



The Louisville Historian

A Publication of the Louisville Historical Museum

Issue #142 Spring 2024

Go Anywhere From Here: 100 Years of the Louisville Public Library by Gigi Yang

Cheers to 100 Years! The year 2024 marks one hundred years since the founding of the Louisville Public Library. Not a small feat for a town that is only 146 years old, and even more impressive for a town that was founded on coal-mining and hard labor. While Louisville newspapers headlined labor struggles and bar fights on Front Street, readers also found coverage of an early and very intentional desire by Louisville women to promote education and independent learning.



Library staff in the 1970s. Left to right: Pam Papini, Pam Ferris, Larella Stout, and Eileen Schmidt

Beginnings

In 1881, only three years after the town's founding, Louisville built its first school building on the corner of Jefferson and Spruce and enrolled 125 students out of a town population of 450. By 1920, Louisville had built an expansion to the grade school, as well as an overflow school for first and second graders, and a new high school located on Garfield. Education was a priority both for the earliest families, and for the influx of immigrant workers arriving from Italy, eastern Europe, Mexico, and elsewhere in the US.

It is not surprising then, that in 1924 five high school girls chose to start a public library. The girls, all 15-16 years old, were Virginia Atkin, Kathleen Crannell, Asenath Hamilton, Leanore Ostrander, and Betty Lou Snair. Under the guidance of their teacher, Georgine McAleer, they started the Chinook chapter of the Campfire Girls. For their first project, they decided to start a library for the

entire community. Going door-to-door, they asked residents to donate books and were given space for their starting collection on the second floor of the Town Hall which was located near the corner of Main and Pine.

The new library was granted a charter and called "The Louisville Chinook Public Library." It shared space at Town Hall with other groups needing use of the room, and was located above the Fire Department on the ground floor.



Town Hall c.1940.

While the Louisville Public Library can trace its roots to 1924, the Campfire Girls were drawing on an even older legacy of women in Louisville committed to education and sharing knowledge, most notably through Women's Clubs such as the Saturday Study Club.

Founded in 1898, the Saturday Study Club was part of the educational movement in the U.S. that embraced independent learning through Chautauqua Institutions, lecture circuits, night schools, and correspondence classes. All of these groups focused on the belief in self-improvement and the betterment of society through education. The Women's Club movement encouraged women to not only explore and learn about what they were interested in, but also to share their studies and engage in conversation with other women about current events, literature, science, and the arts. Around 1900, the Saturday Study Club began efforts to bring library services to Louisville through the State Federation Traveling Library, and also raised funds for scholarships to send local students to college. According to an account written by Bertha Malcolm, "They worked for the betterment of the town. In its third year the club placed a traveling library in Dr. Wolfer's office and borrowed repro-

ductions of famous paintings and invited the townspeople to enjoy the library and paintings with them."

While these efforts brought more educational materials to town, books and reading material were still not readily available to all residents until the efforts of the Campfire Girls in 1924. The Campfire Girls opened the library for a few hours each week and put on plays and talent shows to raise money to buy more books. But by 1926, most of the girls had graduated from high school or moved away and were no longer able to run the library. The Saturday Study Club took over management of the Louisville Chinook Public Library, ensuring steady growth and expansion for the next 36 years.

Town Hall (709 Main St), 1924 – 1940

With the charter granted to the Campfire Girls, the first permanent library consisted of several locked bookcases in the Town Hall. The library was managed by Saturday Study Club volunteers and the City provided funding of \$100 per year to purchase new books. In 1926, the Saturday Study Club hosted the first Silver Tea as a fundraiser. The "silver" represented not just the silver tea service that was used to



Saturday Study Club members in 1945. Shown left to right. (Front row) Della Hobson, Marguerite Henning, Burma Harmon; (Middle row) Nell McCorkle, Mrs. Bergner, Jane Williams, Bertha Malcolm, Lydia Morgan; (Back row) Grace Dalby, Emma Harris, Pearl Callahan, Margaret Watts, Lenor Riddock, Helen Cassidy, Emma Hoyt, Grace Davis, Jane Hilton..

serve cake, candy, and nuts, but also the silver coins people donated to support the library. The Silver Tea became an annual tradition that continued for the next 80 years into the 1990s.

While still a small town, the desire for library services was mighty amongst Louisville residents. By 1932, the Saturday Study Club was able to pay club member Cleora Malaby 75 cents to staff the library for one afternoon a week. Two years later, library membership was 202 people, with a collection of 1,476 books that were checked out 4,386 times during the year. A 1934 Louisville Times article boasts,

“This is an average of 22 books to each patron of the library. This is above the state average. The books borrowed are read by other members of the families as well as by neighbors before being returned, so there are probably as many more users of library books who are not recorded as patrons.”

At this time, libraries were not completely free as they are today. Instead, library patrons paid 10 cents for a library card that allowed them to check out fourteen books. When they had used up that card, they purchased another card for an additional fourteen books. Patrons who wanted the newest titles first, could pay an extra 10 cents to check out books from the “pay” shelf.

During these early years, the Saturday Study Club women set up many of the library services that will still seem familiar today, most notably promotion of reading to children, and the library as a community space for education. Along with the Silver Tea, the Saturday Study Club began celebrating National Book Week by presenting book reviews of new books in the collection. They also worked with teachers to have children create posters about their favorite books as well as that year’s National Book Week theme. These posters were awarded prizes, then displayed at the library and local businesses.

During the difficult times of the 1930s and the Great Depression, the library took part in relief efforts. In

1933, the Civil Works Administration (CWA) sent five women trained in book repair to Louisville. They spent the week mending approximately 100 library books before moving on to assist the Lafayette library. The library also shared space with the Works Progress Association (WPA) sewing project where women gathered to sew clothes for those in need and to learn dressmaking skills. Children in grades 4-6 were encouraged to attend free workshops at the library to create book reviews, make dolls, and learn how to use coping saws.

Brick Schoolhouse (801 Grant), 1941-1949

By 1940, the Town Hall was given over to the Fire Department and the library was moved to 801 Grant (today’s Louisville Center for the Arts). The Brick Schoolhouse, as it was then known, was also home to the Boy Scouts and used for recreation. Miss Marion Thirlaway, who was a well-known piano teacher around town, became the town librarian in 1942, staffing the library for \$1 a week. The Saturday Study Club appointed four club members to serve as the Library Board. They raised funds through the



The library moved to 801 Grant in the 1940s.

Silver Teas and the City continued to support the library with \$100 annually and to pay for lights and heating. Nevertheless, the main source of funding was the sale of library cards, overdue fines, and use of the pay shelf for new books. During World War II, the Saturday Study Club supported the war effort by collecting and donating books to send to service men overseas. Whether due to the location away from the

busier Main St., or slimmer budgets during the war, the library ran into financial difficulties in 1947-48 and had to revert back to volunteer staffing in order to purchase new books.

Throughout the 1940s, the Louisville Times regularly reported the arrival of new books at the library. By all accounts, Louisville readers enjoyed popular best sellers as well as classics. A 1949 Louisville Times article notes,

“Two new books for adults were added last week to the good collection of late books at the Louisville library. All the King’s Men by Robert Penn Warren was requested by several library patrons and is recommended as an exceptionally good book. Golden Fury by Marian Castle is the book all Colorado [sic] is talking about at this particular time as it was released only a few weeks ago...”

Main Street (745 Main), 1949-1956

In 1949, the library had the opportunity to move back to Main Street to a vacant, City-owned building. The little shop front was a 29’x13’ space (377 sq. ft.) wedged between the Rose Mary Pastry Shop and the Town Hall/ Police Department. For the move, the Saturday Study Club had new bookcases built with discounted lumber from Steinbaugh’s Lumber, a donated oil stove, and funding from the Joe Huber fund, a druggist who donated \$500 to the library in 1936.

The mid-1950s were a time of re-invention in Louisville that addressed the closing of the last coal mine and the shift of many residents to employment at Rocky Flats Plant and other businesses outside of Louisville. The Chamber of Commerce launched a “Clean-Up Louisville” campaign, encouraging residents to spruce up their yards and fences and take down dilapidated buildings. City government was also onboard with modernization, eventually disposing of or moving all buildings on the west side of the 700 block of Main St. with the exception of the Austin-Niehoff house which still stands at 717 Main. The library, as part of the slated demolition and subse-

quent move to the new Town Hall, kept its services going, handing out free 10-book library cards to children to encourage their use of the library.

It is unclear if the library relocated temporarily when 745 Main was torn down around 1956, but the new Town Hall building seems to have gone up fairly quickly. Minutes from the Saturday Study Club in 1956 note that club members paid five boys \$11 total to help move the library into its new home. The library room was slightly smaller at 270 sq. ft. and Marion Thirlaway continued as librarian, keeping the doors open two afternoons a week.

City Hall (749 Main), 1957-1990

In 1959, open hours were offered on Saturday for the first time, to allow working men the opportunity to use the library. The move to City Hall brought the library closer under the stewardship of the City, although it was still managed and run by the Saturday Study Club.



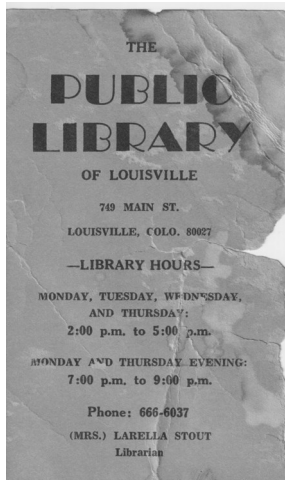
The newly built City Hall located at 749 Main in 1957.

As a child in in the 1950s-1960s, Carolyn Anderson Jones recalls the library as a lifesaver for entertainment since her family lived on the outskirts of town. Carolyn remembers her mother saying, “Hurry up and get into the car because the library is gonna close!” If she got in trouble, her library privileges were suspended. Her mother didn’t have to ground them because it was so bad to have her library visits revoked. She said “It kept me on the straight and narrow.” Carolyn loved the Nancy Drew, Hardy Boys, Dana Girls, and Trixie Belden stories. When she read through the

entire children's collection, she moved on to Agatha Christie and Sherlock Holmes. Marion Thirlaway, the librarian, would often ask her to read books and write a synopsis for books that were missing cover blurbs.

In 1962, the Louisville population reached 2,000 people and Louisville became a City of the 2nd class according to the US census. With that change, the City officially took over ownership of the library from the Saturday Study Club and changed the name of the library to the Louisville Public Library. The Saturday Study Club continued to provide members for the Library Board and maintained an active role in library fundraising and programs.

Larella Stout was hired as the librarian in 1964, after Marion Thirlaway retired. Stout was not a trained librarian, but she embraced librarianship, attending State Library Association conventions, and introducing professional library standards and programs to Louisville. Under Larella Stout, the library launched its first summer reading program in 1964, began holding story times for young children, book delivery for homebound residents, and implemented the Dewey Decimal system and card catalog for identifying and locating books. The library joined the East Boulder County Library consortium for reciprocal borrowing with Lafayette, Broomfield, and Longmont, and later the Colorado Central Regional Library system. In 1966, the library gained additional space by expanding into the City garage, for a total of 800 sq. ft. Additional staff were also hired including Eileen Schmidt, Emajane Enrietto, Ethel Lawrence, and Carolyn Conarroe. The 1976 bicentennial generated interest in Louisville's history and Carolyn Conarroe, began collecting photographs and documents that would soon become the nucleus of the Louisville Historical Museum collection.



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By the time of Stout's retirement in 1979, the Louisville population had almost tripled from 2,000 to 5,600 and the library was a well-established resource in town with 1,188 card holders and averaging 1,100 books checked out each month. The Louisville Times quoted resident John Williams, "We're going to have to do something about the library...if there are four people in there and one opens a book, three have to back out." The need for a larger library aligned with plans in 1980 to expand City Hall by adding a second floor. The remodel included a much larger library space of 2,400 sq. ft. that included an Adult and Research section and a special Children's area. Ann Trementozzi (Director) and Robin Branstator (Children's Librarian) were hired as the first professional library staff in 1979. Their tenure coincided with another boom in Louisville's population with the arrival of StorageTek and other tech industries. The new library staff expanded services with movie showings, puppet shows, and records, cassettes, and posters for borrowing. They installed the first automated catalogue and circulation system in 1986.



Children's storytime with Robin Branstator in the library at City Hall, 1983.

Fischer Building (950 Spruce), 1990-2006

By the end of the decade, Louisville's population had again doubled to 12,361. Nelda Mohr was hired as the new Library Director in 1987 and began the search for a larger home for the library. The City identified the Fischer Building located at 950 Spruce

as the best candidate and in 1989, held a special election to approve an increase in local sales tax to build a new recreation center, and to purchase and renovate the Fischer Building for the library.

It was a big day in 1990 when the library opened the new 10,000 sq. ft. space at 950 Spruce. The library occupied the second floor of the building and shared the first floor with a Mexican restaurant and a hair salon. It was not long however, before the library expanded to the entire building in 1994. In this new space, Library Director Anne Mojo launched the library's first website in 1995, and the Saturday Study Club celebrated 100 years of supporting library services with a Silver Tea in 1998.



Members of the Saturday Study Club during National Library Week, 1990.

Despite keeping pace with changes in technology and library services, Louisville's population kept growing faster than City services could keep up. The second floor of the library was originally intended for office space and could no longer handle the weight of the book collection, while children's storytimes were being held in the copy room. The library was once again in need of a new home. In 2003, after much debate about relocating the library near the Rec Center, Mayor Chuck Sisk decided to keep the library as a centerpiece to the downtown. Voters approved a \$7.4 million bond to build a new library across the street from the Fischer building. In 2006, Louisville celebrated the opening of the current library at 951 Spruce.

From the roots set down by the Campfire Girls and the Saturday Study Club, to the continuing innovations and welcoming community space created by today's library staff, the Louisville Public Library is a much-loved downtown destination. Here's Cheers to another 100 years!

Learn more and help celebrate the Louisville Public Library's 100th anniversary with the new front window exhibit and walking tour at the Museum this summer, and an anniversary party at the Library in September. Check City calendars for event details.

Upcoming Programs and Events

Join us for these upcoming programs exploring historical topics, large and small. For more details, visit the Museum website and calendar. All Museum programs are free!

First Friday: "Live and Learn: Women's Clubs"

Friday, May 3 | 6 - 8 PM | 1001 Main St.

Louisville women with inquiring minds met regularly to discuss current events, history, science and literature. Stop by to learn more about how Women's Clubs changed Louisville.

Historic Preservation Landmark Plaque Ceremony and Walking Tour

Monday, May 13 | 6 – 7:30 PM | 1001 Main St.

Join Historic Preservation and Museum staff to celebrate all the new Louisville Historical Landmarks! Meet for light refreshments in the Museum courtyard at 6 PM, followed by a walk around Old Town to the properties landmarked in 2023.

Taste of Louisville: Model T Ford Club

Saturday, June 1 | 10 AM– 3 PM | 1001 Main St.

Stop by the Museum to view these classic cars from the early 1900s, get a taste of Model T Ford history and chat with the owners and aficionados of Henry Ford's "universal car."

First Friday: “LGBTQ+ Pop-up Exhibit”

Friday, June 7 | 6 - 8 PM | 1001 Main St.
Drop in to view this pop-up exhibit in the Museum Courtyard covering pivotal moments in Boulder County’s LGBTQ+ history.

Walking Tour: Historic Trees of Downtown Louisville

Saturday, June 8 | 9 AM | Meet at 1001 Main St.
Join Chris Lichty, City Forester, as he leads a tour about historic and significant trees in Louisville. This is a free in-person event, but registration is required, and will open May 15.

Walking Tour: Louisville on La Farge

Saturday, June 22 | 9 AM | Meet at 1001 Main St.
A few blocks of La Farge Avenue hold a wealth of history about families who settled in Louisville around the turn of the 19th to 20th Century. Join Louisville Historical Museum volunteer Diane Marino for a walking tour. This is a free in-person event, but registration is required and will open June 6.

Museum Talk: “LGBTQ+ History of Boulder County with Glenda Russell”

Saturday, June 29 | 3 PM | Library Meeting Room
Boulder County has been the site of major moments in the history of LGBTQ+ rights in the US. Some of these events have been local but also colorful and creative. Other local events have had far-reaching impacts, having literally changed the national picture for LGBTQ+ people and their rights. Come see a timeline of LGBTQ+ history in Boulder and hear some amazing stories that you’ll want to tell your friends about.

First Friday: “Louisville’s Soda Parlors”

Friday, July 5 | 6 - 8 PM | 1001 Main St.
Drop in to sample complimentary old-fashioned sodas and floats and to discover soda fountain history and fun facts!

Walking Tour: Cheers to 100 Years: Louisville Public Library

Saturday, July 13 | 9 AM | Meet at 1001 Main St.
Celebrate the Louisville Public Library’s 100th anni-

versary by visiting the various locations downtown that housed the library and stories that are not in the books.

Museum Talk: “The L&L: Louisville and Lafayette’s Drive-In Movie Theater”

Saturday, July 27 | 3 - 4 PM | Library Meeting Room-
Please join us for a talk with historian Michael Kilgore on the L & L and other Colorado drive-ins. Michael Kilgore is the author of *Drive-Ins of Colorado*. There will be popcorn!

Pioneer Award 2024 ***by Scott McElroy***



Congratulations to Ed Helmstead!

This year’s recipient of the Pioneer Award is Louisville’s own long time sign painter Ed Helmstead. You might not know Ed but you know his work. Ed’s signs can be found up and down Main and Front Streets and throughout Louisville, enhancing the special feeling of the downtown area.

While we all appreciate the results of Ed’s work, we may not pay attention to the special character of his signs that encourage us to enter local businesses and point the way to Main Street. Check out, for example, the Moxie signs, the front of the Louisville Historical Museum or the multitude of signs at the corner of

Pine and Front Street. Most recently, Ed completed the sign on the Grain Elevator downtown. All of those are denoted by the signature “Eddidit” along with the date of the signs. Using both old time techniques and more modern technology (sometimes with the help of friends), Ed works to create original signs that both grab our attention and convey within 2-3 seconds the nature of the subject business. To accomplish that, Ed likes to stick to plain lettering that pops, sometimes with a colorful background. And while his original signs might be the most interesting, Ed has also painted a variety of corporate logos such as the Coca Cola sign on the side of the Louisville Historical Museum. It should be noted that Ed’s skills are not limited to signs; he is also known for putting logos on the side of race cars and painting old locomotives, including several at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden.

Ed’s signs have contributed to the character of the downtown Louisville area for which we can all be thankful. Congratulation Ed!

The Historical Museum Advisory Board awards the Pioneer Award each year to a community member in recognition of the past achievements, in spirit and time, in promoting the interests and future of the City of Louisville through their personal service to the community and its residents.

Ed Helmstead will be re-touching the Museum signs this summer. Keep an eye out for him up on the lift when the weather is warm.

Outreach & Education Update by Summer King

Exciting changes are ahead for families visiting the Museum! The Museum is expanding family friendly history activities for our younger visitors. We will be



working on some fun additions to the outdoor space in 2024, including spots for hands-on play and a sensory garden. Preschool age friends are also invited to visit the mini -Jacoec Store inside the real Jacoec Store building. The Museum recently developed a corner of the Museum to bring a historic photo of the Jacoec Store to life, with touchable felt pasta to sort, wooden gumballs to weigh, and tin cans to stack. As the Museum seeks to serve all ages, this is an important (and fun!) addition to our exhibit space.



Volunteer Update by Sophia Imperoli

Thank you so much to the following people for sharing their memories of the Louisville Public Library with Museum staff and for participating in the oral history program. Their interviews were integral to our understanding of the role the library has played in Louisville over the last 100 years!

- Maureen Hogg
- Carolyn Anderson Jones
- Lisa Merly
- Carol Purfurst
- Sandra Richmond
- Jessica Schwartz

Also, thank you so much to the team of volunteers who have been working on the Museum’s Oral History Program: Leslie Aaholm, Noelle Gatto, Barbara Gigone, Diane Marino, Jean Morgan, Betty Solek. And special thanks to Phyl Thomas for her continued support of the program.

If you'd like to help with this fun program, we need folks who are willing to serve as interviewers, camera operators, and recorders/transcribers. Training will be provided. Please contact Sophia Imperioli at SImperioli@LouisvilleCO.gov.

Thank you to our continuing volunteers!

Louisville Historical Museum Volunteers

Leslie Aaholm	Jean Morgan
Michelle Baker	Kristen Poppe
Memory Delforge	Betty Solek
Rebecca Ferguson	Chris Torrence
Noelle Gatto	Elyssa Torrence
Barbara Gigone	Carol Williams
Becky Harney	
David Hosansky	Rose Garden:
Lisa Hughes	Marty McCloskey
Ady Kupfner	
Diane Marino	
Amy Marks	



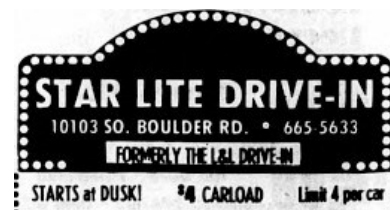
Collections Update *by Hadley Kluber Seifert*

It's come to our recent attention that, while we have quite a bit of information on the Rex Theater, we don't have a lot on another iconic movie-going experience of bygone days. The L&L Motor Vu Drive-in Theater was named for Louisville and Lafayette, the two towns it sat between. The L&L occupied the land 'one half mile east of Louisville on the oiled road' or



what is now 2000 W South Boulder Road. It was opened by Louisville Rex Theater owner, Carmen Romano and Lafayette La-Fay Theater owner, Walter Houser. The grand

opening took place on May 15th, 1953 and advertised such attractions as a 'large tilted screen', the 'latest type projection', and an 'up to date concession stand' with 'modern restrooms.' The drive-in changed hands several times over the years before reopening as the Star Lite in 1980 and ultimately closing after that season.



We are seeking any stories, photographs, or even ticket stubs from the L&L to expand our knowledge and tell the story of this former institution. Please send an email to HKluberSeifert@LouisvilleCO.Gov if you have stories or objects to share.

Please join us for a talk with historian Michael Kilgore on Saturday, July 27 from 3-4pm at the Library. Michael Kilgore is the author of *Drive-Ins of Colorado*. There will be popcorn!

Donations to the Museum's Collections and Records

The Louisville Historical Museum recently accepted the following donations for the Museum's permanent, education, and reference collections. Thank you to the donors!

February—March 2024

James A. Dixon – Bronze vase with fronds sculpture related to the Marshall Fire.

Barbara Gigone – Oliver Standard typewriter used at the Daily Camera for the Education Collection.

Arlene Leggett – Shoe skates and case from the 1950s.

Gordon Madonna – Tie tack, ribbon, medal and patch from the United Mine Workers First Aid Team, 1938.

Sheila Ryan – Six issues of *The Lookout* from 1962; miners lamp for the Education collection .

Museum Corner

by Gigi Yang

Spring showers and warm weather are bringing some changes to the Museum campus. Many thanks to the Parks Department for the rainbow of tulips and daffodils that popped up in April to brighten the Museum grounds! We are looking forward to several opportunities to expand historic interpretation to the outdoors. The historic grape vines that were planted last fall seem to have survived the winter and we will also be planting some small herbs and vegetables in the courtyard planters to enhance the story of Italian immigrants in Louisville and the foods they ate.

With generous funding from SCFD, we are also excited to work with the Parks Department on adding a variety of native plants, fire-resistant plants, and plants used by the Arapaho and Cheyenne.

In May, sculptor James Dixon will be installing his bronze sculpture titled “Fire Vase.” This vase was the only piece that remained in the yard of a house destroyed by the Marshall Fire. The Museum is fortunate to have this piece of art that is also now a historic artifact through which we can tell the story of the Marshall Fire, climate, and fire-resistant native plants.

Lastly, warm weather brings the opportunity for some much needed repairs to the Museum buildings. History is always in the making, and in need of preservation. Take a peek at the Museum on your daily walks and you may spot a stone mason repairing a chimney, or Ed Helmstead, Louisville’s own sign painter, touching up the signage on the Museum building.

Museum Receives Award!

The Daughters of the American Revolution awarded the Louisville Historical Museum a 2024 Excellence in Historic Preservation Award at the March meeting of the Historical Museum Advisory Board.

The Museum was pleased to accept the award which recognizes outstanding individuals and organizations that preserve local history and provide opportunities to learn about significant events that have shaped Louisville and East Boulder County.



The National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution representatives Terri Stone and Gail Elias are shown with Museum Services Supervisor, Gigi Yang, and Historical Museum Advisory Board Chair, John Honan on March 20.

Become a Member!

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. Annual membership for businesses is \$125. Visit the Museum website at www.louisvilleco.gov/museum to pay online or to print out a form to send in.

Remember to send your new and renewing membership dues to the Louisville Historical Museum. Other monetary or memorial donations can be made to the Louisville History Foundation. Your membership and donations help support the Museum with outreach, collections preservation, and professional development.



Historical Foundation Update by Jeff Bradley

The Louisville History Foundation (LHF) exists to support the Museum's programs, collections, and staff. We encourage individuals, families, and companies to learn the fascinating history of our town and its people. Generous support enables our annual Vintage Base Ball Game to remain free to spectators, and makes it possible for the Museum to fund special projects such as restoring the iconic Blue Parrot stained glass window.

We are seeking individuals who have marketing and fundraising experience to join our board as we work to accelerate our development efforts. The Louisville History Foundation is a non-profit 501c3 and accepts monetary donations in support of the Museum. To learn more about us and the work we do, please visit www.LouisvilleHistoryFoundation.org.

Louisville History Foundation

Jeff Bradley	Gordon Madonna
Jane Coyle	Celeste Murphy
Jennifer Henderson	Cory Nickerson
Jennifer Levin	

Thank You for Your Monetary Donations

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

Diane Bailey Family	Ken Gagne
Barron & Susan Biederman	G. Patrick Galvin Family
Carol Day	Paula Little
Mike Deborski	Paul's Coffee & Tea

Regrets

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of lifetime member Richard Biella and regular member Ella Romans.

Memorial Donations

Thank you so much for these recent memorial donations.

In Memory of Virginia Caranci (1931-2023)

Arlene Leggett
Jean Morgan

In Memory of Richard (Dick) Biella (1933-2024)

Betty Buffo
Arlene Leggett
Larry & Kathleen Martella

In Memory of June Enrietto (1926-2023)

Claire Beckmann
Roger & Elle Cabbage
David & Mary Ferrera
Bill Hattel & Ken Hopping
Christy & Mike Hattel
Mike & Steven Hattel
Aggie Ruscitti
John & Kathy Steinbaugh

In Memory of Anna Hansen (1924-2023)

Betty Buffo
Ron & Kelli Buffo
Arlene Leggett

In Memory of Glen Hansen (1924-2023)

Arlene Leggett

In Memory of William (Bill) Ryan (1940-2023)

Arlene Leggett

In Memory of Trudy Symanski (1936-2023)

Arlene Leggett



HISTORY

BY THE NUMBERS



- 100,546+** Digital visitors in 2023
- 22,000+** Items in the Museum's permanent collection
- 5,948** Images accessible 24/7 in the online collection
- 5,425** Museum visitors in 2023
- 3,890** Digitized issues of *The Louisville Times*
- 778** *Louisville Historians* mailed to members quarterly
- 397** Historic building reports written by Museum staff
- 230** Hours of oral history interviews recorded since 2009
- 141** Issues of *The Louisville Historian* online
- 44** Museum programs in 2023
- 34** Museum volunteers
- 25** Open hours each week
- 5** Historic structures on the Museum campus
- 4** Professional Museum staff members
- 0** Cost of admission to the Museum

Museum Hours & Services

Museum Tours

The Museum welcomes walk-in visitors! Groups of six or more people, schools, or anyone requiring special accommodations may request tours by appointment using the online group tour form.

Open Hours

Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat: 10 AM —3 PM
 Wednesday: 1—6 PM

Donations

If you are interested in donating objects or photographs to the Museum, please contact the Museum at Museum@LouisvilleCO.Gov or 303-335-4850. The best days to bring in items for consideration are Wednesdays and the third Saturday of each month.

About

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

Staff

Museum Services Supervisor
 Gigi Yang

Museum Associates

Sophia Imperioli – Public History & Interpretation
 Summer King – Outreach & Communications
 Hadley Kluber Seifert – Collections Management

Historical Museum Advisory Board

The Historical Museum Advisory Board (HMAB) is a seven-member board appointed by City Council. Each member serves a four year term. The primary role of the Historical Museum Board is to act as an advisory board to the Louisville City Council on matters relating to the Louisville Historical Museum and Louisville history.

Current HMAB Members

Rebecca Ferguson	David Hosansky
Jonathan Ferris	Scott McElroy
Nicole Garcia	Joe Teasdale
John Honan	

Thank You to New and Renewing Members!

Dave & Shelley Angell
Diane Bailey Family
Barron & Susan Biederman
Lisa Brooke
Anne Burton
Robbie & John Cartwright
Mark Cathcart Family
Nadine & Bob Dean
Leanne Dillon
Alyssa Ealy Family
Adam & Donna
Luz Espona Family
Nick Facemire Family
Janet Ferrera
John Fisher/Farrell/Mangus
G. Patrick Galvin Family
Linda Harris
Sheila Hausbeck
Cheryl Hoyt

Amy Huckaby
Connie Jenkins Brittain
Jacqueline Johnson
Carolyn Jones
Judy & Steve Knapp
Nancy Kochevar
Aaron & Kristin Lentz
Susan Lucero
Gordon Madonna
Gwenne Maiorca Family
Rob & Katie Melich
Daniel & Heather Mellish
Kathy Metzger
Wendy Mills
Sharon Nemechek
Elayne Oligschlaeger
Martha Parks
Allison Reeds & Brad Seago
Rosemary Rippeth

Kenneth Roberge Family
Rosser Family
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Laurel & Robert Tofte
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Myron & Maggie Varner
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Thank You to the Museum's Business Members!

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Thank you to Boulder County residents for generously funding cultural facilities through SCFD for over 30 years! This year, the Louisville Historical Museum joins the many facilities funded through your generosity!

Louisville Historical Museum
749 Main Street
Louisville, CO 80027

Return Service Requested

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