



# From Time to Time

*A Quarterly Publication of the Commerce City Historical Society*

**Apr. - June 2018**

**Vol 9, Issue 2**

## **CCHS Memorial Day Parade Float wins Second Place for the Spirit Competition**



*The CCHS participated in the annual Commerce City Memorial Day Parade receiving second place for the Spirit competition. Volunteers for the parade were: Ron Brown, Esther Hall, Harley Hall, Sheila Harris, Maria Zepeda-Sanchez, Thelma Cole, Valerie Medina, Heather, Maggie McEldowney and Sarah Oberbeck. The volunteers decorated the turn of the century doctor's cart. Esther Hall designed the fabric draping the cart and helped with the costumes. Congratulations.*



*2018 Second Place Commerce City Parade Recognition award goes to CCHS.*



*Upper left: Thelma Cole, Ron Brown, Sarah Oberbeck, and Ricky Converse*

### **Museum Volunteers**

Museum volunteers needed

Information gathers and helpers in the Museum, research, writers, administrative help, display organizers, help with moving displays, etc.

For information call:  
Esther Hall, president: 303.249.1930  
Debra Bullock: 303.946.3426



**Attend the 4th  
Anniversary Celebration  
with the Classic  
Car Show, 10 - 2, Sept.  
15 (See Flier of Page 13)**

*Preserving the history of Commerce City because history matters*

## Al & Kathy Cordova awarded Jean Klein Angel of the Year Award 2018

Commerce City's angels are the very best... the people who keep this community going by doing little things for the community on a daily basis. And you see them, year after year. A great deal of time, you see them at the John Custy American Legion Post 151 on Fairfax Drive. Al and Kathy have been members of the Legion since 1960 and have helped with the operation and maintenance of the Legion all this time.

Every year you see Al and sometimes Kathy participating in the Annual Memorial Day Parade on the American Legion Float. The theme of the first one was the Iwo Jima.

Al Cordova grew up in Brighton, CO as one of 10 siblings of which he is the last survivor; moved to Commerce City in 1960 when he married Kathy Torres. Kathy was born in Roggen, CO, 1954 graduate of Manual High School in Denver and moved with parents to Commerce City on Colorado Blvd. in 1955.

Al Cordova - they built their house on Colorado Blvd in 1962 and, after 58 years, still live there. Together they raised a son and daughter (both deceased). They also have two grand and four great grandchildren.

Kathy joined the American Legion Post 151 Auxiliary in 1960 and has served as President, secretary, treasurer, and director for many years. The American Legion is a family project as both are very involved in the Legion. When you go to the Legion they are always there and they are helping in some way.

Kathy still helps prepare food for the many dinners and events, works the food line and cleans the Legion every third week. She worked for the American Legion for a few years and also worked for the Merchandise Mart and they now call her in to help with big events. The first parade she participated in was the Iwo Jima.

Kathy is a kind, happy per-



son and a welcome member to the community.

Al, now 88, spent 5 years as regular army soldier in the Army Ski Division in Alaska and 3 years reserve duty in Korea. Among his jobs has been a structural steel worker that included walking beams way above ground, and driving a cement mixer after retiring as iron worker. He is very involved with local American Legion Post 151, where he has served as its commander for 9 years, junior vice commander, sergeant of arms.

In addition, for many years he's been cook for many Sunday fund raising breakfasts open to the public, helped build and walk/ride with Post's Memorial Day float which earned many category first and/or second place trophies.

Also, for 6 years, he has been part of the Honor Guard at Fort Logan National Cemetery which involved military funeral services 3 times a week.

It is our pleasure to recognize Al and Kathy Cordova with the Jean Klein Angel Award.

Al and Nancy cannot be here today due to a previous family commitment.

## Colographic receives award from CCBPA for Commerce City Bus. & Prof. Assn.

Jimmy Burds and the team at Colographics are a great community-minded, family business that donates to a variety of community organizations. More than a just a profit-based company, Jimmy gives back whenever he can, including making banners for community events and even hosting area school children at his office during an open house where the kids were treated to an electrical safety demonstration. Colographics works directly with the customers throughout the whole process to make sure they are happy with the final product and that the job is done as soon as possible so his top quality graphics and exterior signs can be out in the real world where people can see it.

Workforce Imagineering is a key part of the strong work ethics every day at Colographic. After a series of stretches, the workforce discusses improvements, status updates for each area, operations strategy, problems/challenges, and gratefulness. Every day, a different team member gives a small presentation, enabling everybody to take turns being a leader and expressing their ideas about how to further enhance company performance. This is a momentum builder that helps put company values and goals firmly in mind, and gives everyone a chance to feel heard, acknowledged and respected.

They also value and encourage thinking outside the box, to do that they expanded the scope of Colographics capabilities and capacity. Known chiefly for vehicle/fleet wraps, to complement these services the team moved into a whole array of interior and exterior graphics, displays, even furniture. Want a one-of-a-kind rocking chair branded with your logo in your front office? How about full-door graphics that depict the function of the area inside? Or maybe you're



looking for a three-dimensional display that shows off your latest products. Colographics can do it all. In fact, they have set our sights on creating tiny houses that can sit on the platforms of semi-truck trailers.

Talk about expanding your presence in the transportation business

Colographics work is often one-of-a-kind and, when you see it, it pops! From a small family business started in his garage 39 years ago where he did the work by hand, Jimmy and the team have helped the company grow into modern computer-backed facility housed in a 12,600 square-ft building on three acres in CC.

The CCBPA is proud to present the Business of the year award to Colographics.

## Time to Time Reception

The Annual Reception was held at the Yellow Rose Event Center, 6490 E. 72nd Pl. on Sun., Apr 29 from 3 - 5 pm.

