

# From Time to Time

A Quarterly Publication of the Commerce City Historical Society

Jan - Mar 2020

Vol 11, Issue 1

### Alsup students walk to groundbreaking of new school

Groundbreaking of the New Alsup PK-5 STEAM Academy was a welcome addition to the Alsup neighborhood in Commerce City, Colorado on Mar. 12, 2020. The new school will be directly east of the Adams 14 Transportation Offices, 4291 E. 68th

Adams 14 was awarded a BEST grant from the Colorado Department of Eucation to construct an all new Alsup Elementary for the amount of \$19.6 million. Adams-14 will provide \$14.2 million from a combination of savings and new debt to cover the rest of the construction cost. The new construction is on the former site of Adams City High School.

The BEST grants (State funding for Alsup) funnels a portion of lottery and marijuana revenues to struggling school districts to help address facilities problems. The grant requires the local district to pay for a portion of the project.

Several schools in Adams-14 need replacement. Safety concerns lifted Alsup to the top of the list. Sewage backups have forced the school to close several times. Recently, an Amber Alert intensified campus concerns.

The incident was a reminder that the current school's design makes security a challenge because the main office is far from the main entrance. Although staff tries to keep an eye on the doors, it is not enough the principal said.



Alsup students walked over to the new Alsup location to observe groundbreaking on March 12, 2020 on a cool windy day

### Alsup Elementary - 2020

7101 Birch Street
About 519 students
88 percent qualify for free or reduced price lunch.
Built in 1959

**STEAM** Education is an approach to learning that uses Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking.

Adams City Schools history recap...... p. 7 & 14

Coronavirus
Panademic
2019-2020 ......p 6, 13, 15

Coronavirus photos ..... p. 10



Adams-14 Board members, 2020: Maria Zubia (left), Regina Hurtado Rene Lavato, Connie Quintana and Ramona Lewis, president.



# Volunteer Spotlight **DEBRA BULLOCK**

Debra Bullock and Rene` Bullock are the co-founders of the Commerce City Historical Society. Debra and Rene' had a vision in 2008 to start recording the history of Commerce City so the new neighborhoods would know the history before them. They developed a core group of long-time Commerce City residents and started working on this mission. Many of the founding committee members are still involved and working to preserve the history of Commerce City. Debra is very grateful for all the volunteers who make this happen every week. We have wonderful people who are dedicated just like Rene' and Debra in keeping the museum open and preserving Commerce City History.

Debra was born in Boulder, Colorado and moved to Commerce City with her parents in 1960. She attended Irondale Elementary, Adams City Middle School and Adams City High School, graduating in 1973.

Debra married Rene' Bullock in 1987 and they never left Commerce City. They have a grown daughter Dami and 2 granddaughters who live in Longmont. Debra has over 40 years of experience in the Hospitality and Private Service Industries. Most notably, she served as the Director of Housekeeping for nearly 20 years at the historic and famous Brown Palace Hotel and Spa in Denver, Colorado. This place is very near and dear to Debra.

From there, Mrs. Bullock joined Starkey International as the Director of



Education.

Hailing many years of exemplary quality, customer service, management and leadership, she now has a passion to teach and train, which led her to open her own business, BEST (Bullock Estate Services Training), which focuses on consulting and training in the Private Service Industry for high net worth families and she travels around the world training staff members working in these large homes.

Debra has served on many community boards in Commerce City. Most recently to include the Commerce City Cultural Council, Leadership Commerce City, Commerce City Chamber of Commerce, Our Saviour Lutheran Church Council, Union Reunion Committee board member. She also currently serves on the Adams County Fire Department as a board member and the Commerce City Historical Society as the Secretary. She co-manages the museum with President Esther Hall. Her passion is preserving the history of Commerce City and creating history exhibits for people to learn about the history of Commerce City.

### **New Board Member**

### JANET SWANK-UNION

Norm's Printing Co-Owner, Jan. 2020-2022

Janet has served many years as an Advisory Board Member of the Commerce City Historical Society. In January of 2020, the board appointed Janet to complete the term previously held by Jacob Wilson. Janet has lived in Commerce City for 73 years and brings a lot of early history to our Society. She is cowner of Norm's Printing since 1982, was coeditor/publisher of the Commerce City Beacon for 21 years. She is in the rental

business and served as Secretary of the Margaret Swank Family Partnership for many years. Janet is a member of the Rose Hill Grange, the American Legion Post 151 Ladies Auxiliary, is a past president of the Commerce City Business and Professional As-



sociation and has been a member since 1980. She also currently serves as a board member for the Commerce City Chamber of Commerce and is a charter member..

She loves appreciates antiques and is married to Norm Union.



### Giving: COVID-19 has its own needs

Nonprofit organizations are in a crisis. They account for nearly one of every ten jobs in this country with more than 12 million people in these jobs. If able to give, we offer some advice.

**1. "Give locally.** This pandemic is everyplace-based. The best place to start is in our own communities and states where we're most familiar with the needs, nonprofits and people.

The Denver Post, Apr. 14, 2020, P 9A

2. "Give more to the nonprofits you already know, believe in and support.
Ask: How are they responding to COVID-19? How are they serving the community during this crisis and what do they most

need? Consider making an additional donation.

The Denver Post, Apr. 14, 2020, P 9A

3. "Anticipate mid and long-term needs
Although the needs are acute today, they
will continue to grow long after the immediate health crisis subsides. The mid and
long-term effects of unemployment, homelessness, hunger, physical and mental
health needs and more will continue to
grow for many months after the coronavirus has spiked. If you can, create a plan for
future giving, as well.

The Denver Post, Apr. 14, 2020, P 9A

4. Many of the nonprofits are run by dedicated volunteers who strongly believe in

#### what they are doing

Help our local non profits and keep them running thru this time. Just a small donation goes a long way.

The Denver Post, Apr. 14, 2020, P 9A

Philanthropy consists of "private initiatives, for the public good focusing on ". Philanthropy contrasts with business initiatives, which are private initiatives for private good, focusing on material gain, and with government endeavors, which are public initiatives for public good, e.g., focusing on provision of public services. [1] A person who practices philanthropy is a .

Philanthropy is different from ... Charity aims to relieve the pain of a particular social problem, whereas philanthropy attempts to address the root cause of the problem.



## Dog track display in process



The CCHS Board of Directors would like to thank David Chambers for moving one of our items that we took off the Dog Track in 2012. He has been storing this for us. We are now ready to refurbish them and tell the story of the Dog Track History. This is our next display that we are working on. You will see how this work transpires. Ron Jones, one of our volunteers, washed them, getting them ready for painting.



### Donate a vehicle

Donating your car, truck, van, SUV, boat, motorcycle, ATV, RV, trailer or airplane has never been easier! Simply to donate to, give us a call, and our trained staff will guide you through the donation process, which includes tax credit. And, FREE up your space for other things.

The Commerce City Historical Society has entered into an agreement with Car Easy - they will pick up your unused vehicles free, repair, sell and return the profit (after costs) to CCHS.

CCHS can use the money for operating expenses or other purposes. You will receive a tax receipt and the CCHS will receive a check for your donation!

Give it a try!

# Commmerce City Historical Society

Call 303.288.2590 or 303.946.3426



In some areas, we will have the ability to schedule the vehicle for pick up during your initial call. In all other cases CARS will contact you within 2–3 business days to set a convenient appointment time for pick up. 303.288.2590 / 303.946.3426. Debra or Esther will answer questions and pass on their telephone number.

