. In 1964, a pollution study of Boulder concluded that vehicles were largely to blame. That same year, the *Louisville Times* reported that “little can be done to control fumes from automobiles, but trash burning can be controlled and probably will be in the future.” This article hinted at a future burning ban. With many of the local mine shafts filled, what would Louisville do if garbage could not be burned?

The City of Louisville confronted this question starting on January 1, 1968, when Boulder County began to ban backyard burning in response to the Colorado Air Pollution Act of 1967. Enforcement was spotty at best. The *Louisville Times* reported in 1968 that residents were throwing trash along the roadways and into the sewage system. Main line sewer blockages were up 200 percent, and the newspaper blamed the burning ban. The state of Colorado remained steadfast in its intention to ban backyard burning entirely by January 1, 1970. At the time, Louisville did not have a standard way to transport trash to the landfills that were opening up in Superior and nearby towns, or an organized workforce to make this happen. The City proposed

that residents pay someone or haul their own trash to the dump. The only ways in which residents could dodge the issue were if they had an “approved three-chamber incinerator” or paid a \$100 fine for burning trash illegally. Incinerators were expensive, and residents pushed back against having to pay to have their garbage removed.

Local newspapers highlighted “grumbling” and “violations” in Louisville, while Lafayette residents sought to have the burning ban repealed. Louisville city administrators softened the blow by allowing two days of unrestricted burning. Meanwhile, Joe Matthias of Lafayette claimed that residents needed more time to adjust to the new law. Matthias felt that “health authorities should have made better arrangements to get rid of the trash before swooping down and putting on a fine for burning it.” This was a common complaint, and Louisville and surrounding cities quickly drew up plans for city-organized trash removal. George Lybarger & Sons was the main trash hauling provider for Louisville and Lafayette until other companies, such as Town and Country Disposal, offered competition. But residents still had questions. How often would trash be picked up? What if they generated less or more trash than their neighbors? What would it cost? These questions eventually worked themselves out through public hearings. Standard trash removal practices became the norm in Louisville. Residents adapted to the cost in exchange for hassle-free garbage disposal.



In November 2020, Olde English Masonry carefully took apart the ash pit shown on page 1. Moving it while intact proved to be too difficult.

This trash saga reveals the evolving relationship between the City of Louisville and its residents. As a *Louisville Times* editorial pointed out, if trash burning became illegal, then a city government should be expected to provide an alternative way for

residents to remove garbage in a safe and ethical way. This new responsibility of a city, which we might take for granted today, had not before been assumed by the general public. These small steps toward regulating the disposal of trash laid the foundation for many health and safety improvements to come.

While the Louisville burning ban did not solve all of the community’s trash and pollution issues, the burning ban spared many Louisville residents from developing serious health issues related to inhaling smoke and toxic fumes from burning rubbish. It also pushed practices of composting and recycling forward in the area. There were also unfortunate consequences of trash regulation. The option to have one’s trash hauled away allowed Louisville residents to become separated from the waste that they produced, desensitized to the amount and its effects on the environment. However, this separation did not stop Louisville residents and city administrators as they continued their search for answers about pollution and waste management. Studies done in Colorado in the 1970s and 1980s continued to prove that backyard burning was not the only cause of the “brown cloud,” which prompted more research and environmental action. Thanks to the precedents set through trash regulation, Louisville and cities across the United States have taken steps toward responsible stewardship of the environment and a vested interest in public health. Residents of Louisville can track this progression to the current day through the city’s enthusiasm for sustainable practices.



Do you have stories about Louisville’s history of handling garbage? Was it your job to burn the family’s trash? Please get in touch with the Museum and let us know!

Additional resources about the burning ban and waste disposal in Louisville past and present:

- “Sustainability.” *The City of Louisville.*
<http://www.LouisvilleCO.gov/Sustainability>. For sustainability questions, contact Katie Baum, Sustainability Coordinator, 303.335.4534.

- [The Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection](#) (CHNC), online.

- "Solid Waste Management Data and Reports." Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/health>. Last updated 2021.

- "The History of Air Quality in Denver." Denver Department of Public Health and Environment. <https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Departments/Public-Health-Environment/Environmental-Quality/Air-Quality>.

New Exhibit: Stay Cool!