Annual Awards went to Rocky Mountain Recycling, Ardent Mills and Al and Kathy Cordova. The CCBPA also presented awards to Colographic and Maria Zubia. Information may be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

A good sized crowd enjoyed the annual festivities.



## Zubia named Person of the Year by CCBPA



### Maria Zubia

It is with great pleasure that the CCBPA presents Maria Zubia with the prestigious Person of the Year award.

Put simply, there is no one more dedicated to the children, families and all other governments and entities in Commerce City, where she is much loved and greatly respected. She is also known

by many organizations and people throughout the Front Range, especially Adams County, where she has made quite a name for herself.

Every time the community meets, Maria is there, bringing happiness and goodness. For decades. Her work in school-based health centers in Commerce City at Kid's First Health care has made her a community champion and her volunteer work in the area is unsurpassed. She is never afraid to roll up her sleeves, get dirty, and be down in the trenches and grass roots taking every opportunity to make Commerce City a better place. Her tireless efforts amaze us all.

Maria is a true, humble selfless soul and she has taught her family well in the arts of caring for others on a grand scale. She is the consummate mother and leads by example.

But make no mistake, she is courageous to a fault and is never afraid to use her voice (in English or Spanish) and any resource she can find to right the wrongs and fight the good fights. She is a formidable opponent for those whose agendas and policies are not for the betterment of children and their families. She does this quietly, without yelling or screaming -- moving and navigating through difficult situations with professionalism and strategic thought. Her integrity and character is so solid, that no one, ever would judge her motives. She's one of the pure ones. And always there with a kind word, an idea, an organizational skill, a way to work through red tape and political mire. She knows how to partner, how to share, how to be a friend. And she NEVER asks for anything for herself.

The CCBPA is extremely humbled by this remarkable woman and proud to have her in our community.

## Ron Brown named Volunteer of the Year

Ron has been a volunteer for the Historical Society since we have been formed.

He works the museum on Wednesday's and is always available to move stuff. He helps with displays. He helps with the Memorial Day parade

He helps at all of our events and community outreaches. He cleans and helps on the grounds

In 2017 Ron had over 200 hours of service and Ron always has a Service attitude.

CCHS is grateful that we have volunteers like Ron

And it is because of volunteers like him that we can do what we do. Ron is moving to Kansas and we are going to miss him.

Thank you Ron for your Service!



## Out N About



Rainbo bread celebrated their 60th Year of being in business in the Commerce City community. Over the years, it has been known as Rainbo Bakery, Sara Lee and Bimbo. When first opened, the Rainbo Bread Store sold bread for 10 loaves for a \$1.00

Friday, June 1, the CCHS participated in a Tour of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal Wildlife Refuge and Eagle Repository.

## Casey Hayes former mayor's 90th birthday on June 30 at ADCO fairgrounds w/ dinner dance.

Casey and Marilyn were born the same year. 1928



Casey, Esther Hall and Marianne Hayes.

Crowd photos from Casey's 90th birthday party.



## Museum Volunteers

### Charter Members:

Joy Bishop  
Hester Bonnell  
Debra Bullock  
Rene' Bullock  
Thelma Cole  
Cindy Comstock  
Gary Comstock  
Kristi Douglas  
Steve Douglas  
Gary Drotar  
Reba Drotar  
Samantha Ford

Sean Ford  
Esther Hall  
Bob Hutchings  
Dorothy Hutchings  
Gene Leffel  
David Lutter  
Dustin McIntyre  
Loretta Petty  
Don Sater  
JoAnn Stevenson  
Dick Stevenson  
Janet Union  
Norm Union  
June Younger  
Troy Younger

Rene' Bullock  
Hester Bonnell  
Ron Brown  
Harley Hall  
Claudia Barnes  
Michael Scanlon  
Debra Bullock  
JoAnn Hardt  
Sheila Harris  
Esther Hall  
Thelma Cole  
Maria  
Zepeda-Sanchez  
Pam Meier  
Shelley Bonnell

Museum hours: Mon. - Sat. 10am - 2 pm  
6505 E 60th Ave., Commerce City

## ***From Time to Time Newsletter***

A Quarterly Publication of the Commerce City Historical Society,  
6505 E. 60th Avenue, Commerce City, Colorado 80022

### Board Members

Esther Hall, President, 303.249.1930  
Pam Meier, Vice President, 303.901.7486  
Debra Bullock, Secretary/Treas., 303.946.3426  
Sheila Harris, Membership, 720.939.0582  
Jacob Wilson, 720.693.0810

### Advisory Board Members

JoAnn Stevenson, Casey Hayes, Janet Union, Reba Drotar,  
Thelma Cole, Valerie Medina

## Commerce City Historical Society

Twitter: cchistoricalsociety@yahoo.com  
Facebook: Commerce City Historical Society  
Website: cchistoric.com  
Email: cchistoricalsociety@yahoo.com  
Address: 6505 East 60th Avenue  
Commerce City, CO 80022  
Phone: 303-288-2590

## Museum Donations

Apr. 1 - June 30, 2018

\$46.00

### Personal Donations

Rene' & Debra Bullock - \$410.00  
Pam & Jim Meier - \$210.00  
D8ck & Joann Srevenson - \$1,000.00

### Museum Visitors

April - 30; May - 58; - 81; June - 19

**Total visitors for 2017 from October to June 2018 - 358**

## New Members -Apr. - June 2018

### Renewals - April - June 2018:

Bonnie Campbell  
Theresa Garcia  
Damie Hummel-Bullock  
Ken & Carol Kenworthy  
Mary Krenzer  
Vivian Parker  
Felix Perez  
Vangie Rountree  
Karen Stromer  
Judy Tunis  
Laura DiWells  
Marian & Casey Hayes  
Max & Joyce Martinez  
Jessie Singh Family  
Mail Xpress LLC  
Loretta Petty

## Submissions for Newsletter

All submissions are welcome.