6505 East 60th Avenue, Commerce City, CO 80022



### **Charter Members**

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

Gene Leffel
David Lutter
Dustin McIntyre
Loretta Petty
Don Sater
JoAnn Stevenson
Dick Stevenson
Janet Union
Norm Union
June Younger
Troy Younger

Samantha Ford Sean Ford Esther Hall Bob Hutchings Dorothy Hutchings

### **New Members**

James Kinghorn Eddie Olivas Marilyn Bruffett Cleatilde Suntayo Benvelus Bob Black

Renewal Jan. - Mar .2020 Teresa Muniz Carol Bannick Charlene Kittinger Barb McMillan David & Sherri Hage Marilyn Teto Domenic Teto William Shelby Shirley Wilcoxen Harry & Margie Buschman Dan Edwards

#### **Visitors**

Carolyn Kerls

Jan. - 32 Feb. - 40 Mar. 25

### Selling Cards;

The Commerce City Historical Society Board of Directors wants to sell 1000 decks of history cards. This is very important for us and we are selling them to make money for our operating costs for the museum.

These cards are going to be worth a lot of money someday and they are a keepsake. They will make great stocking stuffers for Christmas. Local businesses can give them away as employee gifts. So get your card decks now before we sell out. You can buy them from any board member or directly from the museum.



### Museum Volunteers

Rene` Bullock Harley Hall Debra Bullock JoAnn Hardt Sheila Harris Esther Hall Thelma Cole Pam Meier Shelley Bonnell Ann VanVleet

### 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 Janet Union, Historian, 303.288.4768 /c303.7189729

#### **Advisory Board Members**

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

### 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

### **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 Hours: Mon. - Sat. 10am - 2 pm 6505 E 60th Ave., Commerce City

Temporarily closed

### Record your family history;

The Commerce City Historical Society wants Family Histories of Commerce City families. Preserve your history so other family members will be able to look at it. We will keep it in the Commerce City History Museum in the Family History section. If you don't know where to start we will schedule you with a writer to get you started. This cost \$10.00 per session. Sessions will be conducted at the museum. Don't let your history disappear. Do it now!!!!!



### New badge represents new era for the Commerce City Police Department

### Organizational improvements demonstrate renewed commitment to earning public trust Travis Huntington,

Thanks to Commerce City and Travis Huntington, Senior Community Relations Specialist

Commerce City police officers are sporting a new look on the street these days with the introduction of a new, custom badge design that officers began wearing in November 2019. Replacing the previous badge that had been worn for nearly 30 years, the new badge serves as a reminder of the department's reform efforts in recent years.

"This is about much more than the physical badge our officers wear on their uniforms," said Commerce City Chief of Police Clint Nichols. "The new badge is emblematic of the significant improvements our department has implemented. We've worked hard to identify our shortcomings and rectify them, from updated policies and strategies even to the culture of our organization. While that is an ongoing task, we've come a long way toward improving public trust and will continue working to make sure the Commerce City Police Department is an agency our residents can be proud of."

In 2016, the police department worked with city council to request a comprehensive review from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) to guide reform efforts. This assessment covered internal operations, policies, procedures, community engagement, and partnerships and provided the department with long-term strategies for improvement.

The police department has implemented the following reforms and programs in recent years:

- Created the Citizens Public Safety Advisory Board to help bridge the gap between residents and the police department
- Began the use of body cameras for every officer to promote greater transparency and accountability (June 2016)



- Introduced the "You Have Options" program to give victims of sexual assault more control over the investigative process (Feb. 2017)
- Named Clint Nichols Chief of Police (March 2017)
- Worked with Brighton PD to create the region's first multi-jurisdictional Sexual Assault TaskForce (SATF) to centralize sexual assault investigations and victim services with a specialized team to serve victims throughout the process (April 2018)
- Used the SATF as a model to create a Family Crimes Unit focusing on domestic violence investigations (June 2019)

These improvements and innovations, combined with ongoing efforts to update the department's best practices for community policing, all serve our goal of making the Commerce City Police Department an exemplary public safety agency.

The new badge design is a combination of modern and retro styles, with an oval shape, angular and clean panel lines, and a black background. The eagle is placed prominently to convey qualities such as freedom, protection, and honor. The eagle's talons clutch the United States and Colorado flags, representing both the department's pride in those symbols and the importance of state and federal bodies in law enforcement. The flags and the state seal at the center are enameled in full color to make the badge unique and bold.

While the previous version of the badge was silver for officers and gold for command staff, all badges within the department are now silver. The date of the department's 1952 inception was added as a nod to the city's history, while the sunburst from the existing badge is reflected at the top of the oval.

Smith & Warren Badges of White Plains, NY designed the new badge. For more information about the Commerce City Police Department, visit <u>c3gov.com/police</u>.

### January 2020 - South Adams County Fire

The South Adams County Fire Department launched a new department logo. The new logo brings a modern look capturing core values along with our skyline while integrating the established year and keeping SACFD scramble prominent. Additionally, the introduction of new badge for the department came along with the new logo. The new badges will bear the fire maltese cross and will be banded together by pick axes signifying the Department's pride, strength and will represent the badge of a firefighter. "As we move forward into the new decade this department has shown great innovation and the new logo and badge reflects how truly unique and special our department really is and how proud we are to serve with pride and excellence. -Chief Kevin Vincel"





Kevin Vincel, Fire Chief, South Adams Fire Department

### Coronavirus Pandemic - 2019-2020

**DECEMBER 2019** - Coronavirus discovered in China-Wuhan China.

**JANUARY 19, 2020 -** First case in U.S. for Coronavirus in Washington State-a 35-year-old man in Washington state who travelled from Wuhan China and died.

FEBRUARY 26, 2020 - Officials warn of outbreaks.

**FEBRUARY 28, 2020 -** Virus fears bring big drop to Wall Street.

**MARCH 5 – 2020 -** First confirmed case of Coronavirus in Colorado.

MARCH 9 - 2020 - Italy is under quarantine.

MARCH 10 - 2020 - Italy locks down nation.

\* Colorado cases rise to 12.

**MARCH 11 – 2020** - State of Emergency called by the Governor in Colorado.

- \* Colleges send students home.
- \* Businesses urged to take precautions.

THURSDAY MARCH 12 - 2020 - NBA Halts Sea-

· Commerce City and Adams County close offices.

FRIDAY MARCH 13, 2020 - Schools closing until the end of March.

- · Kids First school-based health centers closed.
- People shopping and cleaning off all the shelvestoilet paper cannot be found.
- · Convention centers close.
- · Hollywood on hold.
- · Movie cinemas close.

SATURDAY MARCH 14, 2020 - Colorado reports first death.

- Trump declares a national virus emergency.
- · CHSAA pulls plug on tournament.
- · Rockies suspend spring training operations.

**SUNDAY MARCH 15, 2020 -** Spread of virus idles ski resorts.

- · Lawmakers shut down session.
- · Many churches shutting down.

MONDAY MARCH 16, 2020 -All pro sports delayed.

**TUESDAY MARCH 17, 2020 -** Governor orders closures on many businesses

· US tells people to stay home.

 Major league baseball announces season will be delayed and opening game postponed.

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 18, 2020** - Colorado has 2<sup>nd</sup> death.

- · Businesses in Commerce City Closing.
- Governor order to close all restaurants and bars. Take-out and delivery is available.
- · All Entertainment Venues closed.
- · Colorado casinos closed.
- Any gathering over 10 people anywhere discouraged.
- · Trump pushes for aid from Congress.
- Trump signed into law the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.
- · Emergency Paid Sick Leave
- · Emergency FMLA expansion
- All businesses will receive to post in the workplace

**THURSDAY MARCH 19, 2020 -** Schools now closing until April 17.

- · All banks lobbies closed; ATM's open.
- · Many drive-up windows also open
- Warning stocks tumble but don't hoard cash

#### FRIDAY MARCH 20, 2020

- Postponing elective surgery procedures.
- Closed nail salons, spas, tattoo parlors, horse racing, movie theaters.
- Governor approved buying alcohol to go from restaurants
- Federal tax filing deadline has been postponed to July 15, 2020.
- The Governor of California ordered 40 million Californians to stay at home
- State receives disaster declaration from feds

MONDAY MARCH 23, 2020 - Governor (Mayor?) Polis declared a Stay-at-Home order for all Denver city and county residents.

