



From Time to Time

A Quarterly Publication of the Commerce City Historical Society

Preserving the history of Commerce City

(July - September) Summer 2016

Volume 7, Issue 3

Commerce City Historical Society celebrates their Second Annual Museum History Anniversary



Thank you Sarah for lending the CCHS your beautiful doll for our Museum display. . Sarah is a first grader at Monaco Elementary. The doll is wearing some of the many items donated by the Mildred Stites estate for display in the museum. All of these beautiful clothes are hand stitched and in good but fragile condition.



New canning display. Canning is a method of preserving food in which the food contents are processed and sealed in an airtight container. Canning provides a shelf life typically ranging from one to five years, although under specific circumstances it can be much longer.

Open two years now, and going very well with many new displays in the museum and several in remote locations. Stop by and see what we have been up to.

Our new displays feature Commerce City women: Bobbie Crall, Mildred Stites and Betty Hage

The Museum also has an apron display of many old aprons from local women.

Hotdogs, chips, lemonade and cookies were served. Many guests stopped by and all had a wonderful day.



This is part of the Hage canning display.

Our mothers spent a lot of time canning fruits and vegetables to feed their families during the long winter months. First they raised the fruits and vegetables. In later days, they were able to buy some of the products as fresh fruit and vegetable markets thrived. Daughters spent many a summer day, peeling, chopping and preparing the foods for canning and proudly counting the number of jars as they added up.

Museum hours

Tuesdays: 3-7 pm

Saturdays: 10 am - 2 pm

Museum address: 6505 E. 60th Ave

Telephone numbers on page 2



Mildred Stites

Mildred Stites was born in Leadville in 1922. She was the youngest of four children (2 boys and 2 girls). Her father worked in the mining industry. He died when she was 9 months old.

Mildred secretly married Walter "Doc" Stites in 1942, because she was a nurse and at that time nurses were not supposed to marry. They moved to Irondale, Colorado in 1947. Doc worked at the Oriental Refinery. They had two sons (Marty and David) and 11 grandchildren. Besides being a nurse at St. Luke's Hospital, Mildred did volunteer work at the Commerce City Recreation Center, including teaching billiards. She was given the award as "Volunteer of the Year."

She passed away on June 25, 2016. After Mildred passed away, her family donated many belongings to the Historical Society.

A great big Thanks goes to the Stites family.



Right: Ann Emerson with friends from Castle Rock, Mr. & Mrs. Stack



Dolls, dolls, dolls



Debra Bullock, Dottie Bakke and Reba Drotar.



More of the beautiful hand stitched early 19th century clothing items from the Mildred Stites estate.

From Time to Time Newsletter

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

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Museum Donations

Jan - Sept. 2016 - \$266.25

Museum Visitors

Jan. - Sept. 2016 - 243

Charter Members:

Joy Bishop
Hester Bonnell
Debra Bullock
Rene' Bullock
Thelma Cole
Cindy Comstock
Gary Comstock
Kristi Douglas
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Norm Union
June Younger
Troy Younger



(L-R) Sheila Harris, Esther Hall, Debra Bullock, Pam Meier and Janet Union enjoying the Anniversary Celebration at the Museum.

Riverside Cemetery (Denver, Colorado)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
U.S. National Register of Historic Places

U.S. Historic District, Colorado State Register of Historic Properties

A group from the Commerce City Historical Society made a visit to the Riverside Cemetery on a hot July morning and enjoyed the quiet peacefulness. This historic cemetery is a great place to visit, is close and makes a great picnic site or just a nice leisurely walk. We recommend visiting this cemetery.

Location and operation, 5201 Brighton Blvd., Denver, Colorado

Riverside Cemetery occupies a 77-acre site between Brighton Boulevard and the east bank of the South Platte River, approximately 4 miles downstream from downtown Denver, Colorado. The majority of Riverside Cemetery lies within Commerce City, Adams County, Colorado. However, the rest of the cemetery (the cemetery's entrance and administration building) are within the City and County of Denver.

Riverside Cemetery originally was the property of the Riverside Cemetery Association from its founding in 1876 until 1900 when the association's assets were transferred to the Fairmount Cemetery Association (presently known as Fairmount Cemetery Company). In the late 2000's, Fairmount Cemetery Company along with members of the community founded the Fairmount Heritage Foundation to be an educational resource for the community and to protect and preserve the heritage of both the company's properties: Riverside Cemetery and Fairmount Cemetery. The volunteers of this foundation staff the Riverside Cemetery Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays and organize events and preservation projects for the cemeteries.

History

When first opened, the graveyard's secluded location on the banks of the South Platte River and the surrounding greenery made it a popular choice for wealthy families; the opening of the Burlington Railroad in the 1890s changed this, spurring industrial growth in the neighborhood, and some families chose to have their relatives' remains exhumed and reburied elsewhere. Prominent people continued to be interred there, with ornate headstones to mark their graves; however, the proportion of unmarked graves rose dramatically, as counties from all over the state sent the bodies of their

impoverished dead citizens there. Riverside remained the area's most significant cemetery until the mid-20th century, and retains importance for scholars studying in the early history of Denver, as the city kept no systematic death records until 1910.