Debra Bullock, Photos/Stories, 303.946.3426  
Janet Union, Editor, 303.288-4768 or  
unionnorm@qwestoffice.net  
Proofreading: Valerie Medina, 720.422.0521  
vmedina75@yahoo.com

### Letter to editor:

*June 2018*

WE ARE<sup>SO</sup> SORRY TO HAVE  
TAKEN SO LONG TO GET THIS  
THANK YOU CARD TO YOU  
WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK  
YOU FOR SELECTING US FOR  
THE ANGEL AWARD THE  
PLAQUE IS JUST BEAUTIFUL.  
WE DID NOT EXPECT SOMETHING  
THIS NICE.

OUR ONLY REGRET IS THAT  
WE WERE NOT ABLE TO  
ATTEND THE RECEPTION.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THIS  
HONOR.

AL + KATHY CORDOVA

# In Memoriam

## Victor Eugene McMullin

June 26, 1954 - July 18, 2018

Victor Eugene McMullin passed away on Wed., July 18, 2018. Born in Denver, CO to Everitt and June McMullin on June 26, 1954. Victor leaves his wife Brenda McMullin, and five children: Michael, Michelle, Richard, Elizabeth and Evette. He was

dearly loved by his family and friends, and will be greatly missed.

### Missing You Always

You never said "I'm leaving"  
You never said "Goodbye."  
You were gone before we knew it  
And only God knows why.  
In life I loved you dearly  
In death I love you still.


*From Time to Time, P. 5*

In my heart I hold a place  
That only you can fill.

It broke my heart to lose you  
But you didn't go alone.  
A part of me went with you The day God  
took you home.

## Commerce City Historical Society

### Application for Membership

	NAME: _____
	Address: _____ _____
	Phone Number: _____ home _____ cell _____
	E-Mail _____
	Business Name _____

### Annual Dues

**Please make checks payable to: Commerce City Historical Society,  
6505 E. 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Commerce City, Colorado 80022**

Individual	\$10.00	_____ (per year)
Family	\$25.00	_____ (per year)
Business/Corporation	\$100.00	_____ (per year)
Life Membership	\$500.00	_____ (one time)
Senior Lifetime Membership (Age 65 Plus)	\$250.00	_____ (one time)

Are you a Veteran? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ What Branch? \_\_\_\_\_

DATE PAID \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like to be notified of meetings and the Newsletter?

Email \_\_\_\_\_ phone \_\_\_\_\_ mail \_\_\_\_\_



For questions please call 303-287-6747

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

☐

Phone Calls

☐

Working at Events

☐

Work at the Museum

☐

Moving Items



# COMMERCE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

---

## PROGRAMS 2018



**HISTORY SCHOOL LECTURES** (as requested)



**MUSEUM GROUP TOURS**-(as requested)



**HISTORY QUARTERLY LECTURE SERIES:** (see brochure) Mar, Jun, Sept, Dec



**HISTORY COLORING BOOK DISTRIBUTION** (Thursday April 12 & Friday April 13)



**READING BOOK DISTRIBUTION** (May 3 & 4)



**OUTDOOR WORK DAY** (Storage Building and Museum) June



**COMMERCE CITY HISTORY BUS TOUR** – November 2, 2018



**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER** (Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter)



**HOLIDAY GIVING PROGRAMS** (sponsored/family at Christmas)



**VIDEO HISTORIES** (Families and City Events)



**TIME MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS, SCRAPBOOKS and WINE** (Feb 2018)



**Outreach Information Tables** (June 14 & August 9-City Outreach, November 1-Lester Arnold Fall Days)



## COMMERCE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WE'RE HEADED TO THE HILLS



**Mardi Gras Casino Trip, Sunday Sept. 9, 2018**

**Cost \$10—Contact Esther Hall or Debra Bullock  
for tickets—303-249-1930/303-946-3426**

**Leaving Commerce City Museum  
(6505 East 60th Avenue) at 1 pm.**



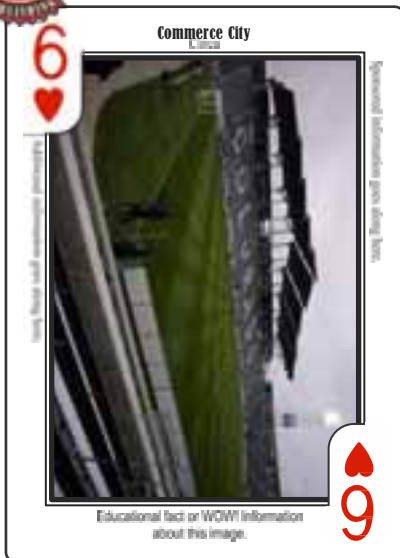
**GET \$5 Machine Play \$5 Table Play, AND A \$5 meal  
voucher at the Mardi Gras Casino**

# CASINO TRIP

# Commerce City Historical Society

2-10 Cards - \$100.00, face cards (J, Q, K) - 150.00, Jokers \$175.00, Aces - \$200.00

Ad Cards \$300.00



FEATURES:

- Casino Quality
- Limited Edition
- Fun Facts on Each Card
- Includes 52+ Unique Images
- Reminisce Times Past

FEATURES:

**\* \* \* Order your decks early to avoid the rush! \* \* \***

## Would You Like to Sponsor a Card?



You can sponsor a card and put, "In Memory of..." Or even, "Sponsored by..." There are only 56 cards to sponsor so call soon. It's a great way to not only help out our organization, but put your name in history!