- Olympics board talking about postponed.
- Talk show hosts are going live from their own home living rooms.

**TUESDAY MARCH 24, 2020 -** RTD announces that they are cutting routes by 40%.

- Dumb Friends League suspended animal adoptions.
- · Received in the mail (Checks / census?).
- Coronavirus guidelines for Americans card
   Commerce City information card

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 25, 2020** - Tri County Health Department ordering a Stay-at-Home order for all Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas counties to start Thursday March 26, 2020.

- Governor Polis issued an executive Order for all of Colorado to Stay-at-Home unless you are an essential business.
- · State parks closed.
- · Essential businesses are:
- Health care operations
- · Sanitation operations
- · Financial institutions
- Construction
- Auto repair
- ChildcareGas stations
- · Mail services and newspaper delivery
- Critical infrastructure, such as grocery workers, hotel workers, truck/transportation drivers,
  etc.

### PEOPLE STILL WORKING IN ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES

- · Grocery Stores/pharmacies
- Postal Service
- · Financial institutions
- · Newspaper delivery
- · Government workers
- · City employees
- · Health Care workers
- · Police, Fire, EMT
- Truck Drivers
- · Sanitation Management companies
- Republic Services
- Waste Management
   Continued on page 15



### **Adams City Schools**

1871 - The first one-room schoolhouse in the area was established in 1871 with one teacher. In 1899, another school was built. The district was twelve square miles and consisted of two schools (Sand Creek in the southern area and Cook School in the northern area. Both schools were sold in 1906.

The area was mostly farming land settled by Scandinavians, Japanese, Spanish Americans, Italians and a few African Americans.

# Adams City High School School Song

A-D-A-M-S C-I-T-Y H-I-G-H
AC, OUR AC, WE HAIL TO THEE,
FAIREST OF HIGH SCHOOLS,
GIVE HER ONE TIMES THREE,
RAH! RAH! RAH!
LONG MAY WE CHERISH HER,
FAITHFUL AND TRUE,
HERE'S A TOAST TO AC HIGH

HATS OFF TO YOU!

SCHOOL...



#### **Graduation ceremonies**

All the graduation ceremonies were held at the high school in Adams City until 1972, when that graduating class held their graduation ceremony at the Mile High Kennel Club.

**1978** - The school went under almost total reconstruction including carpeting all halls and adding the restaurant-style lunch lines in the cafeteria. The grass common area was enclosed with building that consisted of offices, medical center, day care and connecting hallways and the north building.

#### Grade schools, grades 1 -

**Irondale** - Grade school on Rosemary (thru the 40's - 80s) **Derby School** - New school built in 1949, 72nd and Monaco and in 1950 more classrooms were added.

Adams City Elementary School - 1953 construction began on east building and taken over by high school in 1959. At this time the high school graduating class had grown to 54 and the school district encompassed 55-square miles of rural farming, suburban and industrial areas.

Central, Monaco, Dupont, Kemp, Rose Hill and Hanson Elementaries were built from 1953 to the early 60s.

Adams City and Kearney Middle Schools built in the fifties.



**1902** - The town of Adams City was founded in 1902 for the purpose of placing it into contention for the county seat of the newly formed Adams County, of which Denver was the county seat, was divided into Adams, Arapahoe and Denver Counties in November of 1902. The town was located at the intersection of 69th Avenue, Dahlia Street and Brighton Road. The town consisted of a grocery store, the Platte Valley Hall, a blacksmith shop, four residences and a short railroad siding.

**1906** - District 14 Grammar School located at 69th & Cherry, was under construction and occupied. When students ranging in grades one through eight, filled only three rooms, many people said there would never be enough children to fill it.

1910 - Mrs. Frances Pratt Douglas was engaged as teacher for the term of 1909 - 1910 for \$100 per month, the second year of the school's existence and remained until 1918 until she retired with a salary of \$122.22 per month. The first graduating class, in 1910 comprised of a boy and a girl, both of whom entered Colorado University. The second graduating class consisted of four girls and a boy. In 1913 graduation ceremonies were held for one girl. The attendance for the first four years remained around fourteen.

Mrs. Pratt formed the Girls Club, presented plays, other entertainment, reading and story-writing contests and organized excursions to various points of interest. She had the students write a weekly news column and sent the best one to the 'Brighton Blade' for publication which ultimately provided a complete history of the early years for Union High School.

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### **Denver International Airport**

**1982** - "Imagine a Great City." Before being elected mayor, candidate Federico Peña challenged Denver with this simple message. With this big picture perspective came a master plan with an expanded airport to support Denver's economic growth for decades to come.

**1988** - Flying 34,000 ft. takes 34,000 acres, Adams County residents agreed to de-annex nearly 34,000 acres of land for what would soon become the largest airport in North America.

**1989** - Denver voters approve construction for North America's newest and largest airport by land area. Later that year, officials broke ground on DEN

**1990** - C.W. Fentress, J.H. Bradbum and Associates unveil their design for the fabric roof of the new airport, featuring 21 "tents" of white, Teflon coated, fiberglass fabric.

**1991** - The Denver City Council votes to name the terminal Jeppesen Terminal, after aviation pioneer Elrey Borge Jeppesen.

**1992** - The first panel of the iconic roof is installed, representing the majestic Rocky Mountains.

**1994** - The "revolutionary" baggage system created to whisk passenger luggage across 22 miles of track fails.

**1995** - After seven years, the ribbon is cut by Denver Mayor Wellington Webb and Federico Peña, and the new gateway to the skies opens amidst snow ad fog. Showing off DEN'S new runway capacity, the three first arrivals land simultaneously.

**2003** - The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) begins opening at DEN following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The Great Hall shifts from a preflight oasis to a space for new, massive security checkpoints.

At 16,000 ft-long and 200 ft. wide, DEN opens the longest commercial runway in North America.

**2005** - Serving more than 43 million passengers, a 20% increase from 1996, DEN becomes the sixth-busiest airport in the U.S.

**2008** - Agreements are finalized with Regional Transportation District (RTD) to build a new commuter rail connecting Denver Union Station with DEN.

Luis Jimenez's "Mustang" sculpture is installed at DEN.

DEN surpasses its 50 million passenger capability with 51.2 million, setting a record for the number of travelers.

**2011** - Construction of the Westin Hotel and Transit Center begins better connecting the airport to the city and completing the airport's original master plan.



Denver steps up its role for the region when Mayor Michael Hancock announces his vision for an "airport city," a key to growth for the region featuring a high-tech infrastructure.

2015 - The Westin officially opens for business

The Canine Airport Therapy Squad (CATS) is introduced. It's the largest and fluffiest animal therapy squad in any U.S. airport

DEN announces plan to reimagine the Great Hall.

**2016** - The first passengers on RTD's A Line arrive at DEN from Union Station (a 37-minute scenic route).

**2017** - A new record is set by welcoming 61.4 million passengers, including 2.59 million international passengers.

**2018** - For the first time, DEN reaches 200 nonstop destinations.

DEN continues to elevate travel. Construction begins to add 39 new gates on the C concourse.