Today, the neighborhood has become a largely industrial area, surrounded by a gas station, smokestacks, train tracks, and an industrial park, a few blocks from Interstate 70. It remains a minor tourist attraction; in 2001, 3,000 people went on walking tours of the site.

The cemetery office, c. 1935

The cemetery's final grave site was assigned in July 2005; the management company, Fairmount Cemetery Inc., indicated that they would not accept further burials after that, because they were losing money on each sale. They have also stopped watering and cut back drastically on services, claiming that their \$2.1 million endowment, which generated roughly \$62,000 per year in interest, was not enough to water the property and properly maintain all the graves; their records show that they lost \$159,000 in 2003. They still employ two groundskeepers to pick up trash, but have had to refuse offers of maintenance help from volunteers due to liability issues. In 2005, Fairmount approached the city government and requested they take over operation of the cemetery; however, the city was forced to decline due to lack of funds. Local residents, concerned by the dying trees and grass and generally poor state of the cemetery, formed a group, Friends of Historic Riverside Cemetery, to bring public attention to the issue. They requested the assistance of a Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Cathedral whose founders are buried there; Fairmount indicated that they would be willing to transfer the endowment and operations of the cemetery to a group that could provide an additional trust of \$1 million to cover operating expenses.

Out N About



Riverside Cemetery Chapel



Riverside Office (1936)



Marker for John Evans, U.S. President Abraham Lincoln appointed John Evans the second Governor of the Territory of Colorado on March 31, 1862.





Aprons

Come by the CCHS Museum and enjoy the Apron Display. All these displays take endless thought, time, and energy to put together for your enjoyment.



Herbert Hast, Sr.

Herbert Hast Sr. was born in Wilcox, Nebraska on March 12, 1911. He moved to Brighton, Colorado with his parents in 1918.

In 1929 he returned to Brighton and worked for the Counter Lumber Company. In 1934 Herbert became the General Manager of the Denver yard, then located on Brighton Boulevard in Adams City, Colorado. He lived in a baggage coach located on the property with his wife, Matilda. The baggage coach served as the residence and an office. He started a family with one son, Herbert Jr. and one daughter Miriam.

In 1939 the Counter Lumber Yard moved a mile southeast on land owned by the railroad. (4801 East 60th Avenue).

In 1941 Herbert became the Chief Construction Engineer for building the Rocky Mountain Arsenal. After his job ended at the Arsenal he took a job with Lumber Dealers, Inc. and then for the Federal Government in the office of Price Administration.

He was one of the founding members of the South Adams County Volunteer Fire Department in 1942. In the fall of 1944 Herbert purchased the Counter Lumber Company of which he was President and General Manager. On December 1, 1944 Hast Lumber Company was formed and opened its doors for business. In late 1946, early 1947 a new office and store building was completed.

Herbert and Matilda were some of the founding members of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church located on 36th and York Street.

He also owned and operated Gem Construction Company, a firm which has erected a number of homes, commercial buildings and churches in the Denver-Brighton area as well as Framing Fabricators, Inc., builders of pre-fabricated homes cabins, churches and roof trusses.

Herbert served as Chairman of the Adams County Planning and Zoning Board from 1948 – 1954. In 1948 Herbert was also elected to the Colorado District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. He donated land that Our Saviour Lutheran Church is currently located at (6770 Monaco Street). Mr. Hast served on the Board of Directors of the Mountain States Retail Lumber Dealers Association for several years and became the President from 1955-56.

In 1950, Herbert, together with three other business men of the area, organized and founded Metropolitan State Bank of Derby, Colorado. He served as President and Chairman of this bank until it was sold in 1954.

Herbert's first wife Matilda passed away on July 7, 1951 of Addison's disease.

On October 5, 1952, Herb married his second wife Bertha Wagner. She passed away in 1996.



Knitting needles, yarn, buttons, zippers, etc.

In the early 60's Herb was one of the owners and developer of the Rainbow Trailer Park, later named Wikiup Trailer Park, located on East 88th Avenue just east of Interstate 76.

In 1962 Herbert Hast was appointed to the position of Deputy Manager of Public Works for the City and County of Denver. In 1983 Herbert received an award as Honorary Life membership, by Mountain States Lumber and Building Material Dealers Association.

Miriam Hast

Miriam is the oldest child of Herbert and Matilda Hast. She was born Sept. 17, 1935 in Brighton, Colorado.

Miriam was born with Cerebral Palsy. She attended Boettcher School until the age 15. Then Miriam was sent to go to school in North Dakota, at the Crippled Children School, owned by the American Lutheran church. Her parents wanted her to learn skills that would enable her to live independently. When she graduated in 1953, she returned to Commerce City.

Miriam was in accounts payable for Hast Lumber until 1998. She currently lives in Sunny Acres in Northglenn. She turned 81 in Sept. 2016.

Herbert Hast Jr.