**To Order or Sponsor Contact:**  
**Debra Bullock**  
**303-946-3426 or dlhbullock@q.com**



Designed and Published by:  
"Real" Souvenir Publishing part of  
Newt's Playing Cards, A  
Division of E-Quiver, Inc.  
Copyright 2005-2015

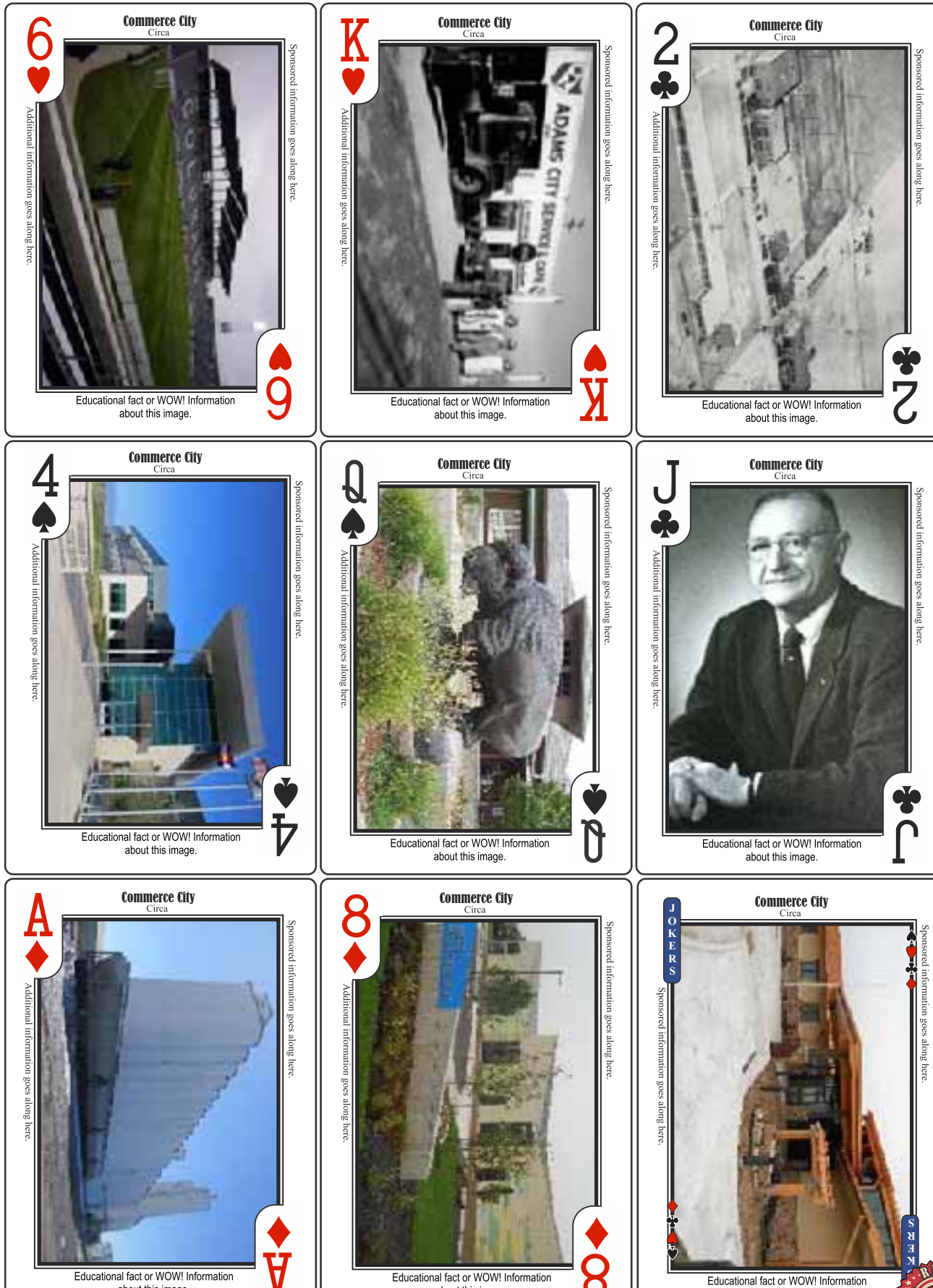


Thanks for Supporting Us!

**Rotary Commerce City, City of Commerce City,  
Commerce City Chamber of Commerce, Community Uplift Partnership**



**Sponsor a Card! Call Debra Bullock, 303.946.3426**  
**Here is a sample of what our cards will look like!**



*Preserving the history of Commerce City because history matters*

## New CCHS Displays at Bison Ridge, 13905 East 112th Avenue



Bison Ridge opening June 25



These bison sculptures, titled "Trailblazers" by artist Don Kennell, at Bison Ridge Recreation Center are each nearly 12 feet high and 20 feet long at the Bison Ridge Recreation Center.

Josh Wiener's sculptures, Steward's Ship, are placed in the roundabouts of the recreation center's entrance. (photo on right)

## Out N About

### Event celebrates largest collection of public art in the City

Commerce City celebrated five new pieces of public art and the inaugural exhibition of artwork created by Commerce City school teachers at the new Bison Ridge Recreation Center during a dedication ceremony on June 7.

The new recreation center is home to the city's latest and most extensive sculpture collection. The artwork was created by esteemed regional artists Don Kennell, Josh Wiener and John King. Kennell's three bison sculptures called Trailblazers, each nearly 12 feet tall and 20 feet long and made from galvanized sheet metal and steel, are installed on the south side of the recreation center. He was inspired by the migration paths of the American Bison which were invaluable to explorers and pioneers. Wiener's sculptures, called Steward's Ship, are in the entrance roundabouts. One is of a child pulling a boat with a cloud above it and is meant to evoke a sense of imagination and the need to preserve the environment. The other is a child pulling a boat with a tree and represents the next generation, an inspiration for children. King's sculptures are interactive installations on the inside of the recreation center – wheels spinning on the wall and then a mobile hanging from the lobby ceiling.

The inaugural exhibition of rotating art, local teachers Elizabeth Castor and Stephen Meyer, were on display last night as well. Castor is a teacher at Prairie View High School and her artwork is made of acrylic paint, colored pencil and watercolor, allowing her to experiment with different layers of color, shapes and patterns. Meyer is a Commerce City resident and art teacher. His artwork shows a wide range, it can take on a cartoony, humorous feel or a serious illustrative feel. These temporary exhibits at the recreation center celebrate emerging artists in Commerce City.





**Leroy Joseph Nuanes**, Feb. 16, 1990 - June 30, 2018

Commerce City CO  
Burial Date: July 10, 2018

In loving memory of my beloved son Leroy Joseph Nuanes (Garcia), brother, grandson, nephew, cousin and best friend. Born Feb. 16, 1990, leaving us to climb the highest mountain on



June 30, 2018. Leroy was born and raised in Denver, Colorado and survived by his loving Mother, Jessica Amador, Step-Father Andrew Amador, Brother Brenden, Sister Isabella, Grandparents Rick and Carol Nuanes, Aunt Rachel and Uncle Doug, Uncle Rick and Aunt Maria. Loving cousin to Brittani, Devin, Nicholas, Roman and Emma. Also survived by his Father Leroy Garcia, Grandmother Jacqueline Garcia and Step-Sister Mariah.

Leroy was a gentle soul that had an extraordinary love for his family and friends. He loved spending time with his little brother, going to the movies, shopping and doing whatever it took to make his little sister smile. When he wasn't writing in his journal or immersing himself in his music you could find him drinking coffee in the kitchen with his grandma Carol while he sketched his newest masterpiece.

Leroy was imaginative and incredibly talented, he expressed himself through his artwork, photography and poetry. His poetry spoke volumes of both the happiness and struggles he carried through the years. While Leroy had many hobbies, his passion was climbing; his escape from the world. Something that gave him inspiration and meaning.

He loved talking and teaching to anyone that would be willing to listen and learn. He was engaged and invested in conversation and open to any advice. Whatever Leroy would do, he would do to the fullest. He was amazing and great at everything.

Your journey doesn't end here; you're now climbing majestic mountains and watching over all of us. We're all climbing our mountain, awaiting your warm welcome in Heaven. Until we meet again.

"I want to be a man of integrity, with diligence, compassion, and understanding. Above all I want to be an inspiration to those who have fallen victim to addiction as a means of escape from the materialistic society that plagues the human race" ...Leroy J. Garcia

Visitation, July 10, 2018 followed by Funeral Mass, Tues., July 10, 2018 at 9 am at Archdiocese of Denver Mortuary Chapel. Interment, Mount Olivet Cemetery.

**Pepin, Conner Paul (1997 - 2018)**

Died Aug. 19, 2018 in his Henderson, CO home. 2015 graduate of Brighton High School. Ready to start his senior year at Metropolitan State University of Denver

Survivors: parents Paul & Kelly; brother Tanner, maternal grandmother Kerry Black; aunts, uncles and cousins. Paternal grandparents Bernie and Betty Pepin and a brother Tyler preceded him in death. Google Conner Pepin for full obituary.

**Elizabeth "Betty" Ann Pepin**

Sept. 25, 1942 - July 31, 2018

Elizabeth A. "Betty" Pepin, of Henderson, CO, was born on Sept. 25, 1942 in Fargo, North Dakota to Roland and Julie (Kretzschmar) Brandt. She moved to Denver, CO at the age of 18 to attend x-ray technician school. Betty met the love of her life, Bernie Pepin at the bus stop in front of his Texaco station and married him on June 21, 1962. They had three children, Mark (Rebecca) Pepin of Longmont, CO, Sara (Don) Suriani of Loveland, CO and Paul (Kelly) Pepin of Henderson, CO; grandchildren, Elizabeth, Emily and Joshua Suriani, Tanner and Conner Pepin, Brandt and Kelsey Pepin; great-grandchildren, Rayven and Everett Nicholas. She leaves behind sisters Lolly (Chuck) Macrum of Greeley, CO and Linda Drury of Lakewood, CO; and brother Jim (Janie) Brandt of Baton Rouge, LA, and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Preceded in death by parents, husband, Bernie Pepin and grandson, Tyler Pepin.

Betty was active in her Commerce City community and church. She served as executive director of a non-profit organization Commerce City Community Health Services for 21 years. Prior work history included Central Elementary School, Multiple Sclerosis Society, and the Rocky Mountain Adoption Exchange. After retiring, Betty worked and volunteered at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge. Betty loved her church and her Lutheran faith, she was an active member of Nativity Lutheran Church for 50 years and served in every capacity imaginable.

Her love of community and volunteerism was evident in her service on the Rocky Mountain Synod Council (ELCA); Commerce City Rotary Club; both the Colorado and the National Association for School-based Health Centers; Rocky Mountain Arsenal Medical Monitoring Citizen Advisory Board; Adams County Department of Social Services-Family Preservation Commission.

For complete obituary google Pepin, Betty, Henderson.

# In Memoriam

**John T. Kroah**

Dec. 27, 1953 –  
Apr. 27, 2018  
John T. Kroah of Commerce City, CO passed away Apr. 27, 2018. He was born Dec. 27, 1953 in Johnsonburg, PA to Harry "Elzie" and Virginia (Abplanalp) Kroah.



John served in the Army and was honorably discharged. He met and married Kathy Upshaw on Apr. 7, 1978 in Chicago, New York and together they had 3 children. John owned Choice Metals, a sheet metal company, and worked long, hard hours for 24 years. Although he enjoyed his business and the people he worked with, his true joy came from his family.

John is survived by his wife, Kathy; his children Kristopher (Sherrie) Kroah, Kelly (Jessica) Kroah and Kyle Kroah; grandchildren Kristina Kroah, Kayden Burlingame-Kroah and Alexis Kroah; sisters Dora Predko and Deb Stahl. He is preceded in death by his parents and sisters Sandy Izbinski, Darla Edwards and Karen Stahl. John will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Visitation held Fri. May 4 from 3-7pm. Funeral services Sat., May 5 at 10am. Both at Olinger Highland Mortuary, 10201 Grant Street, Thornton, Colorado 80229.

**Lee Mathews, 1924 - 2018**

A memorial service held at: Grace Presbyterian Church 9720 U.S. Highway 85N Highlands Ranch, CO Mon., July 16, 2018, at 11:00 am. Reception at the church followed. Memorial gifts may be made to Grace Presbyterian Church.

Lee Mathews graduated from Adams City High School in 1942, graduated from college and was a geologist. He retired from Marathon Oil, Denver, CO.

**John Ging Chin**

March 12, 1948 - July 14, 2018

John Ging Chin passed away peacefully at home on July 14, 2018 after a three-year battle with cancer.

John is survived by his children and their spouses: Natalie Ling Kurr (Jason) and Michael Pak Duen Chin (Jin Kun); their mother, Susan Wong; elder sister Kim Chin Lee; older brother Ging Chin; younger sister Jane Chin; dearest friend, Sharon Knight; numerous nieces and nephews, and beloved dog, Sobe.



Born and raised in San Francisco, California, John attended UC Berkeley (BS Engineering) and the University of Utah (MA Business) before moving to Denver, Colorado in 1974, where he settled and enjoyed a full life of outdoor activities, active participation in the Chinese American community, practicing martial arts, and civic engagement.

He served as Executive Director for the Adams 14 Education Foundation from 2010 to 2013. For complete obituary google Chin, John Chin.



# In Memoriam

**Alonzo Garza**, 33 of Commerce City, Colorado

Husband of Coletta Garza, father of Phoenix, Osiris, Ares, Esmeralda and Penelope. son of Pablo Garza and Martha Ramos. brother of Paul Garza Jr., Samuel Garza, Sharon Garza, Ruth Garza, Michael Garza, Irene Droger and Tony Martin. Also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and In-Laws.

Funeral service June 18, 2018 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel 6580 E. 73rd Ave. Commerce City, Colorado. 80022.



**Josephine Dreiling**,

Mar. 27, 1927 – May 20, 2018

Josephine Mary was born on Mar. 27, 1927, in Saint Peter, KS. She was the 5th child of 14 born to Christine and Leo Younger. The dust bowl drove them out of Kansas and the family moved to Colorado in the 30's. Her parents were migrant farm workers eventually earning enough to buy a small farm in Irondale, Colorado.

Josephine married Daniel Dreiling on Sept. 10, 1946. Their family includes six children Carol Ann (Patrick), Suebeth (Dave), Thomas, David (Michelle), Leonard (Cindy) and Mary Catherine (John); 15 grandchildren; 29 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. Four remaining siblings survive her: Lammie, Lucille, Clarence and Derell. She's aunt to many nieces and nephews to count and has been blessed with numerous god-children. Her parents, nine of her siblings, a grandson and three great grandchildren welcomed her to Heaven in the early morning hours of May 20, 2018.

Mass of the Christian Burial held on May 24, Saint Mark's Catholic Church (Parish Center) 3141 W. 96th Ave., Westminster, Colorado, 80031, luncheon followed. Burial place at Elmwood Cemetery, 500 S. 4th Ave., Brighton Colorado 80601..

**Winifred LaRayne Jergensen (Cavnar)**



Winifred LaRayne Jergensen passed away peacefully on Tues., Aug. 21, 2018 in Wheat Ridge, CO at the age of 95 – thirty-three days shy of her 96th birthday.

Winnie is survived by her children, Jerry Jergensen (Judith); Susie Ryan, (Jim); and Rick Jergensen (Tita). She was preceded in death by her husband Ivan Roy Jergensen, and baby son John Edward.

Winnie was born on Sept. 23, 1922, in Denver, CO to Samuel and Helen Cavnar. She attended Manual Training High School in Denver until 1941 and completed her GED in 1965. On June 7, 1941, she married the love of her life, Ivan Jergensen in Goodland, Kansas. Across nearly 63 years of marriage, the family welcomed 4 children, 8 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandson.

A loving homemaker, dedicated churchgoer, active member of several clubs and organizations,

**Mary Lee Ehret**

29, 1929 in Denver, CO to William C. Shoemaker and Myrtle M. Winchell. Mary started her journey to the hereafter on Apr. 29, 2018.

Mary worked for Samsonite Luggage Corporation for 32 years as a seamstress. She raised two daughters as a single parent. Mary was a kind and gentle soul who was dedicated to her family and work. She had the fortitude and toughness to survive as a single parent through all the rough moments life would present. She loved to do needle point, painting, gardening and she loved every moment she spent with her three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mary was preceded in death by her daughter Paulette J Hansfor (Jan.2009). daughter Patricia L Eynouf (James F Eynouf). granddaughters Suzana Lutz of Glendale, Arizona. Michelle M Eynouf, Jennifer A Eynouf, great granddaughters Analise V Eynouf,



**Sondra Jean "Rose"**

**Weedman**, 79 of Commerce City, Colorado.

Dec. 29, 1938 - Ap. 05, 2018

Wife of William Weedman, mother of Mike Weedman and Patricia Weedman. Sister of Jack Charbonneau and Robert Charbonneau. Grandmother of Christopher, Desiree and Anthony Weedman and Jeff and Jason Burbach.

Visitation Fri., Apr. 13, 2018 from 12 - 3pm at Aspen Magnolia Chapel.6580 E. 73rd Ave. Commerce City, CO

Graveside service 2:30pm Mon., Apr. 16, 2018 at Ft. Logan National Cemetery.

community volunteer, avid collector, and world-traveler, Winnie embodied love and profoundly touched the lives of everyone who knew her.

Viewing Tues. evening, Aug. 28, 2018, Aspen Mortuaries, 6370 Union Street, Arvada, CO. Interment at Ft. Logan National Cemetery Wed., Aug.29, at 10:00 AM (procession to Ft. Logan leaves Aspen Mortuaries promptly at 9:00 AM). The celebration to honor Winnie's life will be held Wed., Aug. 29, 2018, at 2:00 PM at Messiah Community Church, 1750 Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO 80220. Reception followed at Winnie's longtime home, 6000 Forest Drive, Commerce City, CO 80022. Donations in Winnie's memory can be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children.

**Troy P. Shea**, 46, of Henderson, passed away April 22, 2018 at his home in Henderson, CO. Troy was born in Denver Jan. 25, 1972, to Sandra (Applegate) and Dennis Shea.

Troy graduated from Adams City High School in 1990. He worked for Hannen Equipment for the past 18 years in Commerce City. He loved working on "Darlene," his '57 Chevy. He also enjoyed coaching his "Shea Girls" in softball for more than 15 years.

Troy loved to take his girls movie hopping, playing family games, camping and living as a proud member of the village. Troy had a very dry sense of humor. He was a loving father, devoted husband and a friend to many – most importantly a devoted and proud grandpa.

Survivors are his wife, Nanci, of Henderson; daughters, Dariti (Kenny) Godlewski, of Vacaville, CA, and Devin (Brandon) Shea, of Brighton; grandchildren, Keniti, Gavin and Karen; his father, Dennis (Wanda) of Fruita, his mother, Sandy (Gary) Disher of Denver; brothers Jimmy Disher, of Commerce City, and Brent (Amy) Disher, of Commerce City; sisters, Denise (Guido) Fumagalli, of Denver, and Jennifer (Nolan) Smith of Thornton.

Visitation Apr. 27 at Tabor-Rice Funeral Home in Brighton, which handled the arrangements. Mass of Christian burial April 28 at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Brighton. Funeral Home

**Mary Stella Hernandez** 90, died April 28 2018.

Born May 21, 1927 in Ovid, CO, the daughter of Joe and Della Mora. Sept. 24, 1947s he married Feliz Hernandez of Texas.

Mary was surrounded by her family as she left her earthly body to start a new journey with our Heavenly Father.

There is not one member of our family who has not experienced the kind, generous and loving heart that made up our precious Mary. Not only was her sense of humor great; she loved music, movies, fishing, crocheting and Little House on the Prairie. One thing we all agree upon was Mary's cooking; she could cook anything and make it taste great. Everyone who knew Mary, realized how great a person she was. If you didn't have food she would feed you. If you didn't have clothes she would make you clothes.

Near the end of her life she started to forget, she had all of us to remember for her. Now she lives on in our memories.

Survived by son Henry Hernandez, daughters Rosalind (Robert) McCarter, Petra Reetz, sons Floyd (Nancy) Hernandez, Loyd Hernandez, son in law Edward Zakrzewski, sisters Josie Cardenas and Christina (Manuel) Yslas, 10 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren.

Preceded in death by husband Feliz Hernandez, daughter Adel Zakrzewski, son in law Greg Reetz, sister Susan Garcia, brother Tony Mora, sister Francis Garcia, brother Johnny Mora, and parents Joe and Della Mora.

Mass of the Christian Burial at Our Lady Mother of the Church, Commerce City, CO. Interment at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, staging area A.



6505 East 60th  
Avenue

Commerce City Historical Society

## 4th ANNIVERSARY celebration

Date: September 15, 2018

Time: 10 a.m.—2 p.m.



CCHS Members enter  
your car Free,  
Non-Members \$10.00 to  
enter your car.



*We are seeking people who have classic or  
restored vehicles who would like to show  
their car. Awards will be presented to the  
favorite of the show. Please register by  
Wednesday, August 29 to reserve your spot  
or to reserve a table for your crafts!*

### Highlights

- Enter show at 10 a.m.
- Awards presented at 1:00 p.m.
- Hot dogs, brats, and sodas will be served
- New museum displays unveiled
- Prizes



### NEW MUSEUM DISPLAYS:

- City History 1962-2018
- Adams 14 School District
- South Adams County Water & Sanitation History!

Call Sheila Harris for your  
reservation  
720-939-0582  
sheilaharris@gmail.com

*Preserving Commerce City History!*

## Upcoming Events

Sept. 9: Bus trip  
Sept. 15: Car show  
Sept. 30: Lecture 11 am

Oct. 6: Art Fair, Derby, 10 - 4  
Oct. 21: CCHS Membership Meeting, 6 pm  
Nov. 2: History bus tour  
Dec. 15: Christmas lights bus tour

## CCHS appreciates our business members!

**MADISON & COMPANY**  
PROPERTIES, LTD.



**PAM MEIER**  
BROKER ASSOCIATE

Office: 303-771-3830    Mobile: 303-901-7486  
pam@theknollteam.com    theknollteam.com  
1221 S. Clarkson St, Suite 300 Denver, CO 80210



7280 Monaco St. 303-286-3982

**MAGNOLIA**  
**ENTERPRISES**



Harlow Leeper, Owner  
7290 Magnolia Street




7887 E. 60th Avenue  
Commerce City, CO 80022  
303-289-3600

Commerce  
**CITY**



**SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY**  
**WATER & SANITATION DISTRICT**

6595 E. 70th Avenue  
303-288-2646





**Adams 14 Education Foundation**



**La Casa del Rey**

7035 E. 72nd Ave



**Arlene Castro**  
Broker/Owner

"Your Local Experts"

13611 E 104th Ave #700  
Commerce City, Co 80022

Cell: 303.506.6742  
Office: 303.862.5457

arlene@igorealty.com  
igorealty.com



# Commerce City Historical Society Lecture Series .....

Commerce City Heritage and Cultural Center

6425 East 60th Avenue

**Saturdays 1 pm**

# 2018

## *History of the The CC Northern Range History*

September 29, 2018, 11 am

## *Adams 14 School District History*

December 29, 2018



Tree near Pioneer Park. Bad wind damage in April 2018.



Coloring book distribution - 2018  
CCGS once again furnished and delivered  
books to third graders in the City



## CCHA appreciates our business members



## Businesses of the Year

# Rocky Mountain Recycling



In 1936 Kenneth and Vernie Gahagen started a coal business on the corner of 64th Avenue and Brighton Blvd. As customers stopped buying coal, they asked

Gahagen to take out their old furnaces. He piled them up in his back yard not knowing what to do with them and Gahagen switched to the scrap metal business, known at the Gahagen Iron and Metal Company.

In the late 70's Kenneth's two sons Dennis and David took an active role in the management of the business when Kenneth retired in 1977.

Larry Odle & Bonnie Utley purchased this business in 1997 and changed the name to Rocky Mountain Recycling and expanded the business to both sides of Brighton Blvd. This business has been in continuous operation at the corner of 64th Ave. and Brighton Blvd in Commerce City for over 80 years.

Larry is the majority owner with 2 other partners (Brian Henesey and Andrew DeBaise).

Rocky Mountain Recycling buy and recycle all scrap metals including copper, aluminum, brass, stainless steel, zinc, aluminum cans, lead, and all types of iron and ferrous metals. Their goals are to pay a fair price while providing the highest possible level of customer satisfaction.

They serve the recycling needs of hundreds of industrial accounts throughout the Front Range, the plains, and mountains surrounding the Denver metropolitan area. They operate a fleet of over 40 large capacity trailers, 800 Roll-offs and Loggars to meet the needs of the demolition industry.

At Rocky Mountain Recycling it is their people (80 employees) that set them apart. They have the friendliest, highly trained, group of recycling specialists in Colorado. Their commitment to customer satisfaction, safety, quality and productivity is unmatched in the Front Range.

They strive to be the leading "go to" scrap metal recycler across North American. They have an exceptional service team and no job is too big or too small.

Their motto has been 'Recycling with Integrity since 1936 and that has not changed. They pride themselves in offering a variety of services to fit their customers' needs and do so with the utmost integrity, efficiency, and responsibility. They work diligently to ensure that their customers' needs are met beyond their expectations whether it is commercial or retail scrapping, container services, or demolition. They achieve this without abandoning their responsible and ethical environmental standards that they value in the organization, and to our society as a whole.

In addition to owning and managing Rocky Mountain Recycling, Larry Odle is the President for the Adams 14 Foundation which provides scholarships for many Adams 14 students each year and provides a 4 year scholarship himself. This year (in its 18th year) the foundation gave over 215,000.00 in scholarships.

Kenneth Gahagen also offered a two year Vocational Education scholarship to Metropolitan State College every year before Adams 14 Foundation was formed.

It is with great pleasure that the Commerce City Historical Society is recognizing some of our great leaders and a great company in Commerce City.

## Ardent Mills

### Brief History of the Ardent Mills Commerce City Community Mill

Ardent Mills is proud to nourish Commerce City and the Denver metro community. As the premier flour-milling and ingredient company, Ardent Mills' vision is to be the trusted partner in nurturing its customers, consumers and communities through innovative and nutritious grain-based products.

Ardent Mills' operations and services are supported by more than 40 flours mills and bakery mix facilities along with a specialty bakery, the Mobile Innovation Center and the Ardent Mills Innovation Center; all located in the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico. Deeply rooted in communities throughout North America, Ardent Mills is headquartered in Denver, Colorado, and employs more than 100 certified millers and supports more than 2,400 jobs across our enterprise, generating billions of dollars of economic activity.

Today, Ardent Mills is proud to be honored by Commerce City for more than 80 years as an active economic driver and community partner.

The Commerce City community mill and its joint venture partner Commerce City Grain, helps bring Colorado's top-quality wheat to the midwestern region. Ardent Mills Commerce City receives locally and regionally grown hard, soft and organic wheat from fields around the state of Colorado via rail cars and trucks.

Milling is a pretty simple process. Once wheat arrives at the mills it is separated, cleaned and stored in our grain bins before the wheat is ground. The wheat kernels are ground and sifted into the soft, white, fluffy ingredient we are all familiar with in our kitchen pantry.

Allow me to describe the Commerce City mill by the numbers... In 1930, the Commerce City grain elevators were built.

In 1936, the Commerce City mill was constructed.

More elevator capacity was added in 1964 and bulk storage capacity in 1984.

By 1999, the mill was modernized and more storage capacity added along with five new pack lines.

Commerce City makes many different blends of flour including all-purpose, whole wheat, high gluten and is the home of Ultragrain® ultra-fine milled whole wheat. More than 200 finished products are made at this facility for regional and national distribution.

On average, Commerce City



grinds and sends out 40 truckloads each day.

More 90 team members make the magic happen at the mill over three shifts, 24 hours a day/seven days a week.

Their efforts result in about 1.8 million pounds of flour produced each day, ensuring that Colorado bakers and chefs always have great flour for their many flavorful food creations.

Ardent Mills Commerce City team members are also active in the community, providing support and engagement with the Tennyson Center for Children, participating in food, tote and blanket drives and volunteering at the SunCor Boys & Girls Club, Denver Rescue Mission and Food Bank of the Rockies.

It is our pleasure to honor Ardent Mills with our Business award.

Jason Hancock the plant manager and Anita Padilla also an employee are accepting the award.

May 2018

## The CCHS handed out reading books to the 3rd grade elementary classes in Commerce City

*Preserving the history of Commerce City because history matters*