**2019** - DEN continues to fly high, reaching a new all-time high for annual passenger traffic with more than 69 million passengers

**2020** - DEN celebrates 25 years of successful operations!



Civic Center Remote Display

# COMMERCE CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY REMOTE MUSEUM DISPAYS

Wells Fargo Bank (303) 286-2487 6025 Parkway Drive Suite 195, Commerce City

South Adams County Fire Department Administration Building (303) 288-0835 6050 Syracuse Street, Commerce City

Key Bank (720) 956-5978 6565 E. 73<sub>rd</sub> Avenue, Commerce City

Hi-Lo Check Cashing (303) 286-3982 7280 Monaco St, Commerce City Woodridge Care Center (303) 289 1848 5230 East 66th Way, Commerce City

Bison Ridge Recreation Center (303) 286 6800 13905 East 112th Avenue, Commerce City

Eagle Pointe Recreation Center (303) 289-3760 6060 Parkway Drive, Commerce City

Commerce City Civic Center Lobby (303) 289-3600 7887 East 60th Avenue, Commerce City

### <u>In Memoriam</u>

### LaNora (Peggy) Jackson

Aug. 4, 1925-Ap. 18, 2020

LaNora S. Jackson, better known as Peggy, was born on Aug. 4, 1925 in Talmage, NE to Arthur and Minnie Johnson. Peggy, her twin brother, and her three younger brothers were raised on 40 acres south of Bird City, Kansas. At the young age of 10 her father was killed in an automobile accident, and at the age of 14 her family home burned down. Fortunately, the family's neighbors got together and built the sod house she lived in until 1947. On Oct 12, 1947 she married Kenneth Jackson to whom she was married 47 years before his passing. The two built a life together in Commerce City (Irondale) where they raised 4 children.

Growing up without a father and with four brothers the Johnson children had very little, but they did have a bat and ball. Those two simple toys ignited a passion in Peggy that stayed with her all through life. She loved watching all baseball, she would watch the little league world series on television and was a season ticket holder of the Colorado Rockies. In 2007 she was able to attend the World Series and watch her beloved Rockies which was something she had always wanted to do. She loved watching all baseball but especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren play.

Peggy was a wonderful mother and she sup-

ported her children in all that they did. It didn't matter whether it was little league football, baseball, or rodeos, she could always be found cheering on her children and their friends as they competed. Her children and all their friends knew Peggy's home was always open to anybody who needed a place to be and a meal to eat.

After her retirement from the Post Office in 1995 Peggy earned another nickname among her children. They called her "Homer" after the old family dog who jumped in every time the car door opened. Peggy loved going anywhere and everywhere and was always up for an adventure. And you could bet if there was a way to get in the car when the door opened, she would be the first to jump in ready to go. She loved going to watch her grandchildren and great grandchildren in their activities, just as she had enjoyed watching their parents. She loved going on different trips and was always busy going somewhere or doing something. You about couldn't head up to Central City without her, and you could be certain that "Lady Luck" would be on her side, and you would leave with your pockets a little emptier and hers a little fuller.

Peggy left this world peacefully, knowing Jesus Christ as her personal Savior on Ap. 18, 2020 in Las Animas, CO. Peggy was preceded in death by her parents, Arthur and Minnie Johnson; her

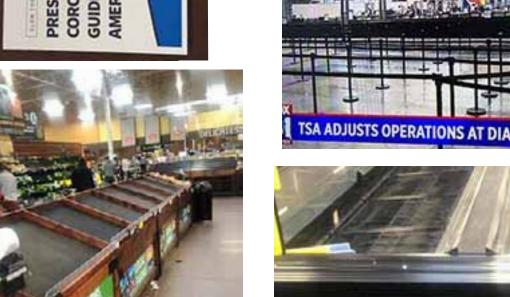


husband Kenneth Jackson; her son Doyle Jackson; her daughter LoRena Buum; and her brothers Buck Johnson, Glenn Johnson, Lee Johnson, and Leo Johnson. Peggy is survived by her sons Royce Jackson of Keenesburg and Floyd Jackson of Commerce City; her grandchildren Lexie (Clay) Ashurst of Lusk, WY; Cole Jackson of Kennesburg; Tess Jackson of La Junta; Shelby Jackson of Pueblo; Brady (Sami Jo) Buum of Fort Lupton; Brycen (Alyson) Buum of Fort Lupton; and Hadley (Sami) Jackson of La Junta; her great grandchildren Miles and Grant Ashurst, and Jozee, Maci, and Brooklyn Jackson, along with many nieces and nephews. LaNora (Peggy) Jackson dren.





Coronavirus Pandemic photos in local Commerce City businesses in March 2020. There was a shortage of meat, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, milk and other goods.







Preserving the history of Commerce City because history matters

### Help us with local t-shirt collection

The Commerce City Historical Society is collecting old historic t-shirts. If you have a t-shirt with a place, event, etc. for Commerce City, the CCHS would love to have it!

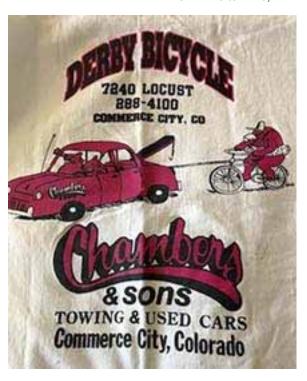
Bring it to the museum or call and we can pick up.

## T-shirts wanted

If you have old his-

toric t-shirts bring them to the museum. We have a collection of t-shirts from various events, people, places, etc.







### **South Adams County Resource Fair**

The SACFD held its first resource fair in February 12, 13 and 20. This fair was held at the SACFD Head-quarters building. Many businesses were there that provide resources for the Fire Department personnel. CCHS had a booth to present what we do for Saving History in Commerce City and participating in the first resource fair for the department.

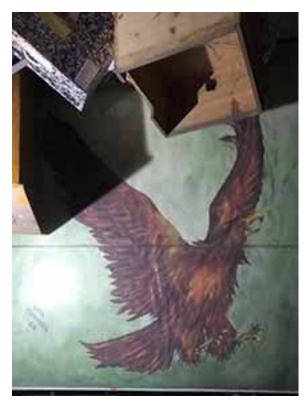
Mickey's Express opened in February 2020. They held a ribbon cutting on February 28, 2020. Mickey's Express is in the location where La Casa drive through was located at 77<sup>th</sup> and Highway 2. They purchased the building from the Atencio's in 2019.

### **Historic Preservation**



The CCHS board members attended meetings held at Eagle Pointe Recreation Center on Jan. 16, 2020 to learn about the Historic Preservation ordinance to hopefully be approved by City Council in May 2020.





the Commerce City Historical Society has accepted this large painting from Adams 14 School District. This is a painting from 1966 student, Linda Eppinger.

"In 1965 the student council asked if I would paint a giant eagle for the gym. I worked on it during the summer in the garage at home.

Back then there was no computer. I did everything on my hands and knees--drawing and re drawing until I got it right.

I designed and painted it using only GREEN ,ORANGE, and WHITE oil paints!

My sister said my dad made the stretcher frame for it. The school had a pep assembly in the fall of 1966 where it was unveiled.

I remember the team (?) went out in the middle of the gym and chanted "Hail Mr. Eagle" GREAT TIMES, GREAT PEOPLE AT ADAMS CITY HIGH IN 1966!

Linda Eppinger Johnson

### Linda Eppinger Johnson

"I grew up on the front range of the Rocky Mountains and now live in a town with hills and cliffs at my front door view. I taught art at an Indian School on the reservation which surrounds our small town, and traveled around the state to teach classes and workshops. Currently I am teaching special needs adults art classes at the junior collge in town. The diverse countryside and my lifestyle has caused me to appreciate the scenery, wildflowers, sagebrush, wildlife, and even horned toads that have found their way into my paintings, pottery and tiled murals. Watercoor is my medium of choice. I love to paint with multiple layers against the softness caused by an airbrush. I create from my own experience and can tell you a story about the artwork I enjoy doing."

LINDA EPPINGER JOHNSON FINE ART WWW.LINDAEPPINGERJOHNSON.COM

REPRESENTED BY WIND RIVER GALLERY - RIVERTON, WYOMING

### The Ten Deadliest Epidemics Throughout History

1. The Third Cholera Pandemic (1852-1860) Cholera is a bacterial infection that is mainly contracted through food and water. The largest cholera outbreak known to mankind was the Third Cholera Outbreak that originated in India and spread far beyond its borders, killing as many as 23,000 people in Britain alone.

#### 2. The Asian Flu Pandemic (1957)

The Asian Flu Pandemic was an outbreak of avian influenza that originated in China and spread worldwide. The estimated number of deaths was one to two million

3. Typhus Fever in World War I (1914-1918) This disease is spread by <u>lice</u>. During WW I, typhus caused three million deaths in Russia alone.

#### 4. Cocolitzli Epidemic (1576)

This 'disease' refers to millions of deaths in the territory of New Spain, which is the present-day Mexico. Cocolitzli refers to a collection of pests.

#### 5. Plague of Justinian (541-542)

This deadly pandemic affected the Eastern Roman Empire, specifically Constantinople and port cities along the Mediterranean Sea. This pandemic killed an estimated 25 million people, almost 13% of the world's population. The plague returned in waves but was never as severe as this one.

### 6. Antonine Plague (165-180 ASO)

This disease was also known as the Plague of Galen. (It could have been smallpox or measles.) This disease claimed up to 2,000 deaths per day in Rome. The total death toll was about five million.

### 7. The Third Plague Pandemic (1855)

The Third Plague Pandemic, also referred to as the Modern Plague, refers to a bubonic plague pandemic that started in the Yunnan province in China. It spread to Hong Kong and port cities around the world by rats that carried the infectious fleas responsible for the disease. It caused almost 10 million deaths.

### 8. The Black Death (1334)

Also called the Great Plague, it originated in China and spread all along trade routes to Constantinople and Europe, where it claimed nearly 60% of the European population and completely wiped out many towns.

#### 9. The Great Flu Epidemic (1918)

The Great Flu Epidemic has been recorded as the most devastating epidemic in history. With a death toll of somewhere between 20 million and 40 million, this disease killed more people than were killed in WW I.

10. HIV/Aids Gobal Pandemic (1960s-present) HIV is believed to have originated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo around 1920 when the disease was spread frm chimpanzees to humans.

Since the first cases of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (Aids) were reported in 1981, infection with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) has grown to pandemic proportions, resulting in an estimated 65 million infections and 234 million deaths.









History repeats itself. Came across this poem written in 1869, reprinted during 1919 Pandemic.

### This is Timeless....

And people stayed at home

And read books

And listened

And they rested

And did exercises

And made art and played

And learned new ways of being

And stopped and listened

More deeply

Someone meditated, someone prayed

Someone met their shadow

And people began to think differently

And people healed.

And in the absence of people who

Lived in ignorant ways

Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,

The earth also began to heal

And when the danger ended and

People found themselves

They grieved for the dead

And made new choices

And dreamed of new visions

And created new ways of living

And completely healed the earth Just as they were healed.



Adams City High School students moved into the new school at the 72nd & Quebec location in the Fall of 2009.



1935 - The Work Progress Administration was established by executive order by Franklin D. Roosevelt, May 6, 1935 to create employment when unemployment was widespread. (WPA: renamed in 1939 as the Work Projects Administration) was the largest and most ambitious American New Deal agency, employing millions of people (mostly unskilled men) to carry out public works projects, including the construction of public buildings and roads. This was dissolved June 30, 1943.

The sign above states "HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 14, ADAMS COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, CHRIS JUHL, PRES. 1939.

**1961 - Krogh Field House** was built to the west of the ACHS football field and was named after the first mayor and son of Ed Krogh. The field house contained a spacious gymnasium and one of the first Olympic-sized swimming pools in Colorado.

**1963** - Adams City High School was the largest school in the State of Colorado. There wre 61 teachers, 1250 students and 249 graduates.

**1999** - The Adams 14 Education Foundation Scholarship program was established by Pat Shipley.

**2012** - John Chin was hired. He passed away in 2019.

2014 - Dale Mingilton was hired

**2008** - Adams City High School closed its doors for the last time as a new high school was built at 72nd and Quebec.

1949 - 2020

### **ADAMS SCHOOL DISTRICT 14**

### 1949/50

Mr. Floyd Templeton

Mr. Alfred Krogh Mr. D.B. Alsup Mr. H. Vance Deakin

Mr. Ward Kemp Mr. W.B. Fitzsimmons-Super-

intendent

### 1950/51

Mr. Floyd Templeton

Mr. Alfred Krogh Mr. D.B. Alsup Mr. H. Vance Deakin Mr. Ward Kemp Mr. W.B. Fitzsimmons-Super-

#### 1952/53

intendent

Mr. Floyd Templeton Mr. Alfred Krogh Mr. D.B. Alsup Mr. Jesse E. Powers Mr. Ward Kemp Mr. W.B. Fitzsimmons-Superintendent

### 1953/54

Mr. Jesse Powers Mr. Alfred Krogh Mr. D.B. Alsup Mr. Armin McFaddin Mr. Ward Kemp Mr. W.B. Fitzsimmons-Superintendent

### 1954/55

Mr. Armin McFaddin Mr. Alfred Krogh Mr. D.B. Alsup Mr. Jesse E. Powers Mr. James Worley

Mr. W.B. Fitzsimmons-Super-intendent

#### 1955

Mr. Armin McFaddin Mr. Alfred Krogh Mr. D.B. Alsup Mr. Jesse E. Powers Mr. James Worley Mr. W.B. Fitzsimmons-Super-

#### 1956

intendent

Mr. Armin McFaddin-Vice-President Mr. Alfred Krogh-Treasurer Mr. D.B. Alsup-Director Mr. Jesse E. Powers-President Mr. David Tedesko-Secretary

#### 2018

Mrs. Connie Quintana Mr. Harvest Thomas Mr. Dominick Moreno Mr. David Rolla Mr. Bill Hyde Mr. Javier-Superintendent

### 2019

Mrs. Connie Quintana Mr. Harvest Thomas Mr. Dominick Moreno Mr. David Rolla Ms. Laura Martinez GMT Management Company 2019-November-November 5, 2019

Mrs. Connie Quintana Mrs. Renee' Lovato Mrs. Regina Hurtado Mrs. Ramona Lewis Ms. Maria Zubia-appointed February 2020 GMT Management Company



#### Continued from page 13

· Construction workers

#### THURSDAY MARCH 26, 2020

**FRIDAY MARCH 27, 2020 -** Congress passed a bill and President Trump signed the 2.2 trillion-dollar relief package bill.

- This is the biggest stimulus package in the history of the U.S.
- · Colorado deaths hit 27.
- Indy 500 moving from Memorial Day to August 23, 2020.
- 3.3 million Americans file for unemployment.
- Polis still urging Colorado residents to stay-at-home.

#### SATURDAY MARCH 28, 2020

#### SUNDAY MARCH 29, 2020

**MONDAY MARCH 30, 2020** - 2020 Olympics officially postponed until July 2021.

- Summit County only selling essentials at Walmart and Target and to limit time people are in the stores.
- At home learning starts for most School Districts in the state.
- Hobby Lobby is told to shut down for doing business and fined \$1000.00 but they stay open.
- It was reported that car traffic is down 60%.
- · Many Denver hotels closing.
- President extended the stay-at-home order until April 30.
- Large companies starting to manufacture PPE (Serta, Ford, GE Healthcare, My Pillow).
- · Face shields
- Masks
- Gowns
- Gloves

TUESDAY MARCH 31, 2020 - Colorado deaths hit 69.

- · 4 in Adams County
- Funerals become private affairs or no funeral at all.

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 1, 2020 -** Denver City Council voted on no short-term rentals such as B & B, extended hotel stays ban until April 30. This does include regular hotel stays.

- · travel down.
- Breckenridge Town Council approved a one-million loan for town businesses and \$500,000.00 for town residents to be able to pay their rent and loans.
- 80 deaths in Colorado.
- President Trump considering restricting domestic flight travel.

#### **THURSDAY APRIL 2, 2020**

#### Times Square - New York

- Florida and Washington D.C. join other states on state-wide lockdown. There are 11 other states that are on partial lockdown. (Utah, Wyoming, Texas, Missouri, Nebraska, Alabama, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi and Pennsylvania).
- 97 deaths in Colorado.
- Arenas, convention centers and large warehouses will possibly be made into make-shift hospitals.
- Refrigerated trucks outside of hospitals in New York City set up as a temporary morgue.
- Nonessential home givers unable to visit their clients.
- State directs Hobby Lobby to close all operations in Colorado.
- State enforces closure for Appliance
   Warehouse and put chains on the
   door.
- Wimbledon canceled for the first time since WWII.
- · Homeless population is a big concern.
- Boyer's Coffee local Adams County beloved coffee shop and coffee suppliers building burns to the ground.

FRIDAY APRIL 3, 2020 - Bill Gates donating 100 million dollars (to what?)

- 6.6 million people have filed for unemployment. These people join the 3.3 million who filed earlier. Total 9.9 million people are out of work.
- The Governor suggested no travel to the mountains. He said "This is not a vacation. This is a pandemic!"
- The Governor asked people to wear cloth masks when they go out in public.

 School Districts in Colorado suspend the school year.

- State updates guidance for construction workers.
- Reduce size of work crews
- Minimize interaction between teams-maintain the 6-foot distance
- Focus on activities that are truly critical-Do Essential construction only
- Homeowners are encouraged to have work done after the pandemic is over

#### **SATURDAY APRIL 4, 2020**

- 111 deaths reported in Colorado.
- RTD suspending fares.
- Streets in Denver closed to allow more space for people to walk, (16<sup>th</sup> Street, 11th Avenue for a few.
- Democratic convention postponed until August.
- PPE supplies are running short.
- Georgia, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania and Missouri are the latest states to issue some version of a statewide stay-at-home order.
- Posted on Facebook....

### SUNDAY APRIL 5, 2020

- 6 states still have not issued a stay-at-home order. (Wyoming, Nebraska, lowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Arkansas).
- 140 people have died in Colorado

#### **MONDAY APRIL 6, 2020**

- 150 people have died in Colorado
- Governor of Colorado extended the Stay-at-Home order until April 26.

#### **TUESDAY APRIL 7, 2020**

- The Brown Palace Hotel and Spa closed – first time in 128 years since they opened in 1892.
- Deaths reported in Colorado climb to 179.

### **WEDNESDAY APRIL 8, 2020**

 Deaths reported in Colorado climb to 190.

### <u>In Memoriam</u>

#### **Estella Marie Wamboldt**

Sept. 20, 1932 - Feb. 6, 2020. Estella was adored by everyone she met. She was devoted to her faith and had a heart filled with so much love. She is preceded in death by her daughter Christine Capicotto and is survived by her Son Jeff Wamboldt and her daughters Debbie Langman, Karen Niave, Linda Bonds, and Cynthia Schmidt. She was also blessed by 9 grandchildren, 11 greatgrandchildren and 1 great great granddaughter. Funeral Services: Our Saviour Lutheran Church 6770 Monaco St Commerce City, CO Service: Feb. 15th at 11:00 am. Luncheon followed the Service.

"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

#### **Delfido Baca**

Jan. 18, 1941 – Mar. 26th, 2020 Delfido Baca (Del) age 79, passed away Mar. 26, 2020 at Aviva Fitzsimmons Medical Center, Denver Colorado. He was born Jan. 18, 1941, Las Vegas, New Mexico.

He is survived by his wife of 50 plus years, Lucy Baca, His two daughters, Geraldine Baca and Theresa Porras. His two sons Dale & Jason Baca, nine grandchildren, four great grandchildren and many loving nieces, nephews, brothers and sisters.

Del worked at Hertz Rent A Car and retired as a well-respected Teamsters Union representative. He went on to become a well-respected business Owner/operator of Baca Tires in Commerce City, CO. Del had the opportunity to work with many of his family over the years at Baca Tires, at one point three generations working together.

Del was loved and adored by family, friends and his loyal following of customers over the years. If you ever wanted to get Del excited ask him about his Broncos. He would be happy to tell you all about the Broncos good or bad. Bronco season will not be the same without him

Due to the unfortunate events going on in the world, services will be held at a later date.

**Grady, Alden** "Toad" Alden "Toad" Grady, 87 of Commerce City. Retired refinery worker and volunteer fireman. Preceded in death by wife Virginia "Ginny" and son Steven. Private Celebration held.

Alden Grady was a former Commerce City councilman.

**Mabel M. Moore,** May 4, 1932 – Jan. 24, 2020

MOORE (Mayfield), Mabel Marie, 87, of Commerce City, CO, passed away peacefully on Jan. 24, 2020 at North Suburban Medical Center. Born in Lucerne, CO, in 1932, she was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and



great grandmother. She loved crafts, slots, fishing, camping, bargain hunting, garage sales, baking, cake decorating, barn dancing, polka dancing, was a seamstress and watching DIY shows. She was a great cook and loved salt on all her food. She was the oldest of seven children, loved Dis-Small World after All," and retired from AT&T after 20 years of service. Mabel is predeceased by her husband of 47 years, Charles A. Moore, brothers Edward Mayfield, Richard E. Mayfield and Doug Mayfield and is survived by her sons Gerald A. Moore (Patricia), Jeffrey A. Moore (Sharon), Timothy A. Moore (Angela); brothers Robert Mayfield (Saundra), Robert Dunkel, Jr., Ernie Mayfield; sisters Mary E. Schott (Albert), Marjorie A, Schneider (Richard), Eleanor Watterburg, Delores Baldwin and Pat Mayfield; grandchildren Jerry A. Moore (Yuliani), Joleen M. Deaguero (T.J.), Michael A. Moore (Shannon), Shawn A. Moore (Trinity); great grandchildren Zachary T. Deaguero, Gavin J. Deaguero, Levi T. Deaguero, Seth J. Deaguero, Sonya J. Moore, Logan A. Moore, Charles A. Moore, Reese P. Moore, Conner A. Moore. Visitation will be Sat., Feb. 1, 2020 at 12:00 p.m., funeral service at 1:00 p.m., both at Olinger Highland Funeral Home with interment to follow the service a Olinger Highland Cemetery. Following the interment, the family will have a reception at Imperium Event Center, 500 Malley Drive, Northglenn, CO. Flowers will be accepted or donation can be made in Mabel's name to St. Jude at www.stjude.org

#### **Albert Ray Trujillo**

May 14, 1953-Jan.1, 2020. Albert Trujillo was born in Alamosa, CO on May 14, 1953 to Crucita and Ernesto Trujillo. Albert grew up in Irondale, Colorado. He lived in Irondale most of his life. As an adult he worked at the Henderson Mine in Empire, Colorado, He also worked on the Eisenhower and Johnson Tunnels and worked in Denver during the urban renewal. He was a certified diesel mechanic and a heavy equipment operator. He was also a handyman and was always willing to help his friends. He was a Christian and loved helping others. His services were held on Sat., Jan.18, 2020 at Calvary Apostolic Church by Pastor Don Haymon. He is preceded in death by his parents (Crucita and Ernesto), one brother (David Trujillo) and a sister (Anne Bock). He leaves behind his other brothers and sisters (Ernesto (Chuck) Trujillo, Richard Trujillo, Mitchell Trujillo, Alice Bell, Clara Hieb, Rose Trujillo, Stella Beattie, and Lydia Motsinger).

### Jennie Walters,

Jan. 2, 1929 - Jan. 22, 2019

Jeannie Walters passed away Jan. 22, 2019 after living a long and full life. Family and friends will remember her quick wit and love for life. Jennie lived her life in service to others, particularly children. She sheltered children in



need, giving them hope & love. Born in Cheyenne, WY, she moved with her family to Raton & Denver. Jennie would often tell stories of hardship & joy. She worked in fields as a child, at the Denver Pie Co., So. Denver Evergreen & while working the Woolworth lunch counter, met the love of her life, William Walters. They enjoyed a 43-yr. romance. Jennie taught Sunday school and sixth grade, danced the jitterbug, played softball, was a talented artist, storyteller and vocalist.

Jennie found the strength to smile and communicate her love with those around her until her last breath. She will long be remembered for sharing her love of God and family.

Note: Iris Scadden's mother

### **Betty Louise Waterhouse**

Aug. 13, 1932 – Feb. 14, 2020. Betty Louise Waterhouse died Feb. 14, 2020. Visitation for Betty was Feb. 21.



Funeral service at Olinger Chapel

Hill Cemetery. The family invited all guests to join them for a Funeral Luncheon at First Baptist Church, Westminster following the burial. Pallbearers were Robert S. Waterhouse, Robert C. Waterhouse, Russell E. Rollison, Willis S. Waterhouse, Rick P. Lavielle and Austin T. Rollison.



Albert Trujillo

### In Memoriam

# Dan Edwards July 16, 1939 Mar. 16, 2020-born in Denver. CO

This is Carylon, Dan's wife. It is with an extremely heavy and broken heart that I let you know that Dan Edwards passed



away very unexpectedly on Mon., Mar. 16, 2020, at 80 years young. The coroner's office was able to swab his nose for the coronavirus, and the test came back negative.

The oldest son of Curly (Carlyle) and Dorothy Edwards, Dan grew up and attended all schools in Adams City. He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Paul Timothy Edwards. Dan is survived by his wife, Carylon Edwards, Conifer, CO; and his three daughters, Cynthia (Terry) Vaughn, Richland, WA; Sharyn (Scott) Smith, Northglenn, CO; Chris (Kevin) Bass, Johnstown, CO; his sister Nancy (Ron) Crispe, Longmont, CO; 5 grandkids, Danette, Tim, Dan, Katy and Trevor (2 of them were named after him!), and 5 great–grandkids, Olivia, Henry, Ayden, Axton, and Meika, and many nieces and nephews.

Dan and I had just celebrated our 44th anniversary on March 13th. We had done a lot over those years, from union affiliated district council and international conventions, 20 years of International and Regional Competitions for Sweet Adelines, road trips, camping in our trailer, and cruises to many beautiful places and countries.

For many years Dan worked at the Conoco Refinery in Commerce City and volunteered on the South Adams Fire Department until he took a job with the Oil Chemical and Atomic Workers Union as a representative/organizer. That job took him to Houston and Corpus Christi, Texas; Billings, Montana; and finally back to Colorado.

There will be a celebration of Dan's life sometime this spring or early summer after this Coronavirus situation has eased, and we can be outside in a group. This will take place at our favorite local pub, The Well at Bradford Junction, in Conifer. Dan was so proud to work at The Well and enjoyed Monday nights immensely when he worked for tips only! He even had a margarita re-named after him that is served only on Mondays. The incredible Dan-a-rita will remain on the menu and has a limit of 3 because they kick your butt!! Once I have things figured out. I will send out a note so anyone who wants may come to our favorite hangout and raise a glass to toast Dan. (I will personally need lots of hugs.)

In lieu of flowers, we are asking that donations be made in honor of his middle daughter, Sharyn, who has been fighting MS for 25+ years. If you follow this link, the donations will be credited to "The Slow Pokes" team. After you pull up this site, click on "Donate to Me." Any donations will be greatly appreciated by our family.

### Richard LeRoy Smith

April 3, 2020
Richard (Dick) Smith,
Commerce City passed
away at Inglenook,
Brighton on Apr. 3,
2020. Preceded in
death by his son, Donald Smith, parents
George and Edith
Smith, brother Daniel
(Bud) Smith, and



sisters Jean Klein and Betty Mulkey.

Dick is survived by children Cindy Johnson (Brad). CO; Rick Stallsmith (Ceia) MO; Cathy Smith (CO); eight grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren, brother Larry Smith, sister Dodie Henry and many nieces and nehews. In addition, Dick is survived by his ex-wies; Patricia Matthews and Trudy Smith, with whom he has remained good friends.

He was a devoted and caring brother, father, uncle, and nephew. He was the sixth child and mostly reared by his sisters, Jean, Betty, and Dodie. He loved, admired, and adored his many family members. His most favorite times were family gatherings. He enjoyed traveling in his motorhome, camping, and trolling for fish. He was fond of going to his brother's (Larry) house on the weekends joining friends and family to play cards. Larry and Dick cherished their time together on the golf course. He would spend time with his brother Bud; when they got together the laughing was many and very contagious. He also enjoyed building and creating; skilled with his hands: if he or someone needed something, he would figure out how to make it and proceed to make it. He was always eager to help when asked. His daily morning trips to the "doughnut" shop to meet with friends was the highlight of his day.

Many careers crossed his life's path: his first job was working as a teenager at Grand Lake Reservoir at the marina, mechanic, shop foreman, sales, handyman, and landlord, proudly served on the board with South Adams County Water & Sanitation, and serving on the Board of Adjustments for Commerce City.

Passion for God was found and practiced by Dick at Open Door Fellowship and Good News Community Churches.

Being a proud member of the "Music Makers", he enjoyed singing at VA and nursing homes.

His children will be forever grateful for teaching them all he knew and most of all for loving them unconditionally.

His final years, his family expanded at the Inglenook at Brighton Assisted Living and he made many new friends.

He was well known and loved for his chuckles and kindness. Special thanks to the staff for taking such good care of our daddy and loving him as you did.

## Just so I NEVER forget

- Gas price a mile from home was \$1.40
- School cancelled yes, cancelled (students left March 13 and wouldn't return)
- · Self-distancing measures on the rise
- Tape on the floors at grocery stores and others to help distance shoppers (6-ft. from each other
- Limited number of people inside stores, therefore lineups outside the store doors
- Non-essential stores and businesses mandated closed
- · Parks, trails, entire cities locked up
- · Entire sports seasons cancelled
- Concerts, tours, festivals, entertainment events cancelled
- Weddings, family celebrations, holiday gatherings cancelled
- · No masses, churches are closed
- No gatherings of 50 or more, then 20 or more, now no gatherings of 5 or more
- Don't socialize with anyone outside of your home
- · Children's outdoor play parks are closed
- · We are to distance from each other
- Shortage of masks, gowns, gloves for our front-line workers
- Shortage of ventilators for the critically ill
- Panic buying sets in and we have no toilet paper, no disinfecting supplies no paper towels, no laundry soap, no hand sanitizer
- · Shelves are bare of many items
- Manufacturers, distilleries and other businesses switch their lines to help make visors, masks, hand sanitizer and PPE
- Government closes the border to all nonessential travel
- Fines are established for breaking the rules
- stadiums and recreation facilities open up for the overflow of Covid-19 patients
- Press conferences daily from the President
- Daily updates on new cases, recoveries, and deaths
- · Government incentives to stay home
- · Barely anyone on the roads
- · People wearing masks and gloves outside
- Essential service workers are terrified to go to work
- Medical field workers are afraid to go home to their families

This is the NovelCoronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic, declared March 11, 2020.

Why, you ask, do I write this status?

One day it will show up in my memory feed, and it will be a yearly reminder that life is precious and not to take the things we dearly love for granted.

We have so much! Be thankful. Be grateful. Be kind to each other - love one another - support everyone.

We are all one!

## CCHS appreciates their business members

## MAGNOLIA ENTERPRISES

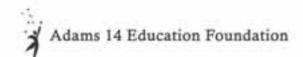
Harlow Leeper, Owner 7290 Magnolia Street



6595 East 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue Commerce City, CO 80022 303-288-2646



7887 East 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue Commerce City, CO 80022 303-289-3761



5291 East 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue Commerce City, CO 80022 303-853-3253

Become a

Business Member

and have your ad here!

Call Debra, 303,946,3426 or Esther, 303,249,1930





Nancy and Ernie Atencio

### **CCHA** appreciates our their business members







The Commerce City Historical Society needs volunteers

Call President Esther Hall, 303.249.1930 or Debra Bullock, 303.946.3426

### **Needed ACHS & Prairie View Yearbooks**

Please help. CCHS is looking for ACHS year books from the following years:30's, 40's, 1991, 1993, 1998, 2010, and 2013. Prairie View yearbooks are needed for Vol 1-7, 10 and 13.





### Needed: old Photos of Commerce City area as it used to be

Bring your old photos of the area to the Museum, with dates and identity or unknown identity. CCHS is setting up a file for these photos to preserve our history. If you can't identify, maybe someone else can.

If you can't donate them, we can scan and return.



Since 1953 7280 Monaco St. Commerce City, CO 80022 PH(303) 286-3982 FX(303) 286-3986





### **Veterans Memorial Park renovations**



Pictured (left to right): Sheena Kerstiens of DHM Design, Jim Brister of Colorado Designscapes, Commerce City Mayor Benjamin Huseman, Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Frank, Councilman José Guardiola, and Councilwoman Robyn Smith dig golden shovels into the snow to help celebrate the groundbreaking for the Veterans Memorial Park renovations on Feb. 7, 2020.

Commerce City celebrated the start of renovations at Veterans Memorial Park with a snowy groundbreaking ceremony on Friday, Feb. 7. The park is undergoing renovations to become the first all-inclusive park in Commerce City.

"Veterans Memorial Park is an important gathering place in our community, and we are proud to make this the first all-inclusive park in Commerce City," said Mayor Benjamin Huseman. "We are going to be one of the first communities on the Front Range to have a playground that provides the opportunity for chil-

dren of all abilities to play together, which I think is a gamechanger for Commerce City."

Located next to the Eagle Pointe Recreation Center at 6150 Forest Dr., Veterans Memorial Park has been an important gathering space for residents and surrounding neighborhoods since 1971. The renovated 2.6-acre site will feature universally designed, sensory-rich environments for users of all ages and capabilities to enjoy. Amenities include:

All-inclusive playground and

nature playground

- Labyrinth for reflection and exercise
- ADA-accessible features such as sidewalk ramps and picnic tables
- Sheltered picnic areas with electricity
- Raised landscape beds for educational youth programs
- Native landscaping and entryway plaza
- Restrooms

Designs Coorado, Inc is overseeing construction of the \$3.2 million project, with the newly renovated park slated to reopen this summer. Designed by , the new park will feature a bird theme inspired by the neighboring Eagle Pointe Recreation Center. □□

Editor's Note: Some time after the new Recreation Center was built, the CCBPA (Commerce City Business & Professional Association) under the leadership of Joe Reilly, past president, with the help of the American Legion Post 151, VFW Post 4444, the Eagles Club and City of Commerce City raised the funds (the City had the land) and built the Veterans Memoral. A lot of good memories on this joint project. Believe the Recreation Center was dedicated in 1987 or 1988).

### Programs coming April, May and June

APRIL: ANFRM Meeting hosted by the CCHS at the Rose Hill Grasse 10 am

May: Senior Pancake Break 3 1 History Table 7:00-10:00

MAY: Membership Meeti g - May 15 from 6 1.30

MAY: Reading Book Distribution to Adams 14 Llementary Sampls - May 2 & 3

June: Time to Time Reception-April 26 from 2-4 at the Eagle Pointe Recreation Center

### Jean Klein Awards

JUNE 7, 2020 – Please join us for our annual From Time to Time Reception as we honor people and businesses that have male a profound contribution of the history of Commerce C ty. This year we will be Honorical.



Honnen Equipment Company

Crestline Motor Hotel

Commerce City VFW

### The formation of the Union High School #1 Alumni Association

The concept of the Union High School #1 Alumni Assoiation was initiated in the backyard of Gladyce Wells Henry in 1958. Gaadyce entertained a few of the Union High School Alumni at a picnic in her backyard during the summer of 1958. During the picnic Gladyce and her guests decided to contact other members of their classes and have a "potluck dinner at the Rose Hill Grange Hall in the summer of 1959.

Many Union High School 1 Alumni were contacted during the year and a large crowd gathered at the Rose Hill Grange for the first reunion. The "potluck" dinner was very successful, and it was agreed to have a "get-together" in the future years during the last of May or June.

Harry and Evelyn Cline Coit, Gladyce Wells, Henry, Dorothy Smith Hartly, and Frieda Gress as a group agreed to contact as many of their classmates as possible and invite them to the 1960 Unon High Shcool #1 Reunion. The 1960 get-together could be recorded in history as the first organized Union High School #1 Alumni Reunion.

Mildred Jacobson with her Rose Hill Grange Committee and two members of the Alumni Committee planned the following menu for the reunion: Salad, Roast Beef, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans, Rolls and Lemon Meringue Pie. The Rose Hill Grange ladies prepared and served the dinner for \$2.50 per person.

Mildred Jacobson and Eva Lindvall made the 19 Lemon Meringues Pies for dessert. People paid \$1.00 for dues and they conducted a meeting at the reunion.

John Jacobson and Bert and Annie Lucas were the host and hostess and the "all-around' helpers for the preparation of the reunion and the aftermath of clearing tables, dishwashing, and general clean-up of the Grange Hall.

Attendees of first reunion: 1913 - Gertrude Smith Falch; 1914 - Ethel Nylin, Michael James, Mrs M James, John Juhl; 1915 Evelyn Cline Coit, Harry Coit, Annie James Covillo, Mr. Covillo, Ward Kemp, Dorothy Kemp, Ruth Andrew Kinney; 1916 - Wiley Hartley, Viola Hartley, Percy Hartley, Gladyce Wells Henry, George Henry, Lilliam Martin McIntosh, Ray McIntosh, JohnJacobson, Mildred Jacobson, Lloyd Mathews; 1917 - Freda Farney Gress, Fred Gress, Eleanora Krogh Hansen, Cass Hansen, Mary Campbell Himes, Joe Himes; 1918 -Lela Krogh Juhl; 1919 - Hazel Wooley Dekin, Elsie Dersham Page, John Page; 1920 - Dorothy Smith Hartley, Bentley Tiffany, Phyllis Tiffany, Minnie Tudor, Jack Watson; 1921 - Harold McKelvey, Margaret McKelvey, Eva Mathews, Russell Purse, Dorothy Purse, Frank Wooley; 1922 - Carrie Dersam Wooley and 1925 - Cylde Moraensen