Herb Hast Jr. was born in Denver January 14, 1938. He attended elementary school at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church/School. He attended East High School, until he was able to go to Adams City High School where he graduated in 1957. Herbie was the young boy on horseback that rode through the southern part of the City to notify the community of a meeting to discuss Denver wanting to annex the southern part of the city in 1952. This is when Commerce Town was incorporated.

In 1957 he joined the Navy as a Dispersing Clerk. He was stationed at Newport, Rhode Island onboard the USS Dealey and USS Hale and finally at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital, recovering from dysentery.

He met Gail Nugent in Lebanon, New Hampshire. They married May 12, 1959. When he left the Navy in 1959 he and Gail came back to Commerce City and Hast Lumber to the family business and began to raise a family of their own. They had two daughters Stephanie (61) and Renee (63).

Herb became interested in sailplanes in the 60's. Gail bought him a Slingsby Swallow glider for him to fly. He was interested in this type of plane because they were made of wood and fabric, as opposed to fiberglass and metal. He later bought his own tow plane, Piper Super Cub. He flew all over North America, including Gail, Stephanie, Renee, Stanley Jensen, Harlow Leeper and his dad (Herb Sr.), and anyone else in this hobby of his. The glider trips allowed for great family time with his "girls". He flew gliders until 1978 and the Super Cub shortly after that, when He and Gail, got their first of 3 Harley Davidson motorcycles. Again, always looking for an adventure, he and Gail even toured Europe on a Harley in 1984.

Then, in about 1990 they sold the bike and bought their first of two Airstream trailers, later moving on to motorhomes, looking for a different kind of adventure to include fishing, camping and spending time with their grandchildren.

In his years as a resident of Commerce City, Herb was part of the SACVFD just like his dad. He was a firefighter for 26 years and served as Treasurer during his tenure on the department.

Herbie was also on the South



Adams Water & Sanitation Board.

Herb and Gail and anyone else that could/would help built a retirement home in Westcliffe Colorado, finishing the home in 1978.

Herb sold Hast Lumber in June 1998. From then on he and Gail wintered in Florida and Texas visiting fishing holes and golfing.

Herb passed away October 5, 2003 at his home in Westcliffe with his girls. He is interred at the Hope Lutheran Church Cemetery near Westcliffe Colorado, not far from the home and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains that he loved. Gail still lives in their home in Westcliffe. Renee lives with her family in Westcliffe and Stephanie lives with her family in Aurora, Colorado.

CCHS thanks all their many volunteers. Without you, we could not have a Historical Society!

Hast family has reunion at the CCHS Museum

The Herb Hast family had a family reunion reception at the Commerce City Heritage and Cultural Center on Friday July 29. Many family members gathered and re-membered stories about Herb Hast Sr. and Herb Hast Jr.



Out N About

CCHS sponsors Central City bus trip in September 2016



Bridgette Darby (L) and Thelma Cole enjoy the machines in Central City on the CCHS field trip in September.



Shirley Wilcoxon



Bridgette Darby



Winnie (l) and Sue Frauenfeld on the September bus trip. The bus trips sure help with CCHS expenses and help to fund the displays and other items.

Buffalo Run Villages East Opening Celebration – August 22



Fast Facts:

Total project budget: \$2.2 million dollars

Construction began: February 2016 and opened September 22, 2016

Park Theme: This 9-acre park is a Rocky Mountain inspired theme and located in the Villages East at Buffalo Run Neighborhood.

Designer: DHM Design

Contractor: Goodland Construction



Adams City Middle School Back to School Open House and Pancake Breakfast, Saturday, August 20.



Harvest Thomas, Treasurer, Adams 14 School District, Crystal Elliott, Rene Bullock and Steve Douglas, Commerce City Council members attend Adams City Middle School Open House.

Out N About



This is an example of some of the displays at **Meet the Space** on Sept. 30.



Debra Bullock has a knack for finding old things. She couldn't tell us what this is - two old metal wheels with an axle. Does anybody know how it was used. Found on the old Juhl property. The view looks to the West towards the irrigation canal.



Phase One Opening November 2016

Located at 6601 Colorado Blvd. will open in the Spring of 2017 with a 21,000 sq. ft. bldg. and a second with 14,000 sq. ft. at a later date. Many artists with studios in the Santa Fe Arts District are moving to Commerce City to occupy studios in this facility. This is the former Juhl property. CCHS will have a history display about the Hog Farming in the area during the first half of the Nineteenth Century Watch for more on this project.



Crowd photo at the Meet the Space celebration. Note the band in the background.



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hutchings enjoy the evening at the Concept Art Studio and gallery space September 30 located at 6601 Colorado Blvd.

Fair's Grocery History



G & C Creamery and later Fair's Grocery Market

In 1949 Clarence and Jessie Fair bought the G & C Creamery at 7230 Locust and the house next door at 7240. They had been living in Eagle, Colorado on the ranch owned by Ross Chambers where Clarence ran the milk route all the way to Red Cliff and to Pando when it was established. Jessie had been a telephone operator in Eagle. They had come to Derby to visit Clarence's brother, Roy Fair and his wife Winifred. Roy and Winifred had moved to Derby on Kemp Blvd. (now Olive St.) when there were just a few houses, mostly basement houses on the street.