By Gigi Yang, Museum Staff

This fickle springtime weather has prompted two new front window exhibits at the Museum that run the gamut between cold ice and warm comfort. "Stay Cool" covers a brief history of ice and refrigeration in Louisville. Stop by to see ice related artifacts and discover something you didn't know about the role ice played in daily life, the economy, the news, and even entertainment. If you can't make it to the Museum, view "Stay Cool" as an online exhibit on the Museum's [History at Home](#) page.

During the years of ice delivery, people would put a sign like this in their windows to indicate how much ice they wanted. The number at the top was the number of pounds to go by.



We're also reveling in warm memories of the Blue Parrot restaurant that was a Louisville institution on Main St. from 1919-2017. This past year, with the help of a successful fundraising campaign from the Louisville Historical Foundation, the Museum was able to take on the restoration of the large stained glass window from the restaurant which features a blue parrot on a perch and the words "Italian Spaghetti". The window was damaged during renovations to the building at 640 Main, and was donated to the Museum in 2019. Local glass artist Cathy King repaired the broken window and you can see images of the restoration process as well as the finished window on display at the Museum through May 2021.

Thank You to Volunteers

By Jason Hogstad, Museum Staff

Our volunteer program has continued to adapt to limitations on in-person work, finding new ways to stay in touch and contribute to the Museum's programs. Once a month, staff and volunteers meet for a lunchtime guided conversation via Zoom to check in, get to know each other better, and discuss personal or local history. Since the new year began, our conversations have ranged broadly: we've discussed how to make the history we share at the Museum more equitable, chatted about experiences with food outside of what we grew up with, and asked our volunteers to provide feedback on upcoming programs and projects.

The Museum has also been relying on our volunteers to assemble take & make craft kits that we distributed through the Library. A big thank you to Memory Delforge who has put together hundreds of craft kits since November of 2020.

Thanks to all our 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
Diane Marino	Carol Williams
Ava Morgan	

Oral History Volunteers

Leslie Aaholm	Jean Morgan
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



Louisville History Foundation News

**By Missy Diehl,
Board of Directors**

Congratulations to Bridget! On behalf of the Louisville History Foundation Board of Directors, we are so pleased to congratulate Bridget Bacon on her promotion to the Museum Services Supervisor. Bridget is more than deserving of this advancement, and we are all so fortunate to benefit from her service and leadership at the Louisville Historical Museum.



Bridget has served as the Museum Coordinator for over 16 years, and in that time, she has seen to every detail of museum management and, more importantly, authentically telling the story of Louisville. As a 4th

generation native to Louisville, I am always so touched by Bridget's genuine commitment to every tiny detail in sharing a piece of Louisville's history. Sometimes, it feels like Bridget grew up on Front Street just as my great-grandmother did because she knows the stories of this town so well.

Bridget's devotion to sharing these stories in the same manner as our aging relatives may be the most endearing aspect of how she does her job. Bridget cherishes sitting around the wooden table in the Museum, and excavating the past through story telling. It's remarkable as this is how I learned about the "olden days" from my great-grandmother, sitting at the dinner table.

We are all forever grateful to Bridget for allowing present and future generations to learn and appreciate the history of this great town we all love. Bridget, you are just as priceless as any piece of collection you so delicately preserve! Congratulations and thank you for all you do for the City of Louisville!

Read messages that our community shared about Bridget or leave her your own congratulatory message: <http://bit.ly/congrats-bridget>

LOUISVILLE HISTORY FOUNDATION

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Rich Diehl
Paula Elrod
Jennifer Henderson
Tammy Lastoka
Loren Laureti
David Marks
Daniel Mellish
Jessica Spanarella
Joe Spanarella
Catherine Wessling

Upcoming Programs and Events

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

May 8 & 22, 10 AM – “Lenses on Louisville”

Registration is open for the Museum's outdoor photography events! Photography enthusiasts, architecture lovers, and citizen historians are invited to celebrate Historic Preservation Month by photographing downtown Louisville (on May 8) and the Miners Field Neighborhood (on May 22) as it is today for future generations. Families and all ages welcome! For more information, please visit [the Lenses On Louisville page](#).

Museum Take & Makes

The Museum, with the financial support of the Louisville History Foundation, sponsors free Take & Make craft kits each month at the Louisville Public Library. Follow the Museum's Instagram, @louisvillemuseum, to stay up to date on each month's theme and craft kit release dates.

Starting on May 7 and while supplies last, we will offer **BINGO Scavenger Hunt Kits** in honor of Preservation Month in May. They will be available during the Library's Grab & Go hours and/or curbside hours, dependent on weather.

The kits include the game card, instructions, and stickers to keep track of architectural styles and buildings to find in Louisville.

June 5, 9 AM – Walking Tour, “Historic Trees of Downtown Louisville.” Join Chris Lichty, City Forester, as he leads his popular tour about historic and significant trees in Louisville. Capacity will be limited and advance registration is required. Please visit the [online calendar](#).

June 12, 9 AM – Walking Tour, “Louisville’s Frenchtown Neighborhood.” Diane Marino will lead a tour of the historic Frenchtown neighborhood located in the vicinity of Rex and Parkview Streets. This area was the heart of Louisville’s French community made up of families who mostly came from coal mining areas in northern France. Capacity will be limited and advance registration is required. Please visit the [online calendar](#).

August 9, 7 PM – “Lost Lafayette, Colorado” Doug Conarroe leads this live, online talk about his new book, *Lost Lafayette, Colorado*. Lafayette and Louisville history share many common themes! This program is co-sponsored by the Louisville Historical Museum and the Lafayette Miners Museum. Advanced registration is required. For more information, visit the [online calendar](#).



Photos like this one of the Post Office at 637 Front (now Sweet Cow and Lucky Pie) in 2009 show the value of regularly photographing our town, such as through the Lenses on Louisville events.

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

STAY COOL

The Museum's recent window exhibit is now an online exhibit! Learn how Louisville residents kept food cold and what roles ice and refrigeration played in 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!



BE A PART OF THE STORY

Have a story or photo that shares Louisville history? Fill out our informal, online collections form today!



REMEMBERING LUDLOW, FORGETTING THE COLUMBINE

Watch a recording of the Museum's recent webinar on 1920s Colorado coal strikes.



LABOR ACTIVIST WILLIAM LOFTON

Watch a recording of the Museum's recent webinar on labor issues and labor activists in 1920s Louisville.



The Museum Corner
By Bridget Bacon,
Museum Services Supervisor

Thank you so much to Missy Diehl and the Louisville History Foundation for the warm congratulations that they expressed to me on page 6. This was totally unexpected, but greatly appreciated!

Cottonwood Park Opening Date? The Parks & Recreation Dept. recently asked me if I could locate the opening date of Cottonwood Park. The digitized issues of the *Louisville Times* on the Colorado Historic Newspapers Collection website provided some relevant information, but not an exact answer. For example, I found that the City acquired the land in 1970; the newspaper referred to it by the name “Cottonwood Park” by 1972; and it had a number of amenities by 1975. But when did it formally open to the public? If you remember, we would love to hear from you!

Trott-Downer Cabins Relocation: The Trott-Downer Cabins are two small historic cottages that were constructed on Lee Ave. between 1935 and 1940 as part of a complex of several rental cabins. The City of Louisville moved them to storage in 2018 in order to preserve them, utilizing funding from Louisville’s Historic Preservation Fund, and designated them as a Louisville Local Landmark in November 2019.

The City is now in the process of restoring the Cabins and relocating them to southwest of Miners Field, close to their original location on Lee Avenue. The Museum will feature the Cabins as part of its interpretation of life in historic Louisville, and will welcome visitors and school classes to the Cabins for tours starting in 2022. Want to learn more? Visit [the Trott-Downer Cabins page](#).

Louisville Historical Museum Celebrates 35 Years! The Museum opened during the Labor Day weekend of 1986, making 2021 its 35th year of serving the Louisville community. Join the Museum to celebrate with in-person and online events coming up in August and September.



Museum Outreach Updates
By Kaylyn Mercuri Flowers,
Museum Staff

Sharing Stories of Historic Preservation: The Museum is always seeking new ways to serve and educate its community. Museum staff have partnered with the Historic Preservation Planner in Louisville, Kim Bauer, to bring more historic preservation content to the Museum’s Instagram account. Preserving and sharing the stories of Louisville’s buildings connects deeply with the Museum’s mission. We are excited to share a few of these buildings’ stories each month! Check them out on the Museum’s Instagram, through your Instagram app or by viewing it in your browser, <https://www.instagram.com/louisvillemuseum/>.



How it Started, How it’s Going: The Museum recently organized virtual programs for early learners and preschool classrooms. The Museum developed two programs, one on historic clothing and the

other on historic building tools, that engage students in a show-and-tell format. Museum staff lead artifact demonstrations that are coupled with sing-song rhymes and imaginative motions for the students to follow along. It has been a unique opportunity for the Museum to reach an age group that is not commonly associated with history museums, and these programs may continue in some form after the pandemic. Thank you to David Marks for the accompanying photo of his son at home during one of the virtual programs!

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.

Diane Bailey Family
Barney/deLassus Family

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 Walter & Diane Oehlkers
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 Brad Seago & Allison Reeds
 Terry Slade Family
 Ron & Pattie Varra
 Chris & Kelly Wheeler
 Marylee Zurick

Donations to the Museum's Collection and Records

The Louisville Historical Museum formally accepted the following donations in March.

Cheryl Craig – “Men” and “Ladies” glass restroom signs from the Rex Theatre; coal scuttle for the Education Collection.

Keith Keller – hand-cut nails from floorboards in his historic Louisville home.

Nancy Allen – photos of Louisville in 1992.

Dan Mellish – yard sign used in the successful 2020 election campaign for a plastic bag tax.

Tiffany Boyd – photos of campaign volunteers working on the 2020 election campaign for a plastic bag tax.

Phil Larson – ash pit (shown on page 1) to be reassembled on the Museum campus and other items from 1133 Main Street.

Tim Hancock – bottles found on his La Farge property, for the Education Collection.

Memorial Donations

Thank you so much for these recent memorial donations. Donations received after this issue goes to print will be shown in the next issue.

In Memory of Bob Ross (1933-2018)

Joshua Sroge

In Memory of Rudy Dionigi (1927-2019)

Judith Nielsen

In Memory of Ronald Leggett (1934-2020)

Betty L. Buffo
 C.M. Volpe

In Memory of Duane Elrod (1945-2020)

Betty L. Buffo

In Memory of Robert Junior (1940-2020)

Dan Mellish
 Ron & Pattie Varra

In Memory of Jack Leslie (1933-2020)

Betty L. Buffo

***In Memory of Dolores Varra Mastriona
 (1938-2021)***

Betty L. Buffo
 Adrienne Kupfner

In Memory of Gary Reddington (1940-2021)

Gloria Green
 Adrienne Kupfner

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

Betty L. Buffo

In Memory of Nancy Robson (1941-2021)

Donna Schreiter

***In Memory of Mary Ellen Melvin Brown
 (1936-2021)***

Ray & Patricia Melvin

In Memory of Mary A. Waschak Ross (1923-2021)

Patricia & Tom Kennedy



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 at www.louisvilleco.gov/museum to print out a form. Make checks payable to the Louisville History Foundation, Inc. You may also join and renew online at the Louisville History Foundation website.

Thanks to New and Renewing Members!

New Business Sponsors

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Renewing Members

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Gwenne Maiorca Family	Dan Wilson

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Kaylyn Mercuri Flowers, Museum Technician
– Outreach Services
Jason Hogstad, Museum Technician
– Volunteer Services
Gigi Yang, Museum Technician
– Collections & Exhibits

Historical Museum Tours, Contact Information, and Services

The Museum plans to re-open to walk-in visitors in mid-May, after over a year of serving the community in other ways! Due to being able to have public hours of operation again, the Museum will phase out tours by appointment. Groups and schools may still request tours by appointment using the Museum's group tour form. Keep up to date on information about the re-opening date, hours of operation, and health & safety guidelines for your visit at [the Historical Museum website](http://www.louisvillehistoryfoundation.org). We can't wait to see you in person!

Do you have a donation to offer? If you would like to ask about an artifact donation or have a specific research inquiry about Louisville history, please contact the Museum at museum@louisvilleco.gov or 303-335-4850. The Museum will soon announce regular public hours for the staff to look at your potential donations and answer research inquiries.

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.



Thank you to all of our Business Sponsors!

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