The Fair's moved into the house next door to the store with their daughter LaDonna and Jessie's father, Mark Paul Finnicum.

The store was a combination of groceries and soda fountain and was named for the former owners 2 sons, George and Corky. It had become run down and didn't have much business so while Jessie ran the store and cleaned it up, Clarence found a job at a feed store on Brighton Blvd. It wasn't too long till people found that the cleaned up and friendly little store was open on Sunday and the business picked up enough that Clarence joined Jessie in running the business.

They found a place to purchase their stock by the item rather than the case and

salesmen that came in helped Jessie understand the bookkeeping and tax system and she did all the paper work from then on. They were open 7 days a week from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

As business grew they added a meat case and eventually took the soda fountain out and added a Dairy King ice cream business having both cones and pints and quarts of ice cream. That proved to be so time consuming and the grocery part of the store continued to grow so they removed the ice cream section and added a large cooler for vegetables and dairy products. Clarence continued to go purchase the wholesale groceries but it was by the case now. The decision was made to change the name and it was christened Fair's Grocery and Market.

Denny and Earlea Black lived in the house that they later sold to Mr. Wolf for a sporting goods store so were next door to the Fair's house and they and their parents became friends. A building was built east of the house and Mr. Love had a 5 & 10 store. At that time LaDonna had a horse and later Angus calves in a corral between the store and house and the 5 & 10 cent store. The calves were purchased from Al

Krogh and a 4-H club was started in Derby so she was able to show at the Adams County Fair. As the business grew, some of the people that worked in the store other than the three Fairs were Marilyn Mathews, Doris Mathews, and Opal Wagoner.

In 1958 Clarence died of a heart attack while fishing at Chambers Lake but Jessie continued to run the store continuing to improve and upgrade the groceries. By that time they had become a part of the close knit business section of Derby and the Agnu brothers at the bank were most helpful with a loan so that Jessie could add on to the store and put an apartment onto the back of the building so she could move herself and her father in. LaDonna and her husband, Carl Wagoner and children moved into the house next door.

In 1962 Jessie decided to lease the store to Floyd Templeton so that his wife Betty could run it and Jessie took the test at General Rose Hospital and got the job as Ward Secretary. After a year Betty Templeton decided she didn't want to operate the store any more so Jessie converted it into a Laundromat since Carl and LaDonna had built a house at 6700 Oneida St.

Jessie had her sister-in-law Elizabeth Kelly and her husband Newt move into the house next door and run the Laundromat. Jessie had to move her father into a nursing home in Brighton and after he passed away she bought a house near Rose Hospital and when the Kelly's decided they wanted to move to Grand Jct., she had someone else run the business and live in the apartment but she finally decided to sell both the house and the business. The house was Derby Bicycle Shop for many years but the store was a restaurant and then a dentist office.

Note: Written by
LaDonna Fair Wagoner.

Other Grocery Stores in the area

Some of the other grocery stores in the area during the 40s, 50s and 60s include the following:
Red Owl, Busley's, Hi-Lo, now Sav-O-Lot, 7290 Monaco Street.

See photos on P. 9

G & C Creamery and Fair's Grocery and Market located at 7230 Locust Street.

Jack N Jill was on located at 5295 East 72nd and was a Country Charm Milk house.

Wyatt's Derby Supermarket located at 7250 Highway 2.

Derby Grocery and Market, run by Lee and Floyd Templeton, located on Highway 2, now the location of the pawn bank.

Safeway located at 7440 Highway 2, now The Dollar General.

Piggly Wiggly and later **Buddy & Lloyds** located at 6941 East 80th Avenue, now the Mi Pueblo Supermarket.

The first **King Sooper's** store in Commerce City was located at 6140 E. 64th Avenue, now the location of 2nd Mi Pueblo. Before that it was Rancho Liborio.

The second **King Sooper's** store is currently in operation and located at 4850 East 62nd Avenue which opened in 2004.

The third **King Sooper's** store is at 15051 E. 104th Avenue, opened in 2012.

Neeley's Supermarket, 6501 East 64th Avenue and is still in business with new owners, Carniceria "El Torito."

The Monaco Store, 5990 Monaco.

Mi Pueblo, second store located at 6140 E. 64th Avenue.

Nick's Market, same shopping center as the Adams City Post Office.

Best & Yet Grocery & Gas at 77th & Hwy 85. Now Stephanie's Cafe and Best Yet Flowers.

Irondale Grocery & Liquor Store on Rosemary Street.

Dupont Grocery on Brighton Rd.

WalMart, 5990 Dahlia opened in late 90's, prior H. W. Moore Eq..

Early Grocery stores



C & C Creamery



Nick's Market in the Adams City Shopping Center



HiLo Grocery



Bob Wilcoxon in front of the Red Owl logo.



See related story on page 8.



Neely's Carniceria "El Torito" at 60th Monaco



Best Yet Grocery and Gas Station on the corner of 77th Avenue and Brighton Blvd. Now Stephanie's Cafe and Best Yet Flowers.



Irondale Grocery & Rosemary Liquors on Rosemary.

Out N About

Turnberry Park Opening Celebration August 15, 2016



Left: Councilman Paolo Diaz talks to the children at the Turnberry Park Celebration.



Congratulations to our wonderful Council as they bring all of these projects on board. The Council has put a lot of time and effort into the funding, timing and design. L-R: Rene' Bullock, Paolo Diaz, Rick Teter, Jadie Carson, Jason McEldowney, Andrew Amador, Crystal Elliott and Steve Douglas.



Fast Facts: Total budget \$2.2 million dollars
Construction began: January 2016 and opened August 2016
Located at 10725 Wheeling Street, Commerce City, CO 80022
Park Theme: This 9.5 acre park features a theme inspired by the children's book "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"
Designer: DHM Designs
Contractor: Goodland Construction



People eat big time at the Annual Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the South Adams County Fire Dept. at Adams City High School.



Commerce City Senior Volunteer Awards Dinner on September 29 at the Yellow Rose Tea Center. Thelma Cole is on the left and Derrick Tripp on the right.



CCHS volunteers greeted guests at the 55th Annual Spaghetti dinner to support the fire department.



A SIGN IN A SHOE REPAIR STORE:

We will heel you,
We will save your sole,
We will even dye for you.

In Memoriam

Aurelia "Lee" (Carrera) Kemm, 83,

Commerce City, CO. Beloved wife of Ernest B. Kemm, Sr. Born, Nov. 12, 1932, Died Sept. 14, 2016

Mother of Sandra (Bill) Nieto, Ernest Kemm, Jr., Carey Uriotse, Theodore Kemm, Cheryl (Mike) Torres. Preceded in death by her son Gregory Kemm.

Sister of Tony (Dona) Carrera, Marvin (Sunny) Carrera, Guadalupe (Diana) Carrera, Michael (Josie) Carrera. Preceded by death by Joe Carrera, Bessie Verden, Phil Carrera, Frank Carrera, and Peter Carrera. Grandmother of 18 and Great-grandmother of 31.

Aurelia was a devoted and beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend. She loved to spend time with her family (especially the holidays) and working in her gardens.

Her life was celebrated on Sept. 22, 2016 at Aspen Mortuary Magnolia Chapel, 6580 East 73rd Avenue, Commerce City, CO and reception followed at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 8160 Rosemary Street Commerce City.

Josie Sandoval, 85, of Commerce City

Survived by daughter Marylou Sandoval and sons Joe (Joyce) and Jes "Chris", sister Carmen Rodriguez of Santa Fe, NM, and many grandchildren. Burial services were Fri., Oct. 14, Fort Logan National Cemetery, staging area B.

Irene Marie Lobato, September 2016

Irene passed away in September 2016. She was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of her passing. Funeral Service: Sept. 13 2016, Our Lady Mother of the Church. Interment, Ft. Logan National Cemetery Staging area A. A reception will be held at Our Lady Mother of the Church immediately after interment.

James Errol Martin

James passed away in August 2016. He was a resident of Commerce City at the time of his passing. James was married to Rubyann.

Rosary: Tues. Aug. 30, 2016 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel, Commerce City Colorado. Funeral service: Wed., August 31 2016, Our Lady of Grace. Interment 2:00pm, Aug. 31, 2016 at Ft. Logan National Cemetery Staging area A. 3698 S. Sheridan Blvd. Denver Colorado 80236.

Contribution may be made to the Macular Disease Patient Access Network Foundation P.O. Box 221858 Charlotte NC 28222.

James William Riddell, Aug. 20, 1941 - July 18, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado

James was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of his passing. He was married to Catherine.

Visitation noon, funeral Service 1pm, Fri. 22 at Romero Funeral Chapel. Interment followed at Elmwood Cemetery Brighton

Carol Ann Rath, Commerce City, Colorado Sept. 29, 1955 - July 18, 2016

Memorial service was held for Carol on Thurs., July 28, 2016, at Olinger Highland Mortuary Chapel located at 10201 Grant St., Thornton, Colorado 80229.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that you please donate to the Children's Miracle Network on behalf of Carol Rath. CMN was very important to Carol.

Carol was born Sept. 29, 1955 in Englewood, CO, and passed away Monday, July 18, 2016, after fighting MS for many years. She was a very beloved and dedicated wife of Ron Rath. She is survived by; her husband Ron, two sons Jason and wife Kerri, Jeffrey and wife Rose, five treasured grandchildren Allison, Payton, Madison, Jake, and Dane, her parents Chet and Anna Schmidt, and her sister Linda, husband Scott, and their family.

Carol worked for 28 years at the Thornton Wal-Mart. She loved the many people she worked with and the kind customers.

Carol was a hardworking, strong lady who loved her family and friends dearly. She loved spending time at her cabin in Red Feather, fishing and enjoying the mountains. She loved the holidays, decoration, and cherished time with her family. She enjoyed visiting craft fairs and buying special gifts for those her that were special to her.

Carol was an amazing wife, mother, and grandma; she will be truly and deeply missed.

Judy Delreal, July 4, 1957 - July 27, 2016 Commerce City, CO

JoAnn Groetken, July 2016

JoAnn was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of her passing in July 2016. JoAnn passed away in July 2016. She was married to Gerald.

Viewing Thursday August 4, 2016 from 10:00am to 11:00am with funeral service at 11:00am all at Aspen Magnolia Chapel 6580 E. 73rd Ave. Commerce City CO 80022.

Cora Bell Nelson, Aug. 2016

Cora was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of her passing.

Viewing Wed., Aug. 10 2016 with funeral service at 2:00pm all at Aspen Magnolia Chapel 6580 E. 73rd Ave. Commerce City Colorado.

Mary K. Lewis, Feb. 7, 1941 - Aug. 19, 2016. Mary was born on February 7, 1941 and passed away on Fri., Aug. 19, 2016.

Mary was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of her passing.

Mass said in her name on Thurs., Sept 15, 2016 at 9:30 am at Our Lady Mother of the Church.

Gerald L. Astwood, May 7, 1941 -

Aug. 4, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado Gerald "Jerry"

Leroy Astwood (75) passed away on Aug 4, 2016 in Brighton, CO. He was the husband of Lorine "Lorie" Astwood

(Gorham). They eloped in Northridge, CA, in 1968 after knowing each other only 3 months, and shared 48 years of marriage together.

Born in Stockton, CA, May 7, 1941, he was the son of Allen John Astwood and Estelle Mae Behrens (Simpson).

After graduating from Amos Alonzo Stagg High School, class of '59, and attending Delta College he served in the United States Air Force from 1961-1965. Following his honorable discharge he worked for Marquardt Corporation, McDonnell Douglas, and earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Phoenix. Before retiring in 2005 he had worked for several years as a Project Manager in Silicon Valley.

Spending time with his family, friends and his grandsons, whom he adored, were very important to him. Researching genealogy, learning U.S. and Colorado history, fishing and playing Mexican Train Dominoes, were things he enjoyed. He was very patriotic and became very interested and active in politics. His sense of humor and his laugh are fondly remembered by his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife Lorie, daughter Jennifer, son Gerald "Allen", daughter-in-law Herdis, and grandsons Nolan and Ryker. He is also survived by his brothers Darrell (Dana), Dennis (Kathy), Tom (Jayette), and Vern (Sandy). He was preceded in death by his sister Aliene.

A memorial service will be held on August 27th at 2:00 p.m. at Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church, 5370 Snell Ave., San Jose, CA 95123. Interment at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver, Colorado will follow at a later date.

Arrangements under the direction of Olinger Highland Mortuary & Cemetery, Thornton, CO. A memorial service held Aug. 27 at 2:00 p.m. at Santa Teresa Hills Presbyterian Church, San Jose, CA 95123. Interment at Fort Logan National Cemetery in Denver, Colorado will follow at a later date.

Robert Lee Goodwin

Born Nov. 8, 1941, Died Aug. 16, 2016. Survived by brother Thomas Goodwin and friend, Leslie Sanchez.



In Memoriam

Cora Bell Nelson, Aug. 23, 1957 - Aug. 2, 2016. Survived by siblings Patricia, Cherryll and Ernest. Preceded in death by Harold, Viron and Dorothy. Funeral Service was Aug. 10, 2016, Aspen Magnolia Chapel

Steven Allen Grady, Sept. 19, 1953 - Aug. 3, 2016. Survived by father Alden Lee Grady; siblings Lenard A. Grady, Jodee L. Grady and Rick Grady. A private celebration of his life was held.

Joanne Rose Birsa, Died Aug. 3, 2016. Survived by husband Henry E. Birsa. Funeral Aug. 12, 2016 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel. Burial at Ft. Logan National Cemetery.

Billy Rhiner, Nov. 25, 1921 - Aug. 9, 2016. Survived by four children. Graveside service and interment at Ft. Logan National Cemetery.

Richard Selke, May 4, 1953 - Aug. 23, 2016. Survived by children; Cody (Nichole) Selke, Teddie Ann (Art) Gray, Tony (Teresa) Matlac, Matt Lall; five grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Preceded in death by Eddie Matlack.

A private celebration of life was held.

Leroy Quintana, Jr., Died Sept. 4, 2016. Survived by wife Olive Marie Quintana; children Dawn Gorniak, Zandrea Quintana; four grandchildren; siblings Ernestine Perez, Chris Atencio. Preceded in death by Harriet LaCrue.

Funderal service: Sept. 9, 2016 at Our Lady Mother of the Church.

Dorothy Elizabeth Hood, Feb. 15, 1928 - Sept. 21, 2016. Died in Peoria, AZ at the age of 88. Rosary and Mass held on Oct. 4, 2016 at Our Lady-Mother of the Church. Interment was at Evergreen Cemetery in Broomfield, CO.

Tami Michelle Hirth, Dec. 3, 1958 - Sept. 11, 2016. Survived by daughter Nichole Brown, brother Lonnie Hirth.

Julian Villanueva, Jr., Oct. 20, 1959 - OCT. 12, 2016. Son of Julian and Grace Villanueva. Father of Buck, Thomas, Mike, Steward, Willie Palmer, Arthur Steward, Kristy Steward. Brother to Jesse Villanueva, Delores Lopez, Minerva Avila, Rudy Villanueva. Preceded in death by Gilbert Villanueva. Visitation at Aspen Magnolia Chapel on Tues., Oct. 18, 2016.

Allen J. Heideman, Feb. 16, 1934 - Aug. 11, 2016 Henderson, CO 82, passed away at his home in Henderson, CO on Aug. 11, 2016. He was born on February 16, 1934 to Ernest Heideman and Clara Gebhard in Hooker, Okla. He married Sandra Ann Alumbaugh on Mar. 1, 1959 in Commerce City, Colorado. Allen was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Commerce City for many years.

He was extremely passionate about his love of country music of which he enjoyed playing for well over 45 years; "Big Al" was never far away from his guitar. Allen also loved, working with various animals on his farm, but he was mostly fond of, and took great pride in, working cattle. With the few hobbies and passions mentioned, nothing could come close to the love and pride that Allen had for his family and friends.

Allen is survived by his wife Sandra, daughters: Robin Jackson of Spiro, Oklahoma and Chalonda (Jim) Hibbard of Brighton, Colorado, nine grandchildren, and 14 great grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his son William A. Heideman, and his daughter Kristen M. Heideman, and both of his parents.

Visitation was Aug. 14, 2016 from 4 to 7 p.m. The funeral was Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2016 at 10 a.m. with burial to follow. All services took place at Olinger Highland Mortuary and Cemetery.



Marvin Dean Rodriguez, May 18, 1958 - Aug. 12, 2016. Marvin was born in Denver, CO. He married Sandra Sliger, May 5, 1984. Together they had two children, Amanda and husband Moses, and Dean and his wife-to-be Theresa. They were married for 32 years.

Marvin enjoyed fishing, camping, going to Las Vegas, gardening, and spending time with his family, especially his two grandsons. Marvin worked for the City of Commerce City for 26 years in the Parks and Recreation Department. He had many friends and loved ones.



History Quiz

1. Who was the first Mayor of Commerce Town?
2. When was Commerce Town founded?
3. When was Commerce Town changed to Commerce City?
4. When was the Commerce City Charter established?
5. What was the first housing development built in the northern range?
6. What was the first business on East 104th Avenue during the northern range building?
7. What year was the Volunteer Fire Department founded?
8. What year was the South Adams Water District formed?
9. Who was the longest serving city attorney for Commerce City?
10. When was the Commerce City Police Department founded?

Note: Answers are on page 16.

Save the Date

Sat., Dec. 17, 2016

Christmas Lights Bus Tour & Chili Dinner

Call to register, 303.946.3426, Debra Bullock

In Memoriam

Samuel Chevarria, Commerce City, CO

Samuel was born on July 18, 1919 and passed away on Sun., Aug. 21, 2016.

Sam was very proud of attending and graduating in 1938 from St. Mary's High School in Walsenburg CO.

Sam is a WWII Veteran where he served 3 years in the Army's 3rd Armored Division as a Tank Commander. He was married to Anita.

Recitation of the Rosary immediately followed by Mass of the Christian Burial at Our Lady Mother of the Church, Inurnment Staging Area C at Ft. Logan National Cemetery.

James Errol Martin, August 21, 2016

He was a resident of Commerce City, CO at the time of his passing. He was married to Rubyann. Survived by wife Ruby Martin, children: Jim (Donna) Martin, Steve (Nan) Martin, Pepper (Aundy) Martin, Ed (Christy) Martin; and sibling Sally (Denny) Krout.

Recitation of the rosary, Tues., Aug. 30 2016 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel. Funeral service Aug. 31 2016. Interment 2:00pm Wed., Aug. 31, 2016 at Ft. Logan National Cemetery

Contributions may be made to the Macular Disease Patient Access Network Foundation, P.O. Box 221858, Charlotte NC 28222.

Irene Marie Lobato, Sept. 2016

Irene was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of her passing. Funeral Service: Tues., Sept. 13 2016, Our Lady Mother of the Church. Interment Ft. Logan National Cemetery Staging area A. Following the interment a reception at Our Lady Mother of the Church.

Carolyn Lee Masterman, Sept. 2016

Carolyn passed away in September 2016. Carolyn was a resident of Commerce City, Colorado at the time of her passing.

Memorial service 2:00pm, Sept. 16, 2016 at Aspen Magnolia Chapel.

David Ronald Davis, May 8, 1954 - Sept. 22, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado

Survived by his wife Debbie of Commerce City, CO, three sisters, Elaine, Maybre and Phyllis all of North Carolina.

Graveside services Thurs., Sept. 29, 2016 at Olinger Highland Cemetery.

Arrangements under the direction of Olinger Highland Mortuary & Cemetery, Thornton, CO.

Upcoming events and programs **Oct. - Dec 2016**

Christmas Lights History Bus Tour

Saturday, DECEMBER 17, 2016

BOARD MEETINGS

2ND Monday of every month at 6pm

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

November 18, 2016

(Meetings held at Commerce City Heritage & Cultural Center
6:00 pm, 6505 E. 60th Avenue

Pearl May Mott, Aug. 8, 1932 - Oct. 1, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado

Pearl M. Mott was born in Buda, IL. She married her husband Gene, in IL and had her first son in Peoria, IL. Her daughter was born in Albuquerque, NM and her second son in Denver, CO. Pearl started working for the Keebler Company in 1960 and remained at Keebler until January of 2000. Pearl enjoyed dancing, fishing and traveling. She is preceded in death by her parents John and Blanche Harper; sisters Sadie, Dorothy, & Anna Belle; brothers Richard, Floyd & William. Pearl's husband passed away in Mar. 1976; grandson Davie in 1995; son Danny in Aug. 2015; son David in Dec. 2015; and great grandson Jakob in 2008. She is survived by her sister Mary Mott; her soul mate Joe Botero and his daughters Julianna & Joanna; granddaughter Candra (Matt); daughter Debbera (Don); grandchildren Carmen (Ray), Crystal (Victor); daughter-in-law Dena; grandchildren Sandy, Jeremiah, Matthew; great grandchildren Joshua, Hanna, Victoria, Madison, Khadijah, Elijah, Airyc, and Cory; great great grandchild Kailani. Visitation held Fri., Oct. 7, 4-7pm at Olinger Highland Mortuary. Funeral service held Sat., Oct. 8, 11am at Arvada Baptist Church. Committal to follow services at Eastlawn Cemetery, Aurora.

Arrangements under the direction of Olinger Highland Mortuary & Cemetery, Thornton, CO.

Alice Quintana

Nov. 26, 1925 -

Oct. 1, 2016.

Commerce City CO Arrangements under the direction of Olinger Highland Mortuary & Cemetery, Thornton, CO.



Robert Perez

Born: July 22, 1952, Died: July 17, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado. Survived by wife Debra, children Anthony Robert Perez, Destiny Perez and Anthony R. Perez; parents Alex V. Perez and Marcelina Diaz; siblings Lorre Vasquez, Rosella Abila, Jeanette Garcia, Carmen Graham, Rachel Trujillo, Gina Perez, Ernie Perez; four grandchildren. Funeral service at Radiance Church. Interment at Fort Logan National Cemetery Staging Area B with Military Honors.

Toni Louise Davis, July 1, 1953

- Aug. 18, 2016. Survived by son Eric Dalton and brother Donald Matthews. Memorial service was Aug. 25, 2016.

Susie Ann Zamora, Mar. 16, 1989 - Sept. 22, 2016, Commerce City, Colorado

Susie was born on Mar. 16, 1989 and passed away on Thurs., Sept. 22, 2016.

Services: Sept. 28, 2016, Servants of Heart Church, . Service Wed. 28, Servants of Heart Church.

CCHS appreciates our business members!

MADISON & COMPANY
PROPERTIES, LTD.



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BROKER ASSOCIATE

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7280 Monaco St. 303-286-3982

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ENTERPRISES**



Harlow Leeper, Owner
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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
Commerce City 80022
(303) 287-7480



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Arlene Castro
Broker/Owner

Cell: 303.586.6742
Office: 303.862.5457

arlene@igorealty.com
igorealty.com

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. 60th 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

Gary Morgan presenting the history of the Honest John Warhead Demilitarization Program



(L) The warheads were transported in this type of vehicle.

(R) Gary Morgan was in charge of the demilitarization of the Honest John warheads.



On Sat., Aug. 13, Gary Morgan did a presentation to educate the members of the Commerce City Historical Society about the demilitarization program for the Honest John Warhead from the Rocky Mountain Arsenal.

Gary was so informative about being in charge of the demolition process of the Honest John warheads that were stored at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal. This process took place in 1973. He explained the entire Deactivation process to the society. Thank you Gary

Morgan is retired. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master of Science degree in Business Management. He has held many positions to include being an environmental engineer, a Nuclear Test Engineer, Nuclear Production Superintendent, Security and emergency operations and worked at Rocky Flats cleanup program.



Thanks to all

Commerce City Historical Society board members want to thank all of our volunteers for the many hours they help with events, working the museum, moving items, building displays, donating items and always being engaged.

and to all...

**Have a wonderful
Thanksgiving
on Nov. 24!**



Answers to the History Quiz on Page 12:

Al Krogh, 1952, 1960, 1970, Eagle Creek, Sonic, 1942, 1951, Robert Gehler, 1950



The CCHS has remote displays throughout the city. Thank you to Esther Hall for putting the display at Hi-Lo Check Cashing. Stop by and check out some of the early Derby history.

You can also check out the Key Bank and Woodridge Care Center